

JANUARY 4, 2011, CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The City Council of the City of Clinton, North Carolina, met in regular session at 7:00 PM on January 4, 2011, in the City Hall Auditorium. Mayor Starling presided. Councilmembers Stefanovich, Turlington, Strickland, Becton, and Mayor Pro Tem Harris were present. Also present was City Attorney Dale Johnson. Also City Clerk Elaine F. Hunt; City Manager John Connet; Assistant City Manager/Finance Director Shawn Purvis; Fire Chief Todd Solice; Interim Planning and Community Development Director Mary Rose; Police Chief Mike Brim; Recreation Director Judi Nicholson; Public Works Director Jeff Vreugdenhil; Human Resource Manager Lisa Carter; and Public Works Operations Manager Tony Steffen were present. Chris Berendt, of the Sampson Independent, was also present.

Councilmember Steve Stefanovich, District 1, gave the invocation.

Upon a motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Harris, seconded by Councilmember Strickland, the minutes of the December 7, 2010 regular city council meeting were unanimously approved.

PRESENTATION

On the January 4, 2011 agenda was a presentation of a Water Audit and Leak Detection Study for the City of Clinton. Mr. Will Jernigan of Cavanaugh and Associates was scheduled to be present to make the presentation; however, he was not in attendance. City Manager Connet requested that this item be placed on the February 1, 2011 city council agenda.

RECOGNITION

Mayor Starling and Fire Chief Todd Solice recognized Brian Royal, a City of Clinton's employee hired on February 23, 2010, who was selected by his peers as the "2010 Firefighter of the Year." Fire Chief Solice stated that during Mr. Royal's employment with the City of Clinton, he has performed an outstanding job. Fire Chief Solice presented Firefighter Royal with a Certificate of Appreciation. He stated that at a later date, Mr. Royal will be presented with a ring donated by Sessoms Jewelry.

P & Z -- COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT -- CITIZEN'S INPUT

Mayor Starling opened a public hearing on a request to receive citizen input relative to the intention of the city to apply for FY2010 CDBG Contingency funding under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act for improvements in the Eliza Lane neighborhood.

Public Works Director Jeff Vreugdenhil stated that two public hearings are required for consideration of CDBG funds. He stated that this is the final public hearing for this project. He stated that this Eliza Lane Project is a much needed project for the installation of sewer, water, and roads. He further stated that

approximately \$570,000 is being held to undertake capital improvements involving water, sewer, and street improvements in the Eliza Lane neighborhood adjacent to the existing city limits.

A tentative list of proposed activities and an estimated budget is as follows:

CDBG Water, Sewer, & Street Improvements	\$ 521,500
City-Funded Water, Sewer, & Street Improvements	130,000
CDBG Planning & Administration	<u>48,500</u>
Total	\$ 700,000

No one else wished to be heard and the public hearing was closed. No action was required.

P & Z -- REVERSE TRAFFIC FLOW – SYCAMORE STREET

Mayor Starling opened the public hearing on a request to receive public comments regarding Clinton City Council changing Sycamore Street from one-way to two-way traffic.

City Manager Connet stated that at the December 7, 2010, city council meeting, property owners on Sycamore Street requested that City Council approve the reversal of the flow of traffic. Mr. Connet stated that he contacted NCDOT and they requested a public hearing take place regarding this matter. He presented Mr. Joe Chance, NCDOT representative.

Mr. Chance, NCDOT representative, stated that this request had been studied. He informed the group that streets run on control delays. Mr. Chance stated that NCDOT's primary concern is that if traffic is allowed "from all angles"; Vance Street has a tremendous delay time. He further stated that if a full movement of traffic such as has been suggested occurs, movement will be lost, traffic will be delayed, and traffic will be at a standstill. Mr. Chance informed City Council that if Vance Street traffic is not allowed to cross onto Sycamore Street, NCDOT feels that traffic will flow rather smoothly. He stated that there is a fee for making this change—whether it be a trial change or a permanent change. Mr. Chance stated that the minimum cost would be \$5,000 and the maximum cost would be \$7,000.

Mr. George Wilson appeared before City Council. He stated that he, along with others, requested originally that City Council approve changing the one-way street to go in the direction from Fayetteville Street to Chestnut Street. Mr. Wilson expressed his appreciation for NCDOT's involvement and all of City Council's assistance. One of Mr. Wilson's primary concerns is people who come to the city and attempting to get to Sycamore Street.

