



**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY OCTOBER 11, 2021 @ 6:00 PM  
CHERRYVILLE COMMUNITY BUILDING  
W. J. ALLRAN COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
106 S. JACOB ST. CHERRYVILLE, N.C. 28021**

The Honorable Mayor H.L. Beam called the meeting to order in the William J. Allran Council Chambers. Councilmember's Jill Puett, Gary Freeman, Malcolm Parker, and Jon Abernethy were present. City Clerk Paige H. Green, City Attorney Palmer Huffstetler Jr., Police Chief Cam Jenks, Public Works Director Brandon Abernathy, Downtown Director David Day, and Finance Director Dixie Wall, were also present. Michael Powell of the Cherryville Eagle was present for media coverage.

**INVOCATION: MS. BESS THORNBURG, DCE, FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:**

Ms. Bess Thornburg gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AGENDA APPROVAL:**

Councilmember Parker made a motion to approve the agenda as written. Councilmember Abernethy seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Councilmember Puett made a motion to approve the minutes of the following meetings:

- A. CITY COUNCIL MEETING SEPTEMBER 13, 2021**
- B. CITY COUNCIL RESCHEDULED WORK SESSION MEETING SEPTEMBER 28, 2021**

Councilmember Abernethy seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**MAYOR'S COMMENTS:**

"The Chamber of Commerce will be having the annual Hocus Pocus parade this Friday from 6 pm-9 pm, so watch your surrounding neighborhood between these hours to enjoy this event. David Day will give us an update later this evening on other events.

The City of Cherryville is officially declaring this Saturday October 30 as trick-or-treat night instead of October 31 which falls on a Sunday. We ask that you please observe this date so households will not be troubled on Sunday.

I would like to announce to all our citizens, that our city has received our State Aid to Municipalities Highway Fund (Powell Bill) allocation for October for \$86,945.45. These funds are used primarily for the resurfacing of streets within in our corporate limits and may also be used for purposes of maintaining, repairing, constructing, reconstructing or widening of any street or public thoroughfare including bridges, drainage, curb, gutter, or sidewalks. Municipal officials are legally responsible for the proper management of these funds and can be held liable for any unauthorized expenditures.

On October 2, I was privileged to attend and welcome all in attendance to the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new NAPA store on highway 150 West in Cherryville. Later that evening I attended at the Cherryville Sports Hall of Fame Banquet held at the First Baptist Church Christian Outreach Center.

On October 20, I will be attending the Groundbreaking Ceremony for Caro Mont Family Medicine & Caro Mont Urgent Care in Cherryville located across from McDonald's.

November 2 is Election Day, and I would like to remind all our citizens to go to the polls and cast your ballot for the candidates of your choice.

Now we will proceed with tonight's agenda."

**CITIZENS TO BE HEARD: CITIZENS THAT WISH TO SPEAK MAY DO SO BY COMING TO THE PODIUM AND STATING YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS BEFORE YOU SPEAK. COMMENTS WILL BE HELD TO 5 MINUTES PER PERSON. (PLEASE SIGN UP WITH THE CLERK AT THE MEETING BEFORE THE MEETING BEGINS):**

None.

**CONSIDERATION OF PROCLAMATION SUPPORTING DYSAUTONOMIA AWARENESS MONTH, MAYOR BEAM:**

Mayor Beam read the following proclamation and presented it to Ashley Jenks:



**A PROCLAMATION FOR DYSAUTONOMIA AWARENESS MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, dysautonomia is a group of medical conditions that result in a malfunction of the autonomic nervous system, which is responsible for “automatic” bodily functions such as respiration, heart rate, blood pressure, digestion, temperature control and more;

**WHEREAS**, some forms of dysautonomia are considered rare diseases, such as Multiple System Atrophy and Pure Autonomic Failure, while other forms of dysautonomia are common, impacting millions of people in the US and around the world, such as Diabetic Autonomic Neuropathy, Neurocardiogenic Syncope and Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome;

**WHEREAS**, dysautonomia impacts people of any age, gender, race or background, including many individuals living in Cherryville, NC;

**WHEREAS**, some forms of dysautonomia can be very disabling and this disability can result in social isolation, stress on the families of those impacted, and financial hardship;

**WHEREAS**, some forms of dysautonomia can result in death, causing tremendous pain and suffering for those impacted and their loved ones;

**WHEREAS**, increased awareness about dysautonomia will help patients get diagnosed and treated earlier, save lives, and foster support for individuals and families coping with dysautonomia in our community;

**WHEREAS**, Dysautonomia International, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that advocates on behalf of patients living with dysautonomia, encourages communities to celebrate Dysautonomia Awareness Month each October around the world;


**WHEREAS**, we seek to recognize the contributions of the professional medical community, patients and family members who are working to educate our citizenry about dysautonomia in Cherryville, NC.

