

February 25, 2019

The City Council of the City of Rocky Mount met this day in regular session at 4:00 p.m. in the George W. Dudley City Council Chamber of the Frederick E. Turnage Municipal Building with Mayor David W. Combs presiding.

The Mayor called the meeting to order and called on Mayor Pro Tem Tom Rogers to offer prayer.

Councilmembers present: André D. Knight, Reuben C. Blackwell, IV, Richard Joyner, Tom Rogers, W. B. Bullock and Christine Carroll Miller.

Councilmember absent: E. Lois Watkins.

Staff Present: Rochelle D. Small-Toney, City Manager; Pamela O. Casey, City Clerk; Chris Beschler, Assistant City Manager; Tameka Kenan-Norman, Chief Communications and Marketing Officer; Ken Hunter, Budget and Evaluation Manager; Will Deaton, Director of Department of Development Services; Mark Rogerson, Fire Marshal; Jessie Nunery, Media Relations Specialist; Dr. Landis Faulcon, Community and Business Development Director; Cornelia McGee, Community Development Administrator; Elton Daniels, Parks and Recreation Director; Kim Batts, Deputy City Clerk; and Richard J. Rose, City Attorney.

Security Officer: Police Sergeant L. S. Parker, Jr.

WELCOME

Mayor Combs welcomed citizens and directed them to copies of the agenda near the entrance of the City Council Chamber.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of a regular scheduled meeting of the City Council held February 11, 2019 were approved as submitted to the City Council prior to the meeting.

REMARKS - MAYOR PRO TEM TOM ROGERS

Mayor Combs called on Pro Tem Tom Rogers for an update relative to an ongoing investigation relative to management at the City. The Mayor Pro Tem provided the following information:

- The investigation is underway;
- Several interviews have taken place and others are scheduled;
- A report should not be expected at this stage in the investigation;
- The City Council has authorized the establishment of an employee hotline (1-800 number) which should be operational in the near future; communication of the number is being finalized;
- Anonymity is associated with the investigative process and hotline in an effort to obtain unfiltered feedback; and
- The Chief Internal Auditor will currently be reporting to the City Council through the Mayor. The Council is in the process of establishing an Audit Committee to whom the Internal Auditor will eventually report.

REMARKS - CITY ATTORNEY RICHARD J. ROSE

City Attorney Richard J. Rose reported that he has been asked to make remarks relative to the law on conflicts of interest generally and, specifically, as to Councilmembers Blackwell and Knight and OIC, the nonprofit corporation they are involved with as an employee and CEO (Blackwell) and board member (Knight). He stated the following:

- Generally, conflicts of interest arise in a local government setting when an appointed or elected official makes a contract for his or her own benefit under the governmental authority they have by virtue of the public position they hold. The idea is that those persons who serve in positions of trust should not participate or make contracts from which they personally benefit.
- Conflicts of interest have been addressed in the North Carolina General Statutes for almost 200 years and warnings against conflicts go back at least 2000 years to the Sermon on the Mount "no man can serve two masters or either he will hate the one and love the other or else he will hold the one and despise the other. He cannot serve God and man."
- The statutory conflict of interest provision governing City Councilmembers is found in GS 14-234. This statute was cited by Mr. Russell in an earlier meeting. The statute has been amended several times over the years as the Legislature has worked to define just what an unlawful conflict of interest should be because conflict of interest clearly means different things to different people. NCGS 14-234 was last amended in 2001 and prior to that amendment the statute prohibited any elected or appointed official from being in any manner interested in a contract with local government or from making a contract for his or her own benefit. It is not particularly clear when you look at specific contracts. The 2001 amendment completely rewrote GS 14-234 to make the prohibition much clearer. This statute now prohibits any elected or appointed official from deriving a "direct benefit" from my contract with the local government. The question then becomes "when does a Councilmember derive a direct benefit from a contract?"
- Fortunately, the 2001 amendment provides an answer to that question. A Councilmember derives a direct benefit from a contract if the Councilmember or his or her spouse has more than a 10% ownership or other interest in the entity that is a party to the contract or derives any income or commission directly from the contract or acquires property under the contract.
- The China American building which was owned by the City was purchased from the City by OIC. OIC is a 501c3 nonprofit entity. Nonprofit entities are not owned by anyone. When they are dissolved their assets must be distributed to another nonprofit or the Governor. Councilmembers Blackwell and Knight are both affiliated

