CITY OF MOUNT HOLLY
MOUNT HOLLY CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, September 13, 2010
Council Chambers
7:00 pm

Call to Order
Mayor Bryan Hough called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The following were present:

Mayor Bryan Hough	Danny Jackson, City Manager
Mayor Pro Tem Carolyn Breyare	Jamie Guffey, Assistant City Manager
Councilman Jerry Bishop	Greg Beal, Senior Planner
	James Friday, Director of Utilities
Councilman Jim Hope	Dale Oplinger, Fire Chief
Councilman David Moore	David Belk, Chief of Police
	Mike Santmire, Streets and Solid Waste Director
Kemp Michael, City Attorney	Mark Jusko, Interim Parks and Recreation Director

Councilmen Benny Brookshire and Perry Toomey were absent from the meeting

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Call to Order by Mayor Hough
Mayor Hough called the Mount Holly City Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Invocation
Reverend Brian Childers, Pastor of the First Baptist Church, gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance
Boy Scout Troop 59 of the First United Methodist Church in Mount Holly led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Set Agenda
Mayor Hough asked Council for any additions or amendments to the meeting agenda. Councilman Bishop requested that the Agreement for One Stop Voting be taken off the Consent Agenda and added to Old Business. Mayor Hough added a Call for Public Hearing on a Rezoning Request to New Business. With no additional changes to the agenda, Mayor Pro Tem Breyare made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilman Moore seconded the motion. All Council Members present voted in favor. (Motion carried)

CONSENT AGENDA
1. Approval of the Parks and Recreation Shelter Fee Schedule
2. Approval of a Resolution Opposing Privatization of Local ABC Stores
3. Approval of a Resolution Declaring Items Surplus Property
4. Call for a Public Hearing to Close the Railroad Crossing in front of the Old Police Department
5. Approval of the minutes for the July 26, 2010 work session meeting
6. Approval of the minutes for the August 9, 2010 business meeting

Councilman Bishop made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Councilman Moore seconded the motion. All Council Members present voted in favor. (Motion carried)

PRESENTATIONS

1. Presentation of the 2010 Census Plaque
   Mr. Butler explained that he is the liaison for the 2010 Census between Mount Holly and Gaston County. He was present to present the City Council with a plaque from the Census Bureau for a high rate (76%) of participation in the Census.
2. Presentation to John Maness for Volunteering
   Mayor Hough and the City Council presented Mr. Maness with a plaque honoring him for time spent volunteering for the City.
3. Presentation to Terrell Jonas for Volunteering
   Mayor Hough and the City Council presented Mr. Jonas with a plaque honoring him for his time spent volunteering for the City.
4. Presentation to Jim Stancil for Retiring from the Waste Water Treatment Plant
   Mayor Hough and the City Council presented Mr. Stancil with at watch in honor of his time with the City. Mr. Friday commented that Mr. Stancil has been a very loyal employee for the past 23 years
5. Presentation to Edward Miles Whittemore Harbin for Reaching the Rank of Eagle Scout
   Mayor Hough and the City Council presented Mr. Harbin with a Resolution honoring him for reaching the rank of Eagle Scout. This is a very prestigious scouting accomplishment.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Public Hearing on a 60-day Moratorium for New Commercial Construction
   Mr. Beal advised that the purpose of the moratorium is to allow Staff time to develop design standards for commercial construction outside of the gateway corridor overlay districts. He advised that this 60 day moratorium is needed for the protection of property values in the remaining corridors. Mr. Beal reported that Staff would bring them a draft of the proposed regulations at the nest work session. Councilman Hope asked if 60 days if a feasible time frame. Mr. Beal responded that Staff will present the design standards at the work session and then ask Council to call for a public hearing at the October meeting. At this tiem, Councilman Moore made a motion to enter into the public hearing. Mayor Pro Tem Breyare seconded the motion. All council members present voted in favor. (Motion carried)
   Barbara Lawrence
   121 Southgate Lane
   Mount Holly, NC 28120

Ms. Lawrence commented that this is a very important step for the future of Mount Holly. She advised that Mount Holly has a lot of potential and these design standards are a great opportunity for the City.

With no one else signed up to speak, Mayor Pro Tem Breyare made a motion to return to regular session. Councilman Moore seconded the motion. All Council Members present voted in favor. Motion carried. At this time, Councilman Bishop made a motion to accept the Resolution 091310A to Place a 60 Day Moratorium on Commercial Construction. Councilman Hope seconded the motion. All Council Members present voted in favor. (Motion carried)

PUBLIC COMMENT – Three (3) Minute Limit

Joey Bineham
Cedar Lane
Mount Holly, NC 28120

Ms. Bineham commented that she lives in the blind spot of Cedar Lane. She advised that the Police Department does not write tickets on the road and it is impossible to keep the road safe. She asked Council to consider closing the road at the hill. Ms. Bineham also provided the Council with some paper work regarding Safe Routes to School Grants.

