

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE REIDSVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
HELD TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2017 AT 6:00 P.M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL**

**CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mayor John M. “Jay” Donecker  
Mayor Pro Tem Harry L. Brown  
Councilman Tom Balsley  
Councilman James K. Festerman  
Councilman Donald L. Gorham  
Councilman William Hairston  
Councilwoman Sherri G. Walker

**COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:**

NONE

**CITY STAFF PRESENT:**

Preston W. Mitchell, City Manager  
Angela G. Stadler, CMC, City Clerk  
William F. McLeod Jr., City Attorney  
Chris Phillips, Assistant City Manager –  
Administration  
Tom Wiggins, Assistant City Manager –  
Community Services  
Kevin Eason, Public Works Director  
Robert Hassell, Police Chief  
David Bracken, Fire Chief  
Jeff Garstka, Economic Development Director  
Donna Setliff, Community Development  
Manager  
Pat Knowles, Solid Waste Superintendent

Mayor Pro Tem Brown called the meeting to order. He noted that Mayor Donecker was absent and wished for him safe travels back to our City and the meeting.

**INVOCATION.**

Reverend Ralph Clayton, Pastor of Covington Memorial Wesleyan Church, provided the invocation after thanking the Council, City Manager and staff for all they do for our wonderful city.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

The Council then led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PROCLAMATIONS:**

Mayor Pro Tem Brown asked all of the Council members to join him in front of the dais for the reading of tonight’s three proclamations.

**RECOGNITION OF MARCH AS THE 15<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MARCH FOR MEALS MONTH.**

The Mayor Pro Tem asked Julie Talbert of Aging, Disability & Transit Services of Rockingham County (ADTS) and anyone else she'd like to come up with her to the front for the reading of the proclamation by Councilwoman Sherri Walker. (A COPY OF THE PROCLAMATION IS HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.) Talbert was accompanied by Ann Boyte, Fran Hughes, Cathy Powers, Harold Jennings and Peter McKinnon. Nutrition Director Ann Boyte thanked the Council on behalf of the Meals on Wheels recipients and the volunteers. It was noted that they are always looking for volunteers. Talbert encouraged Council members to participate in Champions Delivery this month, telling them all they would be heart warmed by the experience. ADTS Executive Director Cathy Powers said the City has been an amazing partner with ADTS for the last 43 years, and the partnership just continues to expand. She added that they couldn't have served the some 52,000 meals across Rockingham County in a given year without the support of elected officials, local municipalities, businesses, the faith-based community and local organizations such as United Way and the Reidsville Area Foundation. She thanked everyone for their support.

**RECOGNITION OF CATHERINE WILSON AND THE OLD SCHOOL BLOCK COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE.**

Councilman Gorham then read aloud a proclamation recognizing Catherine Wilson, who he described as the catalyst for keeping the legacy and the history of the black business community along Northeast and Northwest Markets Streets alive, part of which is now Martin Luther King Drive. (A COPY OF THE PROCLAMATION IS HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.) Wilson said she could not take credit for this because without the committee, she would never have been able to do what she did. The committee started out with four people following the vision that she had and since then, one of the member, Stanley Johnson, has passed away. Two of the other original committee members were sick tonight, she added. However, Wilson said they still have a full-fledged committee who make sure this legacy does live on, including Rev. Clarence Johnson as Senior Advisor. She thanked Rev. Johnson for attending tonight as well as the Council and the City for their support. She said they looked forward to doing more and to work together for unity in the community and making Reidsville even a greater place. Wilson asked for continued prayers for their work. Councilman Gorham concluded by saying for those who didn't know, Wilson was a business owner here at one time who made the best hot dogs ever. Former Councilman George Rucker even called her "Hot Dog Cat", Councilman Gorham said.

**RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC WORKS RETIREE MILTON KENNON.**

City of Reidsville retiree Milton Kennon was then recognized with a proclamation read by Councilman Festerman, who called Kennon a longtime friend and colleague for more than 20 years. (A COPY OF THE PROCLAMATION FOR KENNON IS HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.) The Councilman said that Kennon was in charge of the City's Recycling Center and made everybody feel welcome there. He said that Kennon had given extraordinary service to the City, his church and family.

Councilman Festerman then presented Kennon with a watch given to those retirees with 30 years of service to the City.

**APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 14, 2017 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES.**

**Councilman Balsley made the motion, seconded by Councilman Gorham and unanimously approved in a 6-0 vote (Mayor Donecker had not yet arrived) to approve the February 14, 2017 regular meeting minutes.**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

**CONSIDERATION OF AN ORDINANCE TO EXTEND THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF REIDSVILLE FOR 1016 NORTH WILLOW STREET, REIDSVILLE.**

In making the staff report, Community Development Manager Donna Setliff noted that the owners of 1016 N. Willow Street have voluntarily requested the City annex this property. She explained that this is non-contiguous annexation and meets the statutory requirements for annexation since the nearest point of the property is not more than three miles from the City's corporate limits. The property also is not closer to any other municipality than it is to Reidsville, she said, and is well below the 10% acreage allotted for non-contiguous annexations.

