



**Regular City Council Meeting
Monday October 9th, 2023 @ 6:00PM
Cherryville Community Building
W.J. Allran Jr. Council Members
106 S. Jacob St. Cherryville, NC 28021**

The Honorable Mayor H.L. Beam called the regular scheduled meeting to order at the community building in the William J. Allran Jr. Council Chambers. Councilmembers Jill Puett, Jon Abernethy, Gary Freeman, and Malcolm Parker were present. City Manager Brian Dalton, City Attorney Palmer Huffstetler Jr., Public Works Director Chris J. King, Planning and Zoning Director Richard Elam, Finance Director Dixie Wall, Downtown Director David Day, Asst. Fire Chief Colby Heffner, Fire Chief Jason Wofford, and Police Chief Brandon Hunsucker were also present. Michael Powell with the Cherryville Eagle was present for Media Coverage.

INVOCATION: CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR JENNA SPIKER, MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH:

Mrs. Spiker gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Everyone stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilmember Puett made a motion to approve the September 11, 2023, regular scheduled minutes as written and Closed Session Meeting Minutes as written from September 11, 2023. Councilmember Freeman seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Beam gave a brief update on the museum and some of the projects taking place around town. Mayor Beam talked about Westgate Park, Edwards Park, and a grant that was received for \$1.65 million from the State Budget. Mayor Beam gave special thanks to Senator Ted Alexander and Representative Kelly Hastings for all their assistance in securing the \$1.65 million dollar grant.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mayor Beam gave any citizens that wished to speak the opportunity and no citizens requested to speak.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF CITY ATTORNEY PALMER E. HUFFSTETLER JR

Mayor Beam presented City Attorney Palmer E. Huffstetler Jr a plaque thanking him for his service of 33 years to the City of Cherryville. Mr. Huffstetler is retiring and moving to the Beach at the conclusion of this meeting. Mr. Huffstetler's father, Palmer Huffstetler, was present as well. Mr. Huffstetler said they he was appointed City Attorney in 1990 at the age of 28.

APPOINTMENT OF YANSEA TAYLOR AS CITY ATTORNEY

Mrs. Yansea Taylor was present with her family and Mayor Beam called for a motion to hire Mrs. Taylor as the new City Attorney. Councilmember Parker made a motion to hire Mrs. Taylor, the motion was seconded by Councilmember Puett and the vote was unanimous.

PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING REZONING OF 518 N. MULBERRY ST FROM GMC TO R-9.

A motion was made by Councilmember Puett and seconded by Councilmember Parker to go into public hearing. The vote was unanimous to enter public hearing. Planning and Zoning Director Elam provided details of the rezoning request of 518 N. Mulberry St from GMC to R-9. On May 16, 2023, the current home was destroyed when a tree fell and hit the structure. The current owner has plans to tear the existing structure down and build a new duplex on the property. Planning and Zoning Director Elam provided a map showing that all lots surrounding 518 N. Mulberry St are currently zoned R-9. Planning and Zoning Director Elam reported that the Planning Board met on 8/24/23 and recommended the rezoning to R-9. Legal notices were posted at City Hall on 9/13/23 and the property was posted. All adjoining property owners were also mailed notification of the potential rezoning. Legal notice was also advertised in the Cherryville Eagle on 9/27/23 and 10/4/23. Vicki Spurling was present on behalf of the applicant, Seth Harrelson. Mrs. Spurling spoke briefly in support of the rezoning and the need to help the area with new construction. No other citizens wished to speak during the Public Hearing. Councilmember Parker made a motion to exit Public Hearing and was seconded by Councilmember Abernethy, the vote was unanimous. Council then went through the statement

of consistency. The rezoning concluded the rezoning was consistent with the 2012 Land use plan and that the rezoning was reasonable and in the public interest. Councilmember Abernethy made a motion to rezone the property to R-9 and the motion was seconded by Councilmember Freeman. The vote to rezone 518 N. Mulberry St from GMC to R-9 was unanimous.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS: FINANCE DIRECTOR DIXIE WALL

Finance Director Dixie Wall appeared before Council with several budget amendments. The budget amendments were carry overs of donations and grants that have not been spent at this point. A motion was made by Councilmember Parker and seconded by Councilmember Puett to approve the budget amendments. The vote was unanimous.

OTHER BUSINESSES

City Manager Brian Dalton gave an update on the gymnasium that is looking to be built. City Manager Brian Dalton stated that a pre-bid meeting was held and that eight (8) contractors were present. A decision was made to wait for site plans to be completed by City Engineer Recil Wright and then receive bids on November 9, 2023.

Westgate and Edwards Park were spoken about by City Manager Brian Dalton. An update was given on where these projects were at this time.

City Manager Dalton gave an update on the plans to move Middle School Baseball to the Senior Little League field with the recent decision to move to a regulation field.

City Manager Dalton went over the three (3) projects we look to complete with the \$1.65 million dollar grant. The other oxidation ditch, two new catch basins at the water plant and the revamping of our pump stations.

City Manager Dalton gave an update on trying to hire a full-time recreation director in the next several months. This would be accomplished with the second half (500,000) CDA agreement with Piedmont Lithium.

An update was also given concerning the pipe at Academy/Depot. The pipe has been lined and a contractor is scheduled to grout the pipe before patching the damaged areas.

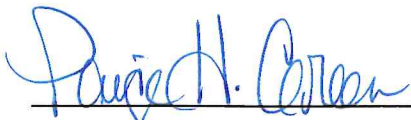
A meeting has been scheduled with the contractor on 10/18/23 concerning the bridge at the Ballard Pump Station.

A new contract with the City of Lincolnton should be presented at the November Council Meeting concerning the inter-connect. The price has been adjusted from \$3.05 per 1000 gallons to \$1.50 per 1000 gallons.

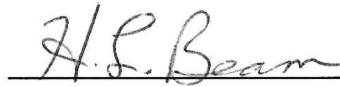
ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Abernethy made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Puett. The vote was unanimous to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 6:36 pm.

Adopted this 13 day of November 2023.



Paige H. Green, CMC, NCCMC, City Clerk



H.L. Beam, Mayor

