MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANFORD
SANFORD, NORTH CAROLINA

The City Council met at the Sanford Municipal Center, 225 E. Weatherspoon Street, on Tuesday, March 5, 2019, at 6 p.m., in Council Chambers. The following people were present:

Mayor T. Chet Mann
Council Member Byron Buckels
Council Member Jimmy Haire
Council Member James Williams
City Attorney Susan Patterson
City Clerk Bonnie Davis

Mayor Pro Tem Rebecca Wyhof Salmon
Council Member Sam Gaskins
Council Member Norman Charles Post, III
City Manager Hal Hegwer
Management Analyst Holly Marosites
Deputy City Clerk Vicki Cannady

Absent:
Council Member Charles Taylor

CALL TO ORDER
Mayor Mann called the meeting to order. Council Member Buckels delivered the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Exhibit A)
Carol Chalmers Deese (of 2240 Chalmers Drive, Sanford) explained that a citizens group is developing a list of historically black entrepreneurs of Sanford and they plan to publish a brochure. She shared information on women of color who helped pave the way rendering services in the African American community when they could not be received elsewhere. She thanked several people and groups (Sanford’s Historical Society, the Planning Department, Liz Whitmore, Don Kovaskitz, and Kelly Miller) and encouraged citizens to share their memories and photos.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Council Member Gaskins moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Salmon, the motion was unanimously approved.

CONSENT AGENDA
Approval of Ordinance Amending the Annual Operating Budget of the City of Sanford FY 2018-2019 (Engineering Department) – (Exhibit B)
Council Member Gaskins moved to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Council Member Buckels, the motion carried unanimously.

SPECIAL AGENDA
There were no items on the special agenda.

CASES FOR PUBLIC HEARING
There were no cases for public hearing.

DECISIONS ON PUBLIC HEARINGS
Application by Adam Valenti – to rezone one vacant tract of land totaling 0.24+ acres with frontage on Dalrymple Street from Residential-Mixed (R-6) to General Commercial (C-2). The subject
property is identified as Tax Parcel 9652-52-8200-00 as depicted on Lee County Tax Map 9652.19 and as illustrated as a 0.24 acre tract of land on a survey recorded at Plat Cabinet 10, Slide 18-C of the Lee County Register of Deeds Office (Exhibit C)

Thomas Mierisch, Community Development Department Planner, reminded Council that a public hearing on this request was held on February 19, 2018. The applicant has proposed recombining this undeveloped 0.24 acre tract with two adjoining properties to create a 1.5 acre lot to allow for development of a new restaurant. Mr. Mierisch explained that the Planning Board recommends that Council support this rezoning request as presented based upon the rationale that the request is consistent with the adopted Comprehensive Plan which identifies this parcel as a “downtown” place type, and it appears to be reasonable and in the public interest based on the availability of public infrastructure, including public water, public sewer, city-maintained streets and sidewalks along Dalrymple Street and nearby intersections with East Main Street. The request is consistent with adjoining parcels currently zoned “C-2” and feature comparable commercial activity, including an adjoining shopping center.

- **Statement on Long-Range Plan Consistency as it Relates to Rezoning Request**
  Mayor Pro Tem Salmon stated that the zoning map amendment is proposed to be rezoned from Residential Mixed (R-6) to General Commercial (C-2). The proposal makes possible the development of a retail store, including restaurants, and professional offices, which is consistent with the “downtown” land designation for this parcel. The subject parcel is currently served by a public street, public water, public sewer, and is in close proximity to commercially zoned and developed property; therefore, she made a motion that this rezoning request is consistent with the adopted long-range plan. The motion was seconded by Council Member Post and carried unanimously.

- **Ordinance Amending the Official Zoning Map of the City of Sanford, North Carolina (Exhibit D)**
  Council Member Gaskins made a motion to approve the ordinance amending the Official Zoning Map of the City of Sanford. Seconded by Buckels, the motion carried unanimously.

**REGULAR AGENDA**
There were no items on the regular agenda.

**NEW BUSINESS**
Resolution in Support of the Temporary Closure of Portions of Several Streets for the Purpose of a 5K Fundraiser Sponsored by The Salvation Army (Exhibit E)

Transportation Administrator Kris Furmage explained that a request has been received to close several streets on Saturday, April 13, from 6:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m., prior to the StreetFest being held later that day. He noted that the route is the same route used in the recent Comics 5K race (beginning and ending at Hugger Mugger Brewery) and barriers outside the StreetFest boundaries will be removed as participants complete those segments of the race.

Council Member Post moved to approve the Resolution in Support of the Temporary Closure of Portions of Several Streets for the Purpose of a 5K Fundraiser Sponsored by The Salvation Army. The motion was seconded by Council Member Gaskins and carried unanimously.
Resolution in Support of the Temporary Closure of Portions of Several Streets for the StreetFest Event (Exhibit F)

Transportation Administrator Kris Furmage explained that this request to close several streets in the downtown area from 6:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. is being made in connection with the third annual StreetFest event being held Saturday, April 13. The request is contingent upon receiving a certificate of insurance coverage.

Council Member Gaskins moved to approve the Resolution to Temporarily Close a Portion of Several Streets for the StreetFest Event, contingent upon receiving a certificate of insurance coverage. The motion was seconded by Council Member Post and carried unanimously.