Setliff stated that staff finds the petition to be valid and recommends approval of the Ordinance to Council. She added that if approved by Council, the Ordinance would take effect on June 30, 2017.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown opened the public hearing at 6:23 p.m., asking if there was anyone who wished to speak in favor or against the ordinance? No one came forward, and the public hearing was closed at 6:24 p.m.

**Councilman Hairston made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Walker and unanimously approved by Council in a 6-0 vote, to approve the voluntary annexation of 1016 North Willow Street.**

The Ordinance as approved follows:

**AN ORDINANCE TO EXTEND THE  
CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE  
CITY OF REIDSVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA  
1016 N. Willow Street**

**A2017-02**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council has been petitioned under G.S. 160A-58.1 to annex the area described below; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council has by resolution directed the City Clerk to investigate the sufficiency of the petition; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Clerk has certified the sufficiency of the petition and a public hearing on the question of this annexation was held at City Council Chambers, 230 West

Morehead Street, at 6:00 P.M. on Tuesday, March 14, 2017, after due notice by publication on Sunday, February 26, 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council finds that the petition meets the requirements of G.S. 160A-58.1(b), to wit;

- a. The nearest point on the proposed satellite corporate limits is not more than three (3) miles from the corporate limits of the City of Reidsville;
- b. No point on the proposed satellite corporate limits is closer to another municipality than to the City of Reidsville;
- c. The area described is so situated that the City of Reidsville will be able to provide the same services within the proposed satellite corporate limits that it provides within the primary corporate limits;
- d. No subdivision, as defined in G.S. 160A-376, will be fragmented by this proposed annexation;
- e. The area within the proposed satellite corporate limits when added to the area within all other satellite corporate limits, does not exceed ten percent (10%) of the area within the primary corporate limits of the City of Reidsville; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Reidsville further finds that the petition has been signed by all the owners of real property in the area who are required by law to sign; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Reidsville further finds that the petition is otherwise valid, and that the public health, safety and welfare of the City of Reidsville and of the area proposed for annexation will be best served by annexing the area described;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of Reidsville, North Carolina that:

Section 1. By virtue of the authority granted by G.S. 160A-58.2, the following described non-contiguous territory is hereby annexed and made part of the City of Reidsville as of June 30, 2017:

Lying and being in Reidsville Township, Rockingham County, North Carolina, Beginning at an iron in the North margin of Willow Street Extension, the Southeast corner of Lot No. 112; thence with the East margin of Lot No. 112, North 18 deg. 34 min. East 200 feet to an iron, the Northeast corner of Lot No. 112; thence South 71 deg. 26 min. East 100 feet to an iron, the Northwest corner of Lot No. 109; thence with the West margin of Lot No. 109 South 18 deg. 34 min. West 200 feet to an iron in the North margin of Willow Street Extension, the Southwest corner of Lot No. 109; thence with the North margin of Willow Street Extension North 71 deg.

26 min. West 100 feet to the beginning and being Lots Nos. 110 and 111 as per plat of Willow Street Extension Property of Mrs. F.B. Kemp.

Section 2. Upon and after June 30, 2017, the above described territory and its citizens and property shall be subject to all debts, laws, ordinances and regulations in force in the City of Reidsville and shall be entitled to the same privileges and benefits as other parts of the City of Reidsville. Said territory shall be subject to municipal taxes according to G.S. 160A-58.10.

Section 3. The Mayor of the City of Reidsville shall cause to be recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds of Rockingham County, and in the office of the Secretary of State at Raleigh, North Carolina, an accurate map of the annexed territory, described in Section 1 above, together with a duly certified copy of this ordinance. Such a map shall also be delivered to the Rockingham County Board of Elections, as required by G.S. 163-288.1.

Adopted this 14<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2017.

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
John M. "Jay" Donecker, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Angela G. Stadler, City Clerk

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
William F. McLeod Jr., City Attorney

**CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST TO RENAME NORTHUP STREET TO SOUTH MAIN STREET.**

In making the staff report, Community Development Manager Donna Setliff stated that a petition to rename Northup Street to South Main Street has been filed by Dr. Harold Jennings. She noted that 23 properties and/or 29 addresses are affected by this proposed name change with nine of those being residential, three are property owner residential units, 16 are business rental units and one property owner business unit.

Owners of 15 of the 23 properties have signed the petition, exceeding the 51% required to be placed on the City Council agenda for review, Setliff said. She added that she has not found where Northup was named after anyone. She said it appears the street was originally named Greensboro Road and may have been renamed Northup Street in the 1920s. She cited several sources, including a subdivision map and deeds, where Northup was the former Greensboro Road.

