

**MINUTES
CITY OF DUNN
DUNN, NORTH CAROLINA**

The City Council of the City of Dunn held a Regular Meeting on Thursday, January 3, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. in the Dunn Municipal Building. Present was Mayor Oscar N. Harris, Mayor Pro Tem Carnell Robinson, Council Members Buddy Maness, Bryan Galbreath, Billy Tart, Chuck Turnage and Joey Tart. Also present was City Manager Ronnie Autry, Public Works Director Billy Addison, Public Utilities Director Dean Gaster, City Planner Steven Neuschafer, Chief Building Inspector Mike Blackmon, Fire Chief Austin Tew, Police Chief B.P. Jones, Recreation Director Perry Hudson, Librarian Mike Williams, City Engineer Ed Powell, City Attorney P. Tilghman Pope, City Clerk Debra West, and Daily Record Reporter Steve Reed.

INVOCATION

Mayor Harris opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and asked Reverend Roy Johnson, Chaplain of Betsy Johnson Regional Hospital and the Dunn Police Department to give the invocation. Afterwards Mayor Pro Tem Robinson led as the Pledge of Allegiance was repeated.

AGENDA ADJUSTMENT

Motion by Council Member Billy Tart, seconded by Council Member Turnage to adopt the January 3, 2008 meeting agenda with changes, if any, as listed below.

Items Added to the Agenda:

- none

Agenda Items Removed:

- none

PRESENTATIONS

**POLICE DEPARTMENT
SGT. REGINA WOOD AUTRY**

Police Chief Jones and Mayor Harris presented the Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission Intermediate Law Enforcement Certificate to Sgt. Regina Wood Autry.

**LINDA HAYES
GOVERNOR'S CRIME COMMISSION**

Mrs. Linda Hayes, Chairman of the NC Governor's Crime Commission (GCC), presented an accommodation plaque to the Dunn, Coats, Lillington and Erwin Police Departments who were present for this award. Mrs. Hayes explained that every 3 years, the GCC has a safe communities conference in which six awards are given from nominations through-out the state. This award comes with lots of merit and accommodations. Mrs. Hayes recognized the partnerships formed by the representatives from Dunn, Coats, Lillington, Erwin and the PAL programs in the area of criminal justice improvement, particularly Gang Grants. These representatives have started attacking the gang problem with great vigor and lots of information and data. Police Chief Jones stated that next year the Town of Benson will be represented since they recently joined through the second gang grant which the Council authorized the Dunn Police Department to apply for in December, 2007. Chief Jones pointed out that 52% of the gang members they deal with are from Dunn and 48% are from outside the Dunn area. He commended Lt. Rodney Rowland in managing the Gang Grant program and the other town representatives present.

**APPRECIATION PLAQUES
BEASLEY CONTRACTING AND
WELLONS CONSTRUCTION**

Police Chief Jones presented appreciation plaques to Tony Paul Beasley of Beasley Contracting and to Seth Thompson, representative for Bobby Wellons, of Wellons Construction in recognition of their contributions of manpower, equipment and materials in the construction of the City of Dunn Police Department Firing Range.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mayor Harris opened the floor for a (30) minute public comment period.

With no comments, the Public Comment period was closed.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

**DEMOLITION OF HOUSE
605 N. KING AVENUE**

The public has been notified that oral and written comments will be heard and received concerning the demolition of the dwelling owned by Patricia Grier, Pauline Williams, and Stanley Williams and located at 605 N. King Avenue.

The public hearing was duly advertised on December 19, 2007 and December 26, 2007.

Mayor Harris asked if there was anyone present to speak for or against this demolition.

Hearing no comments, Mayor Harris closed the public hearing and reconvened the council meeting at 7:19 p.m.

CONSENT ITEMS

Minutes-Council considered approval of minutes of the December 6, 2007 Council meeting.

Minutes-Council considered approval of minutes of the December 27, 2007 Special Call Council meeting.

