

The City Council of the City of Elizabeth City held their second regular meeting on the above date and time in the City Council Chambers with Mayor J. W. Peel presiding. Council Members in attendance were: J. M. Baker, M. E. Brooks, R. T. Donnelly, L. M. Hill-Lawrence, L. A. Hummer, K. K. Spence, J. A. Stimatz and J. B. Walton. City Staff members attending were: City Manager R. C. Olson, City Attorney W. H. Morgan, Deputy City Clerk V. D. White, Fire Chief L. M. Mackey, Inspections Director S. E. Ward, Electric Director K. F. Clow, ECDI Director R. Cross, Parks and Recreation Director B. V. White, Planning Director J. C. Brooks, Finance Director S. E. Blanchard, Public Utilities Director P. A. Fredette and Police Chief E. M. Buffaloe.

Mayor J. W. Peel established a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He called for a moment of silent reflection after which he led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

1} AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS AND APPROVAL:

Mayor Peel called for Council's pleasure regarding the prepared agenda.

Councilwoman L. A. Hummer asked to ***add an item to the Closed Session as per NCGS 143-318.10 (e) – consideration of Closed Session Minutes.***

A motion was made by Councilwoman J. M. Baker, seconded by Councilman J. A. Stimatz to approve the prepared agenda as presented to include the above noted item. Those voting in favor of the motion were: Baker, Stimatz, Brooks, Donnelly, Hill-Lawrence, Hummer, Spence and Walton. Against: None. Motion carried.

2} PROCLAMATIONS:

a} 110th Anniversary of the Elizabeth City Elks Lodge #856:

Mayor Peel read a proclamation honoring the 110th Anniversary of the Elizabeth City Elks Lodge #856. Mr. David King was present to accept the proclamation on behalf o Lodge #856. Mr. King made brief remarks.

b} Girls Inc. Week – May 6-10, 2013:

Mayor Peel read a proclamation proclaiming the week of May 6-10, 2013 as Girls Inc. Week in Elizabeth City. He presented the proclamation to Alea Bird who made brief remarks.

c} GFWC Federation Day – April 24, 2013:

Mayor Peel read a proclamation proclaiming April 24, 2013 as GFWC Federation Day and presented the proclamation to Ms. Letitia Evans who made brief remarks.

3} PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Linwood Gallop, 1600 Forrest Drive, Elizabeth City addressed the City Council concerning the financial strain we are getting at this time. He suggested that Council consider public banking. He briefly explained what he was referring too.

Ms. Kim Parrish, 2123 Rivershore Road, Elizabeth City encouraged the City Council to move forward with building a dog park for the SPCA. We have risen quite a bit of money to build a new shelter and she thinks a dog park would be a pretty good thing to have in our community. We hope to build the shelter within a year and half.

4} APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Peel called for the pleasure of Council regarding the minutes of the council meeting held on April 8, 2013.

A motion was made by Councilwoman L. A. Hummer, seconded by Councilwoman J. M. Baker to approve the minutes of April 8, 2013 as presented. Those voting in favor of the motion were: Hummer, Baker, Brooks, Donnelly, Hill-Lawrence, Spence, Stimatz and Walton. Against: None. Motion carried.

5} CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Peel called upon City Manager Olson to read the items listed on the Consent Agenda.

A motion was made by Councilwoman J. M. Baker, seconded by Councilwoman L. A. Hummer to approve the following Consent Agenda as presented. Those voting in favor of the motion were: Baker, Hummer, Brooks, Donnelly, Hill-Lawrence, Spence, Stimatz and Walton. Against: None. Motion carried.

a} Adopted the following resolution authorizing the retirement and sale of Police K-9 Buck:

**RESOLUTION #2013-11
AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO REMOVE
POLICE CANINE "BUCK" FROM SERVICE**

WHEREAS, the City of Elizabeth City owns a black and tan in color German Shepard breed dog name Buck, who has served as a canine officer for the police department; and

WHEREAS, canine officer Buck's medical condition is such that he should be retired from service; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute §160A-266(c) permits the City of Elizabeth City to discard any personal property that is determined to have no value; and

WHEREAS, while canine officer Buck's service to our police department and our City cannot be adequately valued in monetary terms, his age and medical conditional place him beyond the ability to consider asking a monetary amount for his adoption;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED; that the City Council of the City of Elizabeth City authorizes the City Manager to transfer ownership of such canine to such person or agency who in the Manager's sole discretion believes capable of providing the best care for such canine and upon such terms and conditions that the Manager shall determine.

