

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

The City Council of the City of Dunn held a Regular Meeting on Thursday, October 5, 2006, at 7:00 p.m. in the Dunn Municipal Building. Present was Mayor J. Dal Snipes, Mayor Pro Tem Donnie Olds, Council Members Buddy Maness, Bryan Galbreath, Billy Tart, Billy R. Godwin, Jr. and Joey Tart. Also present was City Manager Ronnie Autry, Public Works Supt. Harold Lambeth, Utility Services Specialist Patty Rowland, City Planner Steven Neuschafer, Librarian Mike Williams, Interim Police Chief B.P. Jones, Major Morry Denning, Sgt. Rodney Rowland (PAL Director), Agent Poppler, City Attorney P. Tilghman Pope, City Clerk Debra West, and Daily Record Reporter Steve Reed.

INVOCATION

Mayor Snipes opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and asked Mayor Pro Tem Olds to give the invocation. Afterwards the Pledge of Allegiance was repeated.

AGENDA ADJUSTMENT

Consensus of Council to adopt the October 5, 2006 meeting agenda with changes, if any, as listed below.

Items Added to the Agenda under "Items for Decision":

- Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Olds, seconded by Council Member Galbreath to add Temporary Closing of Street – N. Park Avenue from Granville to Cole. **Motion unanimously approved.**

Agenda Items Removed:

- none

PRESENTATION

Ms. Carolyn McDougal, President of the Harnett County Chapter of the NAACP, addressed the Council about issues relating to the recent use of deadly force by the Dunn Police Department. She read a letter she wrote on behalf of the NAACP to Governor Mike Easley, Attorney General Roy Cooper and Rev. George I. Allison, Executive Director of N.C. Human Relations Commission, requesting their assistance in creating a Dunn Human Relations Commission, and a Dunn Youth Program Task Force to design the "Dunn Pilot Program and Budget". In addition, she requested that the Dunn City Council as well as other leaders in the Harnett County/Dunn community support and join her in signing this letter of request.

Mayor Snipes thanked Ms. McDougal for her comments; however, he disagreed with some of the points made in her letter. He does not agree that the current situation has been aggravated to the point of being a crisis as used in her letter. The City Council and Police Department are well aware of the current situation and they are taking steps to understand and deal with it. The Police Athletic League (PAL) program offers resources to the youth of Dunn. The current PAL budget exceeds \$100,000 and offers many resources. Recently PAL hosted two well attended meetings with area ministers, leaders, parents and youth at the PAL facility on Johnson Street. One key issue as it relates to Ms. McDougal's letter, is the SBI report. They must wait for the SBI results.

Mayor Pro Tem Olds applauded the NAACP organization as well as the PAL program and NAG (Neighborhoods against Gangs). He would like to see a unification of these various organizations coming together for one common cause. There is strength in unity and working together works.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

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

Ashley Goodman-809 N. Layton Ave-Dunn, NC

Spoke about youth and what they need in the community. In order to keep youth out of trouble, they need things to do (such as a bowling alley). PAL is only one organization. The youth need other resources to keep them out of gangs.

Carol McLean-249 Daniel Queen Lane, Erwin, NC

Recently lived at 311 S. Elm Ave., Dunn, NC

Spoke about the need for counselors and boys and girls club for the youth. Youth that may not have transportation to the PAL center need a place like PAL on their side of town where they can receive counseling, talk to pastors and direction in life issues. Offer the youth activities to keep them off the streets. Educate them on how to receive a college degree or get a job.

Antonio Rowland-249 Daniel Queen Lane, Erwin, NC

He is a student at Triton High School. He spoke about violence, drugs and gang violence in the school system. All people need to get involved in offering youth other resources to keep them off the street. Everyone should take a part and unite together to help the youth. Encourage the youth through counseling. With the PAL Center located across town, some youth have no transportation to get there. He suggested community fairs and health fairs.