If Council approves the renaming, staff will notify 911, the County Board of Elections, the County Tax Department and the US Post Office in Reidsville, she said. At a minimum, Setliff pointed out that these properties will have to: notify all of their utility companies, banks, credit card companies; notify their employer and Social Security Office; changes address on Driver's License, car insurance policy and vehicle titles; change addresses on property insurance policy; update business contracts and stationary; and the physical number will also change, resulting in several businesses having to change their signage. The Community Development Director

concluded by adding that she has enclosed a Resolution if Council approves the name change, which would become effective July 31 since there are a number of items that would have to be done before it is made effective.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown opened the public hearing at 6:27 p.m. by asking if there was anyone who wished to speak in favor of the proposed name change?

Dr. Harold Jennings of 1336 Woodland Drive, Reidsville, whose office was on Northup Street before he retired, provided Council members with some history. He talked of how difficult it was for people to understand the directions to Northup, and they often got lost. He said he felt it was an upgrade for the City of Reidsville to simplify this address, stating it would be easier to be a Main Street address. He said he tried himself to find out where the name Northup came from and that someone said it came from a famous racehorse. At one time, this area was known for such racing, he said. Since there are so many changes people will have to make, he suggested the effective date be delayed until September or October. He also stated that it shouldn't be an "out of pocket" cost for people, and he asserted businesses shouldn't have to change their street number.

(During this time, Mayor Donecker arrived at the meeting at approximately 6:31 p.m.)

Councilman Balsley asked Dr. Jennings, besides the location and people not knowing where Northup Street is in location to Main Street, are there any other benefits to the City or its residents for changing the name?

Dr. Jennings, stating that the City of Reidsville owns property along the street, said if this area grows, it would be a perfect area to mushroom and maybe house a bank or McDonalds, etc. He noted that there is an area behind Reid House with a vacant house that would be a nice little area to develop. He briefly discussed possible growth in the area.

Councilman Balsley asked Dr. Jennings if he expects the City to do anything further than change the name? Dr. Jennings said at this time, no. He added that this is a "simplification."

It was then asked whether anyone wished to speak in disfavor of the request?

Mr. Vernon Gammon of 1201 South Park Drive, located at the corner of South Park and Northup, said Dr. Jennings had approached him, and he has signed the petition because at the time, it sounded good to change the name to Main Street. However, now, he said he doesn't think it sounds good, expressing concerns about increased traffic on the road as people might think the hospital is located there, etc. He said people already speed through there at 50-60 mph and with three grandchildren living with him, he said he now thought it would be a bad idea. He

explained that there is no cost to him because his address is South Park. He added that he doesn't see growth coming in there to the area, which is mainly residential.

Mr. Duaine Whitt, who has an insurance business at 1304 Northup Street, said he had signed the petition but then realized how much it would cost him as a business if the street name is changed. He estimated close to \$5,000 because he has some 3,000 clients that would need to be notified. He deals with some 75 companies. He explained that his business brochure has a picture of his office and the address, and that the brochure cost him over \$2,000 the last time he printed them. He said he doesn't know what that cost would be today. He said he liked Dr. Jennings and considered him a friend, but he asked Council to consider the costs associated with the name change.

Mayor Donecker noted that there are 16 businesses affected.

Mr. Peter McKinnon of 1216 South Park Drive, who noted that he is currently in negotiations with Dr. Jennings to purchase the building at 1203 Northup Street, discussed the costs involved with this proposed name change and the effect it would have on their ability to be a good corporate citizen in the community, helping both the City and the needy. He said that adding to Main Street would increase traffic flow and expressed concerns about the elementary school located within a block of the intersection. He pointed out that the petition involved the signatures of those who have South Park Drive addresses. He said Dr. Jennings is a good friend, and he loves Reidsville. He said, please, for such a small street, nothing more can be added there. He concluded by thanking the City for fixing the drainage problem by 1203 Northup.

The public hearing was closed at 6:42 p.m.

Councilman Festerman questioned of staff that if the valid signatures (Gammon and Whitt) were extrapolated, would the petition still be valid? The Mayor noted that at 52.17%, it would be a close call. Councilman Festerman said he was troubled in that he doesn't remember turning down a petition which had 51% of the signatures.

Councilman Gorham said that last year when he brought before Council the proposed name change of Northwest Market Street to Martin Luther King Drive and/or Boulevard, he took under consideration the residents and the possible business owners before choosing that particular spot or street. During his first term, he has suggested changing South Scales Street but heard grumbling about changing driver's licenses, etc. Therefore, he chose a section of Northwest Market because there was no cost to anyone there or a disruption of quality of life there. He said this one (Northup Street) is relatively difficult, adding that two have come before them and said it will be an outrageous cost with thousands of dollars having to be spent. He said this is very difficult for our Council.

Mayor Donecker said he would entertain a motion.

**Councilman Festerman made the motion to approve, stating that he wanted to be consistent because as far as he could remember over the past 20 years while he has been on the board, Council has approved petitions with 51% or more.**

**The Mayor called for a second. With no second offered, Mayor Donecker said the motion died and Council would move onto the next item. He said that the bottom line, there will be no change.**

**OVERVIEW PRESENTATION BY THE ABC BOARD OF ITS ALCOHOL EDUCATION DISTRIBUTION TO THE REIDSVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT.**

Coming forward to make this presentation were ABC Board members Denise Brady and George Rucker. (A COPY OF THE ABC BOARD'S MEMO DATED MARCH 1 IS HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.)