ADOPTED, this 22nd day of April 2013.

Joseph W. Peel
Mayor

Dianne S. Pierce-Tamplen, MMC
City Clerk

b} Adopted the following Ordinances authorizing condemnation and demolition:

**ORDINANCE #2013-08
COMDEMATION AND DEMOLISHTION
800 WEST COLONIAL AVENUE**

AN ORDINANCE DIRECTING THE BUILDING INSPECTOR TO REPAIR OR DEMOLISH THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED AS UNFIT FOR HUMAN HABITATION AND DIRECTING THAT A NOTICE BE PLACED THEREON, THAT THE SAME MAY NOT BE OCCUPIED UNTIL REPAIRED, OR THAT THE STRUCTURE BE DEMOLISHED.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Elizabeth City finds that the property described herein is unfit for human habitation under the local and state codes, and that all of the provisions of said codes have been met as a condition of the adoption of this Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, said structure should be repaired to meet the requirements of the Code or demolished as directed by the Building Inspector, and should be placarded by placing thereon a notice prohibiting use for human habitation; and

WHEREAS, the owners of said structure has been given a reasonable opportunity to bring the premises up to the standards of the subject codes in accordance and pursuant to an order issued by the Building Inspector on **January 3, 2013** the owner has failed to comply with said order;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council of the City of Elizabeth City that:

Section 1. The Building Inspector is hereby directed to post on the building at **800 West Colonial Avenue** a sign containing the legend:

"This building is unfit for human habitation; the use or occupancy of this building for human habitation is prohibited and unlawful."

Section 2. The Building Inspector is hereby authorized and directed to proceed to repair or demolish the above-described structure in accordance with his order to the owner thereof dated **January 3, 2013** and after abatement, then charge the property owners for all expenses incurred, including any accrued interest after the initial billing.

Section 3. It shall be unlawful for any person to remove or cause to be removed said placard from any building to which it is affixed. It shall likewise be

unlawful for any person to occupy or to permit the occupancy of any building herein declared to be unfit for human habitation.

Section 4. This Ordinance shall become effective upon its adoption.

ADOPTED, this 22nd day of April 2013.

Joseph W. Peel
Mayor

Dianne S. Pierce-Tamplen, MMC
City Clerk

**ORDINANCE #2013-09
COMDEMNATION AND DEMOLISHTION
906 HUNTER STREET**

AN ORDINANCE DIRECTING THE BUILDING INSPECTOR TO REPAIR OR DEMOLISH THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED AS UNFIT FOR HUMAN HABITATION AND DIRECTING THAT A NOTICE BE PLACED THEREON, THAT THE SAME MAY NOT BE OCCUPIED UNTIL REPAIRED, OR THAT THE STRUCTURE BE DEMOLISHED.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Elizabeth City finds that the property described herein is unfit for human habitation under the local and state codes, and that all of the provisions of said codes have been met as a condition of the adoption of this Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, said structure should be repaired to meet the requirements of the Code or demolished as directed by the Building Inspector, and should be placarded by placing thereon a notice prohibiting use for human habitation; and

WHEREAS, the owners of said structure has been given a reasonable opportunity to bring the premises up to the standards of the subject codes in accordance and pursuant to an order issued by the Building Inspector on **December 18, 2012** the owner has failed to comply with said order;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council of the City of Elizabeth City that:

Section 1. The Building Inspector is hereby directed to post on the building at **906 Hunter Street** a sign containing the legend:

“This building is unfit for human habitation; the use or occupancy of this building for human habitation is prohibited and unlawful.”

Section 2. The Building Inspector is hereby authorized and directed to proceed to repair or demolish the above-described structure in accordance with his order to the owner thereof dated **December 18, 2012** and after abatement, then charge the property owners for all expenses incurred, including any accrued interest after the initial billing.

Section 3. It shall be unlawful for any person to remove or cause to be removed said placard from any building to which it is affixed. It shall likewise be unlawful for any person to occupy or to permit the occupancy of any building herein declared to be unfit for human habitation.