Mr. Allie Ray McCullen appeared before City Council. He stated that he operates business(es) on Sycamore Street. He stated that reversing Sycamore

Street into a two-way street will be very beneficial. Mr. McCullen spoke on behalf of Bobby Lockamy, another property owner on Sycamore Street, who was unable to be at the meeting. He stated that Mr. Lockamy does not oppose a change in traffic flow being made.

Ms. Clare Smith, 300 West Main Street, appeared before City Council. She stated that she travels on Sycamore Street daily and her concern is, "How will the change impact the people who own homes on this street?"

Mayor Starling directed Ms. Smith's question to Chief Mike Brim, who responded that the Police Department will address this problem if City Council approves the request.

City Manager Connet stated that he had received calls regarding concerns of on-street parking.

Councilmember Turlington stated that she had concerns initially; however, making Sycamore Street a two-way street will solve some of her concerns and result in a nice solution.

City Manager Connet recommended City Council approving: (1) no on-street parking; (2) 25 mph speed limit; and (3) 60-90 days trial period. Councilmember Strickland recommended a lower speed than 25 mph.

No one else wished to be heard and the public hearing was closed.

Upon a motion made by Councilmember Turlington, seconded by Councilmember Becton, it passed unanimously to allow a 60-day trial period turning Sycamore Street into a two-way street, lowering the speed limit to 20 mph, and allowing at the traffic light at the end of Vance Street, right turns only. NCDOT requested a resolution with the abovementioned specifics included.

P & Z—LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE – FREESTANDING SIGNS

Mayor Starling opened a public hearing on a text amendment request by the Planning staff to amend Section 6.6.1 E Freestanding Signs of the City of Clinton Land Development Ordinance.

Interim Planning Director Mary Rose presented the Planning and Zoning Board's recommendation to amend Section 6.6.1 E Freestanding Signs of the City of Clinton Land Development Ordinance. She stated that this is the first text amendment and she feels this change will benefit all involved to include the Hwy 24 Project already underway.

No one else appeared to be heard and the public hearing was closed.

Upon a motion made by Councilmember Stefanovich, seconded by Councilmember Strickland, the following ordinance # **2011.01.01** to the Land Development Ordinance was adopted unanimously:

2011.01.01

Whereas, upon the recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Board and after public hearing and due notice thereof as required by law, the City Council of the City of Clinton, NC do enact as follows: That the Land Development Ordinance of the City of Clinton be and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

6.6.1 Freestanding Signs

E. Unless otherwise provided in this Chapter or Chapter 4 (Special Requirements), a single side of a freestanding sign may not exceed ½ square foot in surface area for every linear foot of frontage along the street toward which the sign is primarily oriented, **except that an additional ½ square foot in sign surface area may be permitted for every linear foot of setback of the primary building beyond the minimum front setback.** However, in no case may a single side of a freestanding sign exceed 125 square feet in surface area.

RENAMING OF CLINTON ARMORY – 30TH BRIGADE, NC NATIONAL GUARD

City Manager Connet stated that this is a continued item from the December 7, 2010 city council meeting. He introduced Major Marty Reigher, North Carolina National Guard.

Major Reigher asked City Council to endorse the renaming of the Clinton Armory in honor of Brigadier General Kenneth Raynor Newbold. Major Reigher stated that one requirement of renaming the Armory is obtaining endorsement from the governing body. He stated that several former commanders, in conjunction with Commander Lawrence R. Powell sent requests in writing regarding this endorsement. Major Reigher read the letters to the group.

Councilmember Stefanovich informed the group that Brigadier General Newbold was a great educator, as well as, a great soldier.

Upon a motion made by Councilmember Stefanovich, seconded by Councilmember Strickland, it passed unanimously to submit a letter to endorse the renaming of the Clinton Armory in honor of Brigadier General Kenneth Raynor Newbold.

CONSOLIDATION OF COPIER CONTRACT

Assistant City Manager/Finance Director Shawn Purvis appeared before City Council. He stated that the City would benefit greatly by consolidating copier services under one contract. He stated that he feels better service and better pricing will occur. Mr. Purvis recommended approving a copier contract with COECO to consolidate the copiers in the various departments. He stated that it will be a cost of \$400 more per year than we pay currently, most departments will upgrade to color copiers, and Public Works will obtain a copier.

Upon a motion made by Councilmember Stefanovich, seconded by Councilmember Becton, it passed unanimously to approve a contract to consolidate the City of Clinton's copier services.

