



JANUARY 3, 2017, CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The City Council of the City of Clinton, North Carolina, met in regular session at 7:00 PM on January 3, 2017, in the City Hall Auditorium. Mayor Starling presided. Councilmembers Strickland, Turlington, Becton, Stefanovich, and Mayor Pro Tem Harris were present.

Also present was City Attorney Tim Howard, Howard and Bradshaw, PLLC.

Also present were City Manager Shawn Purvis; City Clerk Elaine F. Hunt; Planning Director Mary Rose; Public Works Engineer Russell Byrd; Finance Director Kristin Stafford; Fire Chief Scott Phillips; Recreation Director Jonathan Allen; Police Chief Jay Tilley; Captain Donald Edwards; Human Resource Director Lisa Carter; Belinda Parker, Senior Administration Specialist; Firefighter Matthew Smith; Senior Police Officer Salah Ali O'Neill; Police Sergeant Robbie King; and Jean Ko, Senior Administration Specialist.

Randy Parker, a recent retiree of the City, was also present.

Public Works Director Jeff Vreugdenhil was absent.

Melvin Henderson, of the Sampson Weekly; and Chris Berendt, of the Sampson Independent, were also present.

Mayor Starling called the meeting to order. He called upon Councilmember Steve Stefanovich, District 1, to give the invocation. Mayor Starling congratulated Councilmember Stefanovich upon the newest addition to his family—his very first grandchild, Eliza Anne Jaskot, born December 14th.

CITY COUNCIL

Upon a motion made by Councilmember Stefanovich, seconded by Councilmember Strickland, the minutes of the December 6, 2016, regular city council meeting were unanimously approved.

RECOGNITION – 2016 EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

City Manager Purvis briefed the group on this recognition. He stated that this is the fourth year of the “Employee of the Year” program. He stated that nominations come from the peers. He told of the process that leads up to the naming of the Employee of the Year.

City Manager Purvis informed City Council that last year, the spouse was nominated as Employee of the Year. He further stated that at last month’s city council meeting, this individual was recognized as being the most recent retiree from the City of Clinton. Mr. Purvis read from the application, reasons why this individual was nominated.

City Manager Purvis announced Randy Parker as the “2016 Employee of the Year.” Mayor Starling presented a monetary award and a plaque to Mr. Parker.

Mr. Purvis stated that a larger plaque will hang in City Hall and a picture of Mr. Parker will be placed on the plaque.

Mayor Starling thanked Randy Parker for the excellent job that he performed while employed with the City of Clinton.

RECOGNITION – 2016 FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

Fire Chief Phillips appeared before City Council to present the “2016 Firefighter of the Year.” Chief Phillips applauded all employees within the Fire Department; however, he stated that this individual has been selected by his peers as exceeding expectations. He stated that this individual has been an employee of the City approximately five (5) years and approximately ten (10) years in the fire service.

Chief Phillips stated that this individual has been very busy with the rash of fires in the area. Fire Chief Phillips announced Firefighter Matthew Smith, as the “2016 Firefighter of the Year.” Firefighter Smith was called forth to take a picture with Mayor Starling and Fire Chief Phillips. Chief Phillips stated that a certificate and ring will be presented to Mr. Smith at a later date.

RECOGNITION – 2016 POLICE OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Police Chief Jay Tilley presented the recipient for 2016. Chief Tilley stated that this award is one of the proudest awards within the Police Department because peers and former winners nominate and select the recipient. Chief Tilley stated that this individual has been employed with the City since December 2006. Chief Tilley stated that this individual’s body of work best exemplifies professionalism. Chief Tilley stated that this individual is the fraud investigator, he mentors young officers, maintains a huge case load, a Neighborhood Improvement Team

member, served with the Patrol Division and as a School Resource Officer. Chief Tilley jokingly stated that, “The 2016 Police Officer of the Year,” is the hardest working man at the Clinton Police Department.”

Before announcing the officer, Chief Tilley stated that the love of this individual’s life is his wife and child. Chief Tilley further stated that this is the second time that this individual has received this honor—he first received the recognition in 2008.

Chief Tilley presented to everyone the “2016 Police Officer of the Year,” -- Senior Police Officer Salah Ali O’Neill.

Mayor Starling and Chief Tilley presented a plaque to Officer O’Neill. Mayor Starling congratulated Senior Police Officer O’Neill for his exemplary service.