with OIC and both have important positions there, but they do not have an ownership interest in the entity. For that reason, that transaction does not violate the current conflict of interest law. Moreover, the China American building was sold under the upset bid procedure of the North Carolina General Statutes and any other interested purchaser could have increased the bid and, ultimately, acquired the property.

- Finally, the City Council could adopt a stronger conflict of interest policy that prohibits transactions with nonprofits affiliated with Councilmembers. Council has not seen fit to do that yet but could adopt such a policy.

Mayor Combs thanked the City Attorney for his report.

PETITIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mayor Combs outlined the guidelines for Petitions from the public and opened the meeting for petitions from the public. He recognized the following individuals. A summary of the statements follow:

Warren Daughtridge:

- Said in his comments a few weeks ago he voiced concern for transparency and expediency in bringing to an end to the turmoil in our City's management team; and
- Said in his second comments to Council he explained his experience of being in a color-blind Navy and discussed proven top-down leadership by example and leadership willing to take full credit for the shortcomings that occurred under its command;
- Stated he would like to offer a few thoughts on how we might appropriately respond to the crisis in our community and how this set of unfortunate circumstances in which we find ourselves might help us be better;
- Referred to Jonah's disobedience and the resulting crisis that ensued, why it happened and the responses that were the result;
- Said certain individuals here and in the community thrive in a very divisive environment pitting one against the other;
- Offered a plea to all of Rocky Mount to come together and elect leaders who will be servants not selfish and to stop the childish name-calling legislating for personal and family gain; to stop blaming race on everything and instead try to discover what the real issues might be;
- Said it is time for everyone who is able to get involved and make a difference and it is time to reach out to someone who is not like you and find a common ground;
- Said it is time to listen to each other and learn how we are different and alike;
- Said his prayer is that we endure this challenge in order to learn, to change and to be better for it;
- Said, like Jonah, we have not been doing what we are supposed to do, and we are living in a deeply divided community rather than seeking each other out and learning how to lead and to live together;
- Said the good news on both accounts is this is not the end and we can learn from it and be better for it;
- Encouraged all to reach out to someone unlike them this week

Jonathan Hunter:

- Spoke in support of the historic designation of the Buck Leonard home;
- Said Buck Leonard's life is the story of the American dream realized because he started out as a young boy working and taking care of his family because his father had passed away;
- Said he was the man of the house and worked hard listing his various jobs and said he did them all in a humble manner and did a lot of great work in Rocky Mount after he came back from playing baseball;
- Said he took time to talk to children about life and he was one of the children;

- Said he did a lot of great things in baseball, but he respects him most for what he did before he played baseball. He outlined his accomplishments in baseball; and
- Said he did a lot for Rocky Mount, the country and the world

Robert Carr:

- Said it seems like there's a lot of talk among the group about racism;
- Said he was in the Air Force in Vietnam and his best friend was a black gentleman and they were very close as best friends;
- Said he is not a racist and thinks we have a right to be with whomever we wish;
- Said he thinks the discussion among counsel making accusations of racism should be limited because it doesn't do any good;
- Said he is bothered because it seems Councilmembers have inside information and certain individuals have purchased property as a result of that knowledge;
- Questioned if that has happened what kind of reprimand there will be

Susan Perry Cole:

