

February 13, 2017

Mayor Pro Tem and Ward 6 Councilmember W. B. Bullock welcomed citizens and City staff to the Sixth Annual State of the City address. He recognized elected officials in the audience.

The Mayor Pro Tem Bullock offered prayer and surrendered the floor to Mayor David W. Combs to deliver the 2017 State of the City Address.

STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

Mayor Combs recognized and thanked his wife, Catherine, for her presence and support.

The Mayor thanked Councilmembers for their work and commitment to the citizens of Rocky Mount.

Mayor Combs recognized City Manager Charles W. Penny and his wife, Edith, and thanked Mr. Penny for his service. He recognized Assistant City Managers, Tasha Logan Ford and Thomas M. Moton, Jr. and Department Heads.

Mayor Combs outlined the following highlights and accomplishments in the City:

FINANCE:

- Three ratings agencies - Fitch Ratings, Inc., Moody's Investors Service and Standard and Poor's Financial Services LLC have issued among the highest ratings for the city of Rocky Mount and for the special obligation bonds. Fitch Ratings, Inc. provided a rating of AA+ for both the city and for the special obligation bonds. Moody's Investor Service rated the city an Aa2 and provided a rating of Aa3 for the bonds. Standard and Poor's Financial Services, LLC (S&P) assigned an AA- rating for the city's special obligation bonds, stating that the outlook is stable.
- This represents excellence management.
- Local Government Commission (LGC) approved bond sale for Downtown Community Facility (DCF)
- There was a demand for the bonds; and the city of Rocky Mount has completed its bond sale for the construction and equipping of the Downtown Community Facility (DCF).
- Our local economy is rebounding. This fall, we learned Rocky Mount's economy grew by nearly 5% in the prior year, the fastest rate of growth among North Carolina's metropolitan areas. This is having a positive impact on jobs and wages, which have grown on a per capita basis by more than 4% over the past 2 years.
- Local businesses, including retailers, are seeing growth as well. Fiscal Year 2016 business activity, as measured by taxable local sales, grew by 6%, the 3rd straight year for growth. Despite the impact of Hurricane Matthew in recent months, local business activity is growing by 2% so far for fiscal year 2017.

DOWNTOWN:

- Rocky Mount was named a Great Main Street in the Making and joined the list of 44 communities receiving accreditation from the National Main Street Center. The Great Main Street in the Making award is awarded to streets that are still being planned or developed but have great potential for success. The accreditation award was for following best-practice standards for historic preservation and community revitalization.

- Investors and Developers have taken a keen interest in Downtown; and a number of investors are looking at hotel sites.
- Over \$2M in property has been sold in Rocky Mount to outside investors.
- Ratio Design has been hired to develop an implementation strategy, specifically for the downtown central business district, gateways and corridors. Earlier, the city of Rocky Mount engaged Ratio Design to assist us in developing a downtown strategy focused on the appropriate types of uses for the buildings downtown and creating distinct identities for specific areas of downtown to maximize redevelopment potential.
- Southern Bank is building a new 3-story building. This project is the first major private investment in the City in the past 20 years. The City will be purchasing the old Southern Bank building and relocating some city services, including the business office across the street.
- In January 2016, Edgecombe Community College completed the Biotechnology and Simulation Center. This 45,000 square foot state-of-the-art facility has classes set up to function like emergency rooms, operating rooms, nurses' stations and more. The facility houses 14 of the college's health sciences programs with the capacity to add additional programs.
- A groundbreaking of the Downtown Community Facility (DCF) will be held March 13, 2017.
- CSX chose Rocky Mount as the home for the Carolina Connector Intermodal Rail Terminal, thanks to the work of the state of NC and the Carolinas Gateway Partnership. This game changer will generate 1,500 jobs for the region.
- Chamber sees potential for more spending in Downtown Rocky Mount.
- We will soon see visible activity surrounding the Sam's Club property as we have recruited a developer from the Charlotte area who is capturing property surrounding the east, south and west side. This project will likely bring higher end retail that will benefit from Sam's Club traffic, which currently brings 50 million dollars of consumer spending to our city and encourages shopping from a four-county market, a 300,000 population draw into our city.
- There is significant and increased interest in national retailers seeking to expand in our market, with four national restaurants close to making long-term commitments to invest in Rocky Mount.
- With CSX's commitment to Rocky Mount and positive activity in the central city, we will continue to see more opportunity to grow consumer spending and produce new development to meet a growing demand for retail and services.
- On Friday, February 3, Conn's Home Plus (a new 50,000 square foot) electronics, furniture and appliances store opened at Golden East Crossing Mall. In addition, there are three other out-parcel spaces available on the Jeffrey's road side of the mall to encourage new growth.
- Lidl, the 4th largest Grocery in the world, is currently under construction on US 301 adjacent to Target. Lidl is expected to bring new services as well as job opportunity and new capital investment to our city. This store will open in early summer 2017.
- Work is ongoing to develop the Crossing @ 64 and new hotels are being built.
- A new nursing home is being built on Halifax Road.
- Draka Elevator, Pfizer and UNC/Nash Hospitals are expanding operations.