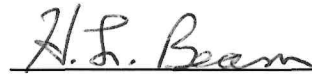
**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Henry L. Beam,  
Maysn of City of Cherryville do hereby proclaim

the month of October as,

## **DYSAUTONOMIA AWARENESS MONTH**

Throughout \_\_\_\_\_

  
Paige H. Green, CMC, NCCMC, City Clerk

  
H.L. Beam, Mayor

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEE'S YEARS OF SERVICE, MAYOR BEAM:**

Mayor Beam recognized the following employee for her years of service:

● **ROBIN LITTLE      CUSTOMER SERVICE REP.      5 YEARS**

**PRESENTATION ON FESTIVALS IN CHERRYVILLE, DOWNTOWN DIRECTOR DAVID DAY:**

Downtown Director David Day gave the following updates on upcoming festivals in Cherryville:



**Main Street Events 2021**

**October 15, 2021 6 – 9 pm** - Hocus Pocus Parade

**October 21 – 3** - Thursday in the Mini Park as we have been doing since June. This will be a smaller event with food trucks, beer truck and one singer in the mini park. This is not a large crowd type event.

**October 22** – Scary-Ville in the Mini Park and Children's art way along with Main Street.

**October 29** – Monsters March down Main Street. We are not sure the schools are going to allow the students to participate but some of the local daycares have called and asked.

**November 27** – Holiday Market on Main Street and Small Business Saturday. We tried to hold this event last year but due to the State Mandate, we had to cancel a week before. We will have small local vendors, under tents, in the Mini Park and Chamber Parking lot. This is to draw shoppers to Main Street and our Local Merchants for Christmas. We are planning on **Lighting the Christmas tree** and other decorations that night.

**December 3** – Whooville – Cherryville Mini Park

**December 11 - 10 – 12 pm** - Annual Christmas Parade on Main Street. We have confirmed the sidewalks will not be an issue from the contractors during this, but again draws large crowds.

We do have some other smaller events we are looking at doing on Friday evenings in December that will involve the Mini Park and encourage shopping at our local stores for the Holiday – Special Music in the Mini Park, Choirs.

Main Street Christmas Decorations – The special Task Force made up of community members

1. Wade Stroupe
2. Dennis Workman
3. Tammy Johnson
4. Mark Jones
5. Ashley Patterson
6. Debbie Hopper
7. Steve Panton
8. Mary Beth Tackett

This task force met to decide the Theme, How to Decorate, and Market out Christmas on Main Street destination. The team voted on “A Very Cherry Christmas”. We will do special light shows in certain parts of main street and purchase special ornaments that will attract citizens and visitors to our Main Street. However, this year our order cannot be shipped until after February 2022 at the earliest. We are ordering supplies that will use them in 2022 and the streetscape should be complete by then. We are going to use repurposed items with new lights as stated before and have Farris Fabricators make some items to use local merchants as well. This will be done mid-to late November for the Christmas Tree Lighting on Nov 27.

PBS – WTVI UNC Charlotte has almost finished the “Trail Of History” documentary on Cherryville. New Year’s Shooters, Baseball, Lotta Burgers, Carolina Freight, and other historic mills will be covered. This will cover the beginnings of Cherryville through the new revitalization of Main Street. It should air in late Nov or early Dec.

PBS – New Hour recorded last Thursday a 15-to-20-minute new program about the impact of our town’s revitalization and the economic impact we are seeing now and in the future. Should air in Oct.

PBS – New Hour will come back Late October and record us hanging the Veterans Flags and interview Rebecca at Butter Me Up about why as a veteran she chose to open a business on our Main Street, and he might want to interview other local veterans for their Veterans Day Special. He is going to advise me.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Councilmember Freeman asked, Public Works Director Brandon Abernathy, for an update on the sidewalks on Academy Street and Elm Street. The sidewalks on the corner of Elm Street and Old Post Rd. received extensive damaged after a storm in October 2020.