- Voiced support for the Downtown Affordable Housing project which is located near her home and said the neighborhood welcomes the project;
- Said Eastern North Carolina suffered most of the damage from Hurricane Matthew in 2016 and nearly 5,000 households had extensive damage;
- Said there was already a shortage of workforce house;
- Said the project is needed and urged the Council to approve the project

Nehemiah Smith, Jr.:

- Said every black person born in America possesses a unique pragmatism that is governed by historical experience whether that experience be vicarious or actual;
- Said in the current climate of many manufactured issues and concerns we cannot allow the narrative of our City of whom and what we are and what we might become to be dictated by carnival barkers who bastardize the idea of public service but touting their own accomplishments and deny the race card; conflating low income and workforce housing because of a less than rudimentary understanding and confusing the public;
- Said the one thing he knows about this whole situation is there are a lot of carnival barkers who do not live in Rocky Mount, but have a lot of concern about Rocky Mount;
- Said Rocky Mount residents need to take care of Rocky Mount business;
- Said the City Manager can overcome this crisis and he believes she will take the City forward and it will be a better city and the citizens will be better, but we have to be ready and willing to do it together

Robert Davis:

- Said racism is taught; told a story about looking for a home when a small child told him and his wife they could not buy the house because of their skin color;
- Told a story about a friend who moved away from Rocky Mount because his daughter came home from school speaking words he would not have in his house;
- Added that the first steps in getting rid of the problems in the City is to look at the man in the mirror and that he has never seen the problem of race to be such a challenge anywhere else he has ever lived;
- Said we all have to work together.

The Mayor thanked the speakers for their comments. He noted that some have mentioned the State Auditor. He reported that he has a meeting scheduled with the State Auditor on Wednesday.

LOCAL HISTORIC LANDMARK DESIGNATION/THE WALTER "BUCK" LEONARD HOUSE

The City Council received a request from the Historic Preservation Commission for designation of the Walter "Buck" Leonard House at 605 Atlantic Avenue as a local historic landmark. The City Council was advised that both the City Council and the Historic Preservation Commission are required to hold public hearings relative to a landmark

designation and further that the City Council and the Historic Preservation Commission could, in the alternative, hold a joint public hearing, if desired.

By consensus, a joint meeting of the City Council and Historic Preservation Commission was scheduled for March 11, 2019 at 7 p.m. and consideration of the local historic preservation designation was deferred until such time.

AD VALOREM TAX RELEASES

The City Council received the following schedules of ad valorem taxes recommended for release and/or refund:

SCHEDULE A – taxes under \$100 approved for release and/or refund by the City Manager:

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>BILL NO.</u>	<u>NAME/ADDRESS</u>	<u>TAX</u>		<u>COMMENT</u>
<u>NASH COUNTY</u>					
2017	1328	FISHER TREE SERVICE LLC 3708 WOODLAWN RD ROCKY MOUNT, NC 27804	17.34 2.04	CITY INT	OWNER CORRECTION
		TOTAL RELEASE:	19.38		
2018	2045	MAIN COURSE LLC ATTN ROBBIE STOKES 3918 BISHOP RD BATTLEBORO, NC 27809	29.87 0.82	CITY INT	DUPLICATE BILL
		TOTAL RELEASE:	30.69		
2011	1940	MOLLY'S DAYCARE 2 PO BOX 1932 ROCKY MOUNT, NC 27802	52.25 5.23 37.79	CITY PEN INT	OWNER CORRECTION
		TOTAL RELEASE:	95.27		
2011	1000714	MOLLY'S DAYCARE 2 PO BOX 1932 ROCKY MOUNT, NC 27802	52.25 34.35	CITY INT	OWNER CORRECTION
		TOTAL RELEASE:	86.60		
2011	1000715	MOLLY'S DAYCARE 2 PO BOX 1932 ROCKY MOUNT, NC 27802	52.25 34.35	CITY INT	OWNER CORRECTION
		TOTAL RELEASE:	86.60		
2012	1921	MOLLY'S DAYCARE 2 PO BOX 1932 ROCKY MOUNT, NC 27802	55.10 31.27	CITY INT	OWNER CORRECTION
		TOTAL RELEASE:	86.37		
2013	1895	MOLLY'S DAYCARE 2 PO BOX 1932 ROCKY MOUNT, NC 27802	55.10 26.31	CITY INT	OWNER CORRETION
		TOTAL RELEASE:	81.41		
2014	1271	MOLLY'S DAYCARE 2 PO BOX 1932 ROCKY MOUNT, NC 27802	55.10 21.35	CITY INT	OWNER CORRECTION
		TOTAL RELEASE:	76.45		

