

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE REIDSVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
HELD TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 2018 AT 6:00 P.M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL**

**CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mayor John M. “Jay” Donecker  
Mayor Pro Tem Harry L. Brown  
Councilmember Terresia Scoble  
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  
Jeff Garstka, Economic Development  
Director  
Donna Setliff, Community  
Development Manager

Mayor Donecker called the meeting to order.

**INVOCATION.**

Reverend Peter Dodge, Reidsville Alliance Church, 1300 Freeway Drive, Reidsville, provided the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

Rev. Dodge led the Council in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA.**

**Councilman Gorham made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Walker, to approve the Consent Agenda in a 7-0 vote.**

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 – APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 27, 2018 COUNCIL RETREAT MEETING MINUTES (RECESSED UNTIL JANUARY 30 AND FEBRUARY 20) AND THE FEBRUARY 20, 2018 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES.**

With the approval of the Consent Agenda in a 7-0 vote, the Council approved the January 27, 2018 Council Retreat Meeting Minutes and the February 20, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 – APPROVAL OF BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT NO. 10 TO APPROPRIATE \$6,000 IN FUNDS FOR THE DEMOLITION OF 507 COLEMAN STREET.**

With the approval of the Consent Agenda in a 7-0 vote, the Council approved the following Budget Ordinance Amendment based on Community Development Manager Donna Setliff's memo. (A COPY OF SETLIFF'S MEMO IS HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.)

Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 10 as approved follows:

**BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT NO. 10**

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Reidsville adopted a budget ordinance on June 13, 2017 which established revenues and authorized expenditures for fiscal year 2017-2018; and

**WHEREAS**, since the time of the adoption of said ordinance, it has become necessary to make certain changes in the City's budget to appropriate funds for demolitions;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Reidsville that the budget ordinance as adopted on June 13, 2017 is hereby amended as follows;

**Section 1.** That revenue account number 10-3991-0000, General Fund Appropriated Fund Balance, be increased by \$6,000.00.

**Section 2.** That expense account number 10-4350-4400, Demolitions, be increased by \$6,000.00.

This the 20th day of March, 2018.

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

ATTEST:

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

**- End of Consent Agenda -**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**  
**CONSIDERATION OF AN ORDINANCE TO EXTEND THE CORPORATE LIMITS FOLLOWING THE REQUEST TO VOLUNTARILY ANNEX 1076 WILLOW STREET, REIDSVILLE (A18-01).**

In making the staff report, Community Development Manager Donna Setliff explained that Johnny R. Martin is requesting to voluntarily annex 0.29 acres located at 1076

Willow Street. A non-contiguous annexation, this meets the statutory requirements for annexation as the nearest point of the property is not more than three miles from the City limits. Reidsville remains well under the 10% acreage requirement for non-contiguous annexations as well, she stated.

Staff finds the petition to be valid and recommends approval of the attached Ordinance to Extend the Corporate Limits following the public hearing, Setliff said. This annexation would become effective June 30, 2018, she added.

Councilmember Scoble asked what is on the property? Setliff replied that it is a residence.

Mayor Donecker opened the public hearing at 6:05 p.m., asking if anyone wished to speak for or against the annexation request? No one came forward, and the public hearing was closed at 6:06 p.m.

**Councilman Hairston made the motion, seconded by Councilman Gorham and unanimously approved by Council in a 7-0 vote, to approve the voluntary annexation request for 0.29 acres at 1076 Willow Street.**

The Ordinance as approved follows:

**AN ORDINANCE TO EXTEND THE  
CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE  
CITY OF REIDSVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA  
1076 Willow Street**

**A18-01**

**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 20, 2018, after due notice by publication on Sunday, March 4, 2018; 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, 2018:

TRACT 1: Beginning at an iron in the northern margin of Willow St. Ext. said iron being located North 86 deg. 01 min. West 246.7 feet from the eastern margin of Everette Gilliam property as surveyed May 21, 1955 and said iron also being the southwest corner of Lot No. 13; thence along the western margin of Lot No. 13 North 3 deg. 59 min. East 127.67 feet to an iron in the southern margin of Robinson Property; thence along the southern margin of Robinson Property South 82 deg. 35 min. West 50.01 feet to an iron the northeast corner of Lot No. 11; thence along the eastern margin of Lot No. 11 South 3 deg. 59 min. West 117.79 feet to an iron in the northern margin of Willow Street Ext. South 86 deg. 01 min. East 50 feet to the point of beginning and being and containing Lot No. 12 as per survey of the property of Everette Gilliam by John B. Cobb on May 21, 1955.

