

MEBANE CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
AUGUST 6, 2012

Members Present: Tim Bradley                      Jill Auditori  
                          Patty Philipps                     Ed Hooks  
                          Everette Greene

Mayor Stephenson called the regular monthly meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Mebane Municipal Building. Councilmember Bradley gave the invocation.

Mayor Stephenson recognized members of Boy Scout Troop 36, Zack and Matt Whitney.

The Council received a request from Ann Robbins, 312 N. Ninth Street, to be heard on the parking downtown. Prior to Ms. Robbins speaking, Councilmember Auditori and Councilmember Philipps requested to be recused from discussions/action on the matter. Councilmember Auditori stated should any action be taken on this item there could be a direct financial gain or loss for her business located downtown depending upon which action may be taken. Councilmember Hooks made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Bradley to recuse Councilmember's Auditori and Philipps. Ms. Robbins read aloud a letter which spoke of opposition of enforcement of the 2 hour parking limit downtown. She also submitted a 10 page petition signed by 15 of the downtown merchants along with over a hundred of in town and out of town shoppers. The signed petition was in opposition of enforcing the 2 hour parking limit downtown. Ms. Robbins suggested removing the 2 hour parking signs altogether or leaving them as is with no enforcement.

Elma Doermann, owner of This-n-That American located at 126 W. Clay Street, spoke in opposition of enforcing the 2 hour parking limit downtown. Mr. Doermann suggested removal of the 2 hour parking limit signs.

There was considerable discussion among the Council, staff and downtown merchants concerning the matter. The Council requested that the Police Department continue to monitor the parking issue. No formal action was taken. Councilmember Bradley made a motion, seconded by Hooks to have Councilmember's Auditori and Philipps rejoin the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

The Council received a request for approval of a site for the art sculpture that was gifted to the City last month by the Alamance County Arts Council. Councilmember Philipps asked that in addition to the site discussed last month, a site beside the Planning & Inspections building, that two (2) other sites be considered: 1) the green area beside the entrance of the library, 2) landscaped area at the corner of Washington Street and S. Fifth Street where the centennial bell is located. Councilmember Hooks mentioned the Mebane Art Center as a possible site. After brief discussion among Council and staff, Councilmember Philipps made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Auditori, to approve the site located beside the Planning & Inspections building for the art sculpture. The motion carried unanimously.

The Council received a request for approval of a Resolution awarding a contract for architectural services for the new fire station on Mebane Oaks Road. City Attorney Charles Bateman spoke concerning the matter. Mr. Bateman stated Alley, Williams, Carmen and King, Inc. (AWCK) designed the city's last fire station that was built on the North side and a recommendation has been made to award them the contract to design the new fire station. Mr. Bateman explained that in order to proceed with AWCK the resolution would need to be approved. Councilmember Hooks made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Bradley, to award the contract for architectural services to AWCK. The motion carried unanimously.

During the Public Comment period, Barbara Guttman, owner of Melville Trading Co. on Clay Street, spoke concerning downtown parking. She read aloud a letter in favor of having the 2 hour parking limit maintained and enforced.

The Council received a request to reapprove a Final Subdivision Plat from Mebane 8540, LLC for "Arrowhead Subdivision, Phase 1B". The Council approved the Final Plat at their August 1, 2011 meeting, however, the developer failed to record the final plat within the Unified

Development Ordinance (UDO) 30 day deadline. Councilmember Hooks made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Philipps, to reapprove the request. The motion carried unanimously.

The Council received a request for approval of an amendment to the May 2012 minutes. The requested amendment test read as follows:

*City Attorney Charles Bateman spoke concerning a "housekeeping" issue. Mr. Bateman stated the City is currently in the process of acquiring easements of property owners that will be affected by the North Regional Pump Station improvements. He said approximately 25 easements are needed and of those 25, 20 have been secured. He requested approval from the Council to begin the condemnation process on the 5 easements in which the property owners have not responded and there may be 2 more needed. Councilmember Philipps made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Greene, to approve the request to begin the condemnation process as to properties owned by Accent Builders, Inc., John Hall, Joseph & Sarah Call, Robert Curry, and Stephen Rose. The motion carried unanimously.*

The amendment request was approved unanimously by motion of Councilmember Philipps, seconded by Councilmember Greene.

As an additional item, City Manager Robert Wilson shared a petition he received from a citizen requesting that no parking signs be placed on the streets from W. Sebastian Court going South on Fifth Street to Crawford Street. Mr. Wilson stated he has given this request to the committee for study and they will report back their recommendations. Councilmember Bradley suggested there be an "overriding" policy established for no parking for cross streets and branch streets. No formal action was taken.

The Council received a request to amend the Utility Billing and Collection Policy. City Attorney Charles Bateman spoke concerning the matter. He briefly explained the proposed amendments to the policy. Councilmember Philipps made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Greene, to approve the request as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

The Council received a request from Alamance County Manager Craig Honeycutt for support of an amendment to the Alamance County's Solid Waste Plan that includes a provision for manufactured home recycling. Councilmember Hooks made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Auditori, to support the amendment as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

The minutes for the July 9, 2012 regular meeting were approved as presented. Councilmember Philipps announced that Habitat for Humanity will be building a home in Mebane in late October 2012. She encouraged employees of the city and city residents to get involved.

City Manager Robert Wilson requested that the September 3<sup>rd</sup> City Council regular monthly meeting be rescheduled for September 10<sup>th</sup> in observance of Labor Day.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Glendel Stephenson, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Stephanie W. Shaw, City Clerk