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CITY OF MOUNT HOLLY

MOUNT HOLLY CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION

TUESDAY, JULY 6, 2004

MOUNT HOLLY PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS CHURCH

The Work Session of the City Council of Mount Holly was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Bryan Hough. The following were present:

Mayor Bryan Hough	City Manager David Kraus
Mayor Pro-Tem Michael Helms	Assistant to the City Manager Jamie Guffey
Councilwoman Phyllis Harris	Utilities Director Don Price
Councilman Jim Hope	Police Chief Benson Hoyle
Councilwoman Pat Hubbard	Street and Solid Waste Director Mike Santmire
Councilman Frank McLean	Fire Inspector Ryan Baker
Councilman David Moore	Community Development Planner Greg Beal
City Attorney Kemp Michael	Communication Director Megan Hanks

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The invocation was led by Councilman David A. Moore.

#1: To Discuss Neighborhood Walks

Mayor Hough recognized Mr. Kraus.

Mr. Kraus stated that city staff continue to address the issues that we encountered on the two neighborhood walks that Council had in the Adrian-Madora mill village. Staff is preparing a priority list of sewer problems for next week's Council meeting. The sewer stoppages will be corrected in the Adrian/Madora area first, then in the North Main Street/Woodland Park areas.

Mr. Santmire stated that his department has corrected most of the items noted during the walks, with the exception of the sidewalk that needed curb and gutter. He is looking into adding some road sign, and plans to work with the Police Department to study traffic in the area.

Councilwoman Harris stated that we need to contact the ladies who had asked us to fix their sidewalk and explain our intentions.

Councilwoman Hubbard asked about the lady who had a manhole in her backyard.

Mr. Price stated that they have cleaned out the line and have placed it on the priority list for sewer rehab.

Mr. Kraus suggested having a neighborhood walk in the Globe Street area later in the fall.

#2: To Discuss Downtown Streetscape

Council tabled the discussion until Mr. Jackson could be present. Mr. Jackson was at the Planning Commission meeting at City Hall.

#3: Update on East Gaston Water Line

Mayor Hough recognized Mr. Kraus.

Mr. Kraus stated that the County Commission is scheduled to vote on the contract on July 22. If a decision is made at that time, the contract will come to the Council at the work session in August

#4: To Discuss Sale of Water to the Town of Stanley

Mayor Hough recognized Mr. Kraus.

Mr. Kraus stated that he has spoken with Ed Humphries, the manager of Stanley, regarding the Town's interest in a bulk rate for water.

Mayor Hough asked would Stanley water customers get a better rate than Mount Holly customers?

Mr. Kraus answered yes.

Mayor Hough stated that is not acceptable.

Councilman Hope said he would like to see a spreadsheet of data showing the estimated costs to the City, including replacement costs.

Mayor Pro Tem Helms stated that he agrees with Councilman Hope, that the citizens of Mount Holly should not pay for the cost of servicing the Town of Stanley.

Mayor Hough asked Council if this was something that they would want to consider if the numbers are good?

All: Yes.

Mayor Hough asked staff to look into the matter and bring it back to Council.

#5: To Discuss School Resource Officer.

Mayor Hough recognized Mr. Kraus.

Mr. Kraus stated that the County has offered to give each municipality $15,000 this year to fund the school resource officer position at their respective middle school.

Mr. Michael stated that Leon Moretz, Attorney for Gaston County Schools, just forwarded the contract to his attention today, and he has not had time to review it.

Mr. Kraus stated that this would allow us to have the same officer at the school full-time.

#6: To Discuss Legal Settlement

Mayor Hough recognized Mr. Michael.

Mr. Michael stated that this is the settlement of the City v. Hope. Council needs to approve the settlement amount in open session.

Mayor Pro Tem Helms MOVED to excuse Councilman Hope from this vote. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Harris and was approved unanimously.

Councilman McLean MOVED to approve the outstanding legal settlement for Hope v. the City of Mount Holly in the amount of $3500.00. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Harris and was approved unanimously, with Councilman Hope abstaining.

#7: To Discuss ABC Store

Mayor Hough recognized Mr. Michael.

Mr. Michael stated that the City has been discussing options regarding the purchase of land from Maya LLC. The architect of Holiday Inn Express has studied possibilities for the site, including some commercial uses. There may possibly be a new entrance at the center of the hotel instead of the current entrance on the side.

#2: To Discuss Streetscape Project

Mayor Hough opened the floor for discussion of the proposed streetscape design.

Councilwoman Hubbard pointed out that the design did not include a pedestrian bridge over Highland Street, which was a major priority during the vision process.

Mayor Hough stated that the pedestrian bridge should be included in the design.

Councilwoman Hubbard added that the gateway features are at the wrong places, considering that the downtown area is continuing to expand.

#8: Executive Session

Mayor Pro Tem Helms MOVED to enter executive session for the purpose of attorney-client privilege. The motion was seconded by Councilman McLean and was approved unanimously.

ROUNDTABLE

Mayor Hough opened the floor to discuss the situation with the Friedls' property.

Councilwoman Harris MOVED for city staff to send a letter to the Friedls outlining the city's stance on their complaint. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Helms and was approved 5-1, with Councilman Moore voting against.

Councilman McLean stated that he has received several calls from Charles Arrowood about a plumber working from a residence on West Henry Street.

Mr. Kraus stated that John Hope has visited the residence and has found no code violations.

Councilman McLean asked about the drainage in front of Perrigo Heating & Air.

Mr. Kraus stated that he will work with Mr. Price on the situation. He stated that the fire hydrant needs to be moved.

Councilman McLean stated that the hydrant should be moved when the City does the sewer work on Auten Circle.

Councilman Hope stated that the DOT Board meeting is this Thursday, July 8, in Raleigh. The Board is expected to make a decision on naming the NC-27 bridge for Officer Pendleton.

Councilwoman Hubbard MOVED to adjourn at 8:30 pm. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Harris and was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Megan Hanks
Communication Director

Mayor Bryan M. Hough

City Clerk