



Minutes of the Roanoke Rapids City Council

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Roanoke Rapids was held on **Tuesday, December 1, 2020 at 5:15 p.m.** in the Council Chambers at the Lloyd Andrews City Meeting Hall.

Present: Emery G. Doughtie, Mayor
Carl Ferebee, Mayor Pro Tem
Ernest C. Bobbitt)
Sandra W. Bryant)
Suetta S. Scarbrough)
Wayne Smith)

Council Members

Joseph Scherer, MPA, MS, City Manager
Geoffrey Davis, City Attorney
Traci Storey, City Clerk
Leigh Etheridge, Finance Director
Bobby Martin, Police Chief
Kelly Lasky, Planning & Development Director
John Simeon, Parks & Recreation Director
Jason Patrick, Fire Chief
Christina Caudle, Main Street Director

Absent: Kathy Kearney, Deputy City Clerk/Human Resources Manager
Larry Chalker, Public Works Director

Mayor Doughtie opened the meeting and offered an invocation.

Adoption of Business Agenda

Mayor Doughtie asked Council members about any known conflicts of interest with respect to the matters before them this evening.

There being no conflicts, motion was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Bobbitt and unanimously carried to approve the business agenda for December 1, 2020 as presented.

Public Comment (Unscheduled)

Kenneth Hicks

Mr. Hicks said since November 13, 2020 at 7:15 a.m. and the last meeting there have been many topics during these meetings, there have been questions answered and

some problems solved. So tonight I'll start with the topic, public works. Hoping to ask questions to get answers so the problem can get solved. As we leave one holiday last month to another one this month, there will be two payrolls along with service pay and a Christmas bonus to be given to the workers. To put food on the table, pay bills, rent and mortgage along with medical benefits for their family. To be able to get gifts for Christmas for their family. There will always be others who will not be working for employment, jobs to put food on the table, pay bills, mortgage, along with medical benefits for themselves and family. Especially this month as Christmas arrives to provide gifts for their family and loved ones. There are people going through hard times from COVID-19 without jobs. I filled out a volunteer application back in August of this year to volunteer in the Hodgestown community, Chaloner Recreation Department and the King Park on Virginia Avenue. Thank you for giving me the time to speak this evening and be safe. Also, there was a topic.

Mayor Doughtie thanked Mr. Hicks for his comments and stated everybody knows somebody that has been affected in their family or group of friends so they have all been affected by this disease that has been upon us for almost a year. As we go into a new year it appears it is going to continue to have an impact on everybody's life. We ask that everyone continue to do what they can to try and limit the impact. I believe we will see an end when they get a vaccine.

Approval of City Council Minutes

Motion was made by Councilwoman Bryant, seconded by Councilman Smith and unanimously carried to approve the November 17, 2020 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes as drafted.

New Business

Consideration of Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget

Finance Director Etheridge stated on September 28, 2020, City Council approved a budget amendment at its special called meeting for the purpose of funding emergency repairs to our communications tower that was struck by lightning on September 10, 2020. Based on forensic information received at that time, the structure was deemed unsafe and could pose potential liability if not repaired or replaced. Since this time, the City has received subsequent "findings the internal structure of the pole appears to be solid and continuous", from our Insurance carrier Tokio Marine HCC.

She requested City Council approve the following Budget Amendment 2020.08 allowing the Finance Director to return the amount of \$100,000 back to Fund Balance through a reduction in both revenues and expenditures within the General Fund.

Ordinance No. 2020.08
CITY OF ROANOKE RAPIDS
BUDGET AMENDMENT

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROANOKE RAPIDS:

SECTION 1. The following additional amounts are hereby appropriated for the operation of City Government and its activities for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021, according to the following schedule:

SCHEDULE A – PROJECT FUND REVENUES

Fund Balance – Return Revenue Not Required to Fund Balance

Lightning strike on September 10, 2020

Project Revenues - REVENUE REDUCTION	(\$100,000)
POST TO FUND BALANCE	<hr/>
FUND PROJECT TOTAL	(\$100,000)

SECTION 2. The following additional revenues and reductions in appropriations are available for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021, in order to meet the foregoing appropriations, according to the following schedule:

SCHEDULE B – PROJECT FUND EXPENDITURES

Reduction in Expenditures – Replacement of Monopole Structure not Required

Lightning strike on September 10, 2020

Project Expenditures - REDUCTION TO GENERAL FUND	(\$100,000)
OPERATIONS	<hr/>
FUND PROJECT TOTAL	(\$100,000)

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall become effective upon adoption.

