



AGENDA
Henderson City Council Work Session
Monday, 23 June 2014 Immediately Following Regular Session
R. G. (Chick) Young, Jr. Council Chambers, Municipal Building
134 Rose Avenue
Henderson, North Carolina

Mayor and City Council Members

Mayor James D. O'Geary, Presiding

Councilmember James C. Kearney, Sr.
Councilmember Sara M. Coffey
Councilmember Michael C. Inscoc
Councilmember D. Michael Rainey

Councilmember Brenda G. Peace-Jenkins
Councilmember Garry D. Daeke
Councilmember Fearldine A. Simmons
Councilmember George M. Daye

City Officials

A. Ray Griffin, Jr., City Manager
John H. Zollicoffer, Jr., City Attorney
Esther J. McCrackin, City Clerk

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. ADJUSTMENTS TO AND/OR APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

IV. REGULAR WORK SESSION

a) Consideration of Approval of Resolution 14-28, Adopting the Comprehensive System-Wide Master Plan for the Recreation and Parks Department. (CAF 14-45) [See Notebook Tab 7]

- Resolution 14-45

b) Consideration of Approval of Resolution 14-16, Authorizing Execution of Agreement with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) Relative to the Chavasse Avenue Widening Project (WBS Element: 38404) Contingent on Review of Bids and Final Approval by the City Prior to NCDOT Awarding a Contract. (CAF 14-29-A) [See Notebook Tab 8]

- Resolution 14-16

c) Coal Ash Spill in the Dan River Update [See Notebook Tab 9]

d) Graffiti Update. (CM 14-24) [See Notebook Tab 10]

V. ADJOURNMENT

City Council Minutes

Work Session

23 June 2014

PRESENT

Mayor James D. O'Geary, Presiding; and Council Members James C. Kearney, Sr., Sara M. Coffey, Michael C. Inscoe, Garry Daeke, Fearldine A. Simmons and George M. Daye.

ABSENT

Council Member Peace-Jenkins and D. Michael Rainey.

STAFF PRESENT

Assistant City Manager Frank Frazier, City Clerk Esther McCrackin, Finance Director Kathy Brafford, Code Compliance Director Cory Williams, Interim Recreation and Parks Director Steve Osborne, Police Chief Marcus Barrow, Engineering Director Clark Thomas and Kerr Lake Regional Water Director Christy Lipscomb.

CALL TO ORDER

The 23 June 2014 Work Session of the Henderson City Council was called to order by Mayor O'Geary at 6:55 p.m. in the R. G. "Chick" Young, Jr. Council Chambers, Municipal Building, 134 Rose Avenue, Henderson, NC.

(Clerk's Note: Council Member Rainey left at 6:50 p.m. due to a previous commitment)

ROLL CALL

The City Clerk called the roll and advised Mayor O'Geary a quorum was present.

ADJUSTMENTS TO/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor O'Geary asked if there were any adjustments to the Agenda. Council Member Inscoe moved to accept the Agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Council Member Coffey and unanimously approved.

WORK SESSION ITEMS

Adopting the Comprehensive System-Wide Master Plan for the Recreation and Parks Department. *(CAF 14-45; Resolution 14-28)*

City Manager Griffin said the Recreation & Parks Department, the Recreation and Parks Commission and the Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Government (COG) have worked together to compile a Master Plan and asked Interim Recreation and Parks Director Steve Osborne to come forward. Briefly, Mr. Osborne said a plan has been compiled and asked Will Brooks, from the COG, to explain the general content of the Plan.

Mr. Brooks began with a quick overview of the plan for the next fifteen (15) years. He said the proposed plan is subject to change as time goes on but said the content is a summary of ideas from citizens and staff. He said demographics and trends, along with comparisons of like sized communities have all helped compile the Master Plan. A ½% increase in population is anticipated in the next five (5) years and those over 65 will grow to 1/3 of the population in the County by 2020. After reviewing the survey responses which were submitted from public meetings, mailings and the web, it is clear the four top issues are 1) lack of tennis courts; 2) need for more walking trails; 3) more multi-purpose fields with night lighting and 4) a pet park. Mr. Brooks stopped at this time and asked if there were any questions.

Council Member Inscoe asked how potential grant possibilities are found on both the State and Federal level. Mr. Osborne said the North Carolina Recreation and Parks Association sends out notifications and the USTA also offers possibilities. He said currently the department is looking into a couple of federal grants.

City Manager Griffin asked specifically how this plan will be implemented over the next 3-5 years. Mr. Osborne said this would be the next step along with looking for full grants. A plan will be developed and brought back to Council.

Mayor O'Geary asked if there were any further questions. There were none and the consensus to move forward with this Plan was as follows: YES: Kearney, Coffey, Inscoe, Daeke, Simmons and Daye. NO: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Peace-Jenkins and Rainey.