2015	1849	MOLLY'S DAYCARE 2	57.48	CITY	OWNER CORRECTION
		PO BOX 1932	5.75	PEN	
		ROCKY MOUNT, NC 27802	18.81	INT	
		TOTAL RELEASE:	82.04		

SCHEDULE B – taxes over \$100 recommended for release and/or refund by the City Council:

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>BILL NO.</u>	<u>NAME/ADDRESS</u>	<u>TAX</u>		<u>COMMENT</u>
		<u>NASH COUNTY</u>			
2018	2160	FIRST SOUTH LEASING LLC	776.79	CITY	OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS
		PO BOX 2047			
		WASHINGTON, NC 27889			
		TOTAL RELEASE:	776.79		

Motion was made by Councilmember Rogers, seconded by Councilmember Joyner and unanimously carried that the report from the City Manager of taxes under \$100 listed on Schedule A approved for release and/or refund be acknowledged; and that the taxes over \$100 listed on Schedule B be approved for release and/or refund.

PROJECT ORDINANCE AMENDMENT/2018-2019 URGENT REPAIR PROJECT

The City Council received an ordinance amending the FY 2018-2019 budget to appropriate grant funds to the Community Development Grant Fund for Residential Urgent Repair Activities from the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency (\$100,000) and the General Fund (\$150,000) for the purpose of housing initiatives.

Motion was made by Councilmember Knight, seconded by Councilmember Blackwell and unanimously carried that **Ordinance No. O-2019-8** entitled **GRANT PROJECT ORDINANCE/2018-2019 URGENT REPAIR** be adopted.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

The City Council received the minutes from a regular rescheduled Committee of the Whole Meeting held Monday, February 11, 2019 as follows:

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF A REGULAR RESCHEDULED COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HELD MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2019, AT 4:00 P.M. IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM OF THE FREDERICK E. TURNAGE MUNICIPAL BUILDING

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tom Rogers, Mayor Pro Tem
 André D. Knight
 Reuben C. Blackwell, IV
 Richard Joyner
 E. Lois Watkins
 W. B. Bullock
 Chris Miller
 David W. Combs, Mayor

STAFF PRESENT:

Rochelle D. Small-Toney
 Pamela O. Casey
 Chris Beschler
 Natasha Hampton
 Tameka Kenan-Norman
 Ken Hunter
 Will Deaton
 Amy Staton
 Nicki Gurganus
 JoSeth Bocook
 Richard J. Rose

OTHERS PRESENT:

David Hunt, Hunt Williams Development, LLC
 Cedric Johnson, BCW Consulting
 Mary Nash Rusher, Hunton & Williams, LLP

OPENING OF MEETING

Mayor Pro Tem Tom Rogers called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and welcomed all present. He explained the guidelines for Committee of the Whole work sessions and added that a personnel matter will be added to the closed sessions scheduled today.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION. *Motion was made by Councilmember Joyner, seconded by Councilmember Blackwell and unanimously carried that the City Council go into Closed Session at 4:04 p.m. for discussion regarding a personnel matter and all were excused from the room with the exception of the City Councilmembers.*

The minutes of the Closed Sessions (personnel) shall be placed on file as **ESM-518** and (economic development) **ESM-581a** at the end of **Minute Book 35** upon approval for release by the City Attorney.

