

The Washington City Council met in a continued session on Monday, January 23, 2012 at 5:30 pm in the City Council Chambers at the Municipal Building. Present were: Archie Jennings, Mayor; Bobby Roberson, Mayor Pro tem; Doug Mercer, Councilman; Ed Moultrie, Councilman; William Pitt, Councilman; Richard Brooks, Councilman; Josh Kay, City Manager; and Reatha B. Johnson, Assistant City Clerk.

Also present were: Matt Rauschenbach, Chief Financial Officer; Robbie Rose, Fire Chief; Allen Lewis, Public Works Director; John Rodman, Planning & Development Director; Philip Mobley, Parks and Recreation Director; Gloria Moore, Library Director; Sandy Blizzard, Major; Mike Voss, of the Washington Daily News and Delma Blinson, of the Beaufort Observer.

Mayor Jennings called the meeting to order and Councilman Brooks delivered the invocation.

APPROVAL/AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

Mayor Pro tem Roberson requested adding an item to enter into Closed Session under NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6) Personnel.

By motion of Mayor Pro tem Roberson, seconded by Councilman Moultrie, Council approved adding Closed Session under NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6) Personnel.

Mayor Jennings advised Council there were two action items on the agenda and asked if Council wanted to act upon them tonight. Council agreed to act on the two items. Mayor Jennings stated going forward, we will try to stay with our stated purpose of not taking action at the Committee of the Whole meetings.

By motion of Mayor Pro tem Roberson, seconded by Councilman Mercer, Council approved the agenda as amended.

PRESENTATION – HUNTER & CAMERON PROBERT – WETLAND CLEANUP

Adam Waters, Water Resources Manager with the City of Washington, gave an update on the Wetland Cleanup project and introduced the participants. Mr. Waters stated December 10, 2011 was the second annual cleanup held at the wetlands. There were approximately 10 participants and 50-75 lbs. of trash was collected. Two of the participants to be recognized tonight are Hunter Probert with Girl Scout troop #3556 and Cameron Probert with Boy Scout troop #258.

Mayor Jennings presented certificates to Hunter & Cameron Probert for their outstanding participation in the Second Annual Adopt-A-Wetland program. The project was sponsored by the City of Washington's Water Resources Division.

HOLLAND CONSULTING PLANNERS – CDBG

Mr. Reed Whitesell, representing Holland Consulting Planners, presented Council with a handout explaining NC Catalyst Overview. The Division of Community Investment and Assistance announced their funding programs with a 3 week public comment period (December 19, 2011-January 9, 2012). Mr. Whitesell shared the opportunities for the City of Washington and named the designated targeted areas. Mr. Whitesell emphasized a lot of code enforcement goes on in the targeted areas because some owners don't want to participate in the program. This program will allow us to designate one or more areas in the City and do either contiguous housing or scattered site housing. Mr. Whitesell recommended having one of Holland Consulting Planners' inspectors along with an inspector from the City go out and survey the targeted areas.

NC Catalyst Overview incorporates several previous CDBG programs and activities such as Housing Development, Individual Development Accounts, and Community Revitalization. NC Catalyst will support the six livability principles that guide the Partnership for Sustainable Communities in a federal interagency partnership between the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and the Department of Transportation (DOT).

Program Categories:

- **Housing Development (HD)** – grants will focus on the creation of multi-unit rental developments and provide support for homeownership activities for low and moderate-income families.
- **Single Family Housing** – CDBG grant up to \$250,000/\$18,000 per unit. Eligible uses of CDBG funds include installation of public infrastructure (water, sewer, street, sidewalks and drainage), the removal of hazardous material, and vacant land acquisition by an eligible non-profit or housing counseling project.
- **Multifamily Rental Housing** – CDBG grant up to \$250,000 maximum grant or \$6,000 per unit. Eligible activities include (water, sewer, street, hazardous waste removal, land acquisition with eligible CBDO Organization and can be conjunction with NCHFA Tax Credit program).

Mr. Whitesell advised that the application deadline is 5:00 pm Monday, April 30, 2012 and that the maximum grant amount is \$500,000 (limitations depending upon activity type). Mr. Whitesell noted the City has a verbal commitment with Reverend Moore (Metropolitan) on the Keys Landing Subdivision to complete/assist in Phase II and this will cost approximately \$300,000. This would be seven (7) additional homes and Reverend Moore has committed to five (5) with infrastructure being complete late this week. Reverend Moore and Mr. Whitesell have spoken with Ms. Vicki Miller and he would recommend Council speak with her to access how much of a Catalyst application the City can apply for specifically for Keys Landing. Ms. Gentile has scheduled the first public hearing for all CDBG funding for the February meeting and the second meeting should be schedule sometime in April.

