

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
Regular Meeting
April 27, 2015

CALL TO ORDER: By Mayor Burch on Monday, April 27, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councilmembers Baker, Dyer, Ridge, Johnston, Mayor Pro-Tem Sanders, Mayor Burch, City Clerk Terpstra and City Manager Guetschow.

The invocation was offered by Mayor Burch followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 13, 2015: Councilmember Baker moved, supported by Sanders to approve the minutes of April 13, 2015 as presented. Carried. 6 Yes. 0 No.

ABSENT: Councilmember Conway.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sanders moved, supported by Baker to excuse Councilmember Conway. Carried. 6 Yes. 0 No.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Emily Williamson, 1874 Otto Rd., addressed the City Council on the need for improvements to the tennis courts for the students and the community.

Fred Wieting, 221 High St., addressed the council regarding past real estate property purchases.

Jeremy Burns, 1156 Porter Dr., invited councilmembers to an assembly on May 19th at Charlotte High School for a “Stay Alive Don’t Text & Drive” Campaign presentation.

Zachary Story, 105 ½ S. Cochran, Ste. B, addressed the council on street repair.

Lisa Barnett, 4312 W. Kalamo Hwy, spoke in support of the tennis court project.

CHARLOTTE HIGH SCHOOL LIAISON: None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Councilmember Dyer moved, supported by Ridge to approve the agenda moving Item 11 f to Item 11 a (Discussion regarding Bennett Park Tennis Courts), moving Item 10e on Consent agenda to Items of Business 11g and removing Item 10f from the agenda. Carried. 6 Yes. 0 No.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

- a) Approve Resolution for Charitable Gaming License for Charlotte Athletic Boosters Annual Dinner Raffle on May 2, 2015
- b) Approve Authorization for Mayor to sign contracts for Airport Project
- c) Approve Proclamation 2015-0427 Buddy Poppy V.F.W. May 7, 8 & 9, 2015
- d) Approve Farm Land Bid 13.2 Acres Island Hwy. to Jeremy Droscha in the amount of \$9000 for five years
- e) Approve Farm Land Bid 57 Acres Combs Industrial Park to Brian Dunn, Dunn Farms in the amount of \$41,325.00 for five years
- ~~f) Approve the amendment to UV Contract for Moore & Bruggink in the amount of \$14,700.00~~

- g) Approve Change Order No. 2 for UV Project for Davis Construction in the amount of \$12,807.92
- h) Approve authorization of online auction sale of DPW Surplus Equipment
- i) Approve Claims and Accounts in the Amount of \$505,988.44

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA BY ROLL CALL VOTE: Mayor Pro-Tem Sanders moved, supported by Ridge to approve the consent agenda with the changes above. 6 Yes. 0 No.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS:

A. DISCUSSION REGARDING IMPROVING BENNETT PARK TENNIS COURTS:

Councilmember Ridge stated that she had been approached by Emily Williamson regarding the need for fixing and repairing the tennis courts at Bennett Park. She stated that the Charlotte Area Recreation Co-op would like to apply for a Patronicity Grant to fund part of the tennis court project. If the grant is approved the MDEC will match \$25,000.00, leaving \$75,000 yet to be funded.

Discussion was held among councilmembers on spending money to repair the tennis courts.

Councilmember Dyer moved to spend up to \$50,000.00 of city funds to repair the tennis courts. No support. Motion denied.

Councilmember Ridge moved, supported by Dyer to spend up to \$75,000.00 on the tennis court project as presented. Carried. 4 Yes. (Dyer, Ridge, Baker, Burch) 2 No. (Johnston, Sanders) 1 Absent (Conway).

B. CHRISTI DUTCHER PRESENTATION COURTHOUSE SQUARE:

Christi Dutcher, representing Courthouse Square addressed the council requesting continued support of the Courthouse Square Association in the budget process.

C. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FIREWORKS PERMIT FOR CELEBRATE CHARLOTTE FIREWORKS:

Councilmember Dyer moved, supported by Baker to approve the fireworks permit for Celebrate Charlotte as presented. Carried. 6 Yes. 0 No.

D. DISCUSSION REGARDING PROPOSED UTILITY RATE INCREASE:

Finance Director Mossner gave an overview of what the change in Water/Sewer Rate would be with the proposed increase to utility rates.

Discussion was held among councilmembers and questions asked about the reasons for the rate increase and when the last increase was imposed.

E. DISCUSSION REGARDING DOWNTOWN PARKING LOT RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT:

Discussion was held by councilmembers regarding selling bonds for

downtown parking lot reconstruction projects.

City Manager Guetschow stated that it would take approximately an additional ten years to complete the parking lots if it is not done through the sale of bonds. He asked that this decision be made during the budget process.

F. DISCUSSION REGARDING A STREET RESURFACING AND RECONSTRUCTION PROGRAM:

Public Works Director Gilson explained the approach taken to decide which streets need to be repaired and how that relates to the PASER Ratings.

Discussion was held by councilmembers on what roads that they would like to see resurfaced and/or reconstructed.

Director Gilson explained how the money, received for the roads, is split between the different entities.

City Manager Guetschow explained that not all streets are eligible for grant monies, however, it is advantageous to use grant monies when possible.

G. FARMLAND BID 57 ACRES ISLAND HWY. COMBS INDUSTRIAL PARK TO BRIAN DUNN, DUNN FARMS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$41,325.00 FOR FIVE YEARS:

Councilmember Ridge questioned if it is determined, sometime during the lease agreement, that the land needed to be used by the City, if the lease could be rescinded.

City Manager Guetschow stated that was addressed in the lease agreement.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT: None.

CITY MANAGER REPORT: City Manager Guetschow reported that a draft agreement has been received from the Eaton County Road Commission.

He reported that the Armory closing was on Friday, April 24, 2015.

He reported that the owner of the Charlotte Plaza called and reported that he has authorized Eric Rogers to represent him in proceeding with some improvements to the parking lot.

City Manager Guetschow addressed the letter that was received today and distributed to councilmembers from Jim Malish, 430 S. Cochran, regarding his desire to have a grocery type store in the area of his residence. He stated that this is one of the concepts that the revitalization plan for the downtown will be looking at.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Councilmember Ridge reported that the Recreation Co-op has been working on the softball field project and the tennis court funding.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Zachary Story, 105 ½ S. Cochran, Ste. B, addressed the council on his disapproval of the tennis court decision and the need to fix streets.

Mickey Williamson, Alex Reinbold and James Olson, thanked the council for supporting the tennis court proposal on behalf of the tennis team.

Kelly Boks, stated that she appreciates the dedication to the community.

Emily Williamson, 1874 Otto Rd., thanked council for taking care of the tennis courts and stated council needs to be respected.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

- Councilmember Johnston thanked residents for participating and pushing for things they care about.
- Councilman Dyer stated that he supported the tennis courts in the end.
- Councilmember Ridge thanked everyone for the support for the tennis court project. She stated that she sees the city growing and is thankful for the community support.
- Mayor Pro-Tem Sanders thanked everyone for coming out.
- Councilmember Baker expressed her condolences to the Sam Spagnuolo family in his passing. She thanked Jeremy Burns for his presentation on the Don't Text & Drive campaign.
- Mayor Burch encouraged everyone to enjoy the community. She asked that everyone embrace the good and work together to fix things.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sanders moved, second by Dyer to adjourn at 9:05 P.M. Carried. 6 Yes. 0 No.

Mayor Burch

Ginger Terpstra, City Clerk