2010-2011 BUDGET ORDINANCE -- AMENDMENTS

Upon a motion made by Councilmember Strickland, seconded by Councilmember Becton, the following ordinance amendments #2011.01.02 and #2011.01.03 were unanimously adopted:

**Budget Ordinance Amendment
Fiscal Year 2010-2011**

2011.01.02

Be it Ordained by the City Council of the City of Clinton, NC, that the following amendment be made to the Annual Budget Ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, amended October 5, 2010, and amended November 3, 2010, hereby amended as follows:

Section 1. To amend the General Fund, the expenditures are to be changed as follows:

<u>Account #</u>	<u>Account Title</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
104900.1402	Planning Board Expense		\$ 1300.00
104900.3300	Departmental Supplies	\$ 1,300.00	
105300.5900	Operation Round Up Grant	5,000.00	
105600.0400	Professional Services	1,489.00	
106200.3500	Take Me Fishing Grant	5,000.00	
106200.4500	Contracted Service	1,989.00	
106600.1900	Reverse 911/Connect CTY	883.00	
106600.5405	Unemployment Benefits	6,484.00	
106600.6500	Transfer to Storm Drainage*	<u>28,620.00</u>	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		\$ 50,765.00	\$1,300.00

Section 2. The revenues are to be changed as follows:

<u>Account #</u>	<u>Account Title</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
103567.0400	Operation Round Up Grant	\$ 5,000.00	
103612.0700	Take Me Fishing Grant	5,000.00	
103990.0000	Fund Balance Appropriation	<u>39,465.00</u>	
Total Revenues:		\$ 49,465.00	

Section 3. To amend the Water and Sewer Fund, the expenditures are to be changed as follows:

<u>Account #</u>	<u>Account Title</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
306600.0400	Misc. Professional Services	\$ 2,869.00	
306600.1900	Reverse 911/Connect CTY	<u>883.00</u>	
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 3,752.00	

Section 4. The revenues are to be changed as follows:

<u>Account #</u>	<u>Account Title</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
303990.0000	Retained Earnings Appropriation	<u>\$ 3,752.00</u>	
	Total Revenues:	\$ 3,752.00	

Section 5. To amend the Downtown Special Tax District Fund, the expenditures are to be changed as follows:

<u>Account #</u>	<u>Account Title</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
716910.2500	Craft Fair		\$ 1,500.00
716910.3300	Supplies & Materials	\$ 1,500.00	
716910.7300	Projects	<u>2,300.00</u>	
	Total Expenditures:	\$ 3,800.00	\$ 1,500.00

Section 6. The revenues are to be changed as follows:

<u>Account #</u>	<u>Account Title</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
712990.0000	Fund Balance	<u>\$ 2,300.00</u>	
	Total Revenues:	\$ 2,300.00	

Section 7. Copies of this budget amendment shall be furnished to the City Clerk, City Manager, and Finance Director for their direction.

* Corresponds with Capital Budget Amendment

Storm Drainage Budget Ordinance Amendment

#2011.01.03

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Clinton, North Carolina, that, pursuant to Section 13.2 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the capital project ordinance adopted December 12, 2006, and amended on March 4, 2008; June 17, 2008; February 2, 2010; and Fiscal Year

2010-2011 Budget Ordinance adopted June 29, 2010, is hereby amended as follows:

Section 1. To amend the Capital Project Budget Ordinance, the expenditures are to be changed as follows:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
634730.7200	Drainage Improvements	<u>\$ 28,620.00</u>	
	Total Expenditures	\$ 28,620.00	

Section 2. The following revenues are anticipated to be available for this project.

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
633473.0000	Transfer from General Fund*	<u>\$ 28,620.00</u>	
	Total Revenues	\$ 28,620.00	

Section 3. Copies of this amendment shall be furnished to the City Clerk, City Manager, and Finance Director for their direction.

* Corresponds with Operating Budget Amendment

AWARD OF BID – EAST NICHOLSON DRAINAGE PIPE REPLACEMENT

Public Works Operations Manager Tony Steffen stated that the drainage line that serves the residential area behind Clinton Truck and Tractor and crosses underneath the nearby apartment building owned by the Taylor Family is failing. He stated that originally, there were no buildings in this area; however, now the apartment building is in this location. Mr. Steffen stated that he and Mr. Frank Logan have studied the area to relocate this drainage line. He further stated that they solicited bids for this project. Mr. Steffen stated that Colt Contracting Company was the low bidder in the amount of \$ 28,620.00.