RECOGNITION – ZACHARY DAREN PARKER – SCOUT PROJECT

Parks and Recreation Director Jonathan Allen presented Zachary Daren Parker to City Council and the public. He informed the group that Mr. Zachary “Zack” Parker built a baseball batting cage for Royal Lane Park for his Scout’s project.

Mayor Starling presented the following Certificate of Commendation to Mr. Parker:



COMMENDATION

WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts Eagle Scout Award is the highest award given in the Boy Scouts organization; and

WHEREAS, requirements such as earning a minimum of 21 merit badges, serving actively in a leadership position, developing, planning and carrying out a service project helpful to a religious institution or community must be met to obtain an Eagle Scout Award; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Zachary Daren Parker of Troop 76, son of Daren and Michelle Parker is being recognized today for being a recipient of the Boy Scouts Eagle Scout Award; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Zachary Daren Parker better known to some as “Zack,” is a credit to the people of the City of Clinton for his great achievement—he constructed a baseball batting cage for Royal Lane Park.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, I, LEW STARLING, MAYOR of the City of Clinton, North Carolina, do hereby extend my congratulations and best wishes to Mr. Zachary Daren Parker for receiving his Eagle Scout Award.

PRESENTATION – CITIZEN TEXT ALERT SYSTEM

Police Chief Jay Tilley appeared before City Council to brief them on a new application within the Police Department to better alert citizens regarding happenings in the City. He stated that the need for this application known as “Tip411 Alerts,” was evident during Hurricane Matthew. He further stated that this system seems to be a better way to inform citizens. He introduced Jean Ko, the newest Senior Administrative Specialist, in the Department. Also, Chief Tilley stated that Mrs. Ko is the social media coordinator.

Mrs. Ko presented a PowerPoint and she began with a question, “Why should we sign up for Tip411 Alerts?” Immediately, she responded, “we should sign up because it is fast, direct, and interactive.” Mrs. Ko stated that this system alerts citizens concerning crime, traffic, and events. She urged the group to follow this new move on Facebook and sign up for the alert system. Mrs. Ko stated that email addresses are needed to sign up and two options of notification will be available—text messages or emails. She further stated that Tip411 will send alerts to your phone and/or your computer.

City Manager Purvis spoke in favor of this system. City Council was very impressed with Tip411 Alerts. Everyone was encouraged to sign up for the system.

Mrs. Ko’s presentation was for informational purposes only.

WALK-ON ITEM: ACCEPTANCE OF OFFER TO PURCHASE PROPERTY –RACKLEY ROAD

City Manager Purvis asked City Council to approve a walk-on item: “Consideration of accepting an offer to purchase property located on Rackley Road.”

Upon a motion made by Councilmember Turlington, seconded by Councilmember Strickland, it passed unanimously to add, “Consideration of accepting an offer to purchase property located on Rackley Road,” to the January 3, 2017, city council agenda.

City Manager Purvis stated that two offers were received on this morning for the well site property located on Rackley Road. He stated that both offers were for \$25,000; however, one offer was cash from William Earl Burch, and the other offer via financing from Mr. Jessie G. Pike,

Jr. City Manager Purvis stated that if City Council approves this request, the City will proceed with the sale of the property subject to the upset bid process in accordance with G.S. 160A-269 Negotiated offer, advertisement, and upset bids.

Upon a motion made by Councilmember Turlington, seconded by Councilmember Strickland, it passed unanimously to accept an offer to purchase property located on Rackley Road in accordance with G.S. 160A-269 Negotiated offer, advertisement, and upset bids.

RESOLUTION – ACCEPTING WATER & SEWER UTILITIES --HARPERS GLEN APARTMENTS, LLC -- GREENWAY RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC

City Manager Purvis stated that it is common practice for the city to accept utilities connected to the city's system upon completion by a developer. He stated that the utilities are then available as part of the city's public system. Mr. Purvis further stated that the Harpers Glen Apartments' owners, Greenway Residential Development, LLC, installed lines at its cost per city specifications and is now granting those utilities and easements to the City upon acceptance by City Council. He asked City Council to adopt a resolution accepting these water and sewer improvements.