Resolution to Temporarily Close a Portion of South Steele Street for the Purpose of the StreetFest Music Series (Exhibit G)

Transportation Administrator Kris Furmage explained that this request is being made to close South Steele Street between Wicker and Carthage Streets for the StreetFest Music Series being held on the third Thursday of each month between 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. from May through October 2019, and is contingent upon receiving a certificate of insurance coverage. He confirmed that all businesses on Steele Street that would be affected by this closure have been notified and had no objections.

Council Member Post moved to approve the Resolution to Temporarily Close a Portion of South Steele Street for the Purpose of the StreetFest Music Series on the third Thursday of each month between 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. from May through October, 2019, contingent upon receiving a certificate of insurance coverage. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Salmon and carried unanimously.

Ordinance Amending the Annual Operating Budget of the City of Sanford FY 2018-2019 – Police (Exhibit H)

Financial Services Director Beth Kelly explained that this ordinance appropriates funds for a replacement police vehicle from insurance proceeds for claims related to police department vehicles and from interest income.

Council Member Post moved to approve the Ordinance Amending the Annual Operating Budget; the motion was seconded by Council Member Gaskins and carried unanimously.

Grant Application to Re-Survey and Expand the Downtown Historic District (Exhibit I)

Historic Preservation Planner Liz Whitmore explained that this grant application for $10,000 is being made to hire a consultant to re-survey the City’s downtown historic district and expand it by 15 buildings. The grant requires a match of $10,000. She reviewed “contributing” and “non-contributing” properties and explained that we are requesting that the “period of significance” be expanded from 1935 to 1967. Among the additional properties to be surveyed are the Singer Building, Yarborough’s, The Hale Center, and Bert’s Furniture. The first phase would include the consultant doing the background research and preparing and submitting the approval package. Staff would apply for another grant next year to submit the package to the State Historic Preservation Office and upon their approval, it would be submitted to the National Park Service for approval.

Council Member Buckels questioned whether the Wall Street area was considered for inclusion in the designated area. Mrs. Whitmore explained that a larger area was originally proposed
which included Wall Street and properties across Horner Boulevard but staff from the State Historic Preservation Office suggested that those areas not be included at this time. Mr. Buckels stated that he would contact Mrs. Whitmore for additional information.

Council Member Gaskins moved to approve the Grant Application to Re-Survey and Expand the Downtown Historic District. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Salmon and carried by a vote of five to one, with Council Member Buckels casting the dissenting vote.

**Preliminary Assessment Resolution – Cemetery Road Water Line Extension (Exhibit J)**

City Engineer Paul Weeks explained that this Preliminary Assessment is for a water line extension on Cemetery Road that would be funded completely by the eight homeowners who are county residents (not city residents). The City will finance the assessment costs at an interest rate of eight percent annually for ten years. The estimated construction cost is $32,000 or approximately $4,000 per lot. Seven of the eight homeowners have approved the request (88 percent). The resolution sets the public hearing on the extension for April 2, 2019, at 6:00 p.m.

Council Member Post moved to approve the Preliminary Assessment Resolution for the Cemetery Road Water Line Extension; seconded by Council Member Gaskins, the motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution in Support of the Present System Alcoholic Beverage Control (Exhibit K)**

Mayor Mann read the resolution concerning privatization of the Alcoholic Beverage Control ("ABC") system, a topic in this legislative session. He commended the local ABC Board and the scholarships it provides to local high school seniors.

Council Member Post moved to approve the Resolution in Support of the Present System Alcoholic Beverage Control. The motion was seconded by Council Member Williams.

Council Member Williams explained that this resolution is in response to requests to privatize the sale of alcoholic beverages, rather than continuing the state-controlled system currently in place. Council Member Gaskins agreed that while our local ABC board has done an outstanding job, funded scholarships and provided funds to the City, he sees no reason why local governments should be involved in retail sales.

Mayor Mann called for a vote on the motion to approve the Resolution in Support of the Present System Alcoholic Beverage Control, which passed by a margin of five to one, with Council Member Gaskins casting the dissenting vote.

**Appointment to the Sanford Tourism Development Authority – Lodging Vacancy – term expires June 30, 2019 (Exhibit L)**

Council Member Post nominated Emalee McCracken to the Sanford Tourism Development Authority, as a representative from the lodging industry, for the term expiring June 30, 2019. He also moved to close nominations and appoint her by acclamation. The motion was seconded by Council Member Buckels and carried unanimously.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Council Member Buckels thanked Ms. Chalmers for her public comments and invited everyone to an event being held on Saturday, March 9, from 2:00 until 6:00 at Depot Park by Tamika
Dowdy, who has a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded in 2014, called “Inspire and Motivate our Future”.

Mayor Mann shared information on the 211 program (attached as Exhibit M) that will soon include a professional to provide information to callers on food, housing, health care, counseling, senior services and more. He stated that the Council retreat will be held on March 7 and March 8; shared information on permit growth from 2018 and congratulated Captain Britt Young who recently retired from the police department.

Council Member Gaskins congratulated the Fire Department on their new rating by the Office of the State Fire Marshall, indicating they are well equipped to respond to fires.

CLOSED SESSION
Mayor Pro Tem Salmon made a motion to go into closed session in accordance with N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6), in accordance with the personnel exception. The motion was seconded by Council Member Gaskins and carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT
Council Member Post moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Council Member Gaskins, the motion carried unanimously.

ALL EXHIBITS CONTAINED HEREIN ARE HEREBY INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.

Respectfully Submitted,

T. CHET MANN, MAYOR

ATTEST:

VICKI R. CANNADY, DEPUTY CITY CLERK