Tax Releases/Refunds-Council considered approval of Tax Releases/Refunds #146 - #151. *A copy of Tax Releases/Refunds are filed in the office of the Tax Collector.*

Annual Certification of Firemen-Council considered approval of the 2007 Annual Certification of Firemen. *The 2007 Annual Certification of Firemen is incorporated into these minutes as Attachment #1.*

Budget Amendments – Council considered approval of Budget Amendments #11 - #13. *A copy of Budget Amendments #11 - #13 is incorporated into these minutes as Attachment #2.*

Destruction of Records (Finance Department)-Council considered approval of destruction of records that have exceeded the required retention time pursuant to the Municipal Disposition Schedule. *A list of those records that have exceeded the required retention schedule and approved for destruction is incorporated into these minutes as Attachment #3.*

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Robinson, seconded by Council Member Joey Tart to approve all consent items. **Motion unanimously approved.**

ITEMS FOR DECISION

CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE TO DEMOLISH HOUSE 605 N. KING AVENUE

Mayor Harris gave a summary of notices mailed to owners of this property:

- August 21, 2007 – Initial letter sent to property owners advising that an inspection of the vacant house was conducted and condemned based on the conditions of the house and gave notice that a hearing would be held August 31, 2007 at 2:00 p.m. in the office of the Building Inspector.
- Courtesy letters were sent to Ms. Pauline Williams (mother), Mr. Stanley Williams (brother) and to Ms. Patricia Grier advising them of the condemned structure.
- September 17, 2007 – Notification was sent after the hearing in which no interested party attended the hearing. Sixty (60) days was given to repair or demolish the house which expired November 16, 2007. A copy of this letter was also sent to Ms. Pauline Williams, Stanley Williams and Patricia Grier.
- To date, nothing has been done to the house at 605 N. King Avenue to repair or secure the house.

Mayor Harris entertained a motion to adopt the ordinance.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Robinson and seconded by Council Member Galbreath to approve the ordinance directing the Building Inspector to remove or demolish the structure at 605 N. King Avenue.

Mayor Harris asked if there was further discussion.

Mayor Pro Tem Robinson stated that this house is located in District 2. He spoke with Mr. Stanley Williams a couple of days ago. Mr. Williams was quite courteous in discussing this matter and he was under the impression that the house may have already been demolished. Mr. Williams did not voice any concern or any intent of doing anything with the property.

Motion unanimously approved. *A copy of this Ordinance (02008-01) Directing the Building Inspector to remove/demolish the structure located at 605 N. King Avenue is incorporated into these minutes as Attachment #4.*

STEERING COMMITTEE LIAISON APPOINTMENT FOR PEDESTRIAN PLANNING GRANT

Manager Autry explained that the Planning Department received notice that the City of Dunn was one of only sixteen communities awarded a NCDOT Pedestrian Planning Grant for the 2007/08 cycle. The City accepted the grant and has contracted a consulting firm to produce the plan. As a requirement of the grant, a steering committee (consisting of citizens and department heads) has been put into place and there needs to be representation on the committee from the governing body.

This Steering Committee will direct the consultants to ensure that specific areas of concern are addressed in the plan.

Manager Autry stated that this appointment will act as a liaison for the City Council.

Mayor Harris read the following names of those serving on the steering committee: Denise Newkirk (County Health Educator), Stan Williams (Dunn Middle School Principal), Brandy Hall (Dunn Area Tourism), Byron Tyndall (School Resource Officer), Blaine Everhart (Dunn Planning Board), Teresa Stephenson (resident), John Archie (resident), Granville Tilghman (resident), and Zada McLamb (resident).

Mayor Harris explained that the only action required by the Council is to appoint an elected official to act as a liaison.

Council Member Maness asked Planner Neuschafer if the elected official needs to be a council member or any elected official. Mr. Neuschafer responded that it must be a council member.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Robinson, seconded by Council Member Turnage to authorize Mayor Harris to appoint a liaison to this committee. **Motion unanimously approved.**

**MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS
COUNCIL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

The following Council committee appointments were made by Mayor Harris:

Municipal Administration	Buddy Maness/Joey Tart
Library Board	Joey Tart
Public Works	Billy Tart/Carnell Robinson
ABC Board	Bryan Galbreath
Police Department	Bryan Galbreath/Chuck Turnage
Recreation Board/Senior Center	Chuck Turnage/Buddy Maness
Fire Department	Chuck Turnage/Bryan Galbreath
Housing Authority	Carnell Robinson
Council of Government	Carnell Robinson
Planning Board	Buddy Maness/Billy Tart
Harnett Co. Local Government Association	All

Motion by Council Member Billy Tart, seconded by Council Member Joey Tart to approve the committee appointments as presented.

