

The City Council of the City of Elizabeth City held their monthly work session 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 5:30 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 the pleasure of Council regarding the prepared agenda.

Councilman J. B. Walton asked to ***add discussion of 213 North Poindexter Street to the agenda.***

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

**2} PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION – Mariners’ Wharf Public Restrooms in former Mack Sawyer Building located at 105 South Water Street:**

Mayor Peel recognized Mr. Sean Robey for comments.

Mr. Robey stated he was here tonight to discuss the improvements recommended for the Mack Sawyer Building. He showed Council pictures of the existing floor plan as it exists today as well as those pictures of the proposed floor plans. For the most part the front of the building will stay the same. That serves as current office space and a conference room for Ms. Cross and Elizabeth

City Downtown, Inc. We are creating a couple of storage spaces in there. Audio visual for use in the park will be stored there as well as some of the tents and chairs. He showed the staff restrooms for that conference room and office space. The remainder of the room is dedicated to men and women restrooms and two shower rooms. The work is part of the design build package that we would be letting out to various contractors for them to come back with proposals for the construction of this facility. We are doing it as a design build package because outside of specifying the layout for the rooms we are really asking the contractors to come back with some of their own thoughts and creativity as far as some of the finishes and fixtures for this. We have done that to hopefully have a cost savings from that standpoint. The front portion of the building will actually receive heating and air conditioning while in the restrooms portions will be basically be exhaust fans and ventilation only. We looked at the economics associated with providing air conditioning in those areas and the anticipated traffic load that would be in there it was thought those air conditions units would be much too large and too expensive. The way this is set up is that there would be a token machine located in the hallway and that token machine would provide a token necessary to enter the showers. In the evenings when the park closes the public access the men and women restrooms would actually be locked but the outside access door would remain open. A boater could purchase a token and could use the shower rooms. The original estimate for this scope of work was \$135,000. Upon investigating some of the existing services to the building that has been slightly adjusted. The existing electric service that comes into the building will need to be improved or upgraded. Portions of it do not meet code and other portions of it does not meet adequate sizing. There is a cost associated with that. There is also water service to this building but it is under sized and in poor condition. Those two improvements are causing our costs estimates to go up to around \$145,000 to \$150,000.

Councilwoman Baker asked if we would be providing a hot water heater for all the water in the building.

Mr. Robey said yes there would be hot water to all the sinks/showers, even the public facilities as well.

Ms. Baker asked when the restrooms are locked at night that would mean nobody can enter the restrooms.

Mr. Robey said with a token you may enter the shower rooms if you choose to go into a shower room. Shower Room B does have restroom facilities in that shower room. We were originally going to try to work out to have toilet facilities in both shower rooms but we just became space limited to the point that we could not do that. We have a toilet facility in Shower Room B. By token you would be able to get into that facility.

Councilman Stimatz said signage is giving him an issue. If he goes in there with a token and picks the wrong shower and now he has used his token to go into the shower without a bathroom he is going to be really mad. He really has a concern about no air condition. Heat in the winter is not a big issue because the space is probably not going to be used that much in the winter.

Mr. Robey said that signage is going to be very important to avoid that from happening. Actually we are going to have unit space heaters in there for issues such as freezing and to be able to raise the temperatures up enough to use them. The real challenge becomes the air conditioning. Again, this is a design/build contract so we are asking the contractors to provide us a portfolio that details out work that they are suggesting for the construction in very much detail and it has them giving an initial price. It is very typical in design/build contracts to enter into negotiations with one of the composers and certainly if we come under budget that is one of the areas we could possibly look at being able to incorporate into the work.

Mr. Stimatz stated he had a couple of questions. You are going to have a token machine in the lobby but the outer bathrooms will be locked at the end of the day if they are even opened during the day. What is going to keep someone from squatting (sleeping) in there are night.

Mr. Olson stated that is something that we need to discuss whether it is city staff or city council. You will not be able to get into the shower area unless you are willing to pay the price of the token to get into there. We can go ahead and close the exterior door to the Mariner's Wharf at dusk or whatever. That is not an issue and that would lock everything down but the problem would be it probably wouldn't be opened up until 6:30 – 7:00 a.m. Most boaters would like to be leaving about that time in the morning.

Mr. Stimatz said that wasn't the question. The question was how are you going to deal with possible squatters. People sleeping in there at night especially in the winter when it is cold and they decide they are going to make that area their home. Will we have a camera in there and remote it back to the police department so that they can check it.