Section 4. This Ordinance shall become effective upon its adoption.

ADOPTED, this 22nd day of April 2013.

Joseph W. Peel
Mayor

Dianne S. Pierce-Tamplen, MMC
City Clerk

**ORDINANCE #2013-10
COMDEMNATION AND DEMOLISHTION
743 RIVERSIDE AVENUE**

AN ORDINANCE DIRECTING THE BUILDING INSPECTOR TO REPAIR OR DEMOLISH THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED AS UNFIT FOR HUMAN HABITATION AND DIRECTING THAT A NOTICE BE PLACED THEREON, THAT THE SAME MAY NOT BE OCCUPIED UNTIL REPAIRED, OR THAT THE STRUCTURE BE DEMOLISHED.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Elizabeth City finds that the property described herein is unfit for human habitation under the local and state codes, and that all of the provisions of said codes have been met as a condition of the adoption of this Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, said structure should be repaired to meet the requirements of the Code or demolished as directed by the Building Inspector, and should be placarded by placing thereon a notice prohibiting use for human habitation; and

WHEREAS, the owners of said structure has been given a reasonable opportunity to bring the premises up to the standards of the subject codes in accordance and pursuant to an order issued by the Building Inspector on **January 25, 2013** the owner has failed to comply with said order;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council of the City of Elizabeth City that:

Section 1. The Building Inspector is hereby directed to post on the building at **743 Riverside Avenue** a sign containing the legend:

“This building is unfit for human habitation; the use or occupancy of this building for human habitation is prohibited and unlawful.”

Section 2. The Building Inspector is hereby authorized and directed to proceed to repair or demolish the above-described structure in accordance with his order to the owner thereof dated **January 25, 2013** and after abatement, then charge the property owners for all expenses incurred, including any accrued interest after the initial billing.

Section 3. It shall be unlawful for any person to remove or cause to be removed said placard from any building to which it is affixed. It shall likewise be unlawful for any person to occupy or to permit the occupancy of any building herein declared to be unfit for human habitation.

Section 4. This Ordinance shall become effective upon its adoption.

ADOPTED, this 22nd day of April 2013.

Joseph W. Peel
Mayor

Dianne S. Pierce-Tamplen, MMC
City Clerk

ORDINANCE #2013-11

**COMDEMNATION AND DEMOLISHTION
406 NORTH ROAD STREET**

AN ORDINANCE DIRECTING THE BUILDING INSPECTOR TO REPAIR OR DEMOLISH THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED AS UNFIT FOR HUMAN HABITATION AND DIRECTING THAT A NOTICE BE PLACED THEREON, THAT THE SAME MAY NOT BE OCCUPIED UNTIL REPAIRED, OR THAT THE STRUCTURE BE DEMOLISHED.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Elizabeth City finds that the property described herein is unfit for human habitation under the local and state codes, and that all of the provisions of said codes have been met as a condition of the adoption of this Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, said structure should be repaired to meet the requirements of the Code or demolished as directed by the Building Inspector, and should be placarded by placing thereon a notice prohibiting use for human habitation; and

WHEREAS, the owners of said structure has been given a reasonable opportunity to bring the premises up to the standards of the subject codes in accordance and pursuant to an order issued by the Building Inspector on **April 4, 2011** the owner has failed to comply with said order;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council of the City of Elizabeth City that:

Section 1. 406 **North Road Street** a sign containing the legend:

"This building is unfit for human habitation; the use or occupancy of this building for human habitation is prohibited and unlawful."

Section 2. The Building Inspector is hereby authorized and directed to proceed to repair or demolish the above-described structure in accordance with his order to the owner thereof dated **April 11, 2011** and after abatement, then charge the property owners for all expenses incurred, including any accrued interest after the initial billing.

Section 3. It shall be unlawful for any person to remove or cause to be removed said placard from any building to which it is affixed. It shall likewise be unlawful for any person to occupy or to permit the occupancy of any building herein declared to be unfit for human habitation.

Section 4. This Ordinance shall become effective upon its adoption.

ADOPTED, this 22nd day of April 2013.

