

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

The City Council of the City of Dunn held a Regular Meeting on Thursday, December 7, 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 Ray Godwin and Joey Tart. Also present was City Manager Ronnie Autry, Human Resource Officer Moses Gallion, City Planner Steven Neuschafer, Chief Building Inspector Mike Blackmon, Recreation Director Perry Hudson, Interim Police Chief B.P. Jones, Fire Chief Austin Tew, City Engineer Ed Powell, 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 Council Member Joey Tart to give the invocation. Afterwards the Pledge of Allegiance was repeated.

**PRESENTATIONS**

***Retirement Plaque Presentations***

Manager Autry presented a retirement plaque to the following employees in recognition and appreciation of their years of service to the City of Dunn:

Ronnie Strickland in recognition of 37 years of service as Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator

Tom Ludwick in recognition of 25 years of service as Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator

Mayor Snipes presented a retirement plaque to Police Lieutenant David Ray in recognition and appreciation of his 25 years of service to the City of Dunn.

***Proclamation Presentation***

Mayor Snipes presented Betsy Johnson Regional Hospital critical care nurses Melissa Phillips and Kim Cox with a proclamation recognizing their heroic actions on November 24, 2006. *A copy of Proclamation (P2006-16) recognizing Melissa Phillips and Kim Cox is incorporated into these minutes as Attachment #1.*

***Proclamation Presentation***

Mayor Snipes presented Carlton and Kemp Lamm with a proclamation recognizing the Dunn Benson Ford Racing Team. *A copy of Proclamation (P2006-17) recognizing the Dunn Benson Ford Racing Team is incorporated into these minutes as Attachment #2.*

**AGENDA ADJUSTMENT**

Motion by Council Member Joey Tart, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Olds to adopt the December 7, 2006 meeting agenda with changes, if any, as listed below.

*Items Added to the Agenda:*

- Closed Session – Personnel Matter

*Agenda Items Removed:*

- none

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

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

Carnell Robinson, representing the Harnett County Martin Luther King, Jr. Observance Committee invited the City Council, police and fire departments to participate in this years' MLK parade. This years' theme is "One America". He invited all races, businesses and schools to come out and participate in the 7<sup>th</sup> annual parade scheduled for Monday, January 15, 2006 beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Olds, seconded by Council Member Joey Tart to close the public comment period. **Motion unanimously approved.**

Mayor Snipes closed the regular meeting and opened public hearings at 7:15 p.m.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**DEMOLITION OF STORAGE STRUCTURE  
912 N. ELLIS AVENUE**

The public has been notified that oral and written comments will be heard and received concerning the demolition of the storage structure owned by Hoyle Properties and located at 912 N. Ellis Avenue.

The public hearing was duly advertised on November 21, 2006 and November 28, 2006.

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

Hearing no comments, the public hearing was closed.

**DEMOLITION OF STORAGE STRUCTURE  
BEHIND WALKER'S CHAPEL UNITED HOLY CHURCH  
PIN #1507-94-1611  
ASHE AVENUE**

The public has been notified that oral and written comments will be heard and received concerning the demolition of the storage structure owned by Wendell Woolford and located behind Walker's Chapel United Holy Church on Ashe Avenue (PIN #1507-94-1611).

The public hearing was duly advertised on November 21, 2006 and November 28, 2006.

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

Hearing no comments, motion by Council Member Godwin , seconded by Council Member Maness to close public hearings and reconvene the regular council meeting at 7:17 p.m. **Motion unanimously approved.**

**CONSENT ITEMS**

Minutes-Council considered approval of minutes of the November 2, 2006 Council meeting.

Library Board Reappointment-Council considered approval of the Library's recommendation to reappoint Renee Buchanan Daughtry of 410 W. Edgerton Street as Dunn Public Library Board of Trustees' representative to the Harnett County Public Library Board of Trustees.

Annual Certification of Firemen-Council considered approval of the 2006 Annual Certification of Firemen. *The 2006 Annual Certification of Firemen is incorporated into these minutes as Attachment #3.*

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

**ITEMS FOR DECISION**

**ADOPT ORDINANCE  
TO DEMOLISH STORAGE  
STRUCTURE  
912 N. ELLIS AVENUE**

Mayor Snipes entertained a motion to adopt an ordinance to demolish the storage structure located at 912 N. Ellis Avenue.

