

MARCH 17, 2009, CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING

The City Council of the City of Clinton, North Carolina, met in a special meeting at 6:00 PM on March 17, 2009 in the City Hall Auditorium. Mayor Starling presided. Councilmembers Becton, Turlington, Stefanovich, and Harris were present. Councilmember Strickland was absent. Also present were City Manager Connet, Fire Chief Philip Miller, Planning Director Jeff Vreugdenhil, Finance Director Betty Brewer, City Clerk Elaine F. Hunt, Planner Mary Rose, Human Resource Manager Lisa Carter, Assistant City Manager Shawn Purvis, and Chris Berendt, of Sampson Independent.

Police Chief Mike Brim, Recreation Director Judi Nicholson, and Public Works Director Chris Doherty were absent.

Councilmember Marcus Becton gave the invocation to include a prayer for Stephen Strickland, Councilmember Neal Strickland's brother.

RESOLUTION -- MOSQUITO CONTROL

Upon a motion by Councilmember Stefanovich, seconded by Councilmember Becton, the following resolution was unanimously approved:

Resolution to be Adopted by the Board of Commissioners Designating Official to Sign Papers and to Otherwise Represent the Board in Connections with Mosquito Control

It is hereby ordered that John Connet, as agent for the City of Clinton, is hereby authorized and empowered to sign and execute all papers and documents necessary in connection with the request made to the Division of Environmental Health, N. C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources, for aid in control of mosquitoes. He is further authorized and required to carry out all agreements stipulated in the project application submitted by us to the Division of Environmental Health, N. C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources, and to perform other acts that are proper and necessary in connection with the operation of this project. Acts of said person on behalf of said City of Clinton are in all respects validated, approved and confirmed.

CIP BUDGET WORKSHOP

City Manager Connet stated that we were here tonight to talk about a long-range view of capital needs and to begin planning. He stated that what will be discussed will be a plan only—one that can change from day-to-day. Nothing tonight, he expressed is “set in stone.” Tonight's meeting was to show Council what City Manager and staff hope to accomplish within the next five years.

Assistant City Manager Purvis presented the capital improvement plan (CIP) and summary. He stated that this is a multiyear (5-year) forecast of the City's capital needs, a planning document. He recommended pay as you go financing when possible. He stated that he was presenting information that pertains only to capital.

City Manager Connet stated that at the June 3, 2008 city council meeting, City Council approved a resolution establishing an undesignated available fund balance policy for the City's General Fund. He stated that he would be proposing a change to this resolution at the upcoming city council meeting.

City Manager Connet reviewed projects proposed to be implemented within the various departments in the upcoming years.

Points of interest included:

- (1) Powell Bill monies will cover Public Works annual street resurfacing.
- (2) Within the Public Works Department, it is proposed to purchase a Heil Rear Loader garbage truck for approximately \$162,769 which will eliminate one of the three trucks that stops daily at citizens' homes. Purvis stated he thought there was sufficient fund balance to buy this truck outright and Council agreed to do so if his information is correct.
- (3) Soccer field lights have been donated by Clinton High School. Charge to the City will be installation cost.
- (4) A source of financing for the City is special assessment.

Councilman Stefanovich questioned how tax collections were coming along and Finance Director Brewer stated that collections were good.

Assistant City Manager Purvis stated that as compared to other cities/towns our size, such as, Dunn, Roxboro, and Brevard, the City of Clinton is in a better situation. He spoke regarding bond companies and indicators. He stated they look at your debt ratio. He further stated that other cities/towns seem to be pulling back because they have over extended themselves; however, the City has not.

City Manager Connet stated that the purpose of tonight's meeting was to educate City Council on what we have done. He stated it is important to look at long-term plans. He further stated that he will try and educate City Council in the same manner regarding the operating budget.

Councilmember Stefanovich stated that it appears to him that very good decisions have been made in the past.

No action was taken. Upon a motion made by Councilmember Becton, seconded by Councilmember Harris, and unanimously passed, the meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

City Clerk

Mayor