Mr. Abernathy approached the podium and shared that he has tried to get in touch with the contractor that caused the damage at the corner of Elm Street and Old Post Road but he has been unsuccessful. Mr. Abernathy shared that he is not sure where the contractor has been but he is going to give him one more opportunity. Mr. Abernathy shared that he already has a couple more contractors lined up to repair the sidewalks but the contractor that caused the damage will be responsible for the bill. Mr. Abernathy stated that the contractor that caused the damage has had ample time and he should have replaced the sidewalks a long time ago. Mr. Abernathy shared that the contractor asked staff to work with him and give him three months to get the job done and staff has done that but his time is up. Mr. Abernathy shared that the sidewalk on Academy Street is on the list for repairs also. He went on to say the sidewalk on Styers Street have been repaired as well as the sidewalk on N. Mulberry Street.

Councilmember Freeman shared that the sidewalk on Academy Street has a drainpipe sticking up out of it and that would need to be repaired also.

Mayor Beam asked if the contractor that cut the trees on Elm Street acknowledges that he did damage the sidewalk and he will be responsible for the bill.

Mr. Abernathy responded by saying yes the contractor does acknowledge the damage and he told staff that he could repair the sidewalk himself. The homeowner even told city staff who the contractor was. Mr. Abernathy will be reaching out to the contractor again to let him know that he will be receiving a bill from the City of Cherryville.

Mr. Day shared that plans are in the works for Howell Stroupe Park to have a much-needed overhaul. Mr. Day shared that some trees in the park need to be removed, and the uneven brick pavers are a safety issue and they will be removed as well. Mr. Day shared that private donations will pay for the work performed in updating this park.

Mayor Beam asked if Mr. Bob Barker has reached out to Mr. Day about planting more cherry trees. Mr. Day shared that Mr. Barker has contact him and he has given him a specific list of instructions on following up with the nursery and planting more cherry trees.

Mayor Beam asked about the money that Mr. Barker had donated and wanted to know where those funds were. Mr. Day shared that some of the funds have gone to the Rotary Club. Mr. Day went on to say that when Covid started, and Rotary was unable to meet, Mr. Barker

called and asked if the Chamber of Commerce could be the liaison of the donated funds. Mr. Barker donated the money after Upchurch Nursery had already ordered the cherry trees so Upchurch Nursery sent the invoice to the Chamber of Commerce for the trees. Mr. Day stated that, Program Coordinator Ms. Mary Beth Tackett, reached out to Mr. Barker, he mailed a check to her, and she paid Upchurch Nursery. Mr. Day shared that he has kept records of all the funds that have been treated like private funds and they were not run through the City of Cherryville. Mr. Day shared that more cherry trees will be planted soon and approximately fifteen will be planted at Howell Stroupe Park.

**CONSIDERATION TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION RE: N.C.G.S. 143-318.11.(6):**

**(6) To consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee; or to hear or investigate a complaint, charge, or grievance by or against an individual public officer or employee. General personnel policy issues may not be considered in a closed session. A public body may not consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, appointment, or removal of a member of the public body or another body and may not consider or fill a vacancy among its own membership except in an open meeting. Final action making an appointment or discharge or removal by a public body having final authority for the appointment or discharge or removal shall be taken in an open meeting.**

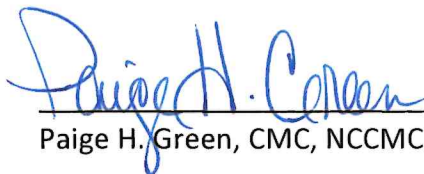
Councilmember Puett made a motion to enter into closed session at 6:25 pm. Councilmember Parker seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

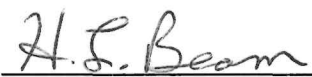
Mayor Beam and Council returned from the closed session at 6:32 and announced that Council took no action in closed session.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilmember Puett made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Abernethy seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.

Adopted this 8 day of November 2021.

  
Paige H. Green, CMC, NCCMC, City Clerk

  
H.L. Beam, Mayor