Upon a motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Harris, seconded by Councilmember Strickland, the low bid of \$28,620 from Colt Contracting Company to replace the East Nicholson drainage pipe was unanimously approved.

REAL ESTATE –PURCHASE BY LISBON STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

City Manager Connet presented an offer from Lisbon Street Missionary Baptist Church for the purchase of a small parcel of land at the corner of Lisbon Street and Morisey Boulevard in the amount of \$900.00. He stated that the property was offered for sale through the upset bid procedure and this was the final bid received.

City Manager Connet recommended selling the property to Lisbon Street Missionary Baptist Church.

Upon a motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Harris, seconded by Councilmember Turlington, it passed unanimously to accept the offer by Lisbon Street Missionary Baptist Church to purchase the City of Clinton small parcel of property located at the corner of Lisbon Street and Morisey Boulevard for \$900.00.

AWARD OF BID – DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION PROJECT PHASE III

Public Works Director Jeff Vreugdenhil stated that Human Resource Manager/Purchasing Manager Lisa Carter sent out proposals to contractors for electrical work to relocate private businesses electrical services during Phase III of the Downtown Revitalization Project. Mr. Vreugdenhil stated that the low bid was submitted by Don Williams Electrical Service in the amount of \$ 49,202. He stated that Don Williams Electrical Service also performed the work during the Downtown Revitalization Project Phase II. Mr. Vreugdenhil asked City Council to award the contract to Don Williams Electrical Service.

Upon a motion made by Councilmember Stefanovich, seconded by Councilmember Becton, the low bid of \$49,202 from Don Williams Electrical Service to relocate private electrical services for businesses during the Downtown Revitalization Project Phase III was unanimously approved.

CHANGE ORDER – CECIL HOLCOMB DEMOLITION COMPANY – HAMILTON BEACH SITE

City Manager Connet stated that during the demolition of the former Hamilton Beach site, the contractor had to remove approximately twelve (12) truck loads of debris that was the responsibility of Bryant's Recycling. He stated that the cost for the removal of this debris will be added to the legal action the City has pending against Mr. Bryant. Mr. Connet asked City Council to approve a change order in the amount of \$7,940.64.

Upon a motion made by Councilmember Stefanovich, seconded by Councilmember Turlington, the change order in the amount of \$7,940.64 was unanimously approved.

CHANGE ORDER – CITY HALL RENOVATION PROJECT

Assistant City Manager Purvis stated that several minor changes in the City Hall Renovation Project have occurred and City Council is asked to approve a change order regarding these changes in the amount of \$3,381 to Diamond Contracting, Inc. He stated the changes include additional bulkheads in two rooms to run conduits, additional electrical receptacles, an additional sink, general construction changes, and a \$564 credit for a reduction in cabinets.

Upon a motion made by Councilmember Strickland, seconded by Councilmember Becton, the change order in the amount of \$3,381 was unanimously approved.

REPORTS

The fire, finance, public works, police, City Council Action, and code reports were acknowledged. He made mention of a newsletter created by Public Works Director Vreugdenhil.

City Manager Connet stated that our district meetings will begin soon—first one will be District 1, Councilmember Stefanovich, on Thursday, February 10, 2011. He commended Public Works Director Vreugdenhil and his men on a job well done during the snow storm in December.

City Manager Connet asked Parks and Recreation Director Judi Nicholson to update City Council regarding the PARTF Grant. Ms. Nicholson told City Council that she has refigured the Royal Lane Phase I Renovation Project and has eliminated as much as possible. She stated that the walking trail has been decreased in size. Ms. Nicholson stated that this Project will include ball fields, restrooms, and tennis courts paving improvements. She stated that the total cost of this Project is \$773,200, with the City's match of 50%. City Manager Connet stated that this will be paid over a three-year period.

Mayor Starling asked for City Council to make a motion to add this item to the agenda and approve if they choose to do so.

Upon a motion made by Councilmember Stefanovich, seconded by Councilmember Strickland, it passed unanimously to add to the agenda and approve the following: "Consideration of approving the PARTF Grant for the Royal Lane Phase I Renovation in the amount of \$773,200 with a City's match of 50%."

ADJOURNMENT

Before concluding the meeting, Mayor Starling also commended Public Works and City's staff for how well they performed on last week during the snow storm.

Upon a motion made by Councilmember Stefanovich, seconded by Councilmember Becton, and approved unanimously, the meeting adjourned at 7:49 PM.

Elaine F. Hunt, MMC, City Clerk

Lew Starling, Mayor