# CITY OF MOUNT HOLLY
# MOUNT HOLLY CITY COUNCIL
## Work Session
## April 27, 2009
## 6:00 pm

Members present: Mayor Robert Whitt, Councilmen David Moore, Jerry Bishop, Bennie Brookshire, Frank McLean, Perry Toomey, and Councilwoman Carolyn Breyare.

Staff present: Eric Davis, City Manager, Jamie Guffey, Assistant City Manager, Danny Jackson, Assistant City Manager, Mike Santmire, Streets and Solid Waste Director, Chief Dale Oplinger, Fire Chief, and Chief David Belk, Chief of Police, James Friday, Utilities Director, Tina Pritchard, Parks and Recreation Director and Kemp Michael, City Attorney

Others present: Brooke Lopez, Attorney, Kemp Michael's office

### CALL TO ORDER BY THE MAYOR

Mayor Whitt called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

### INVOCATION

Mayor Pro Tem Moore led the Council, staff members and attendees in prayer.

### SET THE AGENDA

Mayor Whitt asked for any changes to the work session agenda. Council had no changes to the work session agenda.

1. Presentation on Stormwater Projects

Mr. Friday reviewed the stormwater permit and the history of the program. He advised that the five year permit is up for renewal next year and everything is in order for the renewal process. There was further discussion regarding the amount of funds that have been spent on stormwater projects as well as discussion on upcoming projects.

2. ABC Board Financial Update

Mr. Broome gave a brief report and financial update on the local ABC sales. He advised that the local ABC store is producing a 7% return of which much is invested back into the store and repayment for the loan for the purchase of the new store.

3. Discussion of the Sign Ordinance

Mr. Beal explained that the sign ordinance is something that staff has been working on for quite some time. He advised that the revisions to the sign ordinance have been discussed in the past but put off until the corridor regulations were adopted. Mr. Beal reviewed the weaknesses of the current sign ordinance. He then advised that at the next work session staff will have a complete document that has been approved by the Planning Commission before Council for additional input.

4. Discussion of Waste Treatment Options

Mr. Bob Cooke with US Infrastructure of Carolina, Inc was present to discuss engineering consultants in the Charlotte area capable of assisting the City preliminary layout and cost estimates for the expansion of the wastewater treatment plant. It was the consensus of

Council that Mr. Cooke narrow the list down to two (2) firms and bring them in to present to Council.

5. Discussion of the Linear Park/Sale of Bonds Process

Mr. Guffey reported that there are several steps included in the sale of the bonds. He advised that there are several ordinances and resolution that will have to be drafted by the bond Council before the bonds can be sold. Mr. Guffey reported that the bonds have to be sold by June 2010. He advised that staffs goal is to have them ready to be sold by January 2010. Mayor Whitt suggested that the entire July work session be devoted to the sale of the bonds.

6. Discussion of Special Activities Permit

Mr. Davis reported that the Council asked the Special Activities Permit revisited with additional information from other cities regarding the liability insurance issue. He advised that the Clerk compiled the information and most cities and towns do require an additional amount of liability insurance for events. Council did not feel comfortable adding an additional burden to the groups putting in the events therefore Councilman Toomey made motion to approve the permit leaving out number 11 regarding the liability insurance. Councilman Brookshire seconded the motion. All Council members present voted in favor. **(Motion carried)**

7. Discussion of the Grand Hall Rental Policy

Mayor Whitt advised that from past meetings it is the consensus of Council to revisit the Grand Hall Rental Policy. He further advised that it would appear due to the lack of rentals of the Grand Hall that the rental price may be to high. Councilman Toomey agreed and added that he feels the policy should include a price for residence and a price for non-residence. Councilman Bishop and Councilwoman Breyare both felt that the policy should be sent back to committee for a recommendation. Mayor Pro Tem Moore added that he feels the City should be able to co-sponsor an event and allow organization within the City to use the Grand Hall at no charge. After further discussion regarding the Grand Hall Rental Policy it was the consensus of Council to add this item to the next agenda. At this time Mayor Pro Tem Moore moved that the City co-sponsor the Sports Hall of Fame and allow them to use the Grand Hall for their event at no charge. Councilman Brookshire seconded the motion. With no further discussion, Mayor Whitt called for a vote. In a show of hands, Mayor Pro Tem Moore, Councilman Brookshire and Councilman Toomey all voted in favor. Councilwoman Breyare, Council Bishop and Councilman McLean voted against the motion. With a tie vote, Mayor Whitt cast the deciding vote and he voted for the motion. **(Motion carried 4-3)**

8. Discussion of Neighborhood Business Approval Process

It was the consensus of Council that the Zoning Board of Adjustments is doing a great job serving in their capacity and therefore drop the issue of Council serving as the Zoning Board.

9. Discussion of the Travel Expense/Mileage Reimbursement Policy

Mayor Whitt advised that Council decided at the last meeting to require employees that are traveling for City business to take a City vehicle. Mayor Whitt asked what employees were supposed to do if there is not a vehicle available. It was the consensus of Council to leave the issue at the discretion of the City Manager when a vehicle is not available.

10. Committee Reports

Mayor Whitt asked that the reappointment of Kathy Drumm to the ABC Board be added as a consent agenda item to the next meeting agenda.

Mayor Whitt shared his concern regarding upcoming budget. He feels like Staff and Council are not far enough along in the process and advised Staff to call a special meeting next week to discuss the budget if needed.

Mayor Pro Tem Moore advised that the standard work session date in May falls on Memorial Day. He asked if Council wanted to reschedule. It was the consensus of Council to cancel the May work session.

9. Closed Session

*(pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes 143-318.11 (a)(3)&(5))*

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

Councilman Toomey made a motion to come out of closed session. Councilwoman Breyare seconded the motion. Mayor pro Tem Moore made a motion to name Mr. Davis and Mr. Guffey Deputy Finance Officers. Councilman McLean seconded the motion. All Council members voted in favor. **(Motion carried)**

Councilman Bishop made a motion to direct Ms. Lopez to proceed forward with tax foreclosures. Councilman Toomey seconded the motion. All Council members present voted in favor. **(Motion carried)**

There was further discussion regarding the events of Springfest.

10. Adjourn

With no additional items for discussion, Mayor Whitt entertained a motion to adjourn. Councilman McLean made the motion to adjourn the April 27, 2009 work session meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Moore seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. **(Motion carried)**

The meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.