Emery G. Doughtie, Mayor

Motion was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee and unanimously carried to adopt Ordinance No. 2020.08.

Consideration of Brunch Bill Ordinance

Main Street Director Caudle requested City Council consider Ordinance No. 2020.09 commonly referred to as the Brunch Bill. This ordinance allows the sale of alcoholic beverages before noon on Sundays at licensed premises.

She stated in June 2017, the NC General Assembly enacted Senate Bill 155 and it was signed into law by Governor Cooper on June 30, 2017. SB155 (entitled “An Act

to Make Various Changes to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission Laws”) authorized city governments to adopt a local ordinance to allow alcohol sales beginning at 10 a.m. on Sundays. By enacting G.S. 18B-1004(c), North Carolina joined 47 other States in allowing alcohol sales before noon on Sundays. As of November 2020, more than 175 NC cities and counties have updated their local ordinance to match current State law allowing alcohol to be served before noon. Included in this list of communities are all the North Carolina large cities and surrounding cities and towns, many of the tourism towns and most of the cities located along Interstate 95.

She requested City Council’s consideration of Ordinance 2020.09 in an effort to be consistent with current State law, allow the hospitality community and retail merchants to meet the changing needs of their customers and provide an opportunity to generate increased tax revenue. She said in addition to the ordinance, they received letters of support from community partners. They include the Halifax County Convention & Visitors Bureau, the Roanoke Valley Chamber of Commerce and the Lake Gaston Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee asked Main Street Director Caudle if she or anyone she was familiar with had any opposition to this particular request. She replied no, and stated she had several requests from the businesses since this was enacted in 2017, but there were a lot more requests that came in this summer. She has not received any opposition from those particular businesses.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020.09

**An Ordinance To Allow the Sale of Alcoholic Beverages
Before Noon on Sundays at Licensed Premises**

WHEREAS, on June 29, 2017, the North Carolina General Assembly enacted Senate Bill 155, entitled “An Act to Make Various Changes to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission Laws”; and

WHEREAS, Ratified Senate Bill 155 was signed into law by Governor Roy Cooper on the 30th day of June, 2017 and became effective on that date (Session Law 2017, Chapter 87); and

WHEREAS, a material part of Senate Bill 155, now codified as G.S. 160A-205.3 authorizes city governments to adopt an ordinance to allow alcohol sales beginning at 10 a.m. on Sundays; and

WHEREAS, by enacting G.S. 160A-205.3, North Carolina joins 47 other States in allowing alcohol service before noon on Sunday; and

WHEREAS, more than 175 North Carolina cities and counties have passed local ordinances allowing alcohol to be served before noon as of November of 2020; and

WHEREAS, Sunday morning alcohol service will allow the hospitality community and retail merchants in our community to meet the needs of their customers; and

WHEREAS, Sunday morning alcohol service will benefit our small business community, bring people into business districts earlier in the day, and generate increased tax revenues; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina that:

Section 1. That Title XI: Business Regulations of the Code of Ordinances, City of Roanoke Rapids, is hereby amended by adding Chapter 119 entitled "Alcohol Sales," said chapter to read as follows:

CHAPTER 119: ALCOHOL SALES

Section 119.01 Sunday Sales of Alcoholic Beverages

Pursuant to the authority granted by G.S. 160A-205.3 any establishment located in the corporate limits of the City of Roanoke Rapids and holding an ABC permit issued pursuant to G.S. 18B – 1001 is permitted to sell alcoholic beverages allowed by its permit beginning at 10 a.m. on Sundays.

Section 2. All laws and clauses of law in conflict herewith are repealed to the extent of any such conflict.

Section 3. This ordinance shall become effective upon its adoption.

ADOPTED this 1st day of December, 2020.

Emery G. Doughtie, Mayor

ATTEST:

Traci V. Storey, City Clerk

Motion was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Scarbrough to adopt Ordinance No. 2020.09. Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee, Councilman Smith, Councilwoman Bryant, and Councilwoman Scarbrough voted in favor; Councilman Bobbitt opposed. Motion carried by a 4-1 vote.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Scherer asked Parks & Recreation Director Simeon and Main Street Director Caudle to give an overview the City's upcoming holiday activities this weekend.