Motion by Council Member Galbreath, seconded by Council Member Billy Tart to approve the ordinance directing the Building Inspector to remove or demolish the storage structure at 912 N. Ellis Avenue. **Motion unanimously approved.** *A copy of this Ordinance (02006-07) Directing the Building Inspector to remove/demolish the storage structure located at 912 N. Ellis Avenue is incorporated into these minutes as Attachment #4.*

**ADOPT ORDINANCE TO DEMOLISH  
STORAGE STRUCTURE LOCATED  
BEHIND WALKER'S CHAPEL UNITED  
HOLY CHURCH  
PIN #1507-94-1611  
ASHE AVENUE**

Mayor Snipes entertained a motion to adopt an ordinance to demolish the storage structure located behind Walker's Chapel United Holy Church on Ashe Avenue and identified by the Harnett County Tax Department as PIN #1507-94-1611.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Olds, seconded by Council Member Maness to approve the ordinance directing the Building Inspector to remove or demolish the storage structure located behind Walker's Chapel United Holy Church on Ashe Avenue and identified by the Harnett County Tax Department as PIN #1507-94-1611. **Motion unanimously approved.** *A copy of this Ordinance (02006-08) Directing the Building Inspector to remove/demolish the storage structure located behind Walker's Chapel United Holy Church on Ashe Avenue is incorporated into these minutes as Attachment #5.*

**ADOPT A RESOLUTION DIRECTING CLERK  
TO INVESTIGATE VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION  
PETITION  
ROBERT P. AND SU LOU O. WELLONS  
17.18 ACRE TRACT-RECOMBINATION OF  
PARCEL #02-1507-0054, 02-1507-0054-01, AND 02-1507-0054-02**

This is a petition requesting a contiguous annexation of 17.18 acres of property identified by the Harnett County Tax Department as Parcel #02-1507-0054, 02-1507-0054-01, and 02-1507-0054-02. This property is located along Powell Avenue from Friendly Road to Ashe Avenue and owned by Robert P. and wife, Su Lou O. Wellons.

A resolution directing the Clerk to investigate petition is included for Council consideration.

Motion by Council Member Godwin, seconded by Council Member Joey Tart to adopt the Resolution Directing the Clerk to Investigate a Petition received for a contiguous annexation of a 17.18 acre tract identified by the Harnett County Tax Department as Parcel #02-1507-0054, 02-1507-0054-01, and 02-1507-0054-02 located along Powell Avenue from Friendly Road to Ashe Avenue and owned by Robert P. and wife, Su Lou O. Wellons. **Motion unanimously approved.** *A copy of Resolution (R2006-23) Directing the Clerk to Investigate Petition for contiguous annexation is incorporated into these minutes as Attachment #6.*

**ADOPT RESOLUTION CONFIRMING  
ASSESSMENT ROLL AND LEVYING  
ASSESSMENTS  
HIGHWAY 421 WIDENING PROJECT**

The City Council tabled the adoption of this resolution at the November 2, 2006 Council meeting.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Olds, seconded by Council Member Galbreath to take this item of business off the table. **Motion unanimously approved.**

The governing body may make any proper corrections in the assessment roll, before adopting the "Resolution Confirming Assessment Roll and Levying Assessments".

Due to a conflict of interest, Council Member Billy Tart excused himself from discussion and vote of this issue. Council consensus was to excuse Mr. Tart.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Olds, seconded by Council Member Galbreath to adopt the Resolution Confirming Assessment Roll and Levying Assessments for the Highway 421 widening project with the modification to reduce the interest rate to 4%.

Mayor Snipes asked if there was further discussion.

Council Member Joey Tart asked Manager Autry what is the City's interest rate on this loan. Mr. Autry responded 3.93%. Mayor Snipes commented that the City has a fixed rate loan for a period of ten (10) years. Mayor Snipes stated that the property owners are being assessed \$543,000 which is the amount they were told. This project is benefiting all the property owners as well as enhancing property values.

Council Member Godwin stated that traditionally through the years, the City Council has assessed projects at 8% which is the maximum that the statutes allow. He added that guidelines need to be established for all future assessments to be consistent with the interest rates that are charged property owners.

Mayor Pro Tem Olds stated that there were some mitigating circumstances that the Council had no control over, resulting in higher costs for this project.