Joseph W. Peel
Mayor

Dianne S. Pierce-Tamplen, MMC
City Clerk

**ORDINANCE #2013-12
COMDEMNATION AND DEMOLISHTION
1614 PEARTREE ROAD**

AN ORDINANCE DIRECTING THE BUILDING INSPECTOR TO REPAIR OR DEMOLISH THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED AS UNFIT FOR HUMAN HABITATION AND DIRECTING THAT A NOTICE BE PLACED THEREON, THAT THE SAME MAY NOT BE OCCUPIED UNTIL REPAIRED, OR THAT THE STRUCTURE BE DEMOLISHED.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Elizabeth City finds that the property described herein is unfit for human habitation under the local and state codes, and that all of the provisions of said codes have been met as a condition of the adoption of this Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, said structure should be repaired to meet the requirements of the Code or demolished as directed by the Building Inspector, and should be placarded by placing thereon a notice prohibiting use for human habitation; and

WHEREAS, the owners of said structure has been given a reasonable opportunity to bring the premises up to the standards of the subject codes in accordance and pursuant to an order issued by the Building Inspector on **DECEMBER 12, 2012** the owner has failed to comply with said order;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council of the City of Elizabeth City that:

Section 1. The Building Inspector is hereby directed to post on the building at **1614 Peartree Road** a sign containing the legend:

“This building is unfit for human habitation; the use or occupancy of this building for human habitation is prohibited and unlawful.”

Section 2. The Building Inspector is hereby authorized and directed to proceed to repair or demolish the above-described structure in accordance with his order to the owner thereof dated **December 12, 2012** and after abatement, then charge the property owners for all expenses incurred, including any accrued interest after the initial billing.

Section 3. It shall be unlawful for any person to remove or cause to be removed said placard from any building to which it is affixed. It shall likewise be unlawful for any person to occupy or to permit the occupancy of any building herein declared to be unfit for human habitation.

Section 4. This Ordinance shall become effective upon its adoption.

ADOPTED, this 22nd day of April 2013.

Joseph W. Peel
Mayor

Dianne S. Pierce-Tamplen, MMC
City Clerk

**ORDINANCE #2013-13
COMDEMNATION AND DEMOLISHTION
500 WEST CYPRESS STREET**

AN ORDINANCE DIRECTING THE BUILDING INSPECTOR TO REPAIR OR DEMOLISH THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED AS UNFIT FOR HUMAN HABITATION AND DIRECTING THAT A NOTICE BE PLACED THEREON, THAT THE SAME MAY NOT BE OCCUPIED UNTIL REPAIRED, OR THAT THE STRUCTURE BE DEMOLISHED.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Elizabeth City finds that the property described herein is unfit for human habitation under the local and state codes, and that all of the provisions of said codes have been met as a condition of the adoption of this Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, said structure should be repaired to meet the requirements of the Code or demolished as directed by the Building Inspector, and should be placarded by placing thereon a notice prohibiting use for human habitation; and

WHEREAS, the owners of said structure has been given a reasonable opportunity to bring the premises up to the standards of the subject codes in accordance and pursuant to an order issued by the Building Inspector on **January 9, 2013** the owner has failed to comply with said order;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council of the City of Elizabeth City that:

Section 1. The Building Inspector is hereby directed to post on the building at **500 West Cypress Street** a sign containing the legend:

“This building is unfit for human habitation; the use or occupancy of this building for human habitation is prohibited and unlawful.”

Section 2. The Building Inspector is hereby authorized and directed to proceed to repair or demolish the above-described structure in accordance with his order to the owner thereof dated **January 9, 2013** and after abatement, then charge the property owners for all expenses incurred, including any accrued interest after the initial billing.

Section 3. It shall be unlawful for any person to remove or cause to be removed said placard from any building to which it is affixed. It shall likewise be unlawful for any person to occupy or to permit the occupancy of any building herein declared to be unfit for human habitation.

Section 4. This Ordinance shall become effective upon its adoption.

ADOPTED, this 22nd day of April 2013.