- Beal Street Square, Beal, Thomas and Grace Streets, is currently being developed. It is the largest housing development in Rocky Mount's inner city in the past 30 years.
- Clairmont apartments, which formerly lead into the South Rocky Mount Community Center, was demolished. Ravenwood Crossing will soon be developed at that site, thanks to a tax credit project for the creation of 80 townhomes. Ravenwood Crossing will be developed by the Woda Group, Inc. and should be completed early 2018. A groundbreaking will be held this spring.
- There IS growth in Rocky Mount.

ROCKY MOUNT MILLS:

- Koi Pond Brewing Company opened, which was the first craft brewery at the Rocky Mount Mills. The house which Koi Pond is in is more than 200 years old.
- Tarboro Brewing Co. recently announced that they will soon have a new restaurant and craft brewery moving into the mills.
- Also coming to Rocky Mount Mills are Ramblers Bottle Shop, The Tap @ 1918 and Tipsy Tomato.
- Currently, Rocky Mount Mills has 35 houses occupied with plans for another 30 this year.
- Nash Community College is opening a brewing process at the Mill.

TAX REVALUATION:

- Some saw a decrease in values.

NCDOT PROJECTS:

- Hunter Hill/Winstead
- Wesleyan Boulevard

HURRICANE MATTHEW:

- Hurricane Matthew left over 10 inches of rain in its aftermath, causing minor damage to 216 structures in the city limits and major damage to 146 structures.
- Rocky Mount property owners affected by flooding are invited to attend hazard mitigation grant program intake meetings on Feb. 16 & 17 at the Imperial Centre's Black Box Theater. Anytime between 8am and 8pm, learn about the 3 options available to property owners whose facilities received damage from the flood. You must bring your homeowner's insurance information, particularly flood insurance documents. For more information, visit www.rockymountnc.gov.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

- Fire and Police Chiefs presented Public Safety reports at Committee of the Whole meeting today.
- The Fire Department received 10,500 calls (82% EMS calls).
- The Fire Department received Buckle Up For Life Grant through Toyota; taught 5 classes and distributed 97 child passenger safety seats funded by the grant in addition to the 250 annual seat installations.
- Donated surplus fire engine to Rocky Mount High School Firefighter Certification Program and assisted administrators with planning of two-story training prop on school campus.
- Exceeded the fire service industry benchmark of 90% for percentage of property saved by saving 97% and over \$53 million in property during the 2016.
- Cardiac arrest rate of pulse on transfer improved by 5% which means that 15 citizens that were in full cardiac arrest upon

fire department arrival left the emergency scene with a pulse and breathing.

- In 2016, the city of Rocky Mount achieved a 9% reduction in Property Crime, 3% reduction in Violent crime and an 8% overall reduction in Part 1 Crime.
- In 2016, the City of Rocky Mount experienced the lowest number of Part 1 Crime in 39 years. The overall crime rate has declined for 5 consecutive years, the longest continuous drop on record, and it is at the lowest level since 1977.
- In January 2016, the Rocky Mount Animal Shelter moved into a larger location. Now, 1101 N. Church St. is the shelter's new home. Renovations included a new roof, more office space, kennels for 30 cats and 40 dogs, heated and sealed flooring, a quarantine room for feral cats, a laboratory area and a special interaction area where prospective adoptive pet parents can meet their new family members.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

- In January 2016, Dr. Jason Miller unveiled the First Dream website at the Imperial Centre for the Arts and Sciences. The website includes a brief history of King, photographs, personal letters, educational resources and more. The site also includes the remastered, fully restored version of King's "I Have a Dream" speech. Parts of this speech were first delivered in Rocky Mount in 1962.
- The newly renovated South Rocky Mount Community Center opened over the summer. The 20,000 square foot, \$2.7 million renovated facility is now home to a renovated community kitchen, exercise room, computer lab and game room, improved parking, better security, an air-conditioned gym and additional meeting space.
- Thanks to a grant from the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust and the organization Kaboom, Buck Leonard and Holly Street parks were renovated. The playgrounds are a part of the Healthy Places NC initiative to improve the health of 10 to 12 rural North Carolina counties over the next decade.