Brady explained that the ABC Board is required by State General Statute 18B-805(c)(3) to distribute 7% of the store's net profits to be used for alcohol education to an organization of the board's choosing. A proposal was submitted to the board by Police Chief Robert Hassell and the Reidsville Police Department. The board voted unanimously to give the Reidsville Police Department the 7% distribution for alcohol education. The department will submit a budget by July 31<sup>st</sup> of each year and is required by the NC ABC Commission to submit an annual report to the local ABC Board, also by July 31<sup>st</sup> of each year. The department will also need to include the ABC Board name on any promotional materials for the alcohol education programming, she added.

Brady said the ABC Board is working to fight underage drinking and other alcohol-related issues in our community. The Reidsville Police Department has been beneficial in helping them work towards these goals, she stated. Sgt. Billy Gibson participated in a "Talk It Out" assembly held at Reidsville Middle and Reidsville High schools, she continued. Sgt. Kirk Wade assisted with the beer goggles at the Reidsville Chamber of Commerce Business Showcase. We look forward to continuing this partnership with them, Brady added.

Brady said that General Statutes requires such distributions to be made quarterly, but Laurie Lee, Director of Audits for the NC ABC Commission, has told the ABC Board that their governing body, the Reidsville City Council, can supersede this statute and change the distribution schedule. She said they are asking the City Council to change the distribution as follows: A one-time distribution in March 2017 of \$5500.00 to be used as seed money for the proposed alcohol education program; The remainder of the 2016/17 distribution to be payable in August 2017

upon the completion of Reidsville ABC Board's annual audit; and All future distributions will be made in August of each year upon completion of the annual audit.

No questions were offered by Council, but City Manager Preston Mitchell clarified with Brady that this would only apply to the 7% distribution.

ABC Board member George Rucker thanked Councilwoman Walker for participating in all of their presentations as Council liaison to the ABC Board. He also pointed out to all the pastors in the room that just because they are on the ABC Board doesn't mean they drink, which drew a round of laughter. Rucker also noted that the ABC Board Chairman Jimmy Setliff could not be here tonight because he was sick.

Brady reiterated that they are asking that Council make this an annual distribution rather than a quarterly distribution from here on out with the one-time "seed money" of \$5,500 given to the Police Department this month.

Mayor Donecker said the motion from Council would be to have the annual distribution done in August of 2017 or when the audit is completed.

**Councilwoman Walker noted "so moved," which was seconded by Councilman Hairston and unanimously approved by Council in a 7-0 vote.**

Councilwoman Walker said that she has seen what the board has been able to accomplish, including an underage drinking program in the middle and high schools back in the fall, which she described as an awesome program. Brady elaborated on the program they got through Hope Walker of the NC ABC Commission, who came with Josh, an underage drinker who drove and wrecked a vehicle about 15 years ago and his journey back from that. A lot of the kids were moved by this story, she said. Councilwoman Walker said this is a way that the local ABC Board gives back to the local community, along with funds they give to the local library, etc. Being responsible and stopping underage drinking is the goal, Brady noted, of this programming.

**REPORT BY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR JEFF GARSTKA ON VARIOUS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ENDEAVORS:**

Economic Development Director Jeff Garstka came forward to give updates on two recent projects. He talked first about the Soft Skills Employment Bootcamp.

**Soft Skills Employment Bootcamp**

Garstka introduced Sharon Galloway, HRD Coordinator at Rockingham Community College, and Shawn Hart with Premiere Finishing and Coating. He discussed the issues local companies told him they were having with the quality of workforce and workforce recruitment, especially some of the challenges with soft skills such as showing up on time, resume writing,

employability, etc. Galloway was brought into the discussions, and Garstka offered to teach a class on such skills. A curriculum was already in place but had to be condensed into 12 hours. The workshop was done at City Hall in late February, where six students were taught about such skills, with the end result for those who qualified being a job interview with Premiere Finishing and Coating. Garstka said that as of now, two of the six students who completed the course have been hired. Interviews were offered to all. The City did a joint press release on the bootcamp with RCC and Premiere, he said. The program has been well received by other companies who are considering doing something similar. Another bootcamp is planned in April with eight students already on a waiting list. Garstka said from his standpoint, the workshop was a success. He added that he enjoyed teaching the class and thanked the City Manager and Assistant City Manager Tom Wiggins for their support, allowing him to teach the class on City time.

Sharon Galloway briefly noted that the college has a lot of valuable free resources in place to help these job seekers but that individuals need to be willing. She thanked the City for allowing them to have the class here and expressed thanks to Hart for allowing the students to get a job interview at Premiere.

Shawn Hart, Operations Manager for Premiere, thanked the City and RCC for what they did for them. He said that with the successful employment of these two individuals means that those individuals are able to spend money in the City of Reidsville so it circles back around. He then discussed how his company has a lot of jobs that are on the job training. You don't have to be a master on the computer, but you need soft skills and want to get a job and show that you can do the job and keep it. He said they can put more to work with the help of Reidsville and the College. He concluded by saying this is a good thing that needs to be taken a look at and be taken seriously.

