

Special Meeting
City Council
June 29, 1992

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Charles B. Black, Jr. at 7:30 P.M. Those present were Mayor Pro-Tem Faye Little, Councilwomen Lib Nichols and Phyllis Harris, Councilmen Archie Small, Bob Jessen, as well as Jim Hope, City Manager Phil Ponder, and City Attorney Kemp Michael.

The invocation was led by Councilman Small.

Mr. Jim Hope was sworn in as a Councilman by Vance Furr, SBI Agent, with his two daughters at his side and his wife in the audience.

The meeting was recessed, and public hearing called for consideration of the adoption of the City budget for 1992-1993 fiscal year. Mayor Black noted there has been no increase since 1980, and commented on the inability of the County to keep from raising taxes. Councilman Small said he had read that the tax rate in Mount Holly many years ago was 95¢. The floor was opened for comments from the audience, but as there was no audience, the Council was given the floor. City Manager Ponder gave the Council a complete list with corrections for budget amendments and carryovers. Councilwoman Little asked if the accountant, Trent Wilson, approved them; he had. Councilwoman Little MOVED to adopt the 1992-1993 fiscal year budget for the City of Mt. Holly with written amendments as presented by the City Manager for a total amount of \$6,597,633.00; seconded by Councilman Jessen and carried unanimously.

Councilman Small MOVED to set the tax rate for the 1992-1993 fiscal year at 46¢ per \$100.00 valuation; seconded by Councilman Hope, with all in favor. Mayor Black noted for the record that 1¢ tax rate generates about \$24,000.00 in taxes annually at the current valuations in Mt. Holly.

Councilwoman Little MOVED to accept the budget amendments for fiscal year 1991-1992 as presented by the City Manager; seconded by Councilman Small and passed by unanimous vote.

Councilwoman Little MOVED to table item 5 on the agenda, Consideration of Position Classification and Pay Plan; seconded by Councilman Jessen, with all in favor.

A contract had been presented from Jadco-Hughes for payment of the City's costs to investigate their request to discharge into the City's sewer system. Councilman Jessen MOVED to authorize the City Clerk and Mayor to execute the agreement for reimbursement up to \$6,000.00 to the City for engineering fees of W. K. Dickson as specified. Motion seconded by Councilman Hope, carried by five ayes and one nay (Small).

An offer from the State for the City to share in cost of

installation and maintenance of railroad warning devices at First Street on the CSX Railroad was considered, but declined, upon MOTION by Councilman Jessen, seconded by Councilwoman Little and carried with five ayes and one nay (Nichols).

City Manager Phil Ponder reported that Eddie Nichols was told that the City's underground tank at the rear of City Hall does not fall within the bounds of EPA regulations for removal because it was used for heating fuel storage, and may simply be covered up; this has been confirmed in writing.

Councilwoman Little MOVED to go into executive session for personnel matters, seconded by Councilwoman Nichols, with all in favor. The Council returned to open session upon MOTION by Councilwoman Little, seconded by Councilwoman Nichols, and carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Little MOVED that the City Manager's salary be increased by \$2,000.00 annually, effective July 1, 1992; seconded by Councilwoman Harris and unanimously carried.

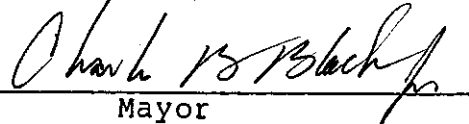
Mayor Black reported that the legislature bill which has been presented to re-establish Mt. Holly's inventory tax will not be considered this year.

Mayor Black stated that the agreement between the County and the municipalities in Gaston County signed three years ago has expired, and the terms with regard to funding by the County for various landfill and waste disposal projects has not been fulfilled, although they have collected tipping fees throughout that time. City Manager Ponder stated that he has talked to BFI about a transfer station; Councilman Small suggested he also talk with Chambers, and Carolina Container. Councilwoman Little said that the other problem is that it is not fair for the City to pay tipping fees and County residents not to pay them.

City Attorney Michael stated that the Option for purchase of a five acre site for the North Main Street elevated water tank had been sent to Crescent Land & Timber, and in response, they asked that the City pay the property tax on the site from July 1, 1992. City Manager Ponder said the engineer is working on the site study before the actual purchase will take place. Councilwoman Nichols wondered if there is someone in the County who could do some of the engineering we need so we could save money. Councilwoman Little said they do have personnel who can do it, but they charge for it also.

The meeting was adjourned, upon MOTION by Councilwoman Little, seconded by Councilwoman Harris, with all in favor.


City Clerk


Mayor