Mayor Jennings and members of City Council agreed with the plan to travel to Raleigh and directed Mr. Whitesell to work with Mr. Kay and coordinate representatives including staff who should attend this meeting. Mayor Pro tem Roberson recommended the manager attend this meeting as well.

APPROVE – PURCHASE ORDERS > \$20,000

City Manager, Josh Kay requested Council approve a purchase order for \$44,876 to purchase two police vehicles (Dodge Chargers from Ilderton Dodge out of High Point, NC). This will be pulling off of the state contract, which allows the City to receive the lowest possible bid. Three vehicles were budgeted for this fiscal year and the purchase of the third will be delayed. Also, we have a reimbursement of \$10,600 from insurance proceeds involving a police vehicle that was totaled. This equates to a total reduction in the installment purchases of \$34,276.

Councilman Pitt inquired if the electronics adapters in the Crown Victoria can convert over to the Dodge on the car computers and the answer was ‘yes’.

By motion of Councilman Moultrie, seconded by Councilman Mercer, Council approved the attached purchase orders of \$44,876 to purchase two police vehicles.

Mayor Pro tem Roberson requested being provided with the number of the vehicle being rotated. This will allow Council to keep up with the vehicles. Mr. Kay stated he will provide those numbers to Council. Also, Mayor Pro tem Roberson voiced he has not seen many “green” vehicles purchased.

ACCEPT AND ADOPT – ACCEPT BID FROM ENECO EAST FOR REPLACEMENT DEHUMIDIFIER COMPRESSOR UNIT (\$17,816.75) AND ADOPT BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT (\$8,017)

Mr. Kay advised Council that the pool dehumidifier has been inoperable since late December 2011. A line item in the budget (10-40-6126-7700) will not be spent on a pool cover - the budget transfer of \$2,100 is within the Parks and Recreation Department - the \$8,017 will be pulled from the contingency funds in the General Fund of \$8,017. The original dehumidifier unit became inoperable in 2005 and was replaced. In 2008 during a quarterly maintenance inspection metal chips were found in the oil supply of the dehumidifier unit. The oil was drained and replaced by a contractor which requested a

Dectron Company tech to inspect our dehumidifier unit and advise us. The company tech noticed that the duct work was improperly installed. Corrections to the duct work were made. This unit has been inoperable since late December 2011. The tech noted that with the damage done to the second unit, by the improper duct work, this unit, in best case, may last another 5 years.

Councilman Mercer voiced the transfer mentioned in line 10-40-6126-7700, Maintenance/Repair of equipment is 10-40-6126-1600 and questioned why create a new line item. Councilman Mercer expressed concerns on the transfer of funding. Parks and Recreation Director, Philip Mobley and Finance Officer, Matt Rauschenbach addressed Councilman Mercer concerns. Mr. Rauschenbach explained the budget amendment should have account number 10-40-6126-1600 and not 10-40-6126-7700, if the request is approved by Council tonight a correction will be made on the account number. Discussion followed pertaining to years of service for the unit itself.

Mayor Jennings requested clarification of all dollars “if the money was in this year’s budget” and the response was ‘yes’.

By motion of Councilman Mercer, seconded by Councilman Pitt, Council accepted the bid from ENECO East for replacement of pool dehumidifier compressor unit in the amount of \$ 17,816.75 and adopted the budget ordinance amendment in the amount of \$ 8,017 with revising the Budget Ordinance Amendment to reflect the correct account number.

Replace Compressor on Dectron Unit	<u>Bids</u>
Eneco East	
Replace Compressor on Dectron Unit	\$15,867.00
2-5 Year Manufacturer’s Compressor Warranty	\$ 1,949.75
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	\$17,816.75
Advance Mechanical	
Replace Compressor on Dectron Unit	\$22,331.00
2-5 Year Manufacturer’s Compressor Warranty	\$ 2,303.00
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	\$24,634.00
ComfortMaster Mechanical	
Replace Compressor on Dectron Unit	\$18,900.00
2-5 Year Manufacturer’s Compressor Warranty	no quote
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	\$18,900.00

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE BUDGET ORDINANCE
OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, N.C.
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012**

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Washington, North Carolina:

- Section 1. That account number 10-40-6126-1600, Maintenance/Repair Equipment, Aquatic Center portion of the General Fund appropriations budget be increased in the amount of \$8,017.
- Section 2. That account number 10-00-9990-9900, Contingency, Contingency portion of the General Fund appropriations budget be decreased in the amount of \$8,017.
- Section 3. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

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

Adopted this the 23rd day of January, 2012.