Mr. Olson stated we could do something like that as those types of cameras are very inexpensive.

Mr. Stimatz said he would strongly suggest that so that we will not have those issues coming up or if someone goes in there to use it and falls in an assault then you would have it on video. Plus if you have a token machine there is a possibility that someone will try to jimmy the token machine. Are we expecting hot packs or hot water heaters? He would hope not packs especially in the shower rooms.

Mr. Robey said we have actually left that open to the contractors. If you would prefer a preference of one or the other we can relay that.

Councilman Walton stated he thought you did a good job at presenting the outlay of the operation but as a Council we have not gone through the process of approving this project as of yet. He thinks he brought this to our attention earlier. He thinks that needs to be discussed. He doesn't know if the word "discussion" is up there for that reason or not but we have really not discussed where we are with that issue.

Mayor Peel stated he thinks we did approve the \$135,000 budget transfer for this project.

Mr. Olson stated that we did approve that budget transfer.

Mr. Walton said this is a discussion then. This is not what we approved. We approved that it would come from the escrow account because during the Finance Committee meeting as he explain before there was \$755,000 marked from BB&T for the Knobbs Creek Center and a few other projects. It did not take that amount to finish Knobbs Creek. There was \$140,000 remaining and Mr. Olson stated in the Finance Committee meeting staff and I assume that City Council want to put it in the Parks and Recreation Department so we are proposing that we put it in the Mack Sawyer Building before he came to us with a suggestion of how he wanted it to be used. Is he correct Mr. Olson?

Mr. Olson replied that is correct. We recommended and to his knowledge City Council approved that the \$135,000 Budget Amendment be specifically used for the Mack Sawyer Building.

Mr. Walton stated we did not approve that. We said we would let them go on and fix certain parts of that building and then we would go back and let Hyman and Robey bring theirs and that is where we are at this point. He is bringing his bid forward and telling us how it can be done. We never did vote on putting that money in there because he brought up the point. He said because it was some monies left over and you said that the staff thinks that they want to put it in the Mack Sawyer Building. Why didn't staff tell you to put it in the partitions for Knobbs Creek Center? That is where the money was left over from. The first thing we see on the budget now is partitions for the Knobbs Creek Center worth \$76,000.

Mr. Olson stated that the money in the escrow account and he thinks there was definitely an agreement on City Council that it should go back into the area which the money was originally taken from or it was basically a bond issue it was financed for in the beginning. We know that roughly \$135,000 - \$136,000 was

for Parks and Rec related improvements and stuff. The partitions are included in this year's budget.

Mr. Walton stated then it should have probably been discussed before we assume Council wanted it done that way. You assumed that some members wanted it done that way. Not all of us wanted it that way.

Mr. Olson stated that there was a vote of this body to allocate \$135,000 of that escrow amount to be used for the renovations of the Mack Sawyer Building. That was the official action of this Council.

Mr. Walton stated that we put that on hold until Robey and Hyman came back with the bid.

Mayor Peel stated he doesn't think that we put that on hold but what we put on hold was we realized that we didn't have the electrical and water services in there and we asked Mr. Robey to design that as well as go back and look at this. At this point we don't have any idea until we put it out for bid what it is actually going to cost. All he is bringing forward is a design and an estimated guess of what it is going to cost.

Mr. Walton stated he finished up saying we were going ahead with the project.

Mayor Peel said we can't do that until we get bids on the project itself. Then City Council has to approve those bids.

Mr. Walton stated you won't hear what he is trying to say. We never did vote on putting \$135,000 into the Mack Sawyer Building.

Mr. Stimatz stated he thinks Council made a conscious decision to earmark this money from the escrow account for the Mack Sawyer Building in a majority vote. If the minority lost he is sorry your feelings were hurt. What has not happened is the ability to commit the money because we don't have a contract to commit it too. That is all that we are waiting for at this time. The intent of the Council has been clear for some time that we are going to renovate this building to provide these services and he doesn't know what is not clear about that. It is in the record and it is in the minutes and every time it comes up we talk about it and Council has voted and a majority voted to go ahead with this project.

Mr. Walton stated that you cannot show that to him anywhere.

