

**Mount Holly City Council
Work Session
November 5, 2001**

CALL TO ORDER BY THE MAYOR

The work session meeting of the City Council of Mount Holly was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor McLean. The following were present:

Mayor Frank McLean
Mayor Pro-Tem Bobby Black
Councilman Michael Helms
Councilwoman Phyllis Harris
Councilman Jim Hope
Councilman Bryan Hough
Councilwoman Pat Hubbard

City Manager David Kraus
Administrative Services Officer Jamie Guffey
Interim Public Utilities Director Jeff Fritts
Planning & Zoning Director Danny Jackson
Fire Chief John Ekiatis
Parks & Recreation Director Zip Stowe
Police Chief Ricky Davis
Streets and Solid Waste Director Mike Santmire

The Invocation was lead by Mayor McLean.

Item # 1 on the Agenda – Gaston County Schools Leak Adjustment.

City Manager Kraus stated that the problem with the bill at Mount Holly Middle School could be the result of a bad reading. The meter needs to be replaced and if you assume a misreading, the bill would be in line with past bills. Interim Public Utilities Fritts stated that we might never know for sure what happened with the reading.

Councilwoman Harris asked why the school went ahead and paid a \$21,000 water bill without questioning it. Jim Parks from the County School system answered that nothing was in place to prevent the paying of the bill at the time. The school system has since installed some triggers to catch these types of problems.

Mayor Pro-Tem Black asked for Interim Director Fritts' opinion on what happened. Interim Director Fritts stated that there was no way to know for sure, but it was most likely a misread meter instead of a leak.

Councilman Hope stated that the Council would make a decision at the Monday meeting.

Item # 2 on the Agenda – Repair work at Police Station.

City Manager Kraus stated that the repair work calls for the contractor to holes every six to twelve feet into the floor. Then the concrete will be pumped into these holes. Because holes will be drilled into the floor, the areas the work is done in will require new carpet or tile.

Councilman Hope asked what kind of warranty we would get with the work. City Manager Kraus stated that the City was putting its faith into Mike Simac. Mr. Simac says that there is no guaranty, but that this is the way to fix the problem.

Councilman Hope **MOVED** to accept the bid from Gibson Grouting for \$29,995. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Harris and passed with all in favor.

Councilman Hough stated that he would like to see any excess money that was budgeted for this project to remain unspent to reduce the amount of fund balance usage.

Item #3 on the Agenda – Eddie Nichols Drive.

City Manager Kraus asked if Council would want to be at the unveiling of the street sign for Eddie Nichols Drive. Councilman Hough stated that a Sunday afternoon at 2:00 would be good. Sunday, November 18th was chosen as the day for the unveiling, pending staff checking with the family to make sure they can attend the ceremony.

Item #4 on the Agenda – Property.

City Manager Kraus stated that the survey for the proposed site of the new water tank is back. Staff would like to make a proposal to Second Baptist for the land and for easements. The first option is to keep the property where the existing tank is, and the second would be to give Second Baptist the land where our current tank is.

City Manager Kraus then stated that Clariant would like the City to make it an offer for the 17 acres adjacent to Tuckasee Park. The Recreation Commission recommends an offer of \$1,000 per acre. He then asked if this is something that Council wants staff to pursue.

Councilwoman Harris stated that she would like to see the City pursue this since there is not enough empty land for parks. Councilwoman Hubbard stated that Tuckasee should become the City's focal point for its Parks. Councilman Hope stated that the City could not go too high for the property. He would like to see the City start at \$7,500 for the whole piece.

Councilman Hope asked for an update on Tailrace Park. City Manager Kraus stated that Galen Cassada bid \$57,000 plus up to another \$33,000 for options for the project. The City will contact other contractors to give a quote on the project.

Item #4 on the Agenda – Update on Rollout.

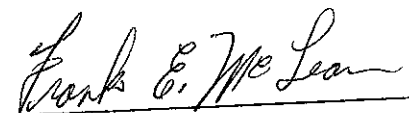
Streets and Solid Waste Director Santmire stated that 5 weeks into the rollout program, everything is moving well. Most citizens like the rollouts. He also stated that there is 146 or 4.1% of the customers on the exemption list. Councilman Hough asked what is the average percentage of exemptions in other cities. Director Santmire stated that the average is 3.5%.

Mayor McLean asked for an update on the West Henry property. City Manager Kraus stated that the high bid is \$27,000 and Kemp will need to advertise for upset bids.

Councilman Hough **MOVED** for adjournment at 8:46. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hubbard and passed with no objections.



City Clerk



Mayor