



City Council Regular Meeting Minutes 2/17/09

Members Present: Mayor Fran Andrews, Robbie Sikes, Kelly Grooms, Karen Bridges, Tyler Earnst, Barbara Ewings, Linda Gantt, and Barry Lambeth.

Members Absent: Edith Reddick

Others Present: City Manager Ann Bailie, City Attorney Bob Wilhoit, City Planning Administrator Adam Stumb, City Planner/Code Enforcement Officer Joe Rainey, Stormwater Administrator Rich Baker, Assistant City Clerk Lori Hunt, members of the media and other interested parties.

Call to Order

- Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Andrews led the Pledge of Allegiance

- Invocation

Council member Lambeth gave the invocation.

- Welcome Guests and Visitors

Mayor Andrews welcomed those present and called the meeting to order.

- Trinity featured on NC Spin

Staff presented a segment on Trinity that appeared on the television show, NC Spin.

Staff presented a new stormwater commercial that was set to run on local television stations.

Public Concerns and Commendations

None

Motion to amend the agenda to include Item 13-A by Council member Earnst, seconded by Council member Lambeth, approved unanimously by all Council members present.

Recognition

- 1. Guil-Rand Fire Dept. for allowing the City use of a meeting room while annex was under construction** (Mayor Fran Andrews)

Mayor Andrews presented an award for the use of the Fire Station for meetings.

- 2. Friends of Trinity's Citizen of the Year** (Mayor Andrews)

Mayor Andrews presented an award for citizen of the year 2009 to Tommy Johnson.

Mr. Johnson is very active in the “Friends of Trinity” and has done a wonderful job with the car show and Chili cook-off.

Reports & Funding Requests

3. Randolph County Economic Development Corporation Annual Report

(Bonnie Renfro, President and Harry Lane, Existing Industries Coordinator)

Ms. Renfro congratulated Trinity for the new facility. She advised that a Randolph citizen has been named as the new North Carolina Secretary of Commerce, Keith Crisco.

Ms. Renfro gave the following highlights of the EDC’s annual report:

- 2008 was a “roller coaster” year
- 28 million dollars in industrial investment that will support 254 new jobs
- 7.8 million dollars in new wages is expected
- There was a drop in real estate construction
- Last year there were layoffs that have continued into the current year.

Ms. Renfro stated that business retention efforts matter more than ever. She advised that Trinity’s leadership in responding to the needs of the Turnpike Industrial Park, preserving the jobs that are there and creating a viable business environment for the future is a great example of leadership in tough economic times.

Consolidation efforts are under way and sometimes Randolph County will benefit from those consolidations as companies decide where to consolidate and grow. This trend will likely continue across Randolph County and the state, as well as the nation.

Strategic investments will pay dividends including those in sewer, water and education. Some key things that will help Trinity as well as Randolph County be positioned for growth are the new high school opening, I-74 construction, and other highway improvements. One strategy will not be enough we must diversify our targets.

Mr. Harry Lane congratulated City of Trinity for the proactive approach to economic development through supporting residential growth, commercial growth and industrial growth. In 2008 Mr. Lane visited 193 companies representing nearly 17,000 employees. It is important to retain the businesses that the City has as once a company leaves an area they are not likely to return to that area. Mr. Lane stated that even though there was a lot of bad news in 2008, there was some good news too. Companies invested 24 million dollars toward equipment. There were 20 companies that created 333 jobs.

Mr. McNeill is preparing a study on putting sewer in Turnpike Industrial Park.

4. Annual report and funding request for Archdale-Trinity Chamber of Commerce

(Beverly Nelson, President)

Ms. Nelson stated that she wanted to thank Trinity for their support and requested continued support. 2008 was a productive year. Highlights included:

- Leadership program
- Candidates forum
- Lunch with lawmakers
- Conducted health insurance survey

- Lobbied for health insurance legislation
- Gave financial support to the Randolph County teacher of the year program
- Co-sponsored the teacher of the month award
- Held Jack Frost Soccer Tournament
- Distributed 400 visitor packets to the Quaker Conference
- Continued efforts to support I-74
- Numerous other activities

Goals for 2008 include:

- Evaluate, monitor and support community educational systems
- Continue job shadowing program
- Promote and conduct monthly coffee and conversation
- Develop and offer seminars of interest to members
- Identify, target and recruit new businesses to the community
- Collect and publish current demographic data
- Investigate opportunities to develop tourism
- Develop strategies to increase local shopping
- Conduct annual soccer tournament
- Conduct annual golf tournament
- Monitor area transportation needs
- Candidates forum

Ms. Nelson respectfully requested continued support for 2009 -2010 year.