Upcoming Holiday Activities

Parks & Recreation Director Simeon announced on Friday, December 4th they will have JOY in the Park at 6 p.m. to kick off the Christmas season. They will be lighting Centennial Park and Roanoke Avenue. This event is in place of the program they've generally had in lighting the Christmas tree behind the Lloyd Andrews Building. Food trucks will be around the park as well as Christmas music. They have already begun decorating the park and believes it will be a nice focal point for the City.

He also announced the Holiday JOY Ride is set for Saturday, December 5th at 6 p.m. A caravan will be led by the Police Department from Kirkwood Adams and travel along Roanoke Avenue going through the business district and around Centennial Park and end up on First Street. Santa Claus will be part of the caravan. They currently have 13 signed up and hope to have more since they are receiving a lot of phone calls. He plans to call the radio station to remind them and asked RRSpin.com to encourage the public to sign up.

Main Street Director Caudle said in addition to JOY in the Park and the Holiday JOY Ride, they will have a Christmas JOY Crawl in uptown Roanoke Rapids (900, 1000 & 1100 blocks) that starts at 3 p.m. It is a shop and dine at your leisure style event. In the 1025 Roanoke Avenue breeze way there will be special appearances from Santa. There is also a Letters to Santa mail box that they encourage children of all ages to drop off a letter and possibly they will receive something back. They will also have a 9 foot JOY sign for a great photo opportunity.

She also announced they have a contest that started last Saturday (Small Business Saturday) and will go through December 19th. It is called Elfie Selfies. They have two elves with masks that are in businesses. Currently they are in O'Aetos and Stephens Outlet. They will be moving several times between now and December 19th. They encourage the public under the Governor's Executive Orders to safely visit these locations and take a picture with the elf and post with hashtag #RRelfieselfie to Facebook or Instagram. Every post they make with that tag is a contest entry. If their picture shows a proof of purchase they get a bonus entry. They will be doing weekly drawings for a \$100 gift card to any local business on the Avenue of their choice. There will be a total of four drawings during the contest. The contest is sponsored by Main Street.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee asked if they felt comfortable that they can abide by all the rules and guidelines and keep everything safe.

Main Street Director Caudle replied the latest executive order which will go through this weekend, pending any changes, states if you are outdoors and cannot properly social distance, a mask would be required. They will encourage mask wearing at the outdoor events. If they cannot maintain social distancing then it will be required; it will be a team effort. The Police Department will have officers out especially on Friday night. The events have also been designed to be self-guided. Participants will be in their own vehicle for the JOY Ride and the event on Friday night is outdoors. Once the lights are turned on at 6 p.m. it will be a self-guided program after that. The JOY Crawl on Saturday is from 3 p.m. until whenever the last shoppers leave in order to space out the attendees. Each business would adhere to their rules and they would

need to enforce them. She added the five food trucks that plan to attend Friday night's event will be outside the park and separated. They feel like all the things they have done fall under the current executive orders and they will be able to adhere to them properly.

City Manager Scherer asked Planning & Development Director Lasky to give City Council an overview briefing of a recent Neighborhood Revitalization Grant the City received.

CDBG Neighborhood Revitalization Program Overview Briefing

Planning & Development Director Lasky reported just before the Thanksgiving holiday, she received notification from the NC Department of Commerce, Rural Economic Development Division that the City was awarded a \$750,000 Community Development Block Grant – Neighborhood Revitalization Program where the application was submitted the end of August. She stated they have not had a program of this size in over six years. This will benefit several families of owner-occupied homes. During the application process, they received thirteen applications from self-certified interested homeowners. They anticipate about eight of those units will be revitalized or rehabilitated to provide standard, energy efficient and quality homes for these low and moderate income residents.

She said basically the \$750,000 will be broken down to \$575,000 going to improvements to housing. The list of applications will be brought to City Council in later months for their approval of the beneficiaries for the program.

