

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
Regular Meeting
Monday, June 8, 2009

CALL TO ORDER: By Mayor Pro Tem Smith Monday, June 8, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councilmembers Arnold, Baker, Lewis, Weissenborn, Mayor Pro-Tem Smith, City Attorney Tom Hitch and City Manager Guetschow

ABSENT: Mayor Shaughnessy

The invocation was offered by Mayor Pro Tem Smith, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF May 26, 2009: Motion by Councilmember Lewis, second by Baker to approve the minutes of May 26, 2009, as presented. Carried. 5 Yeas. 0 Nays.

EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS: Motion by Councilmember Weissenborn, second by Arnold to excuse Mayor Shaughnessy from the June 8, 2009, Regular City Council Meeting. Carried. 5 Yeas. 0 Nays.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CHARLOTTE HIGH SCHOOL LIAISON: No Report

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Councilmember Arnold, second by Lewis to approve the agenda, as presented. Carried. 5 Yeas. 0 Nays.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Approve Resolution 2009-10 adopting changes to the City of Charlotte Section 125 Cafeteria Plan through BASIC

- B. Claims and Accounts – Total Claims - \$491,367.40

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Councilmember Arnold, second by Baker, to approve the consent agenda. Carried. 5 Yeas. 0 Nays.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS:

A. Interview Candidates for City Council Vacancy/Make Appointment

Candidates were sent a letter with the following list of questions and were asked to respond to the questions in their opening statement.

1. What do you feel is the most important issue facing the community?
2. What do you feel is the most important issue facing Charlotte City government?
3. What approach will you take to working with fellow Councilmembers to make decisions?
4. How would you describe your leadership style? Describe an example of when this style has worked for you.
5. How do you feel you can be most effective as a councilmember?

Mr. Cuttle introduced himself and gave an opening statement. Mr. Dack introduced himself and gave an opening statement. Candidates were then asked the following questions by the Councilmembers:

1. What is one thing that made you decide to apply for the Council Vacancy?
2. What is the role of a Councilmember and how does it compare to the role of staff?
3. How will you communicate with the community and bring those opinions and concerns back to Council?
4. Are you interested in making this long term by running for the seat in November?
5. How do you see your role in the economic growth of the City?

6. Identify two or three things Charlotte could improve on.
7. Give an example of a time you have worked with others to achieve a goal.

Councilmembers thanked the candidates and encouraged them, no matter what the result, to run in November for City Council.

Motion by Councilmember Weissenborn, second by Lewis to nominate Scott Cuttle to fill the vacant seat on City Council. There were no other nominations, so a roll call vote was taken and Councilmembers were asked to vote Yea or Nay. **Carried. 5 Yeas. 0 Nays.**

Mr. Cuttle was sworn in and sat at the council table to take part in the rest of the council meeting.

B. Consider Council Policy 2009-03 regarding Park Pavilion Use and Reservations

City Manager Guetschow explained that this policy replaces Council Policy 2009-02. It reflects the minor changes council requested when they passed 2009-02.

Motion by Councilmember Arnold, second by Baker to approve and adopt Council Policy 2009-03 Park Pavilion Use and Reservations. Carried. 6 Yeas. 0 Nays.

C. Consider Contract with OHM for Design and Engineering of 2009/2010 Road Construction Projects

City Manager Guetschow indicated that included in the packet is a brief report from DPW Director Amy Schoonover explaining that the contract is a budgeted expenditure, and does not require sealed bids. He also indicated that the limit of liability has been increased to \$100,000 pursuant to the City's request.

Motion by Councilmember Weissenborn, second by Lewis to approve the contract with OHM in the amount of \$13,000 for design and engineering of the City's 2009/2010 road projects. Carried. 6 Yeas. 0 Nays.

D. First Reading of an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 52: Property Maintenance by adding Article II – Nuisance

Abatement and adding Article III – Fees, and by repealing Chapter 26: Environment, and Article III Weeds of Chapter 70: Vegetation of the Code of the City of Charlotte

City Manager Guetschow explained that this is the next step in the city's efforts to improve the way in which we handle Code Enforcement. A new section has been created in the Code of Ordinances that will address all forms of nuisance. One of the changes significant that will be the result of this ordinance is that we will adopt the International Property Maintenance Code Standard for weed height which is 10", opposed to our current standard which is 12". There was discussion about the "100 feet" rule, and how it is applied in more rural sections of the city. This ordinance does not make an exception, but weed cutting is normally complaint based, and there have not been complaints targeted at the more rural areas of the city. City manager Guetschow will review this section and try to created alternative language.

Motion by Councilmember Baker, second by Lewis to approve First Reading of an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 52: Property Maintenance by adding Article II – Nuisance Abatement and adding Article III – Fees, and by repealing Chapter 26: Environment, and Article III Weeds of Chapter 70: Vegetation of the Code of the City of Charlotte. Carried. 6 Yeas. 0 Nays.

E. Consider Request from the City Manager to grant permission for him to accept outside consulting work

The City Manager indicated that there is a provision in his labor agreement stating that he must obtain permission from Council before he accepts any outside consulting work. An opportunity has been presented to him to conduct training and consulting for the Michigan Association of Community and Adult Education, and he would like to do the work. He will work with them for not more than 8 hours per month and, if necessary, will take vacation and personal time to perform the work. He does not believe it will interfere with his responsibilities to the City, or present a conflict of interest.

Motion by Councilmember Lewis, second by Arnold to approve the City Managers Request to perform outside consulting work for the Michigan Association of Community and Adult Education. Carried. 6 Yeas. 0 Nays.

COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT: Attorney Hitch summarized his written report for Council.

CITY MANAGER REPORT: City Manager Guetschow reviewed the information in his written report.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilmember Baker announced that there is an Airport Advisory Meeting on June 9th at 7:00 a.m. they will be discussing the Father's Day Fly-in and a "Friends of the Airport" committee which could provide scholarships for flight training.

Councilmember Arnold attended the Charlotte Area Recreation Council Meeting on May 27th, in which CARC approved the final draft of the recreation cooperative agreement. It will now be submitted to each township and the city for review by its administration and legal council and then submitted to the governing bodies hopefully by late July or the first of August. At the next meeting on June 24th, they will meet with various local athletic groups to ascertain their needs.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilmember Cuttle expressed his thanks for the appointment to City Council.

Councilmember Arnold asked if we would be formally recognizing Johnson Lumbers 100th Anniversary.

Councilmember Lewis attended the dedication of the Leland and Opal Peck Memorial Garden at the Hospice Center. He was very impressed by the calm and beautiful setting.

Councilmember Baker indicated that there was a Ribbon Cutting for CVS on June 8th at noon.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith thanked the candidates for their interest in sitting on City Council. He thanked City Manager Guetschow for organizing and leading the citizen's symposium, and he thanked Spartan Motors for hosting a tour of their facilities on Mayor Exchange Day. He announced that beginning June 10th, another series of "Evening with the Experts" will begin.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Deleski Smith, Mayor Pro Tem

Michelle M. King, City Clerk