Rev. G. I. Allison-Executive Director of the North Carolina Human Relations Commission (HRC)-217 W. Jones Street-Raleigh, NC

He is present at the request of Ms. Carolyn McDougal, president of the Harnett County NAACP, to speak about the need for a Human Relations Commission and how it can help local and county government in times of divisive issues that may arise in a community. He introduced Ms. Sally Lind, supervisor of Community Relations and Reverend A.B. Coley, Community Investigator. He explained that communities are divided by many factors which determine who a person affiliates with. Diversity can be appreciated; however, issues can occur that bring about diversity. The government needs an agency such as the Human Relations Commission that can help law enforcement identify gangs to implement programs to move people from gang activity to productive activity. The Human Relations Commission is a part of the civil rights arm of state government. Each municipal and county government needs a HRC which can help to organize this commission across the state.

Rev. A.B. Coley,-Area Representative for (24) counties including Harnett County-Human Relations Commission (HRC)-217 W. Jones Street-Raleigh, NC

Dunn's problem is not unique. Serving as Chaplain for the Fayetteville Police Department, he has seen both sides of issues. The Human Relations Commission comes under authority of NCGS 99D to investigate hate crimes, racial employment, etc. The Human Relations Commission establishes dialog to promote equal opportunity for everyone. He works with gang intervention. It takes everybody talking and working together to survive. The Human Relations Commission offers diversity training through different agencies in the City. He offered a full formal presentation explaining the Human Relations Commission to anyone interested. He encouraged the creation of a Human Relations Commission either by resolution of the Council or developed independently. He offered his services in creating this commission.

CONSENT ITEMS

Minutes-Council considered approval of minutes of the September 7, 2006 Council meeting.

Tax Releases/Refunds-Council considered approval of Tax Releases/Refunds #131, #133, #134-#144, #146, #149 and #151. *A copy of Tax Releases/Refunds are filed in the office of the Tax Collector.*

Planning Board Appointment-Council considered reappointment of Mr. Doug Heath, 107 George Street, to the Planning Board with a term expiring June 30, 2009.

Bank Resolution-Council considered approval of a bank resolution authorizing City Manager Ronald D. Autry to execute evidence of debt, checks, drafts, and wire transfers for the City of Dunn. *A copy of this Authorizing Bank Resolution (R2006-17) is incorporated into these minutes as attachment #1.*

Motion by Council Member Joey Tart, seconded by Council Member Billy Tart to approve all consent items. **Motion unanimously approved.**

ITEMS FOR DECISION

**TEMPORARY CLOSING OF STREETS
COTTON FESTIVAL**

The NC Cotton Festival Committee is requesting that the following streets be closed for the 8th Annual Cotton Festival on November 3-4, 2006.

Friday, Nov. 3

- Harnett Street from Railroad to Fayetteville Ave. (5:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.)
- Edgerton Street from Railroad to the parking lot behind Sherry's Bakery (2:00 p.m. – after festival)
- Edgerton Street and Wilson Avenue (5:30 p.m. – after festival)

Saturday, Nov. 4

- Broad Street from Clinton Avenue to King Avenue
- Wilson Avenue from Cumberland Street to driveway at Eastside Fire Dept.
- Edgerton Street from Fayetteville Avenue to the alley behind Sherry's Bakery
- Fayetteville Avenue from Cumberland Street to Edgerton Street
- Lucknow Avenue from Cumberland Street to Broad Street

Additional Requests

- Use of First Citizens Bank parking lot leased to the City of Dunn
- Assistance from city personnel (police, public works, parks and recreation)
- Street sweeper to clean street after event on Saturday

Motion by Council Member Joey Tart, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Olds to approve the temporary street closures for the Cotton Festival. **Motion unanimously approved.**

**TEMPORARY CLOSING OF STREETS
FRIENDS OF THE CANCER CENTER FUNDRAISER**

Friends of the Cancer Center are requesting the following streets be closed from 5:00 p.m. until 12:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 28, 2006 for their fundraiser event to be held at the new Dunn Shrine Center.

- Wilson Avenue from Edgerton Street to Harnett Street
- Edgerton Street from Wilson Avenue to Clinton Avenue

Motion by Council Member Godwin, seconded by Council Member Billy Tart to approve the temporary street closures for the Friends of the Cancer Center Fundraiser. **Motion unanimously approved.**

**ADOPT RESOLUTION DECLARING
COST AND SETTING TIME FOR PUBLIC
HEARING ON PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT
ROLL FOR HIGHWAY 421 WIDENING PROJECT**

Upon completion of the Highway 421 improvement project, the Council ascertains the total cost, exclusive of the costs incurred at street intersections and adopts a resolution ordering preparation of the Preliminary Assessment Roll and setting the time and place for the public hearing on the Preliminary Assessment Roll.