TRACT 2: Beginning at a point on the north margin of Willow Street Extension, said beginning point being the southeast corner of Lot No. 12 as per map of the property of Everette Gilliam as surveyed by John B. Cobb, Registered Surveyor, on May 21, 1955, a copy of said map being recorded in Deed Book 485 at Page 328; thence with the east margin of Lot No. 12 North 3 deg. 59 min. East 127.87 feet to a point, the northeast

corner of Lot No. 12; thence with the line of Harriett Robinson North 82 deg. 35 min. East 51.01 feet to a point, the northwest corner of Lot No. 14; thence with the west margin of Lot No. 14 South 3 deg. 59 min. West 137.95 feet to a point on the north margin of Willow Street Extension; thence with the north margin of Willow Street Extension North 86 deg. 01 min. West 50 feet to the point of beginning, and being Lot No. 13 of the property of Everette Gilliam as shown on the map above referred to.

Section 2. Upon and after June 30, 2018, 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 20<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2018.

/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 A SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO ALLOW THE OPERATION OF AN INTERNET SWEEPSTAKES CAFÉ LOCATED IN A PORTION OF HUNAN PLAZA, UNIT D, AT 1449 FREEWAY DRIVE (SP 2018-01). THIS ITEM IS GOING FORWARD TO COUNCIL WITHOUT A FAVORABLE PLANNING BOARD RECOMMENDATION.**

Prior to the staff report, City Clerk Angela Stadler swore in Community Development Manager Donna Setliff and the applicant Frank Settle.

Community Development Manager Donna Setliff came forward and reported that Mr. Frank Settle had filed a Special Use Permit application requesting that an Internet Sweepstakes Café be permitted at 1449 Freeway Drive, Unit D at Hunan Plaza. Setliff assured Council that this type of business is allowed in the Highway Business District. She said previously there was an internet sweepstakes café at this location, which was non-conforming. Setliff stressed that after being closed for more than six months the café lost its grandfathered status. She said Mr. Settle has re-applied for a Special Use Permit. Setliff detailed criteria for the operation of a sweepstakes café and findings of facts

outlined in the Zoning Ordinance. She informed Council that the majority of the Planning Board did not vote in favor of the application since all of the findings of facts were not met.

Councilman Festerman asked which church is located within the 1,000-foot buffer of the proposed location? Setliff said Faith Christian Church is located facing Richardson Drive and is within that buffer.

Mayor Donecker opened the public hearing at 6:16 p.m. The applicant, Frank Settle of Greensboro, came forward.

Mr. Settle said it was his understanding that the church mentioned almost falls within the required 1,000 feet and that he hopes the Planning Board would be accepting of his application. He said he had spoken to the property manager regarding the window tint and obstruction and that both of these issues would not be a problem to resolve. Mr. Settle added that he had not had any problems previously with underage patrons or consumption of alcohol on the premises.

The public hearing was closed at 6:18 p.m.

Mayor Donecker asked Setliff if there are other areas of the City that would allow such internet sweepstakes cafes? He qualified his question to Setliff regarding such locations, with Setliff saying there were other sweepstake cafes within the City.

The Mayor then reviewed with Council the four Findings of Fact, each of which was voted upon as follows:

- 1) that the use will not materially endanger the public health or safety if located where proposed and developed according to the plan as submitted and approved; -- **Approved 7-0**
- 2) that the use meets all required conditions and specifications; -- **Not approved 0-7**
- 3) that the use will not substantially injure the value of adjoining or abutting property, or that the use is a public necessity; and, -- **Not approved 0-7**
- 4) that the location and the character of the use if developed according to the plan as submitted and approved will be in harmony with the area in which it is to be located and in general conformity with the Comprehensive Plan for Reidsville and its surroundings. -- **Not approved 0-7**

The Mayor stated the Council's decision mirrors those of the Planning Board. He stressed that he doesn't want it to appear that Reidsville is unaccepting of Internet Sweepstakes Cafes, but that this location at this time does not fall within acceptable parameters of the Zoning Ordinance and where sweepstakes cafes are permitted in Reidsville.

**- End of Public Hearings -**

**PRESENTATION OF A QUARTER CENT SALES TAX ALLOCATED FOR ROCKINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE CAMPUSES AND CONSIDERATION OF AN ACCOMPANYING RESOLUTION.**

City Economic Development Director Jeff Garstka and Dr. Mark Kinlaw, President of Rockingham Community College, reviewed a PowerPoint presentation on the ¼-cent sales tax referendum which will be on the May 8<sup>th</sup> Primary ballot. (A COPY OF THE POWERPOINT IS HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.)