Planning & Development Director reported she has funding conditions to accomplish over the next couple of months. One task includes the advertising for and hiring of a grant administrator that is required and funded under the grant. The grant allows up to \$75,000 to be used for grant administration. It also helps the City to meet the federal requirements for spending the money. A grant consultant will assist with financial management, on-site visits, doing housing inspections, coordinating with contractors, etc. It is a true benefit of the grant. She hopes in January they will bring forward a recommendation for their approval.

She stated it will take a few months to hire a consultant and complete the required compliance documents before the funding is even released. They cannot spend any monies until they receive notification from the State that the City has met all the criteria.

She said in addition to the housing is \$100,000 towards public facilities improvements. In the application, they identified a bath house facility at Chaloner

Park. Currently the park does not have an ADA compliant restroom facility. The existing structure is outdated and rehabilitation is not feasible. The proposed bath house will complement the new splash pad, playground and walking trail. It will have men's and women's restrooms as well as changing facilities and showers. The building will be heated and cooled.

Planning & Development Director Lasky stated housing is the City's first priority for using these funds with the Chaloner Park bath house being a second priority. The \$575,000 will go towards the rehabilitation of the owner-occupied homes. Chaloner Park was selected because it is located in one the disadvantaged areas of the city and has a need for ADA compliant restrooms.

She said the housing is scattered throughout the city and not in one particular area. There are several considerations that have to go into each one. She conservatively estimates they will be able to rehabilitate eight homes at \$60,000 per home. Some homes could cost more and some less. They will know more specifics on conditions of each home once they move forward with the grant. There is a limit of approximately \$72,000 to be spent without further approval from the State.

She stated the grant funds will be expended in accordance with the grant application that was submitted in August. She said if anyone would like to see the application it is available at City Hall. They will be reaching out to the homeowners this week that expressed interest in the program and who were included in the grant application.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee asked the time frame of when she expected the first monies to come forward. Planning & Development Director Lasky replied it was going to be at least 3-4 months before the City gets the approval from the State to spend the funds. They have typically used the reimbursement method. They have 27 months from this month to complete the project. She believes the rehabilitation of homes and the construction of the bath house facility will take place from the middle to the end of 2021. Typically the turnaround time is pretty quick when they submit the requisitions. They will work closely with Finance Director Etheridge and the grant consultant to make sure the City meets all the requirements of the federal regulations.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee asked if they were single family homes. She replied the requirements are they have to be owner occupied homes and their income has to be 80% or less than the median household income for Halifax County. Priority is given to the elderly, disabled populations and based on the severity of the housing needs. All of this will come before City Council where they will act as the Housing Selection Committee. They will prepare the evaluations and present them to City Council and they will approve the homes that will benefit from the program.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee said she indicated she would be advertising but there seems to be some people that have already inquired about the funding. Planning & Development Director Lasky said when advertising in the summer months while they were working on the application, they heard from thirteen households. They conducted a self-evaluation survey. The department took a quick look at the homes to see what their needs were. The next step will be to contact these individuals after they establish the program to get more information from them. If they do not spend all the funds or get additional funds, they will do more homes. Or if someone chooses not to participate in the program, they will go to the next person on the list.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee said right now they have thirteen, but they may not be able to do all of them and asked if the funds were earmarked to those thirteen. Planning & Development Director Lasky said they anticipate about eight of those. He asked if there was someone not already in the loop, they would not be able to participate in the program unless one of those bows out. Planning & Development Director Lasky said she would still like to continue receiving applications because you don't know how things are going to turn out at this point. She stated if anyone was interested in the program they can contact her. Some of the thirteen may not qualify because a few of them were very close to the income limit. They have to do certifications and third party verifications of income.

Councilman Smith asked if the total fee for the grant administrator was \$75,000. She replied yes. He confirmed there would be no override. She said there will be a cap when she prepares the request for qualifications. They will solicit bids from experienced CDBG administrator consultants and specifically state their budget allocated for it and there would be no other funding sources available. Most of the time that amount of money is acceptable to most grant administrators in this process. Councilman Smith asked if any of the committee members were going to get paid. She replied no. All the expenditures have to be allowable through the code of federal regulations under the grant administration.

Councilman Smith confirmed they will actually be able to give the citizens \$575,000 if they take out the \$100,000 for Chaloner and \$75,000 for the administrator. She replied there is \$575,000 allocated for housing rehabilitation. The maximum without State approval is about \$72,000 per rehabilitation. If it ends up a home needs to be demolished and rebuilt, the typical limit is \$150,000. They will try to do as many homes as they can with the \$575,000.