ENERGY RESOURCES:

- The Public Power Awards of Excellence program honors the hard work and dedication of public power communities like Rocky Mount. That's why the city of Rocky Mount's Energy Resources Department received the 2016 Public Power Awards of Excellence in the following categories: Competitive Business Environment, Energy Efficiency, Financial Stability, Legislative Involvement and Service Excellence.

PUBLIC WORKS:

- Recognized and appreciate the Public Works/Water Resources Departments for their hard work; especially during storms;
- Excellent water; continues to receive excellence grades from EPA; and
- Aided in demolition of Clairmont Apartments.

NOTABLE EVENTS:

- Rocky Mount hosted the 2016 Metro Mayor's Conference. The conference was held in the Imperial Centre and was an initiative of the NC Metropolitan Mayor's Coalition. The city had over 30 mayors convene to discuss issues like economic development and public safety. The coalition is made up of mayor's from the state's larger cities and focuses on issues of special interest to cities.
- In March 2016, Edgecombe Community College officially held a dedication for the new Biotechnology and Medical Simulation

Center. The center has a simulated hospital environment with a nurses' station, ICU, neonatal room and much more.

- We remembered our icon, Helen Gay, during her memorial on Dec. 30. Helen Gay was the city's first female African-American councilmember. She was sworn in on Dec. 12, 1983. The Helen P. Gay Rocky Mount Historic Train Station is named in her honor.
- The city of Rocky Mount kicked off its 150-year anniversary celebration at our February First Friday event. We were established as a town in 1867. The logo and other activities in recognition of our anniversary will take place at our biggest events, such as Downtown Live!, the Eastern Carolina BBQ Throw Down, Juneteenth and more. The logo will also soon be in many different locations throughout the city. The logo was unveiled on the city's MY Rocky Mount magazine and sent to all Rocky Mount Public Utilities customers in December.
- Former Manager, Steve Raper, is working on a history of the City.
- \$76,000 was raised by City employees for the United Way; making the City the 3rd largest contributor.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION:

- The city has been striving to create a more diverse and inclusive workforce. Spring April, the city has worked with Visions, Inc. to create strategies and programs for attracting, developing and retaining a talented and diverse workforce. This has been achieved so far through (1) Aspiring Officer Development Program, preparing all personnel who aspire to chief and company officer positions. Program offers classes to help these aspiring officers; (2) Braille signage at the train station; (3) Steps are being taken to ensure the new business office will be ADA compliant; and (4) The city's pre-recorded voicemail message now offers a Spanish language option.

SC2 PROGRAM:

- Rocky Mount was one of eight cities selected as an SC2 city in 2014. Two federal team leads were placed in Rocky Mount to help the city on strategic projects vital to our goals to grow the regional food economy, increase job creation and talent development, and to improve the quality of life in underserved communities.
- Some of the many accomplishments included (1) partnership with 2 local colleges to develop a local coding program to foster tech-job opportunities and to develop strategies for a community arts program and council; (2) securing technical assistance to develop the Monk to Mill Trail Feasibility Study to connect inner city neighborhoods to commercial districts, jobs and a greenway system; (3) working in a community initiative to develop a plan to grow the local food economy; and (4) and most recently, the city was awarded an AmeriCorps NCCC (National Civilian Conservation Corps) project team.

LITTER:

- The Community Anti-Litter Coalition and Keep America Beautiful of Nash and Edgecombe Counties work to make the Twin Counties cleaner and more attractive. We are asking you to join in on the effort by helping to reduce litter. Adopt a spot or get involved in events like The Great American Cleanup or Twin Counties Big Sweep. For more info, call the Keep America Beautiful office at 252-467-4960.