Garstka said on February 5, 2018 the Rockingham County Board of Commissioners voted 4 to 1 to place the ¼-cent sales tax option on the ballot for the voters to decide. He explained the intended use of the tax increase is to address the financial needs of education and workforce development with Rockingham Community College. Garstka said the primary election will take place on May 8, 2018 and that this is a bi-partisan effort led by the "Citizens for the ¼-cent sales tax to benefit RCC Committee".

Garstka emphasized that when companies look to expand or relocate their businesses the first thing they look at is the labor pool or workforce of the community. He commented that companies look to see if there are enough skilled people to fill the positions that will be made available. Garstka detailed statics regarding societal issues that affect the community. He stated when asking employers throughout the County what types of jobs are available they list manufacturing, electrical, HVAC, skilled laborers, welders, etc. He mentioned that currently there are close to 900 job openings available but there are not qualified, trained individuals to fill those positions. He reiterated that this tax would not affect unprepared food, gasoline or prescription drugs. Garstka gave the examples of the tax being equal to 1 penny on \$4.00 spent or 25 cents on \$100 spent.

Dr. Kinlaw stressed the ultimate goal of this referendum is to serve Rockingham Community College better as well as local businesses and industries. He said it will put us in a better position to serve RCC students, 35% of which are from Reidsville. Dr. Kinlaw stated that several surrounding counties are ahead of RCC with construction of such facilities, giving examples of Danville Regional Center, Alamance Community College Center, Forsyth Tech and Guilford Tech.

Dr. Kinlaw proposed that a new facility featuring advanced technical training would possibly result in a growth in enrollment like RCC's simulated hospital did in 2016 with saw a growth of 64%. He covered numerous other benefits resulting from the tax referendum, which would contribute to prosperity for all of Rockingham County.

Councilman Festerman asked Dr. Kinlaw if they had determined a site for the construction of this new facility? Dr. Kinlaw said they had consulted with an architect and were discussing placement at the entrance of the college campus near the digital sign.

Councilman Festerman then introduced Bill Simpson of Reidsville, a past Chairman of the North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges. Mr. Simpson came forward and gave a brief history of the State Community College system in respect to Rockingham County. He said our County was one of the first in the State to apply for a community college. Mr. Simpson stressed Rockingham County cannot choose to slip regarding this referendum and asked Council to help sell it to the citizens. He said RCC is the best thing that ever happened to Rockingham County and for those present to imagine where the County would be without it. He thanked the Council for the opportunity to discuss the matter.

Councilman Festerman asked Dr. Kinlaw if the college offers training in the aerospace field? He said he had read in the *Triad Business Journal* recently that there is a strong demand for those trained in this field. Dr. Kinlaw said there is a high demand for machinists and those trained in the aerospace field. He said the college does offer the computer-integrated machine program and does offer some apprenticeships.

Several Council members spoke of the importance of RCC in their lives.

**Councilman Gorham then made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Walker and unanimously approved by Council in a 7-0 vote, to approve the Resolution in Support of a ¼-Cent Sales Tax for Rockingham Community College Via Rockingham County for RCC Campuses.**

The Resolution as approved follows:

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A ¼-CENT SALES TAX  
FOR ROCKINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE VIA  
ROCKINGHAM COUNTY FOR RCC CAMPUSES**

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina General Assembly has authorized County Boards of Commissioners across the State of North Carolina to levy a one-quarter of one cent (25% of one penny) county sales and use tax, contingent on an advisory referendum in which the majority of those casting ballots in the County vote for the levy of the tax; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Reidsville supports a new economic development vision for its citizens and businesses by enabling Rockingham Community College to invest in a modern workforce development training facility and other RCC Campuses' future capital needs, new programs, state-of-the-art training and equipment, and initiatives in recruitment and retention of a trained and skilled workforce; and



**WHEREAS**, an optional ¼-cent sales tax, if passed, would be paid by residents and non-residents, lessening the burden on all County property tax owners of which City citizens pay as well: and

**WHEREAS**, in order to adequately address both immediate and future needs of Rockingham Community College, existing County and RCC financial resources are inadequate, and it is necessary that a new revenue stream be created; and

**WHEREAS**, the implementation of a ¼-cent local option sales tax (excluding gasoline, prescription medication and non-prepared foods (groceries)) is anticipated to generate \$1.8 million in revenue per year in Rockingham County; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Reidsville City Council hereby supports the ¼-cent sales tax for Rockingham Community College via Rockingham County for RCC Campuses that will be placed on the May 8, 2018 primary election ballot for its potential to help transform the current Rockingham Community College workforce training program with improvement of campuses’ infrastructures to better serve Reidsville’s citizens and provide its students a better future in the local workplace.

