

MEBANE CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
JULY 9, 2012

Members Present: Patty Philipps  
Everette Greene

Jill Auditori  
Ed Hooks

Members Absent: Tim Bradley

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

Mayor Stephenson requested that Public Works Director Jimmy Jobe and Parks & Recreation Director Dean Ray come forward to be recognized for their 25 years of service with the City of Mebane. He presented them with plaques and commended them for a job well done. They received a standing ovation from the Council and others present at the meeting.

Councilmember Auditori made a recommendation that a \$500.00 bonus be given to employees that reach 25 years of service with the city in lieu of other gifts and that this bonus become effective immediately beginning with Mr. Jobe and Mr. Ray. She offered the recommendation in the form of a motion, Councilmember Philipps seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The Council received a request from the Alamance County Transportation Authority (ACTA) for local matching funds in the amount of \$6,100.00. Dennis Williams, Executive Director of the Alamance County Transportation Authority, spoke on behalf of the request. Mr. Williams stated as they prepare for their upcoming 2012-2013 fiscal year, they need more emphasis on local financial support to sustain transportation services for Alamance County residents. A **Local Match Funding Request** schedule was presented to Council which showed each municipality's pro-rata share of financial support requested by ACTA based on related 2010 Census data for Alamance County. Mebane's population listed at 11,393, with Mebane's share being 12%, brought the funding amount request to \$6,100.00 which would offset the cost of urban trips. He stated Federal and/or State grant programs will match local giving and collectively help to stabilize their transportation program. Councilmember Auditori made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Philipps, to approve the request as presented. The motion carried unanimously. Councilmember Philipps made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Auditori, to approve a budget amendment in the amount of \$6,100.00 to pay for the ACTA funding. The motion carried unanimously.

The Council received a request for approval of a Utility Service Agreement between the City of Mebane and Orange County. City Attorney Charles Bateman spoke concerning the request. He stated that the agreement before them is a continuation of the cooperative utility process with Orange County that began in 2004 when Orange County constructed utility lines for a new school and the Buckhorn area communities. As a consequence of the cooperative planning during the last year or two between Orange County and the City of Mebane, they have identified and Orange County has designated areas for Economic Development zones which lie east & west of Buckhorn and extends into the Efland area. The agreement provides that Orange County will install the necessary connections to the Mebane water and sewer systems and install the outfall lines, water mains and related facilities including sewer lift stations as required and upon completion maintenance and ownership will be transferred to the City of Mebane and the City will be responsible for all upkeep, operation and maintenance of lines, lift stations, and related facilities. He went on to explain that the agreement provides that the City of Mebane will serve those customers at the same rate as currently charged for inside city or outside city limit rates. There will be no prohibition and annexation will be required when there is an application for service. He stated the City shall reserve or the Service area .25 million gallons per day of capacity in its Sewer Treatment Plant and the County shall pay the City \$50,000.00 per year for the next ten years. Mr. Bateman made a recommendation to approve. Councilmember Hooks made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Greene, to approve the Utility Service Agreement as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

The Council received a request for approval to accept a gift from the Alamance County Arts Council. Alamance County Arts Council Executive Director Cary Worthy stated during Willow

Walk 2012 the Arts Council purchased two sculptures to be placed in Alamance County as part of their Art in Public Places program. One of those sculptures was designated to be placed in Mebane. The purchased piece, "Out of This Whirled" by Mike Roig, is valued at \$13,500.00. He stated the Arts Council had some assistance with funding by the New Leaf Society, Duke Energy and Carolina Biological. Councilmember Philipps made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Auditori, to accept the sculpture as a gift from the Alamance County Arts Council. The motion carried unanimously.

Sandy Bagby, Landscape Beautification Coordinator, spoke briefly concerning three possible locations for the new sculpture. She stated in addition to the responsibility of placing the sculpture, the city would also be responsible for constructing the base on which the sculpture will sit. She stated the three computer generated pictures depicting the proposed locations for the art were designed by the city's summer intern Andrew Champion. Those locations being 1) corner of Fourth Street and Hwy 70(Center Street) which is highly visible but is private property, 2) corner of Fourth Street and Washington Street which is beside the Old Fire Department with a nice open and some foot traffic but would not be highly visible and sculpture is not fire related, 3) Fifth Street grassy area located near the Planning & Inspections building which is a major thoroughfare and would be highly visible. The Council directed Ms. Bagby to proceed with having the sculpture placed at the Fifth Street location.

No one spoke during the Public Comment period.

A Public Hearing was held on a request for a Closeout of the 2009 Community Block Grant for Mebane Mill Lofts Housing Development Project. City Manager Robert Wilson spoke briefly concerning the issue. No one from the public spoke concerning the issue. Councilmember Hooks made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Philipps, to close the Public Hearing. The motion carried unanimously.

The Council received a Report of 2011 Insolvents from the Tax Collector and the Tax Collector's Settlement for 2011 and prior years' taxes at June 30, 2012. Councilmember Hooks made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Auditori, to approve the Insolvents List and to accept the Tax Collector's Settlement. The motion carried unanimously.

City Engineer Darrell Russell of Alley, Williams, Carmen & King reported to Council the results of the Bid Opening for the North Regional Pump Station and Force Main (formerly known as the Forest Ridge Pump Station). He stated eight (8) bids were received on Contract 1 (Pump Station) and eleven (11) bids were received on Contract 2 (force main). After review and tabulation of the bids, it was determined that DeVere Construction Company, Inc. from Raleigh was the low bidder on Contract 1 in the amount of \$1,294,000.00 and Dellinger, Inc. from Monroe was the low bidder for Contract 2 in the amount of \$1,536,361.00. Mr. Russell stated that Contract 1 included an Alternate No. 1 Deduct in the amount of \$45,000.00 to eliminate a raw sewage grinder in the pump station wet well. He said while it is a desirable item, it is not required and this equipment is not installed on any other city pump stations. He recommended accepting the Alternate No. 1 Deduct in order to increase the contingency line item from \$26,639.00 to \$71,639.00. It was recommended that Contract 1 with Alternate No. 1 be awarded to the lowest bidders DeVere Construction Company, Inc. and Contract 2 be awarded to Dellinger, Inc.

Councilmember Hooks asked City Attorney Bateman if he should recuse himself from the vote because one of the companies is a signed customer with Gregory Poole, Inc. which is Councilmember Hooks' employer. Mr. Bateman stated he is not required to but it may pose a gray area since he has business connections with the company. Mr. Councilmember Hooks requested to be recused. Councilmember Philipps made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Greene, to recuse Councilmember Hooks. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Auditori made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Philipps, to award the contracts to the lowest bidders as recommended with the Alternate No. 1 Deduct. The motion carried unanimously.

City Engineer Darrell Russell gave an update concerning the Lake Jordan New Development Ordinance. He stated the General Assembly recently passed a 2 year extension on the deadline. However the extension granted was for the new development rule only.

The Council voted unanimously by motion of Councilmember Philipps, seconded by Councilmember Greene, to bring Councilmember Hooks back to the meeting.

Councilmember Hooks commended city staff on the city's recent July 4<sup>th</sup> event. He stated Parks & Recreation Director Dean Ray, Police Chief Terry Caldwell and Police Chief Bob Louis and their employees did an exceptional job during the event.

Councilmember Greene commented on the recent Dancing with the Stars fundraiser that took place at Eastern Alamance High School in which several members of the Council participated.

The minutes of the June 4<sup>th</sup> regular meeting and the June 27<sup>th</sup> bid opening were approved as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

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