Mr. Brooks stated again we are back and forth with the he said, she said things. The purpose of getting the iPads is right now everyone can go back and look at the minutes and see if we actually voted on it or not. We don't have to guess anymore. We don't have to wait until Dianne can do any paperwork. Before this

council meeting is over we can all go back through the minutes and see if what Councilman Walton is saying is correct or what Tony and the City Manager is saying is correct. Personally he doesn't remember ever voting on it. That is why he said he would like to see the minutes. He doesn't remember us actually voting on it. He does remember the conversation but he doesn't remember voting on it. During the course of this briefing he will be going through the meetings that we had and see if when we talked about the Mack Sawyer Building and the escrow funds as well as the partitions for Parks and Rec. He would like to see that. There is no need of having high tech information at our disposal and we sitting here like we can't read. In the process we have eight council people and one of us should be able to find the conversation that is in there and determine what we are saying is correct among all parties.

Mr. Peel stated we are not spending the money tonight either way. Until we get a bid we have to approve the bid and that is when the money would be spent.

Mr. Brooks said he understands but Mr. Walton's point was he doesn't remember Council voting on that. Then he keeps hearing that we did. Personally he doesn't remember voting on it. He thinks that is where the conversation is at. He understands the bid and all that but we have got to go back to the minutes where we talked about it. Did council vote on it and whether there was a majority vote. If the majority said do it then that is how council operates but he does not remember voting on it as a majority or not. Before this work session is over somebody will pull it up and can tell us whether we voted or not. Then we can go from there.

Ms. Hummer stated with a maintenance budget that we are not working on where would the additional money come from to complete this.

Mr. Olson replied that any cost overruns would have to come out of the Fund Balance. We would have to look at things and determine where there may be some budget savings within the Parks and Rec operating budget first.

Mr. Walton stated that is one reason he put 213 North Poindexter Street up there because we as a council has been going to that fund balance as regularly as we want too through amendments and then all of a sudden we look up and we have a short balance and yet we still have to raise fees and taxes to build it back up. You are going to continue to do the same thing and you are going to keep on getting the same actions. As he said if we do the Mack Sawyer Building for the \$150,000 and do the North Poindexter and that is \$145,000 that is \$300,000. Then we will add a partition to it. We are adding up more and more money and we don't know where we are going to get it from just because some people want to do certain things the way they want it done. You add \$300,000 to that \$76,000 and you have over \$350,000 and if we were dealing in property taxes you would have to raise it 2.5 cents to recoup that money. We need to think

about what we do before we do it. Then if it is not the right thing to do then let's not do it.

Ms. Hummer stated she thinks Mr. Walton's concern and it is also the concern of the people in the public as well because she has heard a lot of comments. We are proceeding to a point where they feel it is early because we haven't gotten through the budget yet. We have just really started and she thinks that is where the concern is coming in. She thinks in the beginning we talked about putting laundry facilities in and some people in the public think that is what we are still going to do. She thinks we need a little bit more discussion on that part of it.

Mr. Peel stated there are no longer any facilities in the project. If this goes out for bids and bid opening is on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, then those bids are good for 45-days.

Mr. Robey stated we can hold the bids for 60-days or even longer if we state that to the contractors. Currently we are looking to receive proposals on the 17<sup>th</sup> of May.

Mr. Peel said so right now the way we stand we don't really know how much this is going to cost. By putting it out to bid we would have accurate information and then Mr. Walton and Mr. Brooks would have the information they need as well as the rest of us to make an informed decision about whether this is something that we want to do or not. If we don't put it out for bid we would not have that information.

### **3} STORM WATER DRAINAGE ADVISORY BOARD:**

Mayor Peel called upon Mr. Fredette for comments.

Mr. Fredette stated about two weeks ago the Storm Water Advisory Committee met and one of the issues on our agenda was to update the City Council on what has transpired in the seventeen months since our formation. The Storm Water Advisory Board was established by City Council in November 2011. We were asked at that time to meet quarterly to keep track of what the priorities were in Stormwater management in the City and to report back to the City Council. In that report from the prior Stormwater Advisory Task Force which was the Mayor's Task Force set up by Mr. McLean there were eight charges to the Advisory Board. The first one was to complete a permit application for the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System for Phase II communities that have Stormwater systems that are discharging into the waters of the State. That application was completed and a permit was issued on November 11, 2012 with an effective date of December 2012. The second charge was to complete a mapping and inventory of the existing Stormwater system in the City. That mapping has been on-going for two years now. The mapping of the City is about 85% complete and then we went into a conditional assessment of the