Matt McSwain
905 West Charlotte Avenue
Mount Holly, NC 28120

Mr. McSwain came before Council to complain about $1.5 in damage to his building by the City. He complained that the City did not want to settle on the full amount of his estimate. He commented that the Council Members would not want to settle for have the replacement costs if he burnt their houses down. Further, he wanted to know where he was supposed to get the additional funds to cover the remainder of the damage.

<u>OLD BUSINESS</u>

1. Discussion of the Performance Bond in Regard to the Grass Cutting Contract

   Mr. Michael reported that at a previous meeting, Council discussed the performance bond in regard to the grass mowing contract. He advised that to take the performance bond out of the contract would require action to be taken by Council. Mr. Michael added that typically service contracts do not require a performance bond. Councilman Bishop commented that he thinks the contract should be honored as awarded, especially since the contractor was not the low bidder. Councilman Hope commented that the City should be given a credit by the contractor if Council agrees to not require a performance bond. Mr. Michael advised that he would have to take a look at the bid to determine if the performance bond was included. At this time, Council agreed to postpone a final decision until it is determined if the performance bond was part of the original bid.
2. Consideration and Approval of a Recommendation to Control Speeding

   Chief Belk reported that the Police Department has been monitoring the traffic on Cedar Lane and have discovered that there is more traffic in the 7:00 hour than any other time of day. School traffic has a definite impact on the area. In the afternoon the traffic is not as noticeable. Chief Belk advised that two (2) citations have been given during the 7:00 hour. It was the consensus of Council that the Police Department will continue to monitor the traffic on Cedar Lane.
3. Discussion of the Banner Logo Design

   Ms. Danzi came before Council to present a final design recommendation for pageantry banners for downtown area. She advised that the design was the actual winner of the logo contest but in turn was not a good logo design. There was discussion among Council regarding the need for additional banners for the downtown area. It was the consensus of Council to hold off on the approval of the design or the purchase of banners at the time.
4. Consideration and Approval of a Recommendation from the Construction Committee

   Councilman Hope advised that the Construction Committee has looked at the Catawba Heights Fire Station and determined that the asbestos, which is a big ticket item for the removal, should be sealed and left undisturbed. The City would have to disclose this information if the building were to be sold. He further advised that the Construction Committee is working on more firm numbers regarding the renovations and will have them for Council at the work session
5. Approval of an Agreement with the Gaston County Board of Elections allowing One Stop Voting to be held in the Training Room of the Mount Holly Citizens Center

   Councilman Bishop advised that he has a question regarding the entrance and curb side voting. Mr. Michael advised that it is his understanding that curbside voting will take place at the south entrance of the Citizens Center. Councilman Moore made a motion to approve the Agreement with Gaston County Board of Elections. Councilman Bishop seconded the motion. All Council Members present voted in favor. (Motion carried)

NEW BUSINESS

1. Consideration and Approval of the Updates to the City of Mount Holly Code of Law

   Mr. Michael reported that before them is the 2010 supplement to the Mount Holly Code of Laws. He advised that the supplement includes all the changes that the City Council has adopted during the past five (5) years. There were few comments from Council regarding things that were incorrect or outdated in the City Code. Mr. Michael suggested that at some point and time the City should take each chapter of the code book and make changes as needed. Councilman Bishop made a motion to approve the updates to the City of Mount Holly Code of Laws. (Resolution # 091310B). Councilman Moore seconded the motion. All Council Member present voted in favor. (Motion carried)

2. Update on the Stanley Water Situation *James Friday*

   Mr. Friday reported that the City pulled the water tank that services the Town of Stanley out of service on July 12th for their regular maintenance. He advised that the Town of Stanley was made aware of the maintenance and were informed of the steps that should be taken during this process by their Town. Mr. Friday commented that any problem the Town of Stanley experienced during this time is because they ignored the direction we provided them. Mr. Friday also added that the City has performed this same maintenance every 2 years for the past 10 years. The Council thanked Mr. Friday and Mr. Jackson for handling this situation with the upmost professionalism.

3. Call for a Public Hearing for Rezoning a .22 acre tract on Wilson Street.

   Councilman Bishop made a motion to call for the public hearing at the October Council Meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Breyare seconded the motion. All Council Members present voted in favor. (Motion carried)

CLOSED SESSION

At this time, Councilman Moore made a motion to enter into closed session. Councilman Bishop seconded the motion. All Council members present voted in favor. (Motion carried)

Councilman Bishop made a motion to come out of closed session. Councilman Moore seconded the motion. All Council members voted in favor. **(Motion carried)**

Mayor Hough advised that no action was taken during closed session.

REPORTS

Councilman Bishop asked when the City started locking the softball field at Tuck Park. Mr. Jackson replied that they a kept locked to prevent vandalism and to keep dogs out of the fields. He reported that all the fields are currently being used for soccer. .

Councilman Moore commented that there are several lights downtown that need to be replaced before Alive After 5 that is scheduled for this week.

Mr. Jackson reported that starting this week the Weekly Updates will be sent out via email.

ADJOURN

With no additional items for discussion, Mayor Hough entertained a motion to adjourn. Councilman Moore made the motion to adjourn the September 13, 2010 Council meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Breyare seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor. **(Motion carried)**

The meeting adjourned at 10:21 p.m.