5. Infrastructure Projects Update (*Randy McNeill, Davis-Martin-Powell & Assoc.*)

Mr. McNeill gave the following updates:

- Phase 3 sewer line construction has began and is progressing
- Contractors are installing a tunnel under Hopewell Church Rd.
- Will begin soon on tunnel under the Interstate
- Stimulus program is evolving quickly, 75 million dollars will be coming to North Carolina for sewer projects
- City of Trinity has submitted 4 projects for the stimulus project. Those projects may have to be scaled back somewhat.
- Between 62 and Surret surveying is being done.
- Aerial photography is complete for phase 4 A project

Public Hearing*

6. Minimum structure size requiring a Zoning Permit (*Adam Stumb, Planning & Zoning Administrator*)

Planner Stumb advised that the planning board had suggested requiring any structure over 10 X 10 to obtain a permit. Randolph County requires any structure with one side 12ft. to obtain a permit. The issue of building size required to get a permit came up when discussing mailing letters to inform residents that if they do not obtain the proper permit, then the permit fee would be doubled.

Ms. Bailie advised that she will inform residents that they must still abide by regulations on setbacks and accessory structures.

Mayor Andrews opened the Public Hearing and hearing no comments, closed the Public Hearing.

Motion to approve requirement of any accessory structure 12ft. X 12ft. or over to obtain a permit by Council member Grooms, seconded by Council member Ewings, approved unanimously by all Council members present.

Consent Agenda

- 7. Approve minutes: Jan. 10, 2009 City Council Retreat (Lori Hunt, Assistant City Clerk)**
- 8. Approve minutes: Jan. 10, 2009 City Council Pre-Agenda Meeting (Hunt)**
- 9. Approve minutes: Jan. 21, 2009 Regular City Council Meeting (Hunt)**
- 10. Approve Budget Amendments (Debbie Hinson, Finance Officer)**
- 11. Adopt Resolution of Support for veteran bond, stamp, and coin program (Ann Bailie, City Manager)**

Motion to approve the consent agenda by Council member Ewings, seconded by Council member Earnst, approved unanimously by all Council members present.

Unfinished Business

- 12. Consider Change Order for Carriage House Cir. (tabled from Jan. 17, 2009) (Rich Baker, Stormwater Administrator)**

Mr. Baker stated that he is ready to move forward with Carriage House Change order work that needs to be done. The cost is \$2,255 and work is set to begin on next Monday.

Motion to recuse Council member Bridges by Council member Lambeth, seconded by Council member Sikes, approved unanimously by all Council members present.

Motion to approve proposal for stormwater improvements at Carriage House by Council member Lambeth, seconded by Council member Sikes, approved unanimously by all Council members present with Council member Bridges being recused.

New Business

- 13. Consider contract award for Turnpike Industrial Park Road Improvements (McNeill)**

Bids were opened January 7, 2009. They were competitive and considerably lower than the engineer's estimate prepared in October, 2007. Davis, Martin, Powell & Associates recommends awarding the contract to Larco Construction in the amount of \$547,026 and undertaking the project using full depth reclamation process. Mr McNeill also recommends approving a budget for the project in the amount of \$770,000, a reduction of \$530,000 from the budget projected in October, 2007 and approved by Council in

February, 2008 (contingent on transfer of roads in the Park to the City). Construction cost reduction: \$452,974; contingencies & technical services cost reduction: \$77,026.

Motion to award contract for Turnpike Industrial Park Road Improvements to Larco and to use Full depth reclamation method, by Council member Bridges, seconded by Council member Earnst approved unanimously by all Council members present.

Motion to amend previous motion to include adoption of a budget by Council member Bridges, seconded by Council member Earnst, approved unanimously by all Council members present.

13-A. Consider approval to proceed with geotechnical work at Turnpike Industrial Park (Randy McNeill)

Mr. McNeill recommends proceeding with geotechnical work at Turnpike Industrial Park as preparation for sewer line installation. The work would consist of 16 borings ranging in depth from 10 -20 feet to determine the extent of rock that may be encountered when sewer is installed. The proposed sewer line would be 7 to 8 feet off the road. The work is proposed to be undertaken at a cost of \$5,700. The cost would come from the contingency.

Motion to approve proposal to undertake geotechnical work in the amount of \$5,700 as recommended by Davis, Martin, Powell & Associates and to authorize the Mayor and/or the City Manager to execute documents as necessary, by Council member Lambeth, seconded by Council member Earnst, approved unanimously by all Council members present.

14. Consider approval to negotiate agreement with consulting firm for preparation of Center City master plan (Stumb)

Mr. Stumb advised that the City requested proposals for Trinity's Center City master plan. The City received 24 proposals, some of which were from out of state. A committee comprised of Mayor Andrews, Council members Karen Bridges, Kelly Grooms, City Manager Ann Bailie, Planning & Zoning Administrator Adam Stumb, City Planner Joe Rainey, met on February 10, 2009 to review the proposals. There was a wide range of costs. The Committee recommended awarding the planning contract to the Lawrence Group for the Center City Plan at a cost of \$78,750 plus expenses estimated to be \$5,900. This cost does not include an option market analysis of \$10,000.