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE:

- The city of Rocky Mount improved its digital presence with the launch of a newly redesigned city website, www.rockymountnc.gov. The new website is more modern, user

friendly and responsive to all the various devices being used by citizens. Three new microsites have also been developed: imperialcentre.org, rockymountsportscomplex.com and downtownrockymount.com.

- My Rocky Mount magazine is terrific.

Mayor Combs recognized City Manager Charles W. Penny for 35 years of public service and stated he has been fortunate to work with two excellent managers. He congratulated the City Manager on his upcoming retirement and asked for a round of applause. The Manager received a standing ovation.

He recognized and thank Assistant City Managers, Tasha Logan Ford and Thomas M. Moton, Jr. and Department Heads for the excellent jobs they do and thanked them for their service during the hiring process following the Manager's retirement.

Mayor Combs noted the school issue was resolved this year. He said the City is in a good position and is often approached by citizens with positive comments.

He concluded his address with the following two quotes:

"High expectations are the key to everything" - Sam Walton; and
 "You can't build a reputation on what you're going to do" - Henry Ford.

He expressed his appreciation for those present this evening.

Recess at 6:55 p.m.

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Mayor David W. Combs convened the regular City Council meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the George W. Dudley City Council Chamber of the Frederick E. Turnage Municipal Building.

Councilmembers present: André D. Knight, Reuben C. Blackwell, IV, Lamont Wiggins, E. Lois Watkins, W. B. Bullock and Christine Carroll Miller.

Councilmember absent: Tom Rogers.

Staff Present: Charles W. Penny, City Manager; Pamela O. Casey, City Clerk; Tasha Logan Ford and Thomas Moton, Jr., Assistant City Managers; Tameka Kenan-Norman, Public Affairs Manager; Archie Jones, Director of Human Relations; Ken Graves, Director of Planning and Development; JoSeth BoCook, Senior Planner; Rich Worsinger, Director of Energy Resources; Michael Shaw, Fleet Maintenance Supervisor; Kim Batts, Deputy City Clerk; and Richard J. Rose, City Attorney.

APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

The minutes of a regular meeting of the City Council held January 23, 2017 were approved as submitted to the City Council prior to the meeting.

PETITIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Nehemiah Smith of 1620 East Virginia Street reiterated his complaint regarding a lack of commitment to diversity in the Fire Department and stated there is a difference between mandate and

desire. He said ultimately he will not be satisfied until there is a black, female or other minority Fire Chief.

Bronson Williams of 611 Hargrove Street also voiced concerns relative to diversity in the Fire Department and the hiring process. He added he would like to see the time for public comment period extended.

Lewis Turner of 158 S. Washington Street suggested the City needs a campaign to ask people to "clean up where they are" to encourage residents to clean around their yards and pick up trash. He noted he personally is working on projects on E. Thomas Street and Rose and Lexington where properties have burned.

AD VALOREM TAX RELEASES

The City Council received the following schedules of ad valorem taxes recommended for release and/or refund:

SCHEDULE A - taxes under \$100 approved for release and/or refund by the City Manager:

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>BILL NO.</u>	<u>NAME/ADDRESS</u>	<u>TAX</u>		<u>COMMENT</u>
<u>NASH COUNTY</u>					
2016	942	DAVIS E NORMAN & VIVIAN L 1407 HAMMOND ST ROCKY MOUNT, NC 27803	40.11 0.80	CITY INT	CORRECTED VALUE
		TOTAL RELEASE:	40.91		
<u>EDGECOMBE COUNTY</u>					
2012	161	VILLEDADA, NICOLAS 2729 DEER RUN ROCKY MOUNT, NC 27801	17.28 1.73	CITY PEN	BILLED IN ERROR MOBILE HOME OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS
		TOTAL RELEASE:	19.01		
2013	381	VILLEDADA, NICOLAS 2729 DEER RUN ROCKY MOUNT, NC 27801	16.41 4.76	CITY INT	BILLED IN ERROR MOBILE HOME OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS
		TOTAL RELEASE:	21.17		
2014	2582	VILLEDADA, NICOLAS 2729 DEER RUN ROCKY MOUNT, NC 27801	15.37 1.54	CITY PEN	BILLED IN ERROR MOBILE HOME OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS
		TOTAL RELEASE:	16.91		
2015	151	VILLEDADA, NICOLAS 2729 DEER RUN ROCKY MOUNT, NC 27801	15.37 1.54	CITY PEN	BILLED IN ERROR MOBILE HOME OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS
		TOTAL RELEASE:	16.91		
2016	2458	VILLEDADA, NICOLAS 2729 DEER RUN ROCKY MOUNT, NC 27801	14.34	CITY	BILLED IN ERROR MOBILE HOME OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS
		TOTAL RELEASE:	14.34		

