



**City Council
Recessed Meeting Agenda
Thursday July 23, 2020 @ 6:00 pm
Trinity City Hall Annex**

Members Present: Mayor Richard McNabb, **Council members:** Jack Carico, Bob Hicks, Tommy Johnson, Steve Lawing and Don Payne.

Others Present: City Attorney, Bob Wilhoit; City Clerk, Annette de Ruyter; Deputy Sgt. Kyle Cox, Zack Dark and Captain Victor Welch.

- **Call to Order; Welcome Guests and Visitors**

Mayor McNabb called the Meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

- **Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation**

Mayor McNabb led the Pledge of Allegiance, Council member Payne gave the Invocation.

I. Public Hearing This Item was Recessed at the July 13, 2020 Regular Meeting

- 1. Council discussion and consideration to create a Resolution that would allow the sale of alcohol inside the City Limits of Trinity and to forward the Resolution to the Randolph County Board of Elections to be added to the November Elections Ballot.**

Mayor McNabb called for a motion to open the recessed meeting.

A motion was made by Council member Carico to resume the recessed meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Lawing and approved with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Mayor McNabb opened the Public Hearing at 6:06 pm.

Speaking For:

Robbie Walker, 4330 Rockledge Lane- Mr. Walker thanked the Mayor and Council for allowing him to speak. I am a resident of Trinity and own a business in the City as well.

I am speaking to you tonight for myself and a large group of citizens in Trinity that have an interest in seeing alcohol sales out on the November ballot this year. We realize that this issue has been the subject of a lot of debate over the years, but we feel the demographics and the needs of this city has changed since the last vote. We see this as an economic issue and not a moral issue. If voted in, our city could see good economic growth which would result in added tax revenue which is badly needed.

Mr. Walker shared with Council that our citizens are currently going outside the city to purchase alcohol because he picks bottles and cans in his business yard often. It is already here so vote tonight to let the City of Trinity benefit from the tax.

James Underhill, 12404 Trinity Road- Mr. Underhill is the owner of Big Jim's Grocery on Trinity Road. He feels that alcohol should be added to the ballot in November. He feels the tax revenue would help in providing amenities to the residents of Trinity.

Danny Phillips, 7197 Hunters Club Dr.- My intent tonight is to represent 79 residents who reside in Steeplegate that wanted to be represented but could not attend tonight due to the Covid-19 restrictions. The residents desire the opportunity to vote to choose if they want beer and wine to be sold in their city limits. I personally do not partake in any alcohol and would not be a consumer, but however the citizens deserve the opportunity to vote their choice. I have over 40years of experience in the grocery industry and know the business very well. Beer and wine account for 15% of total sales and is a major category to enhance profits for the grocery retailer.

Speaking against:

Lucy Rush, 5372 Grey Oaks Road- Mrs. Rush has been a resident of Trinity for many years. Alcohol has not been sold legally in the City of Trinity. She feels it would bring in more crime and would not benefit the City. However, put it on the ballot and let the residents decide.

Curtis Connor, 3814 Crescent Ave.- Mr. Connor felt that the nation was being torn apart and now felt the city was by wanting to add alcohol to the November ballot. He feels this would add to the crime within the city.

Richard Callahan, Pastor Mount Calvary Baptist Church Archdale, NC- I would like to encourage Council not to add alcohol to the ballot. The pastor is always left to pick up the pieces with families. He felt it is a wasted life in a bottle.

Renea Coleman, 4970 Lake Darr Road- Ms. Coleman felt it would be detrimental to the city. It would increase crime and trash in the city.

Emma Brown, 5702 Cedar Post Road- Ms. Brown is with MADD(Mother's Against Drunk Driving). She stressed the importance of keeping alcohol off the ballot.

Mayor McNabb closed the Public Hearing at 6:35 pm.

Council member Johnson expressed to Council that he had looked at all the choices. *He made a motion to use Resolution # 3 with the following Amendments:*

Malt Beverages; he would like to remove #1 and #2.

Unfortified Wine; only #2 and #3 be included

Mixed Beverages; remain as stated in the Resolution.

The motion was seconded by Council member Carico.

After the motion and prior to a vote, there was more discussion between Council members where the original motion and second were withdrawn.

Upon further discussion concerning the choices shown on Resolution # 3 and the choices recommended earlier, Council member Johnson made the following motion:

Malt Beverages: remove items #1 and #2 from Resolution # 3.

Unfortified Wines: remove item #1 from Resolution # 3.

Mixed beverages: Remain as stated on Resolution #3.

The motion was seconded by Council member Carico and approved with a vote of 3 ayes by Council members Carico, Hicks, and Johnson and 2 nays by Council members Payne and Lawing.

Council member Payne thanked those present for their comments against the alcohol referendum.

VIII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Council member Carico to adjourn the July 23, 2020 meeting at 7:17 pm. The motion was seconded by Council member Johnson and approved with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.