REGULAR SESSION. The Mayor Pro Tem convened the Committee in regular session at 6:41 p.m. with the following in attendance:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tom Rogers, Mayor Pro Tem
 André D. Knight
 Reuben C. Blackwell, IV
 Richard Joyner
 E. Lois Watkins
 W. B. Bullock
 Chris Miller
 David W. Combs, Mayor

STAFF PRESENT:

Rochelle D. Small-Toney
 Pamela O. Casey
 Chris Beschler
 Natasha Hampton
 Tameka Kenan-Norman
 Will Deaton
 JoSeth Bocook
 Amy Staton
 Nicki Gurganus
 Richard J. Rose

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE - RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION - BUILDING REUSE GRANT AGREEMENT/LARGERKO, LLC - THE MONK HOTEL - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (ADDED TO AGENDA IN OPEN MEETING) - Rochelle D. Small-Toney

City Manager Rochelle D. Small-Toney recommended that the LarGerko, LLC/Monk Hotel grant agreement, including a deed of trust, be added to the agenda for the 7 p.m. meeting for approval.

PUBLIC COMMENT - 7 P.M. MEETING

By consensus, it was agreed that the public comment period during the 7 p.m. meeting will be one hour.

LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE AMENDMENT - PARKING OF OVER-SIZED COMMERCIAL VEHICLES ON RESIDENTIALLY-ZONED PROPERTY - Will Deaton

The City Council was provided with an Ordinance Amendment relative to parking of oversized commercial vehicles on residentially-zoned property and amending the Ordinance adopted on July 9, 2018 to allow commercial vehicles and trailers in excess of 25-feet in length, or 10,000 pounds gross weight rating, to park in the rear yard (behind the primary structure) on parcels having an area of one acre or more

Mayor Combs stated he believes one acre is too small for parking commercial vehicles.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION. *By consensus, the Committee recommended approval of the amendment.*

SHARED USE PARKING AGREEMENT/EDGECOMBE COMMUNITY COLLEGE - Chris Beschler

City Attorney Richard J. Rose advised the City Council that Edgecombe Community College has agreed to execute the shared use parking agreement and have signed short-term extensions.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION. *Motion was made by Councilmember Joyner, seconded by Councilmember Blackwell and unanimously carried that the Shared Use Parking Agreement with Edgecombe Community College be recommended for approval.*

LOCAL HISTORIC LANDMARK DESIGNATION/WALTER "BUCK" LEONARD HOUSE - Will Deaton

The City Council was advised that the Rocky Mount Historic Preservation Commission held a public hearing at its January 22, 2019 meeting to consider designation of the Walter "Buck" Leonard house as a local historic landmark and the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office approved the Study List application for the house at their October 12, 2019 meeting. It was recommended that Council approved the house at 605 Atlantic Avenue for such designation.

Council was advised that said designation would result in a 50% deferral of taxes for the Leonard family.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION. *By consensus, the City Council recommended scheduling of the Public Hearing, as required*

BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES - Pam Casey

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION. *By consensus, the City Council authorized adding a presentation relative to Boards/Commissions/Committees to the agenda for the upcoming City Council Retreat.*

ADJOURN. There being no further business for the Committee of the Whole, by consensus, the meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Motion was made by Councilmember Blackwell, seconded by Councilmember Knight and unanimously carried that the minutes and recommendations from the February 11, 2019 regular rescheduled Committee of the Whole meeting be approved.

GRANT/2019 NASH COUNTY FOUNDATION

City Manager Rochelle Small-Toney told the City Council that the Rocky Mount Police Explorer Post #774 has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$6,500 from the Nash County Foundation to reduce the use of drugs. She stated that these grant funds will help cover the costs of funding the Explorer Post uniform replacement, trips and other activities for its 20 youth members.