Upon a motion made by Councilmember Becton, seconded by Councilmember Strickland, the following resolution passed unanimously:

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING WATER AND SEWER IMPROVEMENTS- HARPERS GLEN APARTMENTS

WHEREAS, Greenway Residential Development, LLC, the developer of Harpers Glen Apartments, obtained permits from the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and the City of Clinton Public Works and Utilities Department, and has completed construction of certain water and sewer improvements to serve this development; and

WHEREAS, Greenway Residential Development, LLC, the developer of Harpers Glen Apartments has obtained and dedicated the necessary utility easements to the City of Clinton for perpetual maintenance and operation by the City; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works and Utility Department has reviewed and approved the construction of said water and sewer improvements serving Harpers Glen Apartments, including record construction drawings, and easement documents; and

WHEREAS, Greenway Residential Development, LLC, the developer of Harpers Glen Apartments has petitioned for voluntary annexation;

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Clinton, North Carolina has by ordinance, established an effective date of annexation of January 1, 2017;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Clinton, North Carolina that the above referenced water and sewer improvements as shown on the record drawings and easement documents serving Harpers Glen Apartments are hereby accepted by the City of Clinton for ownership, maintenance and operation.

RESOLUTION – ACCEPTING PROPERTY LOCATED ALONG WEST ELIZABETH AND STETSON STREETS FROM JIMMY SHIPP

City Manager Purvis stated that the sidewalk and retaining wall along West Elizabeth Street between Ferrell and Stetson Streets are on private property and in need of repairs. He stated that the City does not have an easement or right-of-way for the sidewalk. Mr. Purvis further stated that Mr. Jimmy Shipp has agreed to dedicate right-of-way to the City to reconstruct the sidewalk and retaining wall. He asked City Council to adopt a resolution accepting right-of-way located on West Elizabeth Street for construction of sidewalk(s) and maintenance from Mr. Jimmy Shipp.

Upon a motion made by Councilmember Strickland, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Harris, the following resolution passed unanimously:

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING Right of Way Dedication
West Elizabeth Street and Stetson Street
By
Jimmy Shipp and wife Hyo Suk Shipp**

WHEREAS, the City of Clinton desires to repair, maintain, and enhance the appearance of an existing retaining wall and sidewalk along West Elizabeth Street and Stetson Street, on property owned by Jimmy Shipp and wife Hyo Suk Shipp; and

WHEREAS, Jimmy Shipp, and Hyo Suk Shipp are willing to dedicate right of way and related construction easements necessary to facilitate the reconstruction of the retaining wall at a lesser height and sidewalk repairs and enhancements; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works and Utility Department is able to perform the necessary work to reconstruct the wall and make repairs and enhancements to the sidewalk.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Clinton, North Carolina that the City accepts this right of way and easement dedication for this stated purpose, and authorizes all related expenses incurred in the performance of this work.

**OFFICIAL TRAFFIC MAP – NO PARKING ZONE – LISBON SQUARE APARTMENTS –
312 LISBON STREET**

City Manager Purvis stated that Lisbon Street is a NCDOT street; nevertheless, the City has received several complaints from residents and other citizens regarding safety hazards due to on-street parking in the vicinity of Lisbon Square Apartments, 312 Lisbon Street. It was stated that individuals who park on the street on the south bound lane of Lisbon Street are creating a “blind spot” for drivers exiting the apartment complex.

According to a letter from Chief Tilley, Lt. Anthony Davis surveyed the situation and agrees that the on-street parking is a traffic hazard. Lt. Davis recommends that a No-Parking area for on-street parking be designated eighty (80) feet north to the entrance of Lisbon Street Square Apartments on the south bound lane.

City Manager stated that the Official Traffic Map will need to be revised if City Council approves the request. He stated that he would contact NCDOT of the revision.

Upon a motion made by Councilmember Stefanovich, and seconded by Councilmember Becton, the following amendment to the traffic map was unanimously adopted:

**Resolution Prohibiting On-Street Parking Eighty (80) Feet North
of the Entrance to 312 Lisbon Street**

BE IT RESOLVED that no on-street parking shall be allowed eighty (80) feet north of the entrance to Lisbon Square Apartments located at 312 Lisbon Street; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Police Chief shall request the posting of appropriate signs stating “NO PARKING ZONE”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that appropriate entry be made upon the City’s Official Traffic Map.

