

MINUTES  
King City Council  
Regular Session  
January 6, 2020

The King City Council met in regular session at King City Hall on Monday, January 6, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. Present were: Councilman Charles Allen, Councilman Wesley Carter, Councilman Terri Fowler, Mayor Pro Tempore Rick McCraw, Mayor Jack Warren, City Manager Homer Dearmin, City Clerk Tammy Hatley, Director of Finance and Personnel Susan O'Brien, Director of Planning and Inspections Todd Cox, City Engineer Scott Barrow, Superintendent of Public Works Ricky Lewis, Water Plant Superintendent Ben Marion, Public Utilities Inspector Todd Hill, Fire Chief Steven Roberson, Chief of Police Jordan Boyette, Senior Center Director Paula Hall, Captain Ian Tedder, Captain Tanner Hairford, Lt. Benny Haynes, Water Plant Operator Ronnie Gallimore, Cpl. Todd Batterton, Chaplain Tracey Collins, Megan Gallimore and Christopher Kirkman.

Mayor Warren called the meeting to order.

Commander Cliff Kilby of the Carl Calloway American Legion Post 290-King led the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

The invocation was offered.

Chaplain Collins left the meeting.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Warren noted that the following announcements were listed on the agenda:

- To receive King NC Text Alerts to Code Red 99411
- King Senior Services Advisory Board, Regular Meeting: Tuesday, January 7, 2020, 4:30 p.m., King Senior Center
- Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, Regular Meeting: Thursday, January 9, 2020, 7:00 p.m., King Recreation Acres Community Building
- Community Appearance Commission: Thursday, January 16, 2020, 3:30 p.m., King City Hall
- Stokes County League of Local Governments: Thursday, January 16, 2020, 6:30 p.m., Hosted by the Town of Walnut Cove
- King Planning Board, Regular Meeting: Monday, January 27, 2020, 7:00 p.m., King City Hall
- King Economic Development Advisory Board: Tuesday, January 28, 2020, 8:30 a.m., King City Hall
- Community Shredding Event: Thursday, January 30, 2020, 12-4 p.m., Public Parking Lot across from City Hall – free to the public

Manager Dearmin stated that the annual Community Shredding Event would have to be postponed due to the sale of the shred company. A new date will be announced at a later time.

**ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA**

It was the consensus of the Council to remove the request to set a public hearing date for a rezoning by Dance Unveiled.

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES**

City Manager Dearmin introduced Mrs. Paula Hall as the new Senior Center Director. Captain Tedder introduced Megan Gallimore and Christopher Kirkman as Police Department recruits who will be formally sworn in as soon as their final paperwork is received.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mayor Warren opened the floor to receive public comment.

Mrs. Carolyn Byerly, of 237 W. Dalton Road, King, NC, representing the King Senior Center Advisory Board and Commander Cliff Kilby, representing the Carl Calloway American Legion Post #290-King, NC, addressed the Mayor and Council.

Being no one else present wishing to speak; Mayor Warren closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

## **PRESENTATION OF DISTINGUISHED BUDGET PRESENTATION AWARD BY THE GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICER'S ASSOCIATION**

Director of Finance and Personnel O'Brien was recognized for having received this award for the seventh consecutive year.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Pro Tempore McCraw moved to approved the consent agenda as amended. Councilman Allen seconded the motion which carried by a unanimous vote of 4-0. Items approved were: (1) December 2, 2019, Regular Meeting Minutes; and (2) Set Public Hearing at King City Hall on Monday, February 3, 2020, 7:00 p.m. for Rezoning Request by AE Construction A, Inc.

## **UPDATE ON VETERAN'S MEMORIAL MAINTENANCE/REPAIRS**

Updates were given to the Mayor and Council by City Manager Dearmin and Public Works Superintendent Lewis on the Veteran's Memorial maintenance/repairs relating to wear and tear due to age as well as malfunction due to vandalism in recent years.

### Discussion

Manager Dearmin: "Mayor, the issue, one of the biggest things is that we are anticipating we'll go in and probably have to pull up parts of the memorial, go underground and fix some of the infrastructure. That is highly likely at this point, that we're going to have to do some major renovations there to get that fountain working. So, we don't really know exactly what that expense is going to be and we know that there have been a lot of question for you all about it; certainly, some questions from our veterans and it's just going to be a bigger undertaking than a weekend project. It's going to be a pretty involved process."

