

CITY OF MOUNT HOLLY
MOUNT HOLLY CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, January 8, 2024
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Moore called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The following were present:

Mayor David Moore	Jonathon Blanton, City Manager
Mayor Pro Tem Lauren Shoemaker	Brian DuPont, Assistant City Manager
Councilman Ivory Craig	Brian Reagan, Police Chief
Councilman Jeff Meadows	Ryan Baker, Fire Chief
Councilman Bryan Hough	Greg Beal, Planning Director
Councilwoman Phyllis Harris	Tony Walker, Streets and Solid Waste Director
Councilman Kenneth Reeves	Robert Stewart, Deputy Utilities Director
Marie M. Anders, City Attorney	Mark Jusko, Recreation Supervisor
Danny Jackson, Consultant	Michelle Wood, Finance Director
Tara Douglas, City Clerk	Alexis Hill, Human Resources Director

INVOCATION

Councilman Reeves led the Council, staff, and attendees in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Boy Scout Troop #59 led the Council and attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance

SET THE AGENDA

Mayor Moore entertained a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilman Meadows made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilman Craig seconded the motion.

All Council members present voted in favor. (Motion Carried)

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Release of Letter of Credit of Imagery Phase 2, Maps 1-5, Lots 251-258, 358-446, 464-483, and 340-357
2. Approval of TIA payment in lieu of performing the improvements at Ferstl Ave and Belmont-Mount Holly Rd
3. Approval of final plat for Sycamore Woods
4. Approval of Minutes from the December 11, 2023 Council Meeting
5. Approval of Minutes from the December 11, 2023 Closed Session

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Mayor Moore entertained a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Councilman Reeves made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Councilwoman Harris seconded the motion.

All Council members present voted in favor. (Motion Carried)

PRESENTATIONS

1. Oath of Office for Jonathan Blanton as the City Manager **Mayor David Moore**
Mayor Moore administered the oath of office to Jonathan Blanton as the Mount Holly City Manager. Mr. Blanton was accompanied by his wife, Carrie, at the ceremony.

2. Oath of Office for Tara Douglas as the City Clerk **Mayor David Moore**
Mayor Moore administered the oath of office to Tara Douglas as the City Clerk. Mrs. Douglas was accompanied by her husband, Al Douglas, at the ceremony.

3. Oath of Office for Josh Blackwell as the Code Enforcement Officer **Mayor David Moore**
Mayor Moore administered the oath of office to Josh Blackwell as the Code Enforcement Officer.

4. Oath of Office for Marie Anders as the City Attorney **Mayor David Moore**
Mayor Moore administered the oath of office to Marie Anders as the City Attorney. Mrs. Anders was accompanied by her mother, Cindy Michael, at the ceremony.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Public hearing to consider amending Section 3.10 and Section 3.26 of the Zoning Ordinance concerning retaining walls. **Josh Blackwell**

Mr. Blackwell discussed the proposed text amendment submitted by staff and that it would update the language of the zoning ordinance to require retaining walls to be maintained. Mr. Blackwell stated that the Planning Commission held a hearing on 1/2/2024 and recommends approval.

Mayor Moore entertained a motion to go out of the regular session and into the public hearing. Councilman Hough made a motion to go out of the regular session and into the public hearing. Mayor Pro Tem Shomaker seconded the motion. All Council members present voted in favor. (Motion Carried)

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With no one signed up to speak at the public hearing, Mayor Moore entertained a motion to go out of the public hearing and back into the regular session. Councilman Hough made the motion to go out of the public hearing and back into the regular session. Mayor Pro Tem Shoemaker seconded the motion.

All Council members present voted in favor. (Motion Carried)

Mayor Pro Tem Shoemaker made a motion to approve amending Section 3.10 and Section 3.26 of the Zoning Ordinance concerning retaining walls. Councilman Meadows seconded the motion.

All Council members present voted in favor. (Motion Carried).