Planning & Development Director Lasky explained they were talking about low income homeowners that are typically living in homes that are aging and deteriorating. A majority of our community is using a lot of their incomes on housing needs. They

live on low wages from low paying jobs or they are on a fixed income from public assistance, social security or some other benefit. A lot of these people that will benefit from this program cannot afford to make certain repairs to their homes such as failing electrical or plumbing systems. So yes, there is a cost involved to bring these homes from substandard conditions to standard conditions. The grant program also requires that any homes that have presence of lead-based paint or asbestos, the risks have to be evaluated and mediated. She does not know exactly how much it is going to cost for each home until they hire the consultant and a housing specialist will prepare cost estimates or construction specifications for each home.

Councilman Smith asked if there was going to be a certain contractor to do these homes. A lot of times when contractors get public money they over estimate what it costs to do it and asked would they be watching for that carefully. She replied the consultant will be working with the building inspector so when the write-ups for each home and what's required is prepared they will have pre-bid meetings and then they will advertise and request sealed bids. After the closing the sealed bids will be opened at one time. The Co-Council and the State have specific ranges or estimates of what things should cost. The City Council will approve all the contractors later on. They will advertise the need for contractors and once they receive that, they will tabulate them. For example, if they do eight homes, they may have more than one contractor to do the work. The contractors will bid on each project and likely an award will be recommended and made to the lowest bidder with consideration of procurement standards and giving equal opportunity for all persons.

Councilwoman Bryant thanked Planning & Development Lasky for following through on the grant. She believes it will be great for the area. Planning & Development Lasky replied she was excited for the community. When they go through these programs there are a lot of steps involved and City Council will be informed every step along the way. When the grant is completed and the representative from the State comes down and they make house visits to those who benefited from the program, you can really see how it changes their lives.

City Manager Scherer also thanked Planning & Development Director Lasky for her diligence and efforts in obtaining the grant. There are many applications submitted throughout the state and they do not award that many so that is a testament to her dedication and professionalism.

He gave the following report:

Virus Update - Since Governor Cooper's last Order, the Police Department has not received any complaints from the public. They still go to businesses if needed. They

give a warning first and obtain voluntary compliance, then look at issuing citations.

The latest Governor's Executive Order encouraged cities to enact their own ordinances for enforcement with penalties, but the School of Government experts said cities cannot do that. Mr. Davis concurs with that assessment. We will continue to enforce the Governor's Order as needed. The Police Department is receiving more complaints about parking in fire lanes and handicap spaces. They are issuing violations at Walmart and in front of the Roses and Klix.

The Finance Department issued longevity checks today and Christmas bonus checks will be issued on Friday. Still no word from Local Government Commission on approval for our financial audit. It will likely be in January when audit report is presented to City Council.

The Police Department continue to work through some radio issues trying to get the main channel up to speed. Mr. Chalker is working hard to determine the cause and solution. They are assisting Angel's Closet with helping needy kids for Christmas. Administrative Assistant Tina May has been taking applications for families in need. Christmas for Kids shopping will be on December 12th at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. (40 children separated in two groups). Narrowed applications from hiring pool down to two candidates. They should make a final decision tomorrow. They will send the two hires to BLET in January. Both applicants are local. It will still leave two positions open that they hope to get certified officers.

Main Street/Economic Development – Small Business Saturday this past weekend went well for most small businesses in the District. So far, The Mill Coffee & Eatery is doing very well. Carolina Barbecue Restaurant has a sign up that signified they may be opening again with the Emporia Team, the original owners of the restaurant. Hunan's Chinese Restaurant on 10th Street opened back up today.

Parks & Recreation – Mr. Simeon is looking at applying for a \$2,500 grant from the National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEF) to support public lands that have been impacted by increased use during the COVID-19 pandemic. This would help with Trail maintenance.

Public Works – Their busy leaf season collection continues. It is labor intensive and takes three people per truck. Being short staffed and having no prison inmate help impacts the department's response to other responsibilities. Mr. Chalker has submitted the insurance claim for the communications tower repair. The estimate is \$6,163.

