

CITY OF MOUNT HOLLY
MOUNT HOLLY CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, May 10, 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
Councilman Perry Toomey	Mike Santmire, Streets and Solid Waste Director
Kemp Michael, City Attorney	Mark Jusko, Interim Parks and Recreation Director

Councilman Benny Brookshire was absent from the meeting

Call to Order by Mayor Hough

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

Invocation

Reverend Scott Anderson, pastor of the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, 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. With no changes to the agenda, Councilman Moore made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilman Toomey seconded the motion. All Council Members present voted in favor. (Motion carried)

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Establish a Lien on 402 Meller Street for abating the City's Minimum Housing Code Violations
2. Approval of the Media Policy
3. Approval of G&G Cleaning Services Contract
4. Approval of the Training Room Policy
5. Consideration and Approval of the 2009-2010 Audit Contract
6. Approval of the minutes for the April 12, 2010 business meeting.

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

PRESENTATIONS

1. Presentation from Runnymede HOA

Jason Payseur

Mr. Payseur came before Council as the president of the Runnymede Homeowners Association to share his concerns regarding speeding vehicles in his neighborhood. He advised that there are approximately 270 homes throughout the neighborhood with all different ages of children that are put in danger everyday by speeders. Mr. Payseur advised that the Police Department came out to the neighborhood to record speeds and write citations but it has not seemed to make a difference. Therefore the HOA would like the City Council to consider speed humps in their neighborhood. He added that the HOA has approximately \$70,000 to put toward the installation of the speed humps. With a second concern from the HOA Mr. Payseur reported that there are boats parked in the right of way in the neighborhood. This is an effect of the HOA restrictions which does not allow boats to be stored visible from the streets. Mayor Hough advised that Council would discuss this item further at a future meeting and get back with him.

2. Presentation of Certificates of Completion to the Citizens Academy Students

Mayor Hough recognized the students that participated in the 2010 Citizens Academy. He presented them with a Certificate of Completion.

3. Presentation regarding Autumn on Main

Mr. Motes came before Council to request permission for the 3rd Autumn on Main Harvest Festival. He advised that the festival will feature local artists, have activities for children and a beer and wine garden. The festival will be held on September 25, 2010 from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Mr. Motes asked for Council's support by closing the Main Street from East Catawba Avenue to Central Avenue. He advised that solid waste support would be needed as well. Mayor Hough advised that he will bring this item back up with Council after they have had time to digest it.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Three (3) Minute Limit

Jason Mock

Mount Holly, NC 28120

Mr. Mock came before Council to request they pass legislation that would limit the noise made by the train during certain hours of the day and night.

Scott Griffin

110 Oakland Street

Mount Holly, NC 28120

Mr. Griffin came before Council with two (2) requests, first a variance to the sign ordinance that would allow a sign to be put up for the summer months that advertises the Farmer's Market. The second request is that the City gives the Farmer's Market a recycling container. Mr. Griffin added that the Farmer's Market is planning Farm Fest for October 1st.

Kevin Washley

238 Cedar Lane

Mount Holly, NC 28120

Mr. Washley came before Council to comment on speeders on his street. He advised that he has seen 2 separate instances in the past week where his neighbors have almost gotten hit by a car.

Shea Huggins

Cedar Lane

Mount Holly, NC 28120

Ms. Huggins came before Council to comment on speeders on her street. She advised that the people on her street would like to see the City put speed humps down.

Joey Binham
Cedar Lane
Mount Holly, NC 28120

Ms. Binham advised that she would like to echo what her neighbors have said regarding the speeders on her street. There are lots of children that live on her street that are put in danger every day.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Consideration and Approval of Declaring Police Weapons Surplus Property

Chief Belk brought forth a request to that Council declare 38 weapons surplus for trade in on new weapons. Councilman Bishop made a motion to declare 38 weapons surplus property. Councilman Moore seconded the motion. All Council members present voted in favor. (Motion carried)

NEW BUSINESS

1. Presentation of the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Proposed Budget

Mr. Guffey presented the 2010-2011 proposed budget. He advised that the budget does not propose a tax increase and but does propose that tipping fees be reduced \$1.00 per month. With the economy picking up, there is a 2% COLA increase and 3% for merit increases for City employees as well as 3 new Firefighter positions, 2 Streets and Solid Waste positions and a City Engineer position. Mr. Guffey also added that the City is proposing to replace 3 police vehicles and purchase tables and chairs to use for Grand Hall rentals. With no questions from Council Mr. Guffey asked that the Council make a motion to call for a public hearing at the June 14th Council Meeting. Councilman Moore made the motion with a second from Mayor Pro Tem Breyare. All Council members present voted in favor. (Motion carried)

OTHER BUSINESS

1. Presentation of Police Department Core Values and Mission Statement

Chief Belk presented the follow information to the City Council with the entire Police Department present.