SCHEDULE B - taxes over \$100 recommended for release and/or refund by the City Council:

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>BILL NO.</u>	<u>NAME/ADDRESS</u>	<u>TAX</u>	<u>COMMENT</u>
<u>EDGECOMBE COUNTY</u>				
2016	1000014	BARNES, MELVINA 2-1/2-3 J A THOMAS LD ROCKY MOUNT, NC 27801	204.19	CITY VETERAN'S EXEMPTION
		TOTAL RELEASE:	204.19	

Motion was made by Councilmember Watkins, seconded by Councilmember Bullock and unanimously carried that the report from the City Manager of taxes under \$100 listed on Schedule A approved for release and/or refund be acknowledged; and that the taxes over \$100 listed on Schedule B be approved for release and/or refund.

PLANNING BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS

The City Council received the minutes and recommendations from a Planning Board meeting held January 17, 2017. The minutes are on file in the office of the City Clerk. The following action was taken upon the recommendations of the Planning Board.

CONDITIONAL USE REZONING REQUEST/PUBLIC HEARING

The Mayor opened a public hearing relative to the following conditional use rezoning request recommended for approval and found in compliance with the Comprehensive Plan by the Planning Board:

- request by Doug Smith for the rezoning of ±0.84 acres at 101 Patrick Court from O-I to B-2CU

The Mayor explained that a public hearing on a conditional use rezoning is quasi-judicial and all who testify must be sworn.

No one from the public appeared relative to the rezoning request and the Mayor declared the public hearing closed.

Motion was made by Councilmember Wiggins, seconded by Councilmember Blackwell and unanimously carried that receipt of the Planning Board minutes be acknowledged; that **Ordinance No. O-2017-7** entitled **ORDINANCE AMENDING THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE AND MAP OF THE CITY OF ROCKY MOUNT** be adopted; and that **Resolution No. R-2017-6** entitled **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR DOUG SMITH** be adopted.

REZONING REQUEST/PUBLIC HEARING

The Mayor opened a public hearing relative to the following rezoning request recommended for approval and found in compliance with the Comprehensive Plan by the Planning Board:

- request by Terry Wethington to rezone +/-4.59 acres at 4053 Sunset Avenue from B-1 & R-15 to B-2

Petitioner provided the City Council with letters of support and explained the planned project. No one from the public appeared relative to the rezoning request and the Mayor declared the public hearing closed.

Motion was made by Councilmember Wiggins, seconded by Councilmember Blackwell and carried by a vote of 5-1 (Councilmember

Bullock opposed) that action as to the rezoning request for 4053 Sunset Avenue be deferred until the February 27, 2017 meeting of the City Council.

CONDITIONAL USE REZONING REQUEST/PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Combs recused himself and relinquished the floor to Mayor Pro Tem Bullock.

Mayor Pro Tem Bullock opened a public hearing relative to the following conditional use rezoning request recommended for approval and found in compliance with the Comprehensive Plan by the Planning Board:

- request by Terry Wethington for the rezoning of ±11.5 acres adjacent to 4053 Sunset Avenue from O-I to B-2CU

The Mayor Pro Tem explained that a public hearing on a conditional use rezoning is quasi-judicial and all who testify must be sworn.

Petitioner, Terry Wethington, was sworn. He provided the City Council with letters of support for the project and responded to questions posed by Council.

No one else from the public appeared relative to the rezoning request and the Mayor declared the public hearing closed.

Motion was made by Councilmember Wiggins, seconded by Councilmember Blackwell and unanimously carried that **Ordinance No. O-2017-8** entitled **ORDINANCE AMENDING THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE AND MAP OF THE CITY OF ROCKY MOUNT** and **Resolution No. R-2017-7** entitled **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR TERRY WETHINGTON** be adopted.

ANNEXATION NO. 307 - CT TRUCKING/CLAREMONT LAND HOLDINGS, INC.