ATTEST:

s/Cynthia S. Bennett, CMC
City Clerk

s/N. Archie Jennings, III
Mayor

The Budget Officer transferred \$2,100 of funding between Parks & Recreation divisions of the General Fund to provide additional funds for the replacement of the pool humidifier compressor.

DISCUSSION – BROWN STREET AND CHARLOTTE STREET BRIDGES

Mr. Kay advised that several Council members requested the progress on Brown Street Bridge and the future of Charlotte Street Bridge. Public Works Director, Allen Lewis provided Council with a map of an aerial photograph of Jack's Creek drainage basin noting everything within the yellow line drains to Jack's Creek.

Mr. Lewis stated the three 60" diameter culverts (corrugated metal pipes) installed under the Charlotte Street Bridge years ago, are inadequate when it comes to handling the increased stormwater runoff. Mr. Lewis recommended replacing the aging round culverts with four 8 X 8" foot box culverts to better handle stormwater runoff and floodwaters.

Mr. Lewis suggested one of two things that need to take place:

- 1.) Replace the culverts underneath Charlotte Street (costing approximately \$800,000 to a million dollars)
- 2.) Take them out and open the creek up.

Mayor Jennings questioned the feasibility to do anything at the present or in the near future (we should not be in a big hurry to tear out a bridge that's still working). Mayor Jennings inquired "wouldn't it be just as reasonable while Charlotte Street is still a viable bridge to continue using it as is and address either the replacement of Charlotte Street or the taking out of Charlotte Street when it's no longer a functioning Bridge?" Mr. Lewis suggested we are one significant storm away from having flooding issues because of the Charlotte Street culverts being undersized. Councilman Mercer voiced we couldn't have a more significant flood than we had last year during Hurricane Irene in which Mr. Lewis agreed.

Mayor Jennings and Councilman Mercer stated that even with the undersized culverts at Charlotte Street, the City weathered Hurricane Irene last year and Hurricane Isabel several years ago and sees no immediate need to replace the culverts under the existing bridge or remove it. Mr. Lewis suggested the Charlotte Street Bridge becomes a bottleneck when Jack's Creek is swollen with stormwater runoff and/or floodwaters. Also, he noted the phase of 100 year storms etc. tend to give a sense of complacency because the chance of 100 year storm happening in any given year is 1 in 100. We had a 200 year storm in September 2010 and this past August we had Hurricane Irene. Mayor Pro tem Roberson stated over a period of time through the FEMA programs we have increased the capacity of the area in and around Jack's Creek and we should continue with those programs (elevation, reallocation, etc.).

Replacing the Charlotte Street culverts is part of the current \$3.8 million construction project to improve drainage in the Jack's Creek basin.

Mr. Lewis stated the project to replace the Brown Street Bridge, which the City closed in 2006 because of safety concerns, should be completed by the end of February, possibly earlier in the month.

Mr. Kay stated the demolition of Charlotte Street Bridge is in this contract and the contractor has it scheduled between now and the next regular meeting but if it is the will of this Council to take that item out of the contract, staff would request some guidance.

By motion of Councilman Mercer, seconded by Mayor Pro tem Roberson, Council recommended instructing staff to issue a change/stop order to remove the removal of Charlotte Street Bridge from the drainage contract, motion withdrawn - following discussion:

By consensus, Council tabled this action until February 13, 2012 with direction given to staff to have communications with the contractor to defer/delay any projective action concerning Charlotte Street Bridge of the project. Also, advise Council of the carrying capacity of three 60" culverts as it compares to the capacity of the pumping facilities.

Mayor Pro tem Roberson expressed concern on how we handle public relations. Council and staff need to have a meeting to inform/interact with neighbors and the community about what is going to happen to Charlotte Street Bridge. Council agreed to advertise for a public hearing and allow citizens/community to speak at the February 27, 2012 (Committee of the Whole).

CLOSED SESSION – UNDER § NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6) PERSONNEL

By motion of Mayor Pro tem Roberson, seconded by Councilman Pitt, Council agreed to enter closed session under § NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6) Personnel at 6:45 PM.

By motion of Councilman Brooks, seconded by Mayor Pro tem Roberson, Council agreed to come out of Closed Session at 6:57 pm.

ADJOURN – UNTIL MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2012 AT 5:30 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING

By motion of Councilman Pitt, seconded by Mayor Pro tem Roberson, Council adjourned the meeting at 7:00 pm until February 13, 2012 at 5:30 pm in the Council Chambers at the Municipal.

Reatha B. Johnson
Assistant City Clerk