Adopted this 20<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2018.

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
John M. “Jay” Donecker, Mayor

ATTEST:

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

**CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 17, TRAFFIC, AND REPEALING SECTION 17-75, PARKING IN “CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT” – LIMITED (A) IN ITS ENTIRETY.**

In making the staff report, Economic Development Director Jeff Garstka noted that this issue is not new to City Council as a whole, adding that Councilmember Scoble had gotten caught up at the recent Council Retreat. He stated current concerns have been going on for almost a year and that Council directed him to approach the Reidsville Downtown Corporation members to see what their feelings were on the matter. Garstka stated it was decided that a survey would be taken of the downtown merchants and property owners, which resulted in 22 results, with 55% voting in favor of doing away with the enforcement of timed parking in downtown.

Garstka commented that the downtown has been blanketed with additional signs directing individuals to the municipal parking lots and if the Council decides to move forward with this plan, the time-limit parking signs will be removed as soon as possible.

Councilmember Scoble said while attending the Main Street Conference, she went to a session addressing downtowns. She shared how it was the consensus of those in

attendance, the negative effects that enforced parking has on downtowns in small cities and towns. She stated when there is free parking in the downtown area, it is more welcoming and makes people want to come down town to do business.

Garstka said the City staff is planning on addressing some of the issues that exist regarding business owners, employees and neighboring business owners parking in front of businesses. City Manager Mitchell said per Council’s wishes, this matter will be addressed in the form of a letter, which will help educate merchants on the ill effects this practice has on their businesses.

**Councilmember Scoble made the motion, seconded by Councilman Hairston, to adopt the Resolution (Ordinance Amendment) to amend parking limits as referenced in Chapter 17 Traffic, Section 17-75, Parking in the Central Business District – Limited (A) in its entirety.**

Discussion ensued regarding the matter with the decision being made to revisit the topic in a year.

**The motion passed in a 7-0 vote.**

The Ordinance Amendment as approved follows:

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

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING  
CHAPTER 17, TRAFFIC,  
SECTION 17-75. PARKING IN “CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT”- LIMITED  
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.** Chapter 17, Section 17-75, Parking in “central business district” – Limited, (a) is hereby repealed in its entirety:

**PART II.** All other parts of this section shall remain unchanged.

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

Adopted this the 20<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2018, by the City Council of the City of Reidsville, North Carolina.

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
John M. “Jay” Donecker  
Mayor

ATTEST:

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

**CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING STAFF TO PURSUE A WAREHOUSE DISTRICT PROPOSAL.**

Community Development Manager Donna Setliff came forward and reported there had recently been a proposal regarding the development of a Warehouse District in the downtown area of Reidsville. She stated the area should have a variety of mixed uses and entertainment. She directed Council to the enclosed maps found in their agenda packets. (COPIES OF THE MAPS ARE HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.)

Setliff said at this time she is asking for Council direction regarding the potential development of this new district. She reiterated that if Council agrees, the Community Development Department and the Economic Development Department will partner to move forward with the proposal, which will include research of other communities with similar zoning classifications.

Economic Development Director Jeff Garstka said staff would look at other communities of similar size and how they classify such districts. Councilman Festerman asked if we needed to hire a consultant? Manager Mitchell said right now, he felt it could be done at staff level. He also added that it could be a yearlong process before staff is ready to come to Council with more information. Garstka noted that this is an example of smart growth or controlled growth. Manager Mitchell also stated that in other communities with such districts, this has been a multi-year process.

**No vote was taken, but it was the consensus of City Council for staff to move forward.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS.**

Mr. Brian Smithwick of 1314 South Park Drive, Reidsville came forward, saying he applauds the City Council for repealing the downtown parking limits ordinance tonight. However, he said it was not a full measure in that Council should have also repealed the other sections of the ordinance. He then expressed concerns that the City Charter needs to be updated. He referenced as an example that the day of the week and meeting times have been changed and do not coincide with what is listed in the Charter. He suggested there are several inconsistencies that need to be addressed.

**BOARD & COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS:**

Ballots were distributed for the board and commission appointments.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT.**

In making his Manager's Report, City Manager Preston Mitchell reviewed the items on his memo: the Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center 2017 Year in Review; the Job Shadowing program by the Reidsville Rotary Club; the WWTP BNR Letter of Intent to

Fund where the City qualified for a 0% interest loan; and a listing of March City events. (A COPY OF THE MANAGER'S REPORT IS HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.)