NCDOT's participation in the Highway 421 project cost and the property owner's assessment cost per foot were two of several issues that the Council had to resolve to finalize the cost of this project.

Declared cost, exclusive of costs incurred at street intersections is \$487,334.34

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Olds, seconded by Council Member Joey Tart to adopt the Resolution Declaring Cost for the Highway 421 Widening Project, Exclusive of Costs Incurred at Street Intersections, and order preparation of the Preliminary Assessment Roll, and setting a public hearing for November 2, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in the Dunn Municipal Building for the purpose of hearing all interested persons who appear with regard to the preliminary assessment roll. **Motion unanimously approved.**
A copy of Resolution (R2006-18) Declaring Cost and Setting Time for Public Hearing on Preliminary Assessment Roll for Highway 421 Widening Project is incorporated into these minutes as attachment #2.

**VOTING DELEGATE
2006 NCLM BUSINESS MEETING**

Motion by Council Member Godwin, seconded by Council Member Maness to designate City Manager Autry as a voting delegate and Mayor Pro Tem Olds as an alternate voting delegate representing the City of Dunn, NC at the 2006 North Carolina League of Municipalities annual business meeting on Tuesday, October 17, 2006 in Greensboro. **Motion unanimously approved.**

**POLICE DEPARTMENT
AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY
AND ACCEPT GRANT TO PREVENT
GANG VIOLENCE**

The Governor's Crime Commission (GCC) has been allocated \$1,500,000 to disseminate to selected counties in N.C. who have been targeted for having gang activity.

Due to a study and information provided to the GCC from different organizations, areas within Harnett County have been selected to apply for a two year grant in the amount of \$100,000.

The GCC shall allocate the funds using a competitive grant process that includes a matching requirement of 25%, one-half of which may be in-kind contributions and the presentation of a written plan for the services provided by the funds.

The Dunn Police Athletic/Activities League (PAL) shall be the source for this grant and a collaborative effort is being made with all law enforcement agencies, church organizations, schools and other various state and county agencies.

Manager Autry explained that funding will be allocated to only one county and that is why they are stressing that cities partner together to receive this grant. Any other agencies that decide to partner with Dunn will receive funding also. Dunn would be the controlling unit. Cost of the match would be shared among other area municipalities. Surrounding towns would be required to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the City of Dunn. One-half of the twenty-five percent match can be in-kind. Cash outlay over a two year period would be \$12,500.

Motion by Council Member Galbreath, seconded by Council Member Maness to authorize the Police Department to apply for the Governor Crime Commission 2006 Grant to Prevent Gang Violence. **Motion unanimously approved.**

Manager Autry stated that he will bring this grant back before the Council for acceptance.

**TEMPORARY CLOSING OF STREET
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NORTH PARK AVENUE**

This is a request from First Presbyterian Church to close Park Avenue between Granville Street and Cole Street on October 29, 2006 from 1:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of a church sponsored fall festival.

Motion by Council Member Olds, seconded by Council Member Godwin to approve the temporary street closure for First Presbyterian Church. **Motion unanimously approved.**

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

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

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

Council Member Maness announced October is Clergy Appreciation Month and encouraged everyone to send support to their clergy.

Council Member Galbreath thanked all who came to help with the graffiti clean-up on September 23rd.

Manager Autry stated that the Hwy. 421/Broad Street drainage project will begin soon. He will forward a construction schedule to the Council next week.

Mayor Snipes also thanked everyone that participated in the recent graffiti clean-up. He recognized City Clerk Debra West on her recent return to work.

Mayor Snipes wished City Manager Autry a Happy Birthday.

Mayor Pro Tem Olds announced that Dunn PAL will be cooking pork shoulders on Oct. 26th to raise funds for the youth. Dunn PAL will also hold their 5th annual golf tournament on November 1st at Chicora County Club. Proceeds from both events will be used to support the PAL program.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

J. Dal Snipes
Mayor

Attest:

Debra G. West
City Clerk