Joseph W. Peel
Mayor

Dianne S. Pierce-Tamplen, MMC
City Clerk

**ORDINANCE #2013-14
COMDEMNATION AND DEMOLISHTION
512 WEST CYPRESS STREET**

AN ORDINANCE DIRECTING THE BUILDING INSPECTOR TO REPAIR OR DEMOLISH THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED AS UNFIT FOR HUMAN HABITATION AND DIRECTING THAT A NOTICE BE PLACED THEREON, THAT THE SAME MAY NOT BE OCCUPIED UNTIL REPAIRED, OR THAT THE STRUCTURE BE DEMOLISHED.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Elizabeth City finds that the property described herein is unfit for human habitation under the local and state codes, and that all of the provisions of said codes have been met as a condition of the adoption of this Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, said structure should be repaired to meet the requirements of the Code or demolished as directed by the Building Inspector, and should be placarded by placing thereon a notice prohibiting use for human habitation; and

WHEREAS, the owners of said structure has been given a reasonable opportunity to bring the premises up to the standards of the subject codes in accordance and pursuant to an order issued by the Building Inspector on **February 8, 2013** the owner has failed to comply with said order;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council of the City of Elizabeth City that:

Section 1. The Building Inspector is hereby directed to post on the building at **512 West Cypress Street** a sign containing the legend:

“This building is unfit for human habitation; the use or occupancy of this building for human habitation is prohibited and unlawful.”

Section 2. The Building Inspector is hereby authorized and directed to proceed to repair or demolish the above-described structure in accordance with his order to the owner thereof dated **February 8, 2013** and after abatement, then charge the property owners for all expenses incurred, including any accrued interest after the initial billing.

Section 3. It shall be unlawful for any person to remove or cause to be removed said placard from any building to which it is affixed. It shall likewise be unlawful for any person to occupy or to permit the occupancy of any building herein declared to be unfit for human habitation.

Section 4. This Ordinance shall become effective upon its adoption.

ADOPTED, this 22nd day of April 2013.

Joseph W. Peel
Mayor

Dianne S. Pierce-Tamplen, MMC
City Clerk

c} Adopted the following Budget Amendment for Fire Department Radio System in the amount of \$38,381.

**BUDGET AMENDMENT
NUMBER 2013-05
APRIL 22, 2013**

BE IT ORDAINED: by the City Council of the City of Elizabeth City that the following amendment be made to the annual budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013:

SECTION I. That the General Fund Balance Appropriated (103990.0000) be increased by \$38,381; that the Pasquotank/Camden EMS Contribution (103490.5317) be increased by \$38,381; and that the Fire Capital Outlay (105300.7400) be increased by \$76,762.

That the Albemarle Hospital Radio Contribution (103490.5317) and Fire Capital Outlay (105300.7400) be decreased by \$100,000.

(To appropriate funds for fire radio system to be funded 50/50 by City and EMS and remove Albemarle Hospital contribution.)

ADOPTED, this 22nd day of April 2013.

Joseph W. Peel
Mayor

Dianne S. Pierce-Tamplen, MMC
City Clerk

d} Authorize City Staff to submit an application to the Tourism Development Authority in the amount of \$5,000 to match the Pasquotank County contribution toward 2013 Annual 4th of July celebration.

End of Consent Agenda

6} REGULAR AGENDA:

Mayor Peel called upon City Manager Olson for comments.

Mr. Olson stated we received a letter from Habitat for Humanity requesting \$2,500, which is the amount you have remaining in the Community Support Grant fund and a \$5,000 bridge loan. The purpose of the money is to use to take the existing three structures they presently own on Fifth Street, finish those and then allow three families of low to moderate income to go ahead and occupy those structures. In addition, there are three vacant lots within the subdivision and Habitat for Humanity would start building three additional homes on those lots. These homes were a gift from Wells Fargo. The developer who was originally took out the loan forfeited on those loans and Wells Fargo did give the structures to Habitat for Humanity. Unfortunately, there was no water or sewer to these particular lots and Habitat for Humanity had to spend roughly \$100,000 installing water and sewer. That is why they are requesting the community support grant funds and the bridge loan.

Councilman Donnelly asked if the Habitat for Humanity submitted an application.

Mr. Olson replied that they submitted a letter of intent.

Mr. Donnelly asked if they were committed to some kind of time frame where they need the money quickly or can they submit an application.