RESOLUTION—SURPLUS PROPERTY

Upon a motion made by Councilmember Becton, seconded by Councilmember Strickland, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF CERTAIN PERSONAL PROPERTY BY
THE METHOD KNOWN AS:
“GOVDEALS”**

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Clinton, NC desires to dispose of certain surplus properties of the City of Clinton;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council that:

- (1) The following described properties are hereby declared to be surplus to the needs of the City of Clinton:

One (1) 2005 Ford Five Hundred Estimated value \$2,000.00
VIN# 1FAHP28155G117116

One (1) 2008 Chevrolet Impala Estimated value \$2,500.00
VIN# 2G1WS553681241915

- (2) The Financial Analyst is authorized to receive on behalf of the City Council of the City of Clinton bids via GovDeals for the purchase of the described properties.
- (3) GovDeals will begin the sale of the described properties on or about January 10, 2017, and will continue the sale until the described properties are sold. The terms of sale shall be Pay Pal, credit card, or wire transfer.
- (4) The City Clerk will not cause a notice of the electronic public auction to be published in accordance with G. S. 160A-266 (c).
- (5) The highest bid, if it complies with the terms of sale, may be accepted by the Financial Analyst and the sale consummated.

APPOINTMENT(S)

Upon a motion made by Councilmember Becton, seconded by Councilmember Strickland, it passed unanimously to reappoint Mr. Vernon Clifton and Mr. Anthony Worley to three-year terms on the Cemetery Advisory Board.

Upon a motion made by Councilmember Becton, seconded by Councilmember Stefanovich, it passed unanimously to accept Mr. Robert Jerol Kivett's letter of resignation, due to being elected as a County Commissioner representing District 2, and appoint Mr. Nash Johnson to fill the unexpired three-year term of Mr. Kivett.

Notification of appointments/reappointments were given for the Environmental Affairs Advisory Board. Currently, the following individuals serve on the Board which are three-year terms:

- a. Deborah Johnson – District 1
- b. Carl Hairr – District 2
- c. Tawana Carr – District 3
- d. Ted Best – District 4
- e. Jimmy Ezzell – District 5
- f. Harold Woodall – At large
- g. Cebron Fussell – At large
- h. Annabelle Fetterman - Industrial

At the February 7, 2017, city council meeting, City Council will be asked to make the appointments/reappointments.

REPORTS

The fire and personnel reports were acknowledged.

STAFF REPORTS

Chief Jay Tilley came forth and announced some shocking news. After thirty-nine (39) years of police service, he stated that, “it is time to go home.” He stated that he has given 4 months’ notice. He further stated that he has enjoyed his tenure. He will retire effective May 1, 2017.

Mayor Starling and City Council thanked him for his dedication and outstanding job. Mayor Startling stated that, “with regrets, we receive this information.”

CITY MANAGER REPORTS

City Manager Purvis stated that City Council has received his monthly report and he stands ready to address any concerns.

He reminded everyone of the upcoming district meetings. The schedule is as follows:

Councilman Stefanovich.....District 1.....Thursday, April 13, 2017, at Beaman St. Fire Station

Councilwoman Turlington....District 4.....Thursday, March 9, 2017, at Bellamy Center

Councilman Strickland.....District 2.....Thursday, March 23, 2017, at Beaman St. Fire Station

Councilwoman Harris.....District 5.....Thursday, April 20, 2017, at Sampson Center

Councilman Becton.....District 3.....Thursday, March 16, 2017, at City Hall Auditorium

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mrs. Mary E. Smith, 701 Sunset Avenue, appeared before Mayor Starling and City Council. She asked them to consider installing more lighting near the Walmart Shopping Center. She stated that the congested traffic out at the shopping center, particularly at night, is very stressful.

Mayor Starling instructed City Manager Purvis to check into this concern.

CLOSED SESSION

Upon a motion made by Councilmember Stefanovich, seconded by Councilmember Becton, it passed unanimously to enter closed session to discuss matters relating to economic development.

Upon a motion made by Councilmember Turlington, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Harris, it passed unanimously for Council to re-enter regular session.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Starling stated that within the closed session, he and City Council were briefed on an economic development matter. He stated that no action was taken regarding the economic development matter.

Upon a motion made by Councilmember Stefanovich, seconded by Councilmember Becton, it passed unanimously to continue this meeting until January 24, 2017, at 6:00 PM in the City Hall Training Room for a strategic planning and goal confirmation workshop.

This January 3, 2017, city council meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Elaine F. Hunt, City Clerk, MMC, NCCMC

Lew Starling, Mayor