City of Mount Holly
Mount Holly City Council Work Session Meeting
Monday, June 28, 2010
Council Chambers
6:30 pm

Call to Order
Mayor Bryan Hough called the meeting to order at 6:30 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	David Belk, Chief of Police
Councilman Jim Hope	Dale Oplinger, Fire Chief
Councilman Perry Toomey	James Friday, Director of Utilities
Councilman Bennie Brookshire	Greg Beal, Senior Planner
Councilman David Moore	Mark Jusko, Interim Director of Parks & Recreation
Kemp Michael, City Attorney	Mike Santmire, Streets & Solid Waste Director

Invocation
Councilman Moore led the Council, staff and attendees in prayer.

Set the Agenda
Mayor Hough asked Council for any changes to the June 28, 2010 work session agenda. With no changes to the agenda, Councilman Moore made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilman Brookshire seconded the motion. With all Council members present, all voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

<u>AGENDA</u>
1. Presentations from Marketing Firms

Mr. Jackson reported that the City has been looking for a company to market the old police department property and the property in front of the Holiday Inn. He advised that representatives from Percival and McGuire and Century 21 are here to speak with Council.

Percival and McGuire made their marketing presentation first. Jim Guin, a resident of Mount Holly has recently started working for their firm. With the addition of Mr. Guin, the firm is planning to open an office in Mount Holly and start promoting in Gaston County. Councilman Bishop asked if there would be a conflict of interest if the City goes with Percival and McGuire because Mr. Guin serves on the City TDA. Mr. Michael is going to look into the conflict of interest possibility.

Joel Murphy with Century 21 was next and reviewed their credentials and made a marketing presentation. He advised that Century 21 is internationally known and has also worked in Mount Holly in the past.

Mayor Hough thanked the two firms for their presentations and advised that a final decision would be made at the July work session.

2. Discussion of Sports Hall of Fame Request to use the Sound System and the Council Chambers

Mr. Jackson advised that at the June Council meeting the Sports Hall of Fame requested the use of the Council Chambers and the City sound system. Mayor Pro Tem Breyare advised that it is nothing against the Sports Hall of Fame but the policy at the Tuck Building is that there is not a sound system available for public use. Councilman Bishop commented that there is a City Ordinance that requires anything that is loaned out have a contractual agreement. At this time, Councilman Moore made a motion to approve the use of the Council Chambers and the Sound System with the stipulation that there is a signed agreement between the Sports Hall of Fame and the City. Councilman Bishop seconded the motion. All Council Members present voted in favor. Motion carried.

3. Consideration and Approval of Budget Amendments

Mr. Guffey advised that the Budget Amendments are taking money from Administration and moving it other Departments that have came up short at the end of the fiscal year. He advised that this is a common practice at the end of each fiscal year before the audit process begins. Councilman Toomey made a motion to approve the budget amendments. Councilman Moore seconded the motion. All Council Members present voted in favor. Motion carried.

4. Discussion of an Outdoor Special Events Park Policy

Mr. Jusko explained that with the completion of the expansion at Tuck Park more people will want to start having events at the park. Therefore, the staff would like to have a policy and permit in place before this occurs. There was discussion among the Council regarding parking, alcohol in the parks for events and keeping the parks clean. It was consensus of the Council to let the Facilities Committee review the permit and policy and then bring a recommendation back to the Council.

5. Discussion of an Ordinance to Ban the Use of Tobacco in City Parks

Mr. Jusko advised that Council directed him to look into what other Cities do in regard to banning tobacco in City Parks. He advised that he had trouble finding anyone that has banned tobacco use in parks. Therefore the recommendation of Staff is to pass an ordinance that will only allow the use of tobacco in the parking areas. Therefore smoking and other tobacco use will not be in the play grounds or near the playing fields where there are children. Mr. Jusko advised that they will put signage up in the areas of the park where tobacco use is not allowed. Councilman Hope made a motion to approve the ordinance that will ban the use of tobacco inside the City Parks. Councilman Bishop seconded the motion. All Council Members present voted in favor. Motion carried. (#06282010A)

6. Discussion of the Gaston Together Branding Logo

Mayor Hough advised that the Council agreed to participate in the branding logo to promote Gaston County. He advised that he needs direction from Council as to what to put on the logo. It was the consensus of the Council to take away the kayak that symbolizes White Water and to put emphasis on the church, add a greenway, holly bushes and a train.

7. Closed Session *(pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (3))*

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

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

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

At this time, Mayor Hough went around the table for comments from Council.

Mayor Pro Tem Breyare invited everybody with the city to Alive After 5 on Thursday night. She advised that Summer Daze will be playing.

Councilman Toomey brought up cell phone stipends for Council Members. He proposed that the members of Council that did not receive the netbooks get a cell phone stipend equal to the monthly amount that the City pays for the netbooks. There was discussion regarding the stipend and Councilman Bishop advised that he would not accept a stipend from the City. Mayor Pro Tem Breyare commented that she would turn her netbook back into the City. At this time Councilman Brookshire made a motion to approve a stipend for the members of Council that do not have the netbooks. Councilman Toomey seconded the motion. Councilmen Brookshire, Toomey and Hope voted for the motion and Mayor Pro Tem Breyare and Councilmen Bishop and Moore voted against. There was a tie vote therefore the Mayor voted no and broke the tie. Motion failed.

Councilman Bishop reported that the intersection at Riverfront needs to be restriped. Mr. Santmire will send a request to NCDOT.

Councilman Bishop commented the he would be for the Optimist Club using the Tuck Center for cheerleading practice rather than the old gym. He advised that the old gym does not have air conditioning. He put that in the form of a motion to give the Optimist Club the option to use the Tuck Center instead of the old gym. Councilman Hope seconded the motion. All Council Members present voted in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Hope reported that there is a bicycle ride for the children at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday. He wanted to make sure the police is aware and the event is covered. They will be leaving from the Farmers Market

Councilman Moore asked about the lights downtown. Mr. Guffey commented that the Maintenance Department is in the process of making those repairs.

Mr. Jackson reported that Mr. Blankenship has requested the help for the Fire Department with unloading supplies for the CRO. He wanted to make sure Council was aware of this project to ensure there are no concerns because this would be on city time. Council did not have a problem with this.

Mayor Hough advised that Bryan Pitts will be serving on the Facilities Committee.

Mayor Hough reported that he and Mr. Jackson will be meeting with the German Marshall Fund on Saturday morning at the Knife and Fork. He advised that they would meet for breakfast and then be walking to the Farmers Market.

8. Adjourn

With no additional items for discussion, Mayor Hough entertained a motion to adjourn. Councilman Moore made the motion to adjourn the June 28, 2010 Work

Session Meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Breyare seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. **(Motion carried)**

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.