Following a round of applause after Hart's remarks, Mayor Donecker said we need to keep on top of this. So many people are driving out of town for jobs, he noted, adding that he'd like to see more bootcamps and like to have some of the high school students involved. High school is not the end of their education but the beginning of their job education, he said.

Garstka noted that Assistant City Manager Wiggins, Parks & Recreation Superintendent and Athletics and Teen Center Supervisor Quintin Robertson have been looking at how to get more youth involved in the Teen Center. There has been discussion about not duplicating the entire course at the Teen Center but to teach youth how to use these types of life skills that are not being taught at home. He said the inherent benefit he saw was to put two people to work but the bigger picture is that we are upgrading the skills of people and hopefully, they will have a better understanding of soft skills.

Mayor Donecker said the idea of using the Teen Center would be a perfect place to plant that seed in their brains, especially by Rockingham Community College. Galloway is currently working on something like that, it was noted. City Manager Preston Mitchell said that these types of public and private partnerships are an idea that is catching with companies wanting to sponsor such bootcamps or hire out of these employment pools.

### **Lucky City Cooperative Microbrewery**

Economic Development Director Garstka then gave Council an update on the Lucky City Cooperative Microbrewery. Since Eric Smith is at the Main Street Conference, Garstka relayed that there are currently 100 members in the Co-Op bringing in about \$25,000 into the coffers for architectural plans, etc. so that the microbrewery can install a single-barrel brewing system into the building. It is a long term process, he noted. The memberships are \$250 each. The City has also applied to the Main Street program for some \$400,000 in CDBG funding for downtown building rehabilitation, which will be voted on in April. This would be a little more than half of the estimated total cost and, if approved, would put the microbrewery way ahead of schedule and be a huge benefit for the project, the Economic Development Director said. They are continuing to sell memberships, doing some small demolition, etc. and have signed a lease with the Arts Council, Garstka said.

Mayor Donecker suggested a contact with Southeast Credit Union, Judy Cude, who wants to help develop more microbreweries. He suggested that Garstka relay the contact to Eric Smith. Garstka said he is very excited about this project, which he described as a “real game changer” for our downtown. He said they have also met with Senator Burr’s office to help expedite the federal permits process.

Mayor Donecker called for a brief 10-minute recess.

### **CONSIDERATION OF TWO ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS REQUESTED BY PUBLIC WORK:**

#### **(A) SECTION 10-124(B) BRUSH, LEAVES & GRASS CUTTINGS SHALL BE PICKED UP AT THE CURBSIDE**

#### **(B) SECTION 10-127 LARGE TRASH PICKUP (B)**

In making the staff report, Public Works Superintendent Kevin Eason, assisted by Sanitation Superintendent Pat Knowles, said they were seeking two amendments to the City’s Solid Waste Ordinance, which were discussed at the Council Retreat. (A COPY OF EASON’S MEMO DATED MARCH 3, 2017, IS HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.) The first revision would add a statement that requires brush to be cut into lengths no greater than six inches long. The second amendment is more involved, calling for a charge for large trash pickup, he said. He explained that the City currently offers pickup of bulk items such as couches or mattresses free of charge. The ordinance doesn’t say anything about the volume of items, he said. The proposed change would charge \$40 per hour for any volume more than 5 cubic yards or more per week, which covers the cost of equipment and labor although it doesn’t pay for the disposal, Eason stated.

Asked how much is 5 cubic yards, Eason said such volume would fill up a knuckleboom truck.

Asked about limbs larger than six inches, Knowles said the City is stockpiling them. The Mayor asked about other sizes. Knowles explained that six feet or shorter is already included in the current ordinance.

**Mayor Pro Tem Brown then made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Walker and unanimously approved by Council in a 7-0 vote, to amend Section 10-234(b) of the City's Code of Ordinances.**

The amendment as approved follows:

**AMENDING THE CITY OF REIDSVILLE CODE OF ORDINANCES**  
**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING**  
**CHAPTER 10, MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AND SERVICES**  
**SECTION 10-124(b), BRUSH, LEAVES & GRASS CUTTINGS SHALL BE PICKED UP**  
**AT THE CURBSIDE**  
**OF THE CITY OF REIDSVILLE CODE OF ORDINANCES**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of Reidsville, North Carolina, that the City of Reidsville Code of Ordinances be amended as follows:

**Part I.** That Chapter 10, Section 10-124 (b) Brush, leaves and grass cuttings shall be picked up at the curbside, (1) is hereby repealed and rewritten in its entirety as follows:

Section 10-124(b)(1) Limbs, up to six (6) inches in diameter, shall be cut no more than six (6) foot lengths, and placed at the curb.

Section 10-124(b) (2) through (4) shall remain the same.

**Part II.** This Ordinance shall become effective upon its adoption by the City Council of the City of Reidsville, North Carolina.