Mayor Warren: "I think Mr. Neel, Van Neel, I heard him suggested that maybe we dig everything up from the pump house up to the fountain itself."

Mr. Lewis: "Up to the pavers."

Mayor Warren: "No, only to remove some of the pavers there and go up to the thing where it starts splitting off. Why don't we try that and see if we can find something cause the last time y'all dug and I was out there, we had the cameras and we found, what one pipe that was leaking and we fixed that but if we go all the way to the fountain we can eliminate 80% of it or 50% of it."

Mr. Lewis: "We can uncover it."

Mayor Warren: "Yeah, and then if someone is coming then for the slip lining then they will have that exposed for them and they'll have more knowledge of it than we do. Mr. Cox, don't we have, do we have blue prints of all of that? Do you not, have you got, and I'm pretty sure you have. You showed me some of them."

Mr. Cox: "Yeah, we have the construction documents."

Mayor Warren: "So, he's got the construction documents. So, we know we can tell by that which way the pipe goes and we can get ready for them. Who knows? Slip lining might work and you're talking about a small expense. if you have to start moving all that stuff it's a much larger expense. "

Mr. Lewis: "We can go down, like you said with the pavers, that's where we measured it to, where the first bend was. We'll try that."

Mayor Warren: "Well, you might want to just take about eight rows up and go all the way to the wall because it's started bending there again at the wall if you remember. I think that's where it goes."

Mr. Lewis: "We'll try that. I'll get with Robert and see what we can do."

Mayor Warren stated that he felt like the reason the veterans were at tonight's meeting was to get Council's assurance that the Memorial is going to be repaired and asked if Council would make a commitment to do so.

#### Action

It was the consensus of the Council that they were okay with making a commitment to repair the veteran's memorial.

Mayor Warren then stated: "The next thing I want to address to the Manager and Mr. Lewis is if the Council is okay with having them go ahead and start digging, move all of that out sort of like he and I just discussed and get ready for the people with the slip lining?"

Mayor Pro Tempore McCraw: "Yes sir."

Mayor Warren: "We need to do something. I think that's what I'm hearing and get something started and I know you've been out there working. I've been out there with you with the cameras and digging and everything else, but let's continue on and we'll get it fixed. We'll get it fixed."

#### **CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 2020-01 SETTING A SURPLUS AUCTION**

Councilman Fowler moved to approve Resolution 2020-01 as presented. Mayor Pro Tempore McCraw seconded the motion which carried by a unanimous vote of 4-0.

#### **SET DATE FOR STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOPS**

It was the consensus of the Council to hold a strategic planning workshop on Friday, March 6, 2020, and if needed, a seconded workshop on Friday, March 13, 2020.

#### **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

There were no questions concerning the Departmental Reports.

**ITEMS OF GENERAL CONCERN**

Councilman Carter – Nothing at this time

Councilman Fowler: Nothing at this time

Mayor Pro Tempore McCraw:

- Thanked staff for their work at the Community Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, Christmas Parade, Employee Appreciation Meal, and DARE Graduation
- Thanked Stokes County Manager Oakley, Stokes County Register of Deeds Brandon Hooker, Stokes County Economic Development Director Will Carter, and local veterans for attending the meeting.
- Welcomed the new employees
- Stated that he is so proud of the City of King

Councilman Allen: Nothing at this time

Mayor Warren:

- Welcomed Stokes County Manager Oakley, Stokes County Economic Development Director Will Carter, and new employees.
- Thanked Council and staff members for all they do
- Congratulated Finance Director O’Brien on the GFOA award

**EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF ATTORNEY/CLIENT PRIVILEGE PER NCGS 143-318.11 (A) (4)**

Mayor Pro Tempore McCraw moved to adjourn to executive session for the purpose of attorney/client privilege per NC General Statute 143-318.11 (a) (4). Councilman Fowler seconded the motion which carried by a unanimous vote of 4-0.

Mayor Warren reconvened the meeting and stated that no action had been taken during the executive session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmen Carter moved to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Pro Tempore McCraw seconded the motion which carried by a unanimous vote of 4-0. The meeting stood adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Approved by:

Attest:

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Jack Warren  
Mayor

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Tamara H. Hatley, MMC, NCCMC  
City Clerk