PUBLIC COMMENT- Three (3) Minute Limit

Bonita Lillie signed up and spoke during public comment. Bonita Lillie resides at 2600 Starnes Road in Charlotte. Ms. Lillie discussed the safety of the greenway. Ms. Lillie stated that she regularly uses the greenway. Ms. Lillie requested cameras be installed on the greenway. Ms. Lillie discussed an alleged incident on the greenway where herself and other mothers had frightening encounters on the greenway with a specific individual. Ms. Lillie stated that she made flyers and handed them out about the alleged incidents.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Approve locations & the installation of three concrete pads at three City parks (River Park (6 ft by 6 ft pad), Catawba Heights Park (6 ft by 6 ft pad), and at Tuck Park (4 ft by 4 ft pad) & on Clariant's property along the greenway (4 ft by 4 ft pad) which will support the City's new leased art program ***Paul Lowe***

Mr. Lowe stated that this is one of the six priority projects as identified by PAAC. Mr. Lowe stated that this proposal would place four concrete pads in the first phase to include three in city parks and one on Clariant's property. Mr. Lowe stated that staff will be working with an art consultant who will help them locate the structures. Mr. Lowe stated that PAAC recommended approval. Mr. Lowe stated that staff is looking to get Council's approval of the concept and for the general locations.

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Councilman Meadows asked for clarification of the process for how the sizes of the concrete pads were selected if we have not picked the art yet. Mr. Lowe stated that the art consultant explained that the 4x4 gets us small pieces and the 6x6 would get us the medium to larger pieces. Mr. Lowe stated that he selected the two smaller pieces to go along the greenway location and the Tuckaseege Park location. Mr. Lowe stated that he did not want to compete with the existing sculpture at Tuckaseege Park.

Councilman Hough made a motion to approve locations & the installation of three concrete pads at three City parks (River Park (6 ft by 6 ft pad), Catawba Heights Park (6 ft by 6 ft pad), and at Tuck Park (4 ft by 4 ft pad) & on Clariant's property along the greenway (4 ft by 4 ft pad) which will support the City's new leased art program. Mayor Pro Tem Shoemaker seconded the motion.

All Council members present voted in favor. (Motion Carried).

2. Consideration and approval of the installation of six canvases on the pergola located beside City Hall to support the outdoor gallery project ***Paul Lowe***

Mr. Lowe discussed this PAAC priority project. Mr. Lowe stated that PAAC would like to add market lights and install six canvases on the pergola. Mr. Lowe stated that city staff and PAAC would work with Arts Mount Holly to match up the winners of the Plein Air event that occurs annually. Mr. Lowe stated that the canvases would be installed permanently, and that the art would be printed and updated annually. Mr. Lowe stated that he is looking for approval of the concept and approval of the use of the pergola.

Mayor Pro Tem Shoemaker asked Mr. Lowe about the printing of the artwork and what type of material will be used. Mr. Lowe stated that it would be the same material that was used for the box wraps and that everything would be weather resistant.

Mayor Moore entertained a motion to approve the installation of six canvases on the pergola located beside City Hall to support the outdoor gallery project. Councilwoman Harris made a motion to approve the installation of six canvases on the pergola located beside City Hall to support the outdoor gallery project. Councilman Hough seconded the motion.

All Council members present voted in favor. (Motion Carried)

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CLOSED SESSION

1. Closed Session Pursuant to N.C.G.S 143-318.11 (a) (3 and 5)

Mayor Moore entertained a motion to go out of the regular meeting and into closed session pursuant to N.C.G.S 143-318.11 (a) (3 and 5). Councilman Hough made a motion to go out of the regular meeting and into closed session at 7:27pm pm. Councilman Reeves seconded the motion.

All Council members present voted in favor. (Motion Carried)

Mayor Moore entertained a motion to come out of closed session and back into the regular meeting. Councilman Meadows made a motion to come out of closed session and back into the regular meeting at 8:04pm. Councilman Hough seconded the motion. All Council members present voted in favor. (Motion Carried)

Mayor Pro Tem Shoemaker made a motion to approve moving forward with the Veterans Park Request for Proposals (RFP). Councilman Meadows seconded the motion.

All Council Members present voted in favor. (Motion Carried)

ADJOURN

With no additional items for discussion, Mayor Moore entertained a motion to adjourn the January 8, 2024 Council meeting. Councilman Reeves made a motion to adjourn the January 8, 2024 Council Meeting. Councilwoman Harris seconded the motion.

All Council Members present voted in favor. (Motion Carried)

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.