**ADOPTED** this the 14<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2017, by the City Council of the City of Reidsville, North Carolina.

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
John M. "Jay" Donecker, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Angela G. Stadler, City Clerk, CMC/NCCMC

**Councilman Gorham then made the motion, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brown and unanimously approved by Council in a 7-0 vote, to approve the second amendment.**

The amendment as approved follows:

**AMENDING THE CITY OF REIDSVILLE CODE OF ORDINANCES**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING  
CHAPTER 10, MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AND SERVICES  
SECTION 10-127, LARGE TRASH PICKUP (b)  
OF THE CITY OF REIDSVILLE CODE OF ORDINANCES**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of Reidsville, North Carolina, that the City of Reidsville Code of Ordinances be amended as follows:

**Part I.** That Chapter 10, Section 10-127 Large Trash Pickup (b) is hereby repealed and rewritten in its entirety as follows:

Section 10-127 (b) Large trash pickup to residential properties shall be limited to five (5) cubic yards per week. Additional loads within this period shall be subject to a fee of forty dollars (\$40.00) per hour or any portion thereof.

Section 10-127 (a) shall remain the same.

**Part II.** This Ordinance shall become effective upon its adoption by the City Council of the City of Reidsville, North Carolina.

**ADOPTED** this the 14<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2017, by the City Council of the City of Reidsville, North Carolina.

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
John M. "Jay" Donecker, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Angela G. Stadler, City Clerk, CMC/NCCMC

**CONSIDERATION OF A CAPITAL PROJECT ORDINANCE FOR THE CDBG/UNIFI SEWER LINE PROJECT.**

In making the staff report, Assistant City Manager of Administration Chris Phillips reviewed his short memo for Council. (A COPY OF PHILLIPS' MEMO DATED MARCH 7<sup>TH</sup> IS HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.) He noted that the City had been awarded a grant for this expansion. Having applied for and accepted the grant, now we must get to work getting it done which means a Capital Project Ordinance is needed since it will

cross fiscal years. He said the ordinance mirrors what is in the grant application. He read the listing of expenditures established in the \$861,000 grant, among them \$62,000 in contingency funds for construction costs. The next step, Phillips said, is to get the grant funded sewer line improvements done.

Mayor Donecker noted that Unifi's recent FDA approval for food packaging comes just in time. It was noted that the project promised 87 new jobs but is now up to 102 jobs and still hiring.

**Councilman Gorham then made the motion, seconded by Councilman Hairston and unanimously approved by Council in a 7-0 vote, to approve the Capital Project Ordinance.**

The Capital Project Ordinance as approved follows:

### **CAPITAL PROJECT ORDINANCE**

#### **AUTHORIZING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS TO THE CITY'S SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEM**

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina General Statute 159-13.2 authorizes the establishment of a Capital Project Fund to account for expenses and revenues that are likely to extend beyond a single fiscal year; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the desire of the Mayor and the City Council of the City of Reidsville to appropriate funds and set up an appropriate accounts for improvements to the sewer collection system for the benefit of Unifi Manufacturing, Inc. in relation to grant funds provided by CDBG;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Mayor and the City Council of the City of Reidsville that:

Section 1. That the following revenue account for this project is hereby established:

56-3612-1000	Proceeds of Capital Grants	\$	861,000
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Section 2. The following line items of expenditures are hereby established:

56-7120-1990	Engineering	\$	74,000
56-7120-1991	Administration and Inspection	\$	59,000
56-7120-1992	Grant Administration	\$	26,000
56-7120-5700	Easement Acquisition	\$	20,000
56-7120-5800	Construction	\$	620,000
56-7120-9911	Contingency	\$	62,000

Section 3. The City Manager and Finance Director are hereby granted all necessary authority to carry out this project, including the approval of payment requests as earned under approved contracts, to approve change orders in each contract as long as said change orders amount to less than \$25,000 each, to transfer funds from the established Contingency Fund to cover such change orders and cost overruns. The Finance Director is authorized to make temporary loans to this capital project from the Combined Enterprise Fund in order to cover costs before receipt of revenues and to establish an acceptable cash flow.

This the 14<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2017.

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
John M. "Jay" Donecker  
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Angela G. Stadler, CMC/NCCMC  
City Clerk

**CONSIDERATION OF 2016-2017 AUDIT CONTRACT AND AMENDMENT TO 2015-2016 AUDIT CONTRACT.**

In making the staff report, Assistant City Manager of Administration Chris Phillips explained there had been some confusion with the audit submission this year which fell on a holiday weekend. (A COPY OF PHILLIPS' MEMO DATED MARCH 7, 2017 IS HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.) The deadline was Sunday and since the Local Government Commission didn't get it until the Monday after that, the audit submission was considered late and a contract extension requested. Therefore, although it is just a technicality, he said he needed Council to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract extension.