Authorizing Execution of Agreement with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) Relative to the Chavasse Avenue Widening Project (WBS Element: 38404) Contingent on Review of Bids and Final Approval by the City Prior to NCDOT Awarding a Contract. *(Reference: CAF 14-29-A, Ordinance 14-16)*

City Manager Griffin asked Assistant City Manager Frank Frazier to share some good news with Council regarding this project. Mr. Frazier said there were two issues of concern from the 12 May 2014 meeting. The first concern was the City of Henderson's project liability. Mr. Frazier spoke with the NCDOT representative and the DOT has removed this in the agreement. The second concern was the issue of funding. The DOT said the project could cost the City \$75,000 to \$100,000 over budget. During discussion with the DOT, an agreement has been established that the City will have the right to commit or refuse the project after reviewing the bids received

by the DOT. Mr. Frazier added the last property owner has agreed to the easement and its historical issues have been resolved. Bottom line is Council will have the right to refuse this project depending on the bids received by the DOT.

Council Member Daeke congratulated Mr. Frazier for successfully working with the DOT.

There was no other discussion so Mayor O'Geary called for the consensus of Council to bring this item forward to the next Council meeting with the following result: YES: Kearney, Coffey, Inscoe, Daeke, Simmons and Daye. NO: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Peace-Jenkins and Rainey.

(Clerk's Note: Council Member Inscoe left the meeting at 7:11 p.m. due to a prior commitment)

Coal Ash Spill in the Dan River. *(Reference: None)*

City Manager Griffin said Council member Kearney had requested an update on this spill and asked Kerr Lake Regional Water Director Christy Lipscomb to come forward. Ms. Lipscomb began her update by reviewing a map showing the spill occurred in Eden, NC on February 2, 2014. The water flows through Danville, South Boston, Clarksville and into Buggs Island (so called on the Virginia side and called Kerr Lake on the North Carolina side). She said testing was done every 4 hours for the first two weeks and then reduced to two times a day. Elevated levels of heavy metals were found in Danville; however, there was no problem removing the metals. Since no heavy metals have been found downstream, no further testing will be done unless there is an "Event" – meaning a very heavy rainstorm, hurricane, etc. At that time further testing will occur to see if the heavy metals are on the move. Ms. Lipscomb said she could not provide a set timeline at this time.

Council Member Kearney asked where the local samples were taken. Ms. Lipscomb responded at the plant.

City Manager Griffin said the local plant is located some 10 miles away from the main channel flowing into Kerr Lake. He asked if North Carolina and Virginia are working together on this spill. Ms. Lipscomb responded yes and if there is a problem, there is a Call Tree, meaning notification of problems in Danville will be sent on to South Boston which will be sent on to Clarksville and then to Henderson.

There were no further questions and the Mayor thanked Ms. Lipscomb for the update.

Graffiti Update. *(Reference: CM 14-24)*

City Manager Griffin said Council Member Daeke had asked for an update on graffiti and asked Code Compliance Director Corey Williams and Police Chief Marcus Barrow to update Council on this issue.

Police Chief Barrow said the graffiti removal process needs improvements but began by showing several success pictures of buildings where graffiti has been removed and stayed "clean." Chief

Barrow said a graffiti report will be included with the monthly Police report and said the Community Policing department will be the responsible department. He is establishing a process of not only having the police looking out for areas needing graffiti removal but also a way for citizens to notify the City of structures with graffiti.

Council Member Daeke asked for a reminder of how the current process works. Code Compliance Director Corey Williams said a letter is sent and property owners have ten (10) days to comply. Mr. Daeke asked what happens if there is non-compliance. Mr. Williams said to date, further steps have not had to be implemented but the next step would be to go to court. Mr. Williams added graffiti violations have been reduced approximately 60% which is much better than in the past but not as good as he would like.

Council Member Coffey asked if individuals having to serve community service could help with painting over graffiti. Chief Barrow said he would look into this possibility. Council Member Kearney asked about using volunteers. Chief Barrow said a group of volunteers recently did some painting and did a great job. A concern expressed was how many would wait for volunteers to do the work.

There were no further questions. Mayor O'Geary asked if there was any further discussion or if Council was prepared to adjourn.

OTHER

Council Member Coffey asked why the Police Report showed \$656 going to the School Board. Chief Barrow responded when any court case is disposed of that is taxable the dollars have to go to the School system.

Council Member Kearney said he will be unable to attend the next Council Meeting due to a prior commitment.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Daeke then moved for adjournment. Motion seconded by Council Member Daye, and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

James D. O'Geary
Mayor

ATTEST:

Esther J. McCrackin, City Clerk