Police Department staff has developed core values for the Department. Employees of the Department were chosen to serve as members of the Chief's Service Management Team. This team was developed to provide leadership in the development and implementation of agency projects that serve as catalysts to enhance the quality of the employee's professional work life and community relationships of Mount Holly. This team was tasked with defining the core values for the entire Department. The team gained input from each unit within the Department.

The Core Values are: **Integrity:** We are committed to the highest professional and ethical standards. We are accountable for our actions to our community and to each other. We foster trust by being honest, fair, and consistent. **Commitment:** We are committed to providing the highest level of service to the public. We are committed to holding ourselves to the highest standard of work ethic and to a high set of moral values. It is our unfailing sense of duty to provide protection and service to the citizens we serve. **Knowledge:** We pride ourselves in our knowledge. This knowledge not only encompasses the criminal laws of North Carolina, it also includes the knowledge of our community and its citizens. Our knowledge increases thru continuing education in law enforcement using methods that continuously and objectively evaluate our performance. We are open to new ideas and constructive changes that meet the needs of the community in which we serve.

SMT also forged our new Mission and Vision Statements: The Mount Holly Police Department is dedicated to excellence in policing, utilizing education, and partnerships to reduce crime, create a safe environment, build trust, and enhance the quality of life in our community. We are committed to delivering quality service in an effective, responsive, ad professional manner. **Vision:** To protect and

serve the citizens of Mount Holly at the highest level of professionalism and to ensure the quality of life in which we work and live.

In addition, the team has developed a new casual uniform to be used at community events. This uniform was utilized at Springfest. The Department received several positive comments regarding the uniform. The team has also developed a Citizen Police Academy that is set to begin this September. The Academy promises to be an exciting opportunity for members of the community to experience each part of the Department. The team has several other projects in development; a new shoulder patch and a program to display the new values are just a few of the projects.

REPORTS

Mayor Pro Tem Breyare commented that she would like to see the City Parks become smoke free. Council agreed and directed staff to draft an ordinance to bring before Council and the next meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Breyare encouraged the Council to attend the meeting at A&E with Sue Myrick on May 17th.

Councilman Toomey advised that he would like to recognize Chief Belk and his Department for the wonderful job they do.

Councilman Hope asked how the new water billing process is going. Mr. Jackson replied that the number of cut offs were higher probably because the second notices were discontinued but otherwise everything is going smoothly. Councilman Bishop suggested that a short advisory that states "No Second Notices" be put on the front of the bill next month.

Councilman Moore asked the status of the grass mowing contractor. Mr. Guffey replied that they would resume their duties once the insurance claim is settled.

Mayor Hough asked for Council direction in regard to speed humps. It was the consensus of Council to discuss this issue further at the work session meeting.

Mayor Hough asked for direction in regard to the Autumn on Main Harvest Festival. Councilman Toomey made the motion to approve the requests for the Autumn on Main Harvest Festival. Mayor Pro Tem Breyare seconded the motion. All Council members present voted in favor. (Motion carried)

Mayor Hough asked for direction on the request made by Mr. Griffin regarding the recycling container and the variance to the sign ordinance. Councilman Moore advised that the recycling container has already been delivered to Jeff Kaylor. It was the consensus of Council to look into the variance to the sign ordinance at a staff level.

Mayor Hough asked for Council direction on the train request. Mr. Beal advised that the City has checked into this issue in the past. At that time it was a very costly investment that included gate improvement at every crossing in town. Staff agreed to research this item further and update the Council as part of their weekly memo.

Mr. Jackson thanked staff for the hard work that has gone into the budget.

Mayor Hough thanked everyone involved with Springfest. He commended the City Staff for a job well done.

ADJOURN

With no additional items for discussion, Mayor Hough entertained a motion to adjourn. Councilman Bishop made the motion to adjourn the May 10, 2010 Council meeting. Councilman Moore seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. **(Motion carried)**

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