Stormwater system and that is about 75% complete at this time. Those projects in actuality will never be 100% complete because we are always updating the maps and trying to keep the information more current. So at this point he would consider those projects substantially complete. The third action item was to develop a public education outreach program. Although little has been done in terms of formal public meetings in terms of advising them of what we have to do in the community to maintain a Stormwater system there has been training in two parts. The first part is to look at what other communities are doing and have had to do to comply with the permits. The second part which will be done shortly is staff training to recognize the conditions that create a violation of our NPDES Permit. The next charge is to revise the Stormwater Design Manual and recommend changes to the City's ordinance. We have a Stormwater Design Manual at this time that was prepared by McDowell and Associates prior to 2007. In there are design specifications however some of that has to be revised and some of the language specific to be compliance to the NPDES Permit that we were issues in November of last year. What we are looking at is to look at sample ordinances or ways other communities brought their design manual into compliance. Then we expect by the end of the next fiscal year, July 2014 we will be back to the City Council with recommended changes to our ordinance to comply with the requirements of the permit. Action number five was to develop a policy to define maintenance responsibilities and to develop a maintenance schedule for the city infrastructure. There are two parts to that. The more difficult part is to define the lines of responsibility particularly when there are drainage ways on private property and drainage waste that don't serve a public interest. They don't drain waters from the streets or city facilities and those that are created in subdivisions that are simply drainage ditches between properties that serve only the subdivision. The City will have to look at that in some detail and make some decisions as to responsibility as to whether the city crews should be obligated or committed to that work on private property in terms of maintaining the drainage systems.

Mayor Peel asked if there were a lot of those kinds of conditions that we have.

Mr. Fredette replied yes. We have in the past 18 months talked about maybe a dozen or so projects that are problematic in terms of the City's responsibility and what we can do to resolve those problems or what we should do to resolve those problems. Each one has a different twist and he thinks the members of the committee are well aware of some of the complexities involved. Obviously it is very clean when there is a drainage ditch along side of the road or there is a closed system with catch basins and pipes. Clearly that is the responsibility of the City. Or, when there is a large section of the City that flows in back of or between properties and we have to maintain that because if it is not maintained city infrastructure will suffer. Other times the inconvenience of flooding on private properties is restrictive to those private properties and if they were to maintain and keep their ditches clean much of the flooding problem would not

exist. To get into that discussion would take several of these meetings as members of the Committee certainly understand. If we hope to have at least an outline of discussion related to those issues to try to create pockets of different situations on whether the city is clearly responsible or not responsible in all of them that fall in between those two sometime in spring 2014. The next charge of the Advisory Board was to look at the on-going projects that we have at this time. One of the major projects that is on-going has reached completion is the improvement of the intersection at Water Street and Southern Avenue, basically in front of the Museum of the Albemarle. That project has proved successful since that project was complete the number of occurrences of flooding has been minimized to almost zero. He doesn't think there has been any issue where we couldn't get traffic through the intersection and when there was flooding it was minimized. The second project that we were working on and are still working on is the Fairgrounds Drainage Project. The Fairgrounds Drainage Project starting at Hughes Boulevard on the south end of the Fairgrounds property, the ditch and pipe have been cleaned all the way out to where Dominion Power Station is behind the Water Treatment Plant. There is a small section from the Dominion Plant to Knobbs Creek which is the ultimate discharge for that storm water that we are still working on. We will be finishing it before the end of this calendar year. The third project is our infamous Roanoke Avenue Phase III project which we did go out for construction bids in November 2012. The bids were very high because of an inclusion of a rerouting of a sanitary sewer and as soon as we were trying to resolve that problem the State came in and started talking about the South Road Street Bridge and the Herrington Road Bridge and we have all discussed that in public session recently. In addition to that we were awarded a grant to make improvements on South Road Street from Ehringhaus Street to Herrington Road. That has some impact on the project also. Hopefully, the major issues will be resolved shortly and we will make some minor revisions to the design and have that out to bid this summer at some point.

Mayor Peel asked the Fairgrounds Project you said shortly it should be open all the way to Knobbs Creek. When it is open to Knobbs Creek will Knobbs Creek be able to handle that run off?

Mr. Fredette replied that section of Knobbs Creek it is at the same water level as the Pasquotank River. We are close enough to the Pasquotank River that it rises and falls with the river. What there will be is no increase in water surface level. Yes Knobbs Creek can and will handle it. Finally, the last two action items were to develop project prioritization for future budgets and to have some kind of monitoring system for storm water obstructions so we know there is a problem with the drainage system so that we can immediately be dispatched to solve the problem to reduce the amount of flooding. As far as projection of future projects the Council in last years' budget approved the study of the Tiber Creek Basin which basically is Fearing Street and it encompasses the whole drainage basin between Main Street and Ehringhaus Street. There have been a number of

revelations in that study and there are some small projects that will come out of that to initiate improvement to that drainage way. One of the issues that we have to be conscious of as we look at Tiber Creek is what's the development of that waterfront area going to look like in two or three years so we can accommodate that without having to design and rebuild. The second major study that is ongoing of course is the study that the City is sharing the cost with the County on Knobbs Creek and that study is being done by the Army Corp of Engineers. He believes they are about 50-60% complete.