Mr. Olson said they can submit an application but they are in hopes of getting the work done to these homes and have someone occupying them within 45 days. He would like for them to fill out a formal application and he doesn't think they would have a problem doing so.

Mr. Donnelly said it is his feeling that everyone who requests this money should complete an application. That is his position.

Councilman Walton asked if they had chosen a potential owner yet.

Mr. Olson said it is his understanding that they are working with three different families right now but he does not know who those three families are. The City has been helping them. Dennis Gordon has been involved in the construction of these homes once Wells Fargo gave them to Habitat for Humanity. There are a lot of energy efficiency features that we have put in and Dennis has been involved with this project from the very beginning.

Councilwoman Hill-Lawrence stated she thinks Habitat for Humanity does a great job in helping people get into their own homes for the first time and in helping families in general. She also thinks they should fill out and submit an application.

Councilwoman Baker wanted to say that she knows they do an application process and they have a whole list of things that these needed families have to build the house or help with the process of building the house and there are certain requirements and they are pretty strict about that. If they are down to three then they have been through many to get to those three. They do a great job and this money is what is left in the current budget.

Councilman Donnelly said he believes that Habitat for Humanity does a great job but his goal is to push consistency in the community grant process so that everyone does submit a grant and that everyone on Council knows what that request is all about and we go from there. In recognizing that Councilwoman Lena Hill-Lawrence wanted to include the application as part of the approval he fully supports this request.

A motion was made by Councilwoman L. M. Hill-Lawrence, seconded by Councilman J. A. Stimatz that we adopt the attached budget amendment to award a Community Support Grant to Elizabeth City Habitat for Humanity in the amount of \$2,500; and further, authorize the City Attorney to draft a Bridge Loan Agreement with Elizabeth City Habitat for Humanity that would require repayment of \$5,000 in loan principal within 35 months; and that a Community Support Grant application be submitted

prior to award. Those voting in favor of the motion were: Hill-Lawrence, Stimatz, Baker, Brooks, Donnelly, Hummer, Spence and Walton. Against: None. Motion carried.

**BUDGET AMENDMENT
NUMBER 2013-06
APRIL 22, 2013**

BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council of the City of Elizabeth City that the following amendment be made to the annual budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013:

SECTION I. That the General Fund Community Support Grant (106620.6000) be decreased by \$21,500, the General Fund Balance Appropriated (103990.0000) be increased by \$5,000, and the Habitat for Humanity (106620.5835) be increased by \$7,500.

(To record contribution of \$2,500 and \$5,000 36-month interest-free loan to Habitat for Humanity.)

ADOPTED, this 22nd day of April 2013.

Joseph W. Peel
Mayor

Dianne S. Pierce-Tamplen, MMC
City Clerk

7} COMMENTS AND INQUIRIES ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Councilman Brooks stated he had the opportunity to go H. L. Trigg School and he ran into an individual from Cora's Educational Center. They had a group that was doing a lifeline community outreach and it is called "Me Time". It is a resource activity learning initiative. They also call it an extended learning opportunity for children ages 3-12. It is a place where children learn, play and find meaning. The hours are from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday. He had