The Mayor opened a public hearing relative to Annexation No. 307 - CT Trucking/Claremont Land Holdings, Inc. He acknowledged receipt of the feasibility study prepared in connection with the annexation by the Department of Planning and Development. A copy of the report is on file in Annexation File No. 307 in the office of the City Clerk.

No one appeared relative to the annexation and the Mayor declared the public hearing closed.

Motion was made by Councilmember Blackwell, seconded by Councilmember Miller and unanimously carried that receipt of the feasibility study be acknowledged and that **Ordinance No. O-2017-9** entitled **ORDINANCE EXTENDING THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF ROCKY MOUNT/ANNEXATION NO. 307 - CT TRUCKING/CLAREMONT LAND HOLDINGS, INC.** be adopted. This Ordinance will come effective June 30, 2017.

TAXICAB/LICENSE RENEWALS AND NEW APPLICATIONS

The City Council received recommendations from the Chief of Police for the annual renewal of taxicab and issuance of a new permit as follows:

a. Renewals/Taxi:

Robert E. Lancaster	#27
Lonnie Parker	#4
Kendrick P. Scott	#25, 26
Otis T. Battle Jr.	#53
Mable R. Page	#5
Christopher R. Baker	#1
Lareston R. Lewis	#2

b. New/Additional Taxi:

Lareston R. Lewis	(1)
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Motion was made by Councilmember Wiggins, seconded by Councilmember Watkins and unanimously carried that the license renewals and new permit be approved as outlined above and recommended by the Chief of Police.

DEMOLITION ORDINANCE

The City Council received an ordinance ordering the Community Code Inspector to proceed with demolition of the following substandard property:

- 732 Tarboro Street

Motion was made by Councilmember Blackwell, seconded by Councilmember Wiggins and unanimously carried that **Ordinance No. O-2017-10** entitled **ORDINANCE ORDERING THE COMMUNITY CODE INSPECTOR TO PROCEED TO DEMOLISH CERTAIN DILAPIDATED STRUCTURES PURSUANT TO THE HOUSING CODE OF THE CITY OF ROCKY MOUNT** be adopted.

TRAFFIC ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

The City Council received the following recommendation from the Traffic Engineer:

ADOPT:

- 1) 25 MPH speed limit on Recreation Drive from Powell Drive to Boone Street

Motion was made by Councilmember Wiggins seconded by Councilmember Knight and unanimously carried that Ordinance No. **O-2017-11** entitled **ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TRAFFIC CONTROL ORDINANCE MAP OF THE CITY OF ROCKY MOUNT** be adopted.

MUNICIPAL AGREEMENTS/NCDOT

The City Council received the following municipal agreements with the North Carolina Department of Transportation:

- Hunter Hill Road Widening Project (U-3621 A) - sidewalk construction on south side Hunter Hill Road from N. Winstead Avenue to Country Club Road - (City responsible for 40% of costs estimated at \$37,674) (**C-2017-4**);
- Wesleyan Boulevard Widening Project (U-3330) - sidewalk construction on both sides of Sunset Avenue (US 64 Business) through Wesleyan Boulevard (US 301 Bypass) interchange area - (City responsible for 40% of costs estimated at \$15,070) (**C-2017-5**); and
- Falls Road/Peachtree Street Traffic Study (WBS Elements 36249.3709) - conversion of one travel lane to a buffered bike lane - (City responsible for all costs including estimated cost of \$22,500 for NCDOT to review traffic signal plans and inspect traffic signal revisions) (**C-2017-6**).

Motion was made by Councilmember Wiggins, seconded by Councilmember Miller and unanimously carried that the municipal agreements with the North Carolina Department of Transportation be approved and that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute the municipal agreements on behalf of the City.

AMENDED AND RESTATED RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICE AGREEMENT/NORTH CAROLINA EASTERN MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY (NCEMPA)

The City Council received an amended and restated renewable energy and development and service agreement with the North Carolina Eastern Municipal Power Agency (NCEMPA) to allow NCEMPA to continue operating as the City's agent for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standards (REPS) compliance purposes.

Motion was made by Councilmember Bullock, seconded by Councilmember Blackwell and unanimously carried that the amended and restated renewable energy and development and service agreement with the North Carolina Eastern Municipal Power Agency (NCEMPA) (**C-2017-7**) be approved and that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute the same on behalf of the City.