Mr. Stimatz stated we are attempting to get our hands around an issue that started to be a problem when the first person put a cabin down here in the 1700's. We are addressing issues that are long standing and hundreds of years old. The system was not designed or put together with a plan and we are finding things that are clearly not planned such as people putting pipes in places they had no business putting pipes in but they did it anyway. They didn't think ahead. We are trying to address the major areas first and the Fairgrounds is one? The bridge project is going to address a lot of the problems in Sawyertown and Elizabeth Street. The Roanoke Avenue project is going to address a lot of the problems with Charles Creek. We realize that Tiber Creek between Ehringhaus and Main and back out to at least Griffin if not Pritchard Street is a major problem area. Those are the big ones that we are working on right now. There are a lot of smaller issues that we will get too. He can't emphasize enough that he thinks it was Action Item 5 which is the policy that addresses the maintenance responsibilities is the key. We have never had a system design drawing which we are working on or a maintenance plan for what we own much less what anyone else owns and no way of knowing who was responsible for it. One of the issues that came up was the Barclift property on US 17 South. That is the kind of thing that has been going on not with just the City but with the State. It is a key issue with the State responsibility for State roads and ditches because they directly impact both the City and County abilities to get rid of storm water. That is why the funding formula in Raleigh issue is a big one for everybody because it is not just keeping the roads maintained but keeping the ditches as well. We are slowly working on this and we are making good strides and we have to write some policies down and it is not going to be easy. We don't have the right to go on people's property to clean things out and that is part of the issue. What is the responsibility of the homeowner and homeowner associations for maintaining storm water features in existing subdivisions? He can guarantee that there are subdivisions here that are many years old that at one time had swells between the houses and over the years they have either filled in or they filled them in because they did not want to have the swells between the houses not realizing that they in fact have taken out those storm water drainage system. The outreach issue is going to be coming and that is a key one. If you put trash out your window and it ends up in a ditch or gutter it will end up in the storm water drainage system and it will back it up and you will flood. One of the things that we know we have a big problem with is grass and

debris going into your drainage system along the streets. It is against the city ordinances to put grass in the gutters, limbs in the gutter or leaves in the gutters because it will carry down and clog the system. When it floods here it fills up the streets but it will also fill up the sewer system. When it fills up the sewer system that fecal matter comes out of the sewer system into the streets. When the kids are out there playing in that eight to ten inches of water on your street after the storm think twice about it because they may be playing in sewerage as well. That is why it is important that we get the system under control and work to keep it but citizens have to help us unless you want to pay some really high storm water utility rates for us to do the work. Those are the tough decisions that have to be made. As he likes to remind people 40% of the City has been built on a swamp. It is still true as that hasn't changed. There are whole areas that are built on a swamp. Sawyertown is built on a swamp.

**4} 213 NORTH POINDEXTER STREET:**

Mayor Peel called upon Councilman Walton for comments.

Councilman Walton stated he thinks during our last regular session he brought up the same issue. Mr. Olson stated he was going to send him some emails. He has been sending information to Council about 213 North Poindexter Street but we never did vote on doing anything but buying and spending \$15,000 to buy the building. He just wanted to make it known to Council because some times when you hear something like you have a balance budget you may feel like nothing else can happen. If we do it any other way it is not being done right, but that is why he keeps bringing up the point that full Council should discuss each issue as much as possible so it can find out as much as they want too and so they will not be blindsided like last year. When the last meeting came up and we were talking about weatherization and added another \$100,000 which made it \$200,000 which he never knew about. He has pretty good recollection of things. We have not voted on demolishing that building. At one time Mr. Olson was going to see if they would waive that fee. Are they going to waive the fee?

Mr. Olson stated he has had some conversation with the County but the last conversation he had which was months ago they were not going to waive the tipping fees at that time because the landfill is an enterprise fund under itself.

Mr. Walton asked when the bridge would be completed. The Camden Bridge is the one he is talking about.

Mr. Olson replied 2014-2015.