Mayor Snipes stated that this project is not the typical curb and gutter assessment. Since the loan for this project was set at a fixed interest rate for the City, then the City in turn has passed along a lower interest rate to the property owners. This came about as a result of property owners asking the Council for some costs relief.

Council Member Joey Tart stated that some property owners may feel they have been mistreated by the City. The Council has worked together to take on a large portion of this project cost.

Mayor Snipes added that if they take the total project cost and divide it by the number of feet for the assessment, that figure is well over \$120.00 per foot. The property owners are being assessed \$97.96 per foot.

Council Member Joey Tart stated that if there were not extenuating circumstances, he would not be in favor of lowering the interest rate; however, in this rare situation, he feels it is appropriate to lower the rate.

**Motion unanimously approved.** *A copy of Resolution (R2006-24) Confirming Assessment Roll and Levying Assessments for Highway 421 is incorporated into these minutes as Attachment #7.*

**ADOPT CITY COUNCIL  
MEETING DATES FOR 2007**

The following council meeting dates were proposed for the year 2007.

01-04-07	07-05-07
02-01-07	08-02-07
03-01-07	09-06-07
04-05-07	10-04-07
05-03-07	11-01-07
06-07-07	12-06-07

Motion by Council Member Galbreath, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Olds to adopt the 2007 City Council meeting dates as presented. **Motion unanimously approved.**

**REDIRECTION OF EXISTING  
ONE-WAY STREET  
RAILROAD AVENUE FROM  
CUMBERLAND STREET TO BROAD STREET**

Manager Autry stated that City staff was contacted about the possibility of redirecting traffic on this portion of Railroad Avenue which connects between East Cumberland Street and East Broad Street. It is currently one-way travel to the south towards Cumberland Street and the only feasible turn at that intersection due to the volume of traffic is to the right. The ability to bring traffic off of Cumberland Street traveling one way toward downtown makes more sense and the traffic is much easier to cross on Broad Street allowing full movement and it also allows further movement north along Railroad Avenue. The paved width of Railroad Avenue is 24' inside a 30' right-of-way (ROW).

Correspondence has been sent to all owners of property fronting on this section of Railroad Avenue with reference to this directional change.

Motion by Council Member Billy Tart, seconded by Council Member Godwin to approve the re-direction of one-way travel on Railroad Avenue to a northerly direction from Cumberland Street to Broad Street.

Council Member Godwin asked if the City will re-stripe the parking spaces to correspond with the new travel direction. Manager Autry responded yes.

**Motion unanimously approved.**

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

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

**EXECUTIVE REPORTS**

Council Member Joey Tart wished everyone a Merry Christmas and to remember the reason for the season.

Council Member Godwin congratulated the recipients that received awards tonight. He thanked his fellow Council members and city staff for their support in the loss of his father.

Council Member Billy Tart thanked the citizens of Ward 4 for allowing him to serve them for another year and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Council Member Maness wished everyone a Merry Christmas and to focus on all the blessings received over the last year.

Mayor Pro Tem Olds wished everyone a Merry Christmas. This Council made great strides in the City of Dunn during 2006. He thanked the citizens of Dunn for their support of this Council. He is proud to be a Dunn City Council Member.

Council Member Galbreath thanked everyone for their support in the recent loss of his father. He congratulated all Police Officers that received recent promotions. He thanked the Police Chief and officers for the great job they are doing. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Manager Autry wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. He reminded the Council of the employee Christmas luncheon on Friday, December 15, 2006 at the Community building.

Mayor Snipes announced that the flag at City Hall is flying at half-staff today in observance of Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. He recognized and applauded the Boy Scouts in the audience. He thanked all the dedicated employees of the City for the job they are doing and commended Manager Autry for the fine job he is doing.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Motion by Council Member Godwin, seconded by Council Member Joey Tart to enter Closed Session pursuant to the North Carolina Open Meetings law to discuss personnel matters at 7:44 p.m. **Motion unanimously approved.**

Closed Session

Closed Session adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Motion by Council Member Godwin, seconded by Council Member Maness to approve the minutes of the closed session as recorded by City Attorney Pope. **Motion unanimously approved.**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

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J. Dal Snipes  
Mayor

Attest:

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Debra G. West  
City Clerk