**Councilman Gorham made the motion, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brown and unanimously approved by Council in a 7-0 vote, to approve. (A COPY OF THE AMENDMENT IS HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.)**

The second issue involves the upcoming 2016-2017 audit, Phillips said. He stated that he got a call a few weeks ago from the City's audit firm, McGladrey, saying the company would no longer be doing the City of Reidsville's audit. The company decided, in a geographic decision, not to handle any clients west of Raleigh. Our auditors had been based in the New Bern office, he said. Our auditors for 10 years, the company also dropped the City of Greensboro, which had been their client for two years. Phillips said it was rather late notice, and he requested another year but the company declined.

Phillips explained that only three accounting firms in the area have the specialized expertise to do the City's audit. There is another firm located in Rockingham County, but since it does the City of Eden's audit, it can't do another city of that size, he said. He said he contacted those three area firms, Cherry Bekaert, LLP (CBH); Dixon Hughes and Martin Starnes, which does the County's audit, and send them a small RFP (Request for Proposals). Of the three, two proposals were received from Dixon Hughes and Cherry Bekaert. Dixon Hughes does more school systems than anything else but they do some municipalities, he said. He added that Cherry Bekaert does more city audits and had the lowest bid, with the base bid at \$10,000 lower than our current auditors. He explained the company does it a little differently with a charge per single audit program. We typically have two single audit programs, which CBH would charge \$3,000 each for, Phillips said. He said at three single audit programs we would be at the same cost as our current auditor but we would have to have five programs to get up to proposal cost made by Dixon Hughes. The good news, the Finance Director said, is if we have five programs, we have a lot of money coming in. He added that grants like we are currently pursuing will sometimes give money towards the audit process. Cherry Bekaert were our auditors for several years in the early 2000s, he said, before McGladrey.

Phillips said he is recommending to Council that the Mayor be authorized to contract with Cherry Bekaert for the 2016-2017 audit. He noted that with the three-year proposal, the price goes up slightly each year.

**Councilman Hairston made the motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Gorham.**

There was a brief discussion of why the City and Cherry Bekaert parted ways. Phillips, who noted that he had worked for Cherry Bekaert, said they were doing the City's audit the first year he was here. In the second year, the firm requested a healthy increase. At the time, we were little smaller municipality for them, but they apparently have gone back into providing services for communities our size, he said. After further discussion about the situation, Phillips concluded by saying the closest CBH office to Reidsville is in Asheboro. He said our auditors will probably be based out of Raleigh.

**The motion was then approved in a 7-0 vote.**

**PRESENTATION ON THE NCLM'S "HERE WE GROW" CAMPAIGN.**

City Clerk Angela Stadler then made a presentation on the North Carolina League of Municipalities' "Here We Grow" campaign. With the computer locking up and a visual presentation impossible, Stadler explained the following about the program:

- It was launched in 2016 by the North Carolina League of Municipalities

- The purpose was to showcase the investments that cities and towns make to help businesses grow. League Officials wanted to show how municipalities across the State have been benefitting local businesses and industries through funding or infrastructure projects.
- By highlighting the contributions of the Cities and towns, it also showed State officials the many ways we contribute to the larger success of the State and its economy.
- The League has established a website for these stories is [www.herewegrownc.org](http://www.herewegrownc.org), a link that Stadler said she would send to Council members.
- The City of Reidsville has contributed two stories so far. Hugh Sandoe put up a story on Market Square and “Creating Space for Community” and then we included a story on how our infrastructure helped Unifi to expand and add the Repeve operation to its Reidsville plant. This story also includes a short video, thanks to Roy Sawyers and Rockingham Update, at the grand opening where both the Mayor and then-Governor McCrory lauded the City and its past leaders for making the important investment in infrastructure years ago.
- Stadler said we hope to be adding more stories soon, including something on the new Senior Center.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS.**

#### **Panhandling & Speeding on Scales Street.**

Ms. Paige Strader of 227 South Scales Street, Reidsville complained that as a business owner, she is seeing so much panhandling with people coming to her customers’ cars asking for money. Some of her customers are scared, she said, and it seems to be getting worse. Strader said she was not sure if that was because there is not a police officer downtown. She also complained about speeding on Saturday afternoons and at night. Mayor Donecker said that with the Police Chief here tonight, he can look into it. Hugh Sandoe is addressing it in the short term, but the Police Department can get the complaints logged in so they can track it, the Mayor stated. He thanked Strader for letting the Council know. It was also stated that Lt. Evitt would give her a number to call after hours.

Dee Stanfield of 504 McCoy Road stated that she had asked over a year ago but was told there was no ordinance against panhandling. She discussed several instances where she ran into a gentleman in different areas of town asking for money or she heard of similar instances. Chief Hassell said the ordinance applies to downtown only, but he encouraged Stanfield to let them know if someone approaches her because once they identify them, they don’t usually have any more trouble from them. City Manager Preston Mitchell also encouraged Stanfield if approached to call 9-1-1.