Mayor Harris asked if there was any additional discussion about the appointments.

Mayor Pro Tem Robinson recommended Council Member Galbreath be assigned to the Fire Department since they work so closely with the Police Department. Mayor Harris agreed and Council Member Galbreath accepted the appointment.

Motion was amended by Council Member Billy Tart and seconded by Council Member Joey Tart to add Council Member Galbreath to the Fire Department. **Motion unanimously approved as amended.**

**CONSIDERATION OF MEMORANDUM
OF AGREEMENT WITH NC DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION**

Manager Autry explained that this agreement allows the City of Dunn to remove debris from the right of way of public state system roads during a State of Disaster or Imminent Threat of Disaster and/or a State of Emergency.

He further explained that with FEMA regulations and the reimbursement process of monies, this agreement must be adopted through the Department of Transportation to allow the City to work on state maintained roads during disasters and to be reimbursed through FEMA. If this is not adopted, the city would not receive any reimbursements should they be required to work on state maintained roads. This agreement does not allow the City of Dunn to work on Highway 421 (Cumberland) or Highway 301 (portion of Clinton Ave./portion of Ellis Ave.). These areas are restricted for DOT personnel. If the City of Dunn worked on these two major highways, the city would not be reimbursed.

Motion by Council Member Joey Tart, seconded by Council Member Turnage to adopt the Memorandum of Agreement between the North Carolina Department of Transportation and the City of Dunn for the emergency removal of debris during a State of Disaster. **Motion unanimously approved.** *A copy of this Memorandum of Agreement between NCDOT and the City of Dunn is incorporated into these minutes as Attachment #5.*

**SET BUDGET RETREAT DATE
FY 2008-2009**

The Budget Retreat for Fiscal Year 2008-09 will be held on Saturday, February 2, 2008 and Sunday, February 3, 2008 at the Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort in Wrightsville Beach, NC.

The Budget Retreat will prioritize goals of the City and how to accomplish them for FY 2008-09.

Mayor Harris asked that each council member survey their districts, talk with various leaders in their district and determine the needs they have within and prioritize them for the retreat to properly represent each district.

Mayor Harris stated that a facilitator has been secured for the retreat. They will use the platform of the previous council to move forward.

Motion by Council Member Galbreath, seconded by Council Member Turnage to approve the budget retreat date for February 2-3, 2008 at the Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort in Wrightsville Beach, NC. **Motion unanimously approved.**

**CAPITAL PROJECT ORDINANCE/BUDGET
WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT (WWTP)
FLOW EQUALIZATION/PUMPING
SYSTEM RENOVATIONS AND SEWER
REHABILITATION**

Manager Autry explained that at the December 6, 2007 Council meeting, the outgoing council approved the capital project budget; however, the budget ordinance was not prepared for adoption.

This is a capital project ordinance related to the waste water treatment plant flow equalization, pumping system renovations and sewer rehabilitation. This ordinance needs council approval so that the budget for this project can be established for accounting purposes.

This capital project ordinance will take the place of an annual budget ordinance, because it is not part of the recurring operations and expenditures, and will continue for the life of the project.

Manager Autry explained the following appropriations for the project:

- Construction \$4,657,000
- Administration 701,000
- Contingencies 347,000
- \$5,705,000

The following revenues are anticipated to be available to complete this project:

- Clean Water Management Trust Fund Grant \$2,950,000
- DENR-DWQ SRF Loan 2,225,000
- Rural Center Supplemental Grant 500,000
- Water Fund Equity Transfer 30,000
- \$5,705,000

Manager Autry stated that the appropriated amounts could be amended throughout the project.