the opportunity to attend one Saturday and it was a very good opportunity. He was pleased with the program they have because as of late we have a lot of shootings and murders right here in Elizabeth City. One of his mentors told him it is easier to build strong children than repel broken men and those words struck hard to him at home because he worked at the Department of Corrections in Currituck and when he went to the facility he had often wondered why the facility looked like a segregated neighborhood of black men. This is part of it here. He has done this over the years and he has done a lot of research on this matter. He has found that 40.1% of 2.1 million inmates are black. That is unacceptable but it goes back to how important something like this is by reaching kids from 3-12 years of age. It is easier to bend the tree while it is small than to wait until it is full grown. Education is a key component but it doesn't always work when confronted with other things that cause you to not succeed in society. If we run against certain kinds of prejudice and discrimination you can have all the education you want and it doesn't mean anything. What do you do when you do everything that society says is correct. You get your education, you serve your country militarily, you serve on city council, a license and ordained minister and then you get put on supervised probation. What he is telling you is there is discrimination in the judicial system and whether the judicial system is not always what it plots out to be. Most of the time it has to do with who you know rather than what the law says you are supposed to have according to our constitution. Mr. Morgan can attest to that. It is not always what the law says. He has always said everybody that passes the bar is not an "A" lawyer. You have some "D" and "F" lawyers too. He thinks some of our kids are incarcerated and some of them need to be but some are incarcerated because they can't afford the "A" lawyer. Then they get hung up in politics. That is what he believes is one of the things that happened to him. Sometimes you must understand people come to him and talk to him all the time. They ask him what is going on with his case and he can talk about his own case. He smiles and they say how in the world did they try to give you supervised probation? He says he doesn't have a clue. Probation means that you tried to make sure that someone be a productive citizen in the community. He laughs as being a minister for 31 years, licensed and ordained, sitting on council for three terms and that was politics that gave him that and it didn't have anything to do with the rightness of the law. It was politics. Then on being on City Council for three terms and being a license minister for 31 years that is community service itself. How do you give someone like that 600 hours of community service? Back in the 60's they had a term called, "sell out" and that is where the young people come to him and say you have a lot of judges and lawyers within the system that will sell you out. He knows you are probably wondering how he gets all that from 3 to 12. We have to groom them then and not only educate them but let them know that society is not always fair. He tells you again if you can to get your kids involved with this outreach program at the Cora's Outreach Center.

Councilman Stimatz stated an item of interest tomorrow at 1:00 p.m. we have a webinar on "Branding Your City". It will be here in Council Chambers. The last one we had was excellent and had some really good information about process and how to decide what you want to be when you grow up which is very important to us as a City.

Councilman Walton stated on Saturday they had walk for Diabetes at Elizabeth City State University Campus and quite a few people showed up for that. On Sunday, they had a celebration for Captain Leander Respass. Other names come to mind when like Luke Skinner and John Bowe as they were super guys too that was also in the police department. Things stick with him at times and when something is said that is awesome. Chief Buffaloe said some words that stuck with him. He said he did not know Leander Respass but he raised his hands for others. He did those things. There was a young lady at the Finance Committee meeting that he would like for the Manager to bring her before Council and let us know more about her.

Councilwoman Hill-Lawrence stated she wanted to remind parents and graduating seniors from our surrounding schools that there is a scholarship available through the North Carolina League of Municipalities and for the last couple years we have given that scholarship to students who have attended Elizabeth City State University. Last year was a student from Pasquotank County High School was the recipient. We want students to get that scholarship and to do well.

Councilwoman Hummer stated she has noticed several times the operator of the leaf truck has to get out and disengage limbs from the pile of leaves he is trying to pick up. Are we running something telling people on Channel 11 that you put your limbs in different piles than where you put your leaves? She would think this would damage the truck. Also, she has had several questions or complaints as to why some people don't have to recycle while most of us do. You see houses that don't even have a recycle bin especially some apartment houses. How can we improve on that?

Councilwoman Baker stated she has several things. First she would like to congratulate the Respass Family on the tribute that was made to Leander yesterday. She was hoping to be able to make it but she had the same two hour commitment already. They are a fabulous family and they should be very proud and she is sure that they are. She would like to thank Pete Gilbert for his diligence in getting the voter fraud exposed and he got great marks in the comments in the Daily Advance and one she thought in particular that said, "no one wants to prevent voting but it is important that voting is done correctly." She thinks he spent a lot of time and a lot of effort and a lot of diligence getting

that proved. She appreciates that as well as many other elected officials do. There are lots going on this weekend starting Thursday night at the Elizabeth City State University. Roosevelt Newsome is doing a piano concert and it is a free concert and he is fabulous. She believes it is Beethoven. He is a wonderful accomplished musician. Also, Encore Theater is closing out this weekend their production of the "Dixie Swim Club". That was a fabulous presentation. Great live theater in town and if you haven't seen it, it is well worth your time. It is a great presentation. Like Mr. Donnelly said earlier, the Southern Hotel Rocks the Block party and she will expound a little on that because they are closing down Main Street from Elliott to Road Street and they will have a special performance by James Ethan Clark, the Salty Dog Smokehouse, who won the 2013 Best Port Barbeque Contest is going to be having food there. There will be face painting, kids cookie decorating, something for everyone. It is Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and lots of new shops to go into as well.