Mr. Walton said we are right there in that location and why would we do a parking lot right now. To him it would be more rewarding if you do tear the building down. He looked at the building just before the meeting and he didn't

see anything falling out of the sky. Inside the building some things are falling but not outside. No one is going in there. That building has a good foundation on the outside and when they complete the bridge if we could have the parking lot then, but we don't need to put money there if people are not going downtown.

Mayor Peel stated that no one has approved anything for that site other than the \$15,000 to purchase the building. It is in the budget that the city manager sent to us. We are going to have a lot of opportunity to talk about that and decide what we want to do with that site. The first occasion will be Thursday of this week when the Finance Committee has a meeting at 5:30 p.m. and everyone is invited.

Ms. Baker stated she sees a huge need for a parking lot there. As she said before, she has seen parts of the outside of that building falling off into the existing parking lot. She has seen them on the outside. There are a lot of people that go downtown, a lot more than you think and there is a great need on Poindexter for more parking. The more businesses that open as we now have a new bakery and we are getting another restaurant and they all need more parking. There is not enough parking there for what we have. We definitely need more parking and we need it now.

## **5} COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **a} Albemarle Economic Development Commission:**

Councilwoman Hummer said as she mentioned in the last meeting, the By-laws Committee met and proposed a change to the name of the Albemarle Economic Development Commission which it has been that for a number of years, however, because Camden County pulled away from our Commission and are no longer participating and because Albemarle is a region and we felt it was too broad a name so the proposal was to change it to Elizabeth City/Pasquotank County Economic Development Commission. That is kind of a long name but this will be presented to both boards next Monday night at the Joint City/County Meeting.

Councilwoman Baker stated we also talked about the two restaurants opening up in May and another shortly thereafter.

### **b} Central Communications Advisory Board:**

Councilman Walton stated we met but he did not get a chance to attend.

### **c} Fireman's Relief Fund Board:**

Councilman Spence stated they have not met.

d} NC Eastern Municipal Power Agency:

Mr. Olson stated that our meeting is this coming Wednesday and he will be attending it.

e} Elizabeth City Downtown, Inc.:

Councilman Donnelly stated there is always something going on with Downtown and ECDI. First of all he wants to make everyone aware of this Saturday at the Southern Hotel area from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Rock the Block which is a big event going on? Come on out and enjoy the entertainment and a lot of excitement going on. He hopes to see all of you there. The Potato Festival is coming up on May 18<sup>th</sup>. A lot of work is going on with that. On Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> that is the Art Walk again. That usually starts around 5:30 p.m. and runs until about 7:30 p.m. That is a great event and a lot of businesses stay open for that activity and there are a lot of artist that display their work. Please come on down for that. Last but not least on Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> the Waterfront Market opens. Make sure you come on down. There should be a lot of arts and crafts and hopefully quite a bit of produce coming in at that time. This past weekend ECDI participated in Earth Day on Saturday. Port Discover was sponsoring it and several community agencies participated in that. He thinks there were about 400 people that came through for that event.

f} Elizabeth City Area Chamber of Commerce Board:

Mayor Peel stated tomorrow at MACU from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. is the annual teacher of the year reception. He encourages people to attend that.

g} Finance Committee:

Councilwoman Hummer stated we are still working on the budget. Do we have a Finance Committee meeting this week?

Mr. Olson replied it was Thursday at 5:30 p.m.

h} Alleyway Committee:

Councilwoman Hummer stated she does plan to set up a meeting with the Alleyway Committee. She will get with Amy and find out our next step and the members of the Alleyway Committee are herself, Councilwoman Baker, Councilman Brooks, Councilman Walton, Attorney Morgan and City Clerk Pierce-Tamplen. She is putting everyone on notice.

i} Elizabeth City/Pasquotank County Airport Authority:

Councilman Stimatz stated we delayed our meeting from last week to this Wednesday. He will be attending that meeting on Wednesday.

j} Storm Water Drainage Advisory Board:

Councilman Stimatz stated he had no further comments.

k} Tourism Development Authority:

Councilwoman Baker stated our new application for Smart Phones is up and running and becoming very popular. There are more than a dozen organizations and businesses that are on line now. If you go to your Smart Phone and pull down the application travelnc you can see everything that is going on in all of North Carolina. You pull up the area you want to see and it expounds and expands. It is a fabulous new app. One of the first to be really turning the electronic age in that fashion.

**6} ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Mayor Peel adjourned the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

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Dianne S. Pierce-Tamplen, MMC  
City Clerk

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Joseph W. Peel  
Mayor