Mayor Harris stated that the previous city council worked diligently to acquire this project. He mentioned that the following streets may be disrupted by this project:

- Wake Street
- Morris Circle
- Guy Avenue
- Spring Branch Road
- Godwin Street
- E. Broad Street from Railroad to Clinton
- Wilson Avenue from E. Cumberland to E. Edgerton

Motion by Council Member Maness, seconded by Council Member Joey Tart to adopt the capital project ordinance for the wastewater treatment plant flow equalization/pumping system renovations and sewer rehabilitation project. Motion unanimously approved. *A copy of capital project ordinance (02008-02) for WWTP and sewer rehabilitation projects is incorporated into these minutes as Attachment #6.*

Council Member Turnage asked for the estimated timeline of this project. City Engineer Ed Powell responded that there are some other projects that need to come along with this project and will be discussed during the Budget/Planning Retreat. He anticipates two sets of bid openings (one in the spring for flow equalization and another one in the spring for potential street improvement projects) and the remainder of the flow equalization project which is the pumping systems and rehabilitation will probably be in the fall with anticipation that construction will proceed simultaneously with completion by the end of 2009.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Motion by Council Member Galbreath, seconded by Council Member Billy Tart to accept the Administrative Reports. **Motion unanimously approved.**

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

No reports from the Manager or City Attorney.

Council Member Joey Tart wished everyone a Happy New Year. He stated that he is proud of this great city.

Council Member Turnage stated that he looks forward to working on the board and commission appointments with Police Chief Jones, Fire Chief Tew and Recreation Director Perry Hudson.

Council Member Billy Tart stated that he is proud of the Police Department for the awards they received tonight and he expressed appreciation to Bobby Wellons and Tony Paul Beasley for their assistance in building the police firing range.

Council Member Maness wished all the citizens of Dunn a prosperous and Happy New Year. He thanked all the individuals who volunteered to serve on the Pedestrian Planning Grant Steering Committee.

Mayor Pro Tem Robinson wished all the citizens of Dunn a Happy New Year. He looks forward to working with the members of this council and with the citizens of Dunn. He stated that the City of Dunn is absolutely blessed with the PAL Program, the number of children who are being served by this program and he stated that leadership does matter. He commended Lt. Rodney Rowland in the job he is doing with this program.

Mayor Pro Tem Robinson stated that recently, there was a fire at the Old Godwin Building Supply (Dunn Flea Market). One of the concerns that came forward during this fire, was the issue that North Fayetteville Avenue no longer opened to Highway 301; therefore, when the Granville Street entrance was blocked, there was no way for those citizens to get out of this section of N. Fayetteville Avenue. This affected (35) homes on N. Fayetteville Avenue consisting mainly of senior citizens. He asked that this issue be investigated.

Mayor Pro Tem Robinson asked that citizens assist in reporting street lights that are out and street signs that are down. If a street light is out or blinking, there is a tag on the pole that contains the pole number which any citizen can call in to Public Works so that it can be repaired.

Council Member Galbreath wished all the citizens a Happy New Year. He announced the upcoming Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday on January 21, 2008. The Harnett County MLK committee will be hosting a breakfast at DeBorah's Restaurant at 8:00 a.m.; tickets are \$10 and he encouraged the Mayor, City Council and the general public to attend. On the same date, the MLK Parade will begin at 10:00 a.m. in downtown Dunn. If anyone is interested in taking part in the MLK Parade, he will leave a flyer with the City Manager to post on the City website and government channel.

Council Member Galbreath thanked the general public, area churches, Mayor Harris, City Council and Beacon Rescue Mission in helping the family of Javelin Blue, who experienced a house fire in November. He brought to the attention of Manager Autry, a dangerous section of sidewalk in the 500th block of E. Broad Street. A number of citizens from the east side of town take this route to walk downtown. He asked that this be corrected.

Mayor Harris expressed his appreciation to the council for their cooperation and support in carrying out the agenda items before them tonight and he thanked Steve Reed of The Daily Record for his attendance.

Mayor Harris read a card from the family of Council Member Galbreath, expressing their appreciation shown to them during the recent passing of Mr. Galbreath's grandmother.

Mayor Harris read a message he received from former Mayor Dal Snipes, wishing this council his best and expressing his appreciation to Mayor Harris for stepping back into the Mayor's position. He thanked Mayor Harris for his service to this great city.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Oscar N. Harris
Mayor

Attest:

Debra G. West
City Clerk