Councilman Spence stated he had a couple of things. A few weeks ago he addressed the issue about the sidewalk and the danger to the kids walking on the side of the street. He appreciates you jumping in there and taking care of that. Councilman Brooks and he have been pushing for that and he appreciates you taking care of it. A few weeks ago a young man brought the DVD to us and the Chief looked at it and he just wanted to say he appreciated the Chief bringing it to us.

Councilman Donnelly said he wants to set the record straight from what we were discussing during our Work Session today. The whole issue about the funding for the Mack Sawyer building and he thinks everyone received a copy of the January 28, 2013 Budget Amendment that stated a motion was made by Councilman Stimatz to adopt the Budget Amendment to re-appropriate unused installment purchase proceeds and authorize staff to purchase an additional police car and further to authorize staff to take bids on the renovations on the Mack Sawyer Building. That was passed unanimously. He just wanted to make sure we had it on record that everyone understood the status of that.

Councilman Brooks said it is not there.

Mayor Peel stated that we have all had the opportunity to speak.

Mr. Brooks stated he went back and revisited it. It had information and although what you read was what he has been reading in the minutes. He went back through them.

Mayor Peel said Mr. Brooks you are out of order.

Councilman Walton stated he doesn't see any motion that has been passed and nobody voted on it.

Mr. Brooks stated don't leave it out there incorrect.

Mayor Peel said what he has gotten in front of him says that we all voted on it. No one voted on spending the money, but we voted to adopt the budget amendment.

Mr. Walton stated he misread it. Everything was not true just like Pete Gilbert. He wouldn't vote for him for nothing. She is the one that brought it up.

Mayor Peel stated you are out of order Mr. Walton. Everyone has their point of view. Mr. Brooks you are out of order.

Mr. Brooks said you can't leave it out there incorrect.

Mayor Peel said what he said he thought was correct. Councilman Donnelly you are out of order as well.

Mr. Walton stated you need to start on that side and come this way sometime if they are going to have the last comment.

Mayor Peel stated he wanted to say also that he attended the Respass event yesterday and it was quite a celebration of this gentleman's life. He had never met the gentleman but he was certainly someone that people in this community knew. He would say his hat off to the Respass family as well. They have made some phenomenal contributions to this community and this committee is better as the results of their father and all of them being here. Also, he would like to say as far as the Vision 2020 we had K-12 Action Team conducted two community meetings. We had about 100 people to attend in total and if you look on the City's Web site there is a survey there that this committee is trying to get input on from everyone in the community that we can. It will probably take about 15-20 minutes to complete the survey. We ask you to do that so that we have input from people all across the community before this committee starts doing its work.

8} CLOSED SESSION:

Mayor Peel called for a motion to retire into Closed Session for consultation with the City Attorney as per NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (3) and consideration of Closed Session minutes as per NCGS 143-318.10 (e).

A motion was made by Councilwoman L. A. Hummer, seconded by Councilwoman J. M. Baker to retire into Closed Session as per NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (3) for consultation with the City Attorney and as per NCGS 143-318.10 (e) for consideration of Closed Session Minutes. Those voting in favor of the motion were: Hummer, Baker, Brooks, Donnelly, Hill-Lawrence, Spence, Stimatz and Walton. Against: None. Motion carried.

9} RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION:

Mayor Peel called for a motion to return to Regular Session.

A motion was made by Councilman J. A. Stimatz, seconded by Councilwoman L. M. Hill-Lawrence to return to regular session of City Council. Those voting in favor of the motion were: Stimatz, Hill-Lawrence, Baker, Brooks, Donnelly, Hummer, Spence and Walton. Against: None. Motion carried.

10} ITEM FROM CLOSED SESSION:

Mayor Peel called for a motion to approve the Closed Session minutes as presented.

A motion was made by Councilwoman L. A. Hummer, seconded by Councilman J. A. Stimatz to approve the Closed Session Minutes as presented in Closed Session and note the corrections presented. Those voting in favor of the motion were: Hummer, Stimatz, Baker, Brooks, Donnelly, Hill-Lawrence, Spence and Walton. Against: None. Motion carried.

11} ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the City Council at this time, Mayor Peel adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Dianne S. Pierce-Tamplen, MMC
City Clerk

Joseph W. Peel
Mayor