Diane Sawyer with the Reidsville Chamber of Commerce discussed similar problems they were having at the Visitors Center. She said they had made calls to the Police Department but

indicated it was hard for the Police to get there before the people left. She said they wrote letters which allows the Police Department to serve the individuals but so far, they haven't returned. She added that they have a letter template if someone else needed it, which helps officers enforce the no panhandling there. She also gave kudos to the Police Department for their handling of an accident scene they witnessed.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT.**

In making the Manager's Report, Manager Preston Mitchell referenced the YMCA Community Pool December Report behind the Miscellaneous Tab. (A COPY OF THE MANAGER'S REPORT IS HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.)

The City Manager also noted those who will be attending Town Hall Day in Raleigh on March 29. He concluded by citing the inclusion of the Reidsville Area Foundation's 2016 Annual Report behind the Miscellaneous Tab and the upcoming events planned in March.

Discussion ensued about how much the City pays annually, which staff said is about \$63,000. Assistant City Manager Tom Wiggins explained that there is a monthly charge and quarterly, any operational overages are paid at 50%. The Mayor said it has been a very good public-private relationship between the City and YMCA for the pool operations for some 20 years now. Mayor Pro Tem Brown noted the City was paying out the same amount some 10 years ago so while one would have thought costs would have gone up, they appear to be holding steady.

### **BOARD & COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS:**

Ballots were distributed for the boards and commissions being considered.

### **COUNCIL MEMBERS' REPORTS.**

Mayor Donecker thanked Mayor Pro Tem Brown for opening the meeting tonight and "stepping up to the plate." Mayor Pro Tem Brown thanked the other Council members for their help in reading proclamations and certificates of appreciation.

**Mayor Pro Tem Brown** – The Mayor Pro Tem congratulated the City, but especially Parks & Recreation and Tom Wiggins, in getting the new Senior Center here. He said it is impressive, people are talking about it and a couple hundred more people have signed up for its services. It is a tremendous asset for Reidsville and Rockingham County, he said.

**Councilman Hairston** – The Councilman said about two Saturdays ago he read a proclamation for Lone Star Lodge 33 at their conference there on Vance Street. He also stated that the Reidsville Branch of the NAACP and the Human Relations Commission are collaborating to work on a Multicultural Day to pull in the different cultures and faiths here and strengthening the unity we already have, he said.

**Councilwoman Walker** – In an effort to keep her report short since there is a ballgame tonight, the Councilwoman said she attended the ABC Board meeting on February 23.

**Councilman Gorham** – The Councilman said he attended the February 15<sup>th</sup> NAACP Education Committee meeting and participated in the Black History Month program at the Senior Center. On Feb. 18, he participated in an African-American Conference mini-seminar on the Constitution and Voting Rights at McLaurin Funeral Home. He also attended the Reidsville Downtown Corporation meeting this past month and two Community Watch groups, Oak Park and McLaurin Park. He commended the Police Department, Fire Department and EMS, noting that two weekends ago he lost his first cousin, Kenneth L. Neal, who passed away in his front yard. He said those agencies were very professional and he was very proud of our team here in Reidsville.

**Councilman Balsley** – The Councilman asked Diane Sawyer to give a Chamber report but he did say how impressed he was with the statistics she has been keeping on the number of people served by the Chamber/Visitor Center, etc. He thanked her for all she does. Sawyer said she couldn't do it without the support of the City and her board. She noted that the Chamber has nine new board members and ambassadors, including Lt. Evitt as one of those. She then discussed the following: a March 30<sup>th</sup> ribbon cutting at 12 noon for Cutting Edge, located at 1537 Freeway Drive; April 6, next Chamber Coffee at Rockingham County Partnership for Children; April 8, Casino Night Fundraiser, still looking for silent and live auction items; April 26, Staff Appreciation Celebration at the Country Club. Also, she mentioned the first cruise-in of the season April 14.

**Councilman Festerman** – Per Tom Balsley's request to keep his report short, the Councilman said it has been a great day and a fun night to spend with colleagues.

**Mayor Donecker** – The Mayor said at the Crisp Cleaning Services ribbon cutting, he failed to identify Lt. Evitt as City staff there, so he apologized to him. He told Councilman Hairston congratulations on his 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a Pastor and to Rev. Long, who had his 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary recently.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENT OF BOARD & COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS.**

City Clerk Angela Stadler announced the following appointments (A COPY OF THE BALLOTS ARE HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.)

**Reidsville Appearance Commission – Carolyn Pillar of 1113 Barnes Street, Reidsville and Carlton Johnson of 1415 Brookwood Drive, Reidsville.**

**Reidsville Historic Preservation Commission –Cindy Chmielecki of 803 South Main Street, Reidsville.**

**MOVE TO FIRST-FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM FOR A CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PURSUANT TO NCGS 143-318.11(A)(4).**

**Councilman Festerman made the motion, seconded by Councilman Gorham and unanimously approved by Council in a 7-0 vote, to go into closed session.**

**RETURN FROM CLOSED SESSION.**

**Upon return from closed session, Councilman Gorham made the motion, seconded by Councilman Festerman and unanimously approved by Council in a 7-0 vote, to adjourn.**

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John M. "Jay" Donecker, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Angela G. Stadler, CMC/NCCMC, City Clerk