BIDS/SUBSTATION POWER TRANSFORMERS

The City Council received the tabulation of bids for Substation Power Transformers and awarded the bid to Pennsylvania Transformer Technology, Incorporated at a total cost of \$1,330,422 on September 12, 2016. The bid was valid for a 30-day period and efforts to resolve concerns of the City Attorney relative to the contract exceed the 30-day period and there is a request to increase the bid price to \$1,420,422.

Motion was made by Councilmember Wiggins, seconded by Councilmember Knight and unanimously carried that the bid awarded to Pennsylvania Transformer Technology, Incorporated be increased by \$90,000 for a total of \$1,420,422 for all three transformers and that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute the bid contract on behalf of the City.

The amended bid documentation will be placed on file with the original bid in the office of the City Clerk identified as **BD-2016-23**.

BIDS/EIGHT (8) POLICE CHEVROLET CAPRICE FULL-SIZED RATED SEDANS

The City Council received a recommendation to purchase eight (8) police Chevrolet Caprice full-sized rate sedans from the North Carolina Sheriff's Association Vehicle Bid 17-03-0912 for Specification #317. The North Carolina Sheriff's Association is a competitive bidding group that offers a formally organized program, which offers competitively obtained purchasing services at discount prices to two or more public agencies, pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-129(e)(3). Bid documentation is on file in the office of the City Clerk as **BD-2017-4**.

Motion was made by Councilmember Wiggins, seconded by Councilmember Knight and unanimously carried that the bid be awarded

to Parks Chevrolet, Incorporated at a per vehicle cost of \$25,574 for a total cost of \$204,592 based on the North Carolina Sheriff's Association Bid 17-03-0912 and that the Purchasing Division be authorized to issue a purchase order for the equipment in accordance with the Council's award.

BIDS/ONE (1) TEREX HRX60 BUCKET TRUCK

The City Council received a recommendation to purchase one (1) Terex HRX60 bucket truck on a 2018 7300 SBA 4x2 chassis (\$235,344) through the National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA), a competitive group purchasing program which allows purchases to be made through competitive bidding and offers competitively obtained purchasing services at discount prices to two or more public agencies, pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-129(e)(3). The NJPA advertised as required by law and opened sealed bids on April 29, 2015. Bid documentation is on file in the office of the City Clerk as **BD-2017-5**.

Motion was made by Councilmember Wiggins, seconded by Councilmember Knight and unanimously carried that the bid be awarded to Terex USA, LLC at a total cost of \$235,344 based on contract RFP #042815-TER awarded by the National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA) and that the Purchasing Division be authorized to issue a purchase order for the equipment in accordance with the Council's award.

DEED OF RELEASE/NORTHRIDGE SUBDIVISION

Assistant City Manager Tasha Logan Ford provided the City Council with a Deed of Release for the Wesleyan Village Subdivision. She reported that all public infrastructure for the subdivision has been completed and accepted by the City.

Motion was made by Councilmember Miller, seconded by Councilmember Watkins and unanimously carried that the deed of release be approved and that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute the deed of release on behalf of the City.

CITY COUNCIL RETREAT

The City Manager announced that the City Council's annual Retreat is planned for February 22-24, 2017 at the Doubletree Downtown Charlotte, North Carolina.

Motion was made by Councilmember Wiggins, seconded by Councilmember Knight and unanimously carried that retreat be scheduled as recommended.

APPOINTMENTS

No action was taken to fill the vacancies on the Braswell Memorial Library Board, the STEP Board or the Tar River Transit Governing Board.

CLOSED SESSION

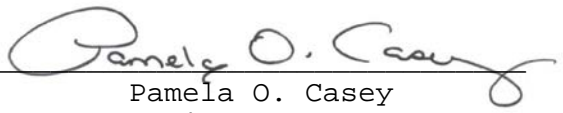
The City Clerk requested a closed session to discuss a matter to prevent disclosure of privileged information pursuant to North Carolina State law and the Mayor requested a closed session to discuss a personnel matter.

The minutes of the closed session shall be placed on file as **ESM-459** at the end of Minute Book No. 33 upon approval for release by the City Attorney.

Motion was made by Councilmember Miller, seconded by Councilmember Knight and unanimously carried that the City Council adjourn to closed session at 7:50 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION/ADJOURNMENT

The Mayor convened the City in regular session at 8:45 p.m. and there being no further business for regular session, adjourned the meeting.


Pamela O. Casey
City Clerk