

**HAMLET CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
201 MAIN STREET, HAMLET, NC 28345  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2011  
7:00 P.M.**

**Minutes**

***Governing Body Present:***

Jeff Smart	Mayor
Pat Preslar	Mayor Pro-Tem
Tony Clewis	Council Member
Abbie Covington	Council Member
Diane Honeycutt	Council Member
Bill Bayless	Council Member

***City Staff Present:***

Marchell David	City Manager
Steve Futrell	City Attorney
Tammy Kirkley	City Clerk
Jill Dickens	Finance Officer
Robert Brown	Water Treatment Plant Superintendent
Gail Strickland	Zoning
David Knight	Fire Chief
John Haywood	Police Chief
Gail Wise	Tax Collector

***Others Present:***

Johnathon Buie; Kelli Easterling; Neil Cadeiu; Jesse McQueen; Amy Guinn; Dawson McKenzie; John Mackie; Pam Raines

- 1. Call to Order.** Mayor Smart called meeting to order and welcomed all.
- 2. Invocation.** Council Member Clewis offered the invocation.
- 3. Adoption of Agenda.** Council Members Clewis and Bayless motioned to adopt the submitted agenda. All were in favor.
- 4. Adoption of Minutes.** Both the open set and closed set of minutes from the September 13, 2011, meeting were unanimously adopted. The motions were offered by Council Members Bayless and Clewis.

- 5. Comments from Attendees.** The mayor introduced Mr. Dawson McKenzie and stated that Dawson will be participating in the upcoming “People to People Ambassador Program.” He stated that he will be traveling to France and England this summer and is accepting outside donations to help raise the funds to make the trip. Dawson presented council and agreed with the Mayor in saying that he wants to make the public aware of the program and aware of his fundraising efforts.

Mr. John Mackie, President and CEO, with Discovery Place presented council to give an update on the Discovery Place Kids Rockingham. He reported that the campaign is moving rather swiftly to complete museum by the end of 2012 and there are plans to open the early part of 2013. Mr. Mackie reported that Discovery Place Kids Rockingham will cater to children up to age ten. He talked about the success of the Huntersville Discovery Place Kids and stated that the group hopes to have the same success here.

Mr. Neal Cadiou presented council to support Discovery Place Kids Rockingham. He said the response has been fantastic and the group wants to keep the momentum going for the museum. Mayor Smart thanked both Mr. Mackie and Mr. Cadeiu for attending the meeting and for the update.

### **Old Business**

#### **6. Recap of September Tax Release Request**

Council Member Covington asked for clarification from last month’s meeting regarding the tax releases, Record No. 1428 specifically. Gail Wise reported that the release was on inventory and the business moved out of the city limits earlier on and had been using a PO Box. Mrs. Covington asked about Record Nos. 951-952 and Mrs. Wise noted when the property was transferred it was being billed separately and then later combined. Initially, this was not billed correctly and the county discovered the issue; the matter was a duplicate billing. Mr. Preslar asked if property and inventory are billed simultaneously and Mrs. Wise replied that real property is automatic and personal property goes by the business listing from the county.

### **New Business**

#### **7. Consideration of October Tax Releases**

Mayor Smart stated that the submitted October tax release listing includes the questioned Record No. 1428 from September as a carry over. Council Members Bayless and Honeycutt motioned to accept the October 2011 listing as submitted. The vote passed unanimously.

#### **8. Presentation by Mr. Willie Baldwin**

Mr. Willie “Peanut” Baldwin presented council to request their consideration to change a portion of Lackey Street to “T. R. Legrand Street” as a way to honor to Reverend Tommy Legrand for all of his work and efforts in the community. Mr. Baldwin explained that the request is for the Lackey Street Ext. area only and described it as the portion of the road that turns off of Gin Mill Road, passes the side of Thomas Street, and ends at Buttercup Drive. Mr. Preslar stated that the city will look into the request. Mayor Smart said staff will check on the matter and council will entertain the request next month.

## **Other Business**

### **9. City Manager's Report**

Marchell David reported that city staff had a positive meeting recently with the county emergency response staff in reference to dealing with the Water Lake Dam Repair Project as well as other matters. She then announced that Hamlet Park & Recreation is underway with the football sports season; she reported that the football and cheerleading sign-ups have just recently ended and the city is looking forward to a good season. The manager ended with wishing everyone a happy and safe Halloween on Monday, October 31.

### **10. Comments of Council**

Diane Honeycutt congratulated Dawson McKenzie and commented that is one reason why Discovery Kids is very important to the children.

Tony Clewis congratulated Dawson as well. He reminded the public that the Seaboard Festival will be held the last Saturday of this month and welcomed all to come out and enjoy.

Bill Bayless thanked the city for their help with the recent Lions Club Fair and thanked the public for their support.

Abbie Covington thanked Dawson for being at the meeting and wished him well.

Pat Preslar noted that the Park & Recreation soccer playoffs will be held this week and he thanked all of the participants in the soccer program. Mr. Preslar also commended the efforts of the public works' employees.

### **11. Mayor's Comments**

Mayor Smart began with announcing that council will hold a public hearing during next month's council meeting in regards to prohibiting smoking in all of the city's park and recreational parks and facilities due to a high number of complaints, and that this will require an ordinance to amend the city's code. The public hearing will be held on Tuesday, November 1, 2011, at Hamlet City Hall at 7:00 p.m.

The Mayor reported that the Stinson building renovation completions are running very close to the Seaboard Festival and stated that the artifacts may not be ready by the festival date. In conclusion, Mayor Smart mentioned that the city will notice a street sweeper on the streets and informed all that it is a revitalized sweeper and is built on a truck that is owned by the city. He explained that council approved the purchase of the equipment and that it will help to support the city's manpower in keeping the streets clean.

Pat Preslar congratulated Susan Sellers on the recent Citizen of the Year award.

The manager reminded all property owners when raking leaves for city pickup to store them in the proper location while awaiting pickup.

Mayor Smart concluded with giving a public notice that the date for the regularly scheduled November council meeting will be changed to Tuesday, November 1. He reported that the meeting was moved up one week due to the elections going on throughout the county on November 8<sup>th</sup>.

**12. Adjournment**

At approximately 7:33 pm, Council Members Covington and Clewis made a motion to adjourn the meeting and the vote passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tammy Kirkley".

Tammy Kirkley, City Clerk