

**HAMLET CITY COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2012  
201 MAIN STREET, HAMLET, NC 28345  
7:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

***Governing Body Present:***

Jeff Smart	Mayor
Tony Clewis	Mayor Pro-Tem/Council Member
Pat Preslar	Council Member
Abbie Covington	Council Member
Johnathan Buie	Council Member
<b><i>Absent:</i></b> Diane Honeycutt	Council Member

***Staff Present:***

Marchell Adams-David	City Manager
Steve Futrell	City Attorney
Tammy Kirkley	City Clerk
Jill Dickens	Finance Officer
David Knight	Fire Chief
Gail Strickland	Zoning
Robert Brown	WTP Superintendent
<b><i>Others Present:</i></b>	Bill Bayless and Beth Brown

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1. **Call to Order.** Mayor Smart called the meeting to order.
2. **Invocation.** Tony Clewis offered the invocation.
3. **Approval of Agenda.** The presented agenda with Items 1-16 was unanimously approved as presented by motions of Council Member Preslar and Covington. All were in favor.
4. **Adoption of Minutes.** Minutes to the March 13, 2012, regular monthly meeting were unanimously adopted as presented by motions of Council Members Covington and Clewis.
5. **Comments from Attendees.** No comments were presented.

**New Business**

6. **Resolution Designating April 2012 as Purple Ribbon Month.** Bill Bayless presented council as a representative from a local Relay for Life Committee and announced that the Annual Relay for Life event will take place at Richmond Senior High football field on Friday, May 11, 2012 from 6 pm until 2 am. He briefly noted the various teams working to raise money for the cause. Richmond County exceeded their goal last year and hopes to do so again this year. The community was invited to come out and show their support. Mayor Jeff Smart then took a moment to read aloud the Resolution Designating the month of April 2012 as Purple Ribbon Month, which recognized the aforementioned Relay for Life event.

The mayor presented Mr. Bayless with the resolution. Mr. Bayless thanked the Mayor and City Council for their time and for the resolution.

7. **Resolution to Approve Richmond County Solid Waste Plan Update.** Per NCGS 130A-309.09 (b), a 10 year solid waste management plan is required by each unit of local government, individually or in cooperation with other units of government. The mayor explained that the resolution is stating that Hamlet approves Richmond County's Solid Waste Plan and will abide by same. Council Members Clewis and Covington motioned to accept the resolution as written. All were in favor.
8. **Resolution Opposing the Removal of the Strategic Highway Corridor Designation from any Portion of US Hwy 1 or the Proposed US Hwy 1 Bypass in Richmond County.** Moore County wants the designation to be downgraded from its current freeway designation. This resolution is in support of keeping the designation as a freeway and it will be forwarded to other agencies. Mr. Clewis noted if this designation is changed, it may diminish the funds for connectivity or mobility for future projects. Moore County wants to lower the designation from a freeway status because, in years to come, it may create a bypass to go around their area and affect their economy. Mr. Clewis further explained Moore County's reasoning for not being in favor of the resolution. The manager reported that all of the member communities to the Lumber River Council of Governments are supporting the current status and are forwarding their resolutions of support to the COG. Mayor Smart called for a vote. Council Members Buie and Covington motioned to accept the resolution as written and the vote passed unanimously.
9. **Text Amendments to the Fats and Oils Ordinance.** Per NCDENR, minor changes need to be made to the Fats, Oils, and Grease Control Ordinance dated August 2007. On page 2, sub-paragraph (b) add- "*quarterly or as needed*" and again on page 3, sub-paragraph (g) add to the sentence – The Director of Collections will inspect grease traps "*quarterly or as needed*" to ensure accumulated grease has been removed. Motions were made by Council Members Preslar and Buie to amend the ordinance as presented. All were in favor.
10. **Approval of Tax Releases.** The City Tax Collector has submitted tax releases and refunds for Main Street Soda Shop per Richmond County as discovered by the county which was listed under another business' name. The total tax releases and refunds total – \$163.63. Council Member Clewis and Covington motioned to accept the tax releases as presented. All were in favor.
11. **M&M Fireworks, LLC.** Chief Knight reported that M&M Fireworks will be hosting the fireworks display show on Wednesday, July 4, 2012. The chief noted that both M&M Fireworks and the Hamlet Fire Department will work together on the display show.

### **Other Business**

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

Marchell David announced that there will be an informational interest meeting on Tuesday, April 24 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the possibility of starting a community garden within the city limits of Hamlet.

The meeting will be held in the Chambers at Hamlet City Hall. The Human Diversity Banquet will be held on April 20<sup>th</sup> at the Cole. Marchell asked council to inform her or Tammy if they plan to attend the event. The manager reported that she and the finance officer have completed the departmental budget meetings and a date will soon be set and advertised for the first council budget meeting.

**13. Comments of Council.**

Councilman Preslar asked city staff to look into the possibility of having a Farmers Market on certain Saturdays at the Main Street Park across from the Depot, near the covered picnic area. He asked for staff to research the feasibility and suggested that this type of event will help draw people downtown. Councilman Preslar inquired about the city helping to fund the Fourth of July activities this year and the mayor noted that the matter will be discussed in the upcoming budget meetings. The city will most likely look at budgeting \$2,500 for 4<sup>th</sup> of July and the Christmas activities in the upcoming year. Mr. Preslar announced that new lights have been installed at the baseball fields on Boyd Lake Road and that it looks good. Mayor Smart reported that Hamlet will host a grand-opening of the fields and the date and time will be announced. Mr. Preslar reminded staff about the need for a safety crossing between the two fields. The opening day for baseball season will be May 5, 2012.

Council Member Covington stated that Dr. Honeycutt hopes to be in attendance at next month's meeting.

Council Member Clewis announced that the Nascar Truck Race will be held at the Rock this Saturday and welcomed all race fans and encouraged support. He stated that he is looking forward to all of the upcoming activities at Hamlet Park & Recreation.

14. **Mayor's Comments.** Mayor Smart welcomed all of the things that are going on in Parks and Recreation. He offered greetings to all of the visitors coming into town this weekend for the race and encouraged the locals to go out and support the event.

15. **Motion to go into Closed Session.** At 7:30 p.m. a motion was made to go into closed session pursuant to NCGS §143-318.11(a) (3) by Council Members Buie and Covington. All were in favor.

Open session reconvened at approximately 8:49 pm by motions of Council Members Covington and Preslar. The vote passed unanimously. Based upon the discussions in closed session, Mayor Smart reported that council is setting a public hearing to be held at Hamlet City Hall on Tuesday, May 8, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. in order to discuss an amendment to the city's business license privilege tax ordinance for electronic gaming operations.

16. **Adjournment.** Council Members Buie and Preslar motioned for an adjournment at 8:52 pm. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Tammy Kirkley, City Clerk