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF BOARD & COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS:**

City Clerk Angela Stadler announced that Katie T. Smith of 1331 McGehee Street, Reidsville has been appointed to both the Reidsville Human Relations Commission and the Reidsville Appearance Commission. (A COPY OF THE BALLOTS ARE HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.)

**COUNCIL MEMBERS' REPORTS.**

**Mayor Pro Tem Brown** -- Mayor Pro Tem Brown said he had attended the Black History Program at Zion Baptist Church on February 24; the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting on February 22; the NAACP meeting on February 22; and the YMCA Advisory Board Meeting today, March 20.

**Councilman Hairston** -- Councilman Hairston said he had attended the Parks and Recreation sponsored Career Focus event held at the Teen Center, which was fantastic; the Ministerial Alliance meeting on February 26; the NAACP meeting on February 22; the School Board meeting regarding UNCG and Moss Street School Partnership on March 1; and the African-American Caucus meeting on March 15.

**Councilwoman Walker** -- Councilwoman Walker said she had attended the ABC Board meeting on February 22; the Reidsville Appearance Commission meeting on February 22; the Rockingham County Economic Development meeting on March 8; a play put on by young adults from UMAR on March 19 at Main Street United Methodist Church, which was fabulous; and a "Walk-Out" by the Reidsville Middle School students on March 14 in support of those students killed in the Florida shooting where the students were very respectful.

**Councilmember Scoble** -- Councilmember Scoble said she had attended the Economic Development meeting in Stoneville on February 8, where Clay Campbell from the Martinsville Speedway spoke about his connection to the community, and which also included a presentation regarding the ¼-cent Tax Referendum; the Chamber of Commerce Board meeting on February 28; the Main Street Conference in Clayton, where the theme was "Think Change, Think Main Street." She emphasized that the downtown of a community is the heart of the City and needs to be strong. The Councilmember then asked Diane Sawyer of the Chamber of Commerce to report on upcoming events. Sawyer reported there will be a ribbon cutting for Misty Hoback, featuring LuLaRoe merchandise at the Chamber office from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. on March 22; the next Chamber Coffee will be held on April 5 at Alcova Mortgage; a ribbon cutting for the new trail at Lake Reidsville at noon on April 12; Staff Appreciation Celebration on April 25; the 2018 Candidates Forum on April 30 with 19 candidates on the ballot; and the Student Art Show will be on display at the Chamber offices from April 23-May 4. She encouraged everyone to stop by and vote for their favorites with the awards brunch being held on May 5.

**Councilman Gorham** -- Councilman Gorham said he had attended the Planning Board meeting on February 21; the McLaurin Black History Month Celebration at Zion Baptist Church on February 24; the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting on February 22; the NAACP meeting on March 27; the UNCG/Moss Street Partnership meeting on March 1; the Highland Heights Community Watch meeting on March 6; the McLaurin Park Community Watch meeting on March 6; the African-American Caucus on March 15; and the Elm Grove Baptist Church “Meet and Greet” for its new pastor on March 17.

**Councilman Festerman** -- No report.

**Mayor Donecker** -- Mayor Donecker said he had would like to address a housekeeping item tonight and start the ball rolling regarding shutting down the Reidsville Community Pool Association (RCPA). He added that the relationship between the YMCA and the City’s Parks & Recreation Department is the best it has ever been, following the lead of our former Recreation Director, now Mayor Pro Tem Harry Brown. The Mayor said he would like for us to eliminate bureaucracy and see about shutting that board down. The Mayor said he would also like to express his appreciation to the school board for approving the Moss Street School/UNCG Partnership and lastly, his endorsement for the proposed ¼-Cent Sales Tax Referendum. He said this is an extremely simple and small sacrifice that we should all be willing to make, adding it will help the 30% of those students in Reidsville and 45% in Rockingham County that don’t go on to further their education after high school. He said the positive results from this contribution will affect local industries, help the community and maintain the level of support for RCC that was made when the college was built. He talked of the need to “step up to the plate” and maintain Rockingham Community College. He urged everyone to come out and vote on May 8, 2018.

**MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION.**

Mayor Donecker then added to the agenda the need for a closed session to discuss an economic development issue.

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

**ADJOURN.**

**Upon return to open session, Councilman Gorham made the motion, seconded by Mayor Donecker and unanimously approved by Council in a 7-0 vote, to adjourn at approximately 8:16 p.m.**

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John M. “Jay” Donecker, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Angela G. Stadler, CMC/NCCMC, City Clerk