The Fire Department is helping the Police Department and Angel's Closet this week with Christmas for Kids activities. They applied for a grant in July for thermal imaging cameras. Since then, Enviva awarded the department with one and the department was notified that they received the grant for one camera. The Leary Foundation will grant \$8,000 towards a new camera. They will now have two NFPA compliant thermal imaging cameras on different trucks.

Planning & Development – Ms. Lasky is working on the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan and has a local capability survey due back to the consultant by December 16th. She will get in touch with staff that is involved to help answer the questions. The consultant for the EPA Brownsfield grant has submitted a draft of the Phase I environmental study for the 10-acre site donated to the City next to Ledgerwood Field. They asked Ms. Lasky to review the 400-page document. The demolition contractor did a great job clearing debris from the demolition sites at 117 Madison Street and 805 Cedar Street.

Councilman Smith asked if Klix was the gambling place beside Roses. City Manager Scherer replied yes and asked Police Chief Martin to come forward to give City Council the details on that. Councilman Smith said he thought all those type of establishments were closed down.

Chief Martin stated Klix was operating at their own risk at this point. He has reached out to the ALE who normally oversees the gaming industry. They are aware and doing frequent visits to Klix and any other business of electronic gaming in the city limits of Roanoke Rapids. Councilman Smith questioned the meaning of operating at their own risk. Chief Martin replied the Sheriff's Office has gone in with ALE and shut them down one time. The information he received is that ALE is monitoring it.

Councilman Smith asked if there was anything the City could do about it. Chief Martin said they could work with the ALE but they are normally in charge of the gaming industry in that aspect. He said we have to have our District Attorney onboard as well. They have certain litigation going on within the court system. He was sure Attorney Davis was familiar with it and it has placed everyone in a holding pattern, especially with the DA's office at this time along with local law enforcement. The businesses are taking advantage of what they feel is within the court system right now where they think they can legally operate. Until that litigation can be taken care of, they are at a standstill as far as enforcement goes.

Councilman Smith said he has been questioned about it because he understands that parents are dropping their kids off at local businesses. Chief Martin said he has heard the same complaint and he was correct. He has spoken with local business owners in

regards to suggestions on how to handle that issue. He told them if there was a need for the Police Department to please reach out to them and they will contact DSS. If parents have that much of an issue where they want to drop their kids off to go gamble instead of being with them, they want to make sure someone from DSS is aware of it.

Councilwoman Scarbrough asked if there were other gaming businesses in town other than the one they were talking about. He replied they do not have any other that are actively open right now. In the I95 building by the interstate there has been some interest from a group to put machines in that building. He spoke with the owner about it, but someone else is looking into doing it.

Councilman Smith asked Attorney Davis about the situation with the Theatre where they took the gambling out of it because of the courts and now there is something going on in the middle of town. He didn't understand.

Attorney Davis stated in full disclosure, before he came onboard as the City Attorney, he represented several of these sweepstakes owners. For clarity, originally that Klix location was owned by a different company. It is being operated by another company now that he does not have any involvement with. He did represent the previous company that operated at that location who subsequently moved out by Dunham's that is now closed. They did have some litigation and some is still pending against ALE in Superior Court. There are some ambiguities with the sweepstakes law that does make it difficult. There are a lot of gray areas as the Legislature has written it. Over the years, the Legislature has not taken the next step to clarify some of those ambiguities and there has been a lot of litigation behind it. Normally, for sweepstakes enforcement ALE is the agency involved in that along with the Sheriff's department.

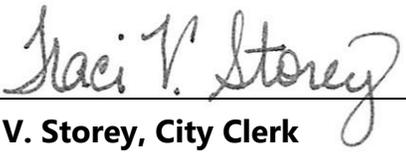
Chief Martin stated he has reached out to the ALE officer they work closely with and the Police Department is keeping an eye on what is going on at the business. As far as enforcement goes, ALE is monitoring it.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee asked City Manager Scherer if he has heard anything from the Local Government Commission concerning the delay in the audit approval; was it do to COVID or just running behind. City Manager Scherer replied he believed there were so many other cities and towns having financial issues that they are having to get involved in along with the virus, so audit approvals were probably low on their list to act on.

Adjournment

There being no further business, motion was made by Councilwoman Scarbrough,

seconded by Councilwoman Bryant and unanimously carried to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.



Traci V. Storey, City Clerk

Approved by Council Action on: December 15, 2020