Motion to authorize the selection Committee to negotiate with the Lawrence Group an agreement and fees for service consistent with the firm's proposal and to authorize the City Manager to execute contract documents following review and approval by the City Attorney, by Council member Bridges, seconded by Council member Grooms, approved unanimously by all Council members present.

15. Consider priority of transportation projects (Stumb)

Planner Stumb advised that the High Point Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) of which Trinity is included, requested that the City review the existing prioritization of transportation projects and advise of any desired changes. The projects affecting Trinity (and their current prioritization) are:

- Finch Farm widening
- Surrett Dr. widening
- Trinity Rd. / I85 Interchange
- Trinity Rd. / Sealy Dr. realignment
- Mendenhall Rd. / Mendenhall Rd. Ext. realignment

Council members discussed the need to widen Finch Farm Rd. all the way to Wheatmore School even though the school is outside the city limits. The Council also discussed that the Trinity Rd./I-85 interchange and Trinity Rd./Sealy Dr. realignment items were unnecessary because of the proposed widening of Surrett Dr.

Motion to advise the MPO that the City of Trinity recommends a prioritization as follows:

1. Finch Farm widening to Wheatmore High School
2. Surrett Dr. widening
3. Mendenhall Rd. / Mendenhall Rd. Ext. realignment
4. Sealy Rd. extension

by Council member Grooms, seconded by Council member Sikes, approved unanimously by all Council members present.

16. Consider amendments to Advisory Board Ordinance (Bailie)

Manager Bailie advised that amendments to the Advisory Board Ordinance are proposed which are based on Council discussions and existing conditions. ~~Words that are struck through~~ are deleted language. Underlined words are additional language. The amendments would:

- Resolve a conflict in the ordinance that currently allows the City Council to reappoint a member to a Board until a successor is appointed, without the member filing a reappointment form as is required;
- Prohibit a Council member from making a recommendation for an immediate family member's appointment to a Board and includes a definition of "immediate family member".
- Include membership requirements for the Public Safety Board which are different than all other City Boards/Committees.
- Designate the Council Liaison as the individual to initiate appropriate recognition of Board member's service on a Board.

Motion to approve amendments to the Advisory Board Ordinance as proposed by Council member Earnst, seconded by Council member Bridges, approved unanimously by all Council members present.

17. Board Appointments (Bailie)

Ms. Bailie reported that there are 3 applicants in ward 1 with only one seat available for Planning and Zoning; Carl Baker, JR Ewings, and Dean Spinks. In ward 4 there is one seat with one applicant; Gywn Riddick (currently on the Infrastructure Committee). For the Infrastructure Committee there is 2 vacancies in ward 1 and 1 vacancy in ward 2 with no applicants for any ward. On the Public Safety Board there is one vacancy. There are no applicants with Public Safety Board as their first choice.

Motion to recuse Council member Ewings by Council member Bridges, seconded by Council member Gantt, approved unanimously by all Council members present with Council member Ewings not voting.

Motion to appoint JR Ewings on Planning & Zoning Board and to appoint Dean Spinks on the Infrastructure Committee by Council member Grooms, seconded by Council member Sikes, approved by a majority vote with Council members Bridges and Gantt being opposed.

18. Closed Session pursuant to NCGS §143-318.11(3) to consult with Attorney

Motion to go into closed session to consult with attorney by Council member Lambeth, seconded by Council member Sikes, approved unanimously by all Council members present.

Motion to return to open session by Council member Lambeth, seconded by Council member Grooms, approved unanimously by all Council members present.

Business from City Manager

Manager Bailie asked if the Council would like her to set up a public meeting to hear residents' comments about the proposed trash and recycling program. *General consensus of Council was to go ahead with the meeting on March 31, 2009.*

Ms. Bailie informed those present that she is working on the newsletter and hopes to have it mailed by March 20, 2009.

Manager Bailie advised that contractor Rick Austin will be setting up some training sessions for NIMS.

Business and Closing Comments from Mayor and Council

Council member Grooms stated that the Lawrence Group also requested that there be an advisory board of residents and he would like to get this advisory board in place
General consensus is to get the advisory board in place.

Mayor Andrews mentioned a copy of letter from Allstate requesting votes for Julia Eger, a senior from High Point Christian Academy. She is a finalist in a national contest sponsored by Allstate. Online voting will determine the "Prom Queen" winner. This contest promotes Prom night safety.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Council member Ewings, seconded by Council member Grooms, approved unanimously by all Council members present.

These minutes were approved as written at the March 17, 2009 regular Council meeting with a motion from Council member Ewings, seconded by Council member Earnst, approved unanimously by all Council members present.