Motion was made by Councilmember Miller, seconded by Councilmember Joyner and unanimously carried that notification of the intent to accept the grant be acknowledged; that **Ordinance No. O-2019-9** entitled **GRANT PROJECT ORDINANCE/2019 NASH COUNTY DRUG PREVENTION GRANT** be adopted; and that the Mayor, City Manager and/or City Clerk be authorized to execute the grant agreement and any other required documentation on behalf of the City.

2019 TAXICAB SERVICE LICENSE RENEWALS

The City Council received recommendations from the Interim Chief of Police George D. Robinson for the annual renewal of the following taxicab permits:

Renewals/Taxi:

Christopher R. Baker	# 1
Robert E. Lancaster	# 27
Mable R. Page	# 5
Lonnie Parker	# 4
Kendrick P. Scott	# 25
Otis T. Battle Jr.	# 53
Lareston R. Lewis	# 2

Motion was made by Councilmember Knight, seconded by Councilmember Joyner and unanimously carried that the recommendations of the Interim Chief of Police for renewal of taxi licenses as outlined above be approved.

DEMOLITION ORDINANCE

The City Council received an ordinance ordering the Community Code Inspector to proceed with demolition of the following substandard properties:

- a. 708 Branch Street
- b. 728 Park Avenue
- c. 730 Park Avenue

Motion was made by Councilmember Knight, seconded by Councilmember Miller to approve the demolition ordinance.

Councilmember Joyner requested that the Council defer consideration as to 708 Branch Street to allow him time to meet with the homeowner.

Councilmember Knight amended the motion to defer consideration as to 708 Branch Street to the March 11, 2019 meeting and that **Ordinance No. O-2019-10** entitled **ORDINANCE ORDERING THE COMMUNITY CODE INSPECTOR TO PROCEED TO DEMOLISH CERTAIN DILAPIDATED STRUCTURES PURSUANT TO THE HOUSING CODE OF THE CITY OF ROCKY MOUNT** be adopted and the amended motion was seconded by Councilmember Miller and unanimously carried.

Z.SMITH REYNOLDS GRANT APPLICATION/BLACK LIGHT PROJECT EXHIBITION

Assistant City Manager Natasha Hampton provided the City Council with a grant application and other documentation relative to the Z. Smith Reynolds grant for the community exhibition (larger-than-life banners) of the Black Light Project at the Imperial Centre Galleries (\$5,000). The City Council was advised the project is a photography exhibition that presents black males who represent kindness, perseverance, fearlessness, love, strength and humanity and that they are "black" and "light" our world.

Councilmember Miller questioned if the exhibit will include citizens from both Nash and Edgecombe Counties and City Manager Rochelle Small-Toney responded that staff will ensure that is the case.

Motion was made by Councilmember Blackwell, seconded by Councilmember Joyner and unanimously carried that the grant application be approved and that staff be authorized to submit the application on behalf of the City; that acceptance of the grant funds be approved; that the Letter of Intent be approved and that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute any required documentation and certifications, including the subsequent grant agreement, on behalf of the City.

WORKFORCE TO PARTNER IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF AFFORDABLE WORKFORCE HOUSING ON TARBORO STREET (ADDED TO AGENDA IN OPEN MEETING)

The City Council was provided with a Resolution establishing a partnership for affordable workforce housing on Tarboro Street. The City Manager explained the project and said the City was fortunate to be selected for this project in the fall and it is for hurricane recovery. She said Rocky Mount is one of two cities in the state selected for this type project and if the project moves forward it will provide 60 units of housing plus parking for the workforce community.

Mrs. Small-Toney said that she will eventually convey the property to DFI. She announced that there will be meetings set up for public information in March at which time the surrounding community, as well as the college, and others who have an interest will have an opportunity to provide their input. She said DFI will move forward with private development partner solicitation and follow up on negotiations between May and June and then the developer will engage in all of the pre-development activities for these units. She added that the agreements will be negotiated between July and September with the outcome being 60 workforce affordable housing units for people who may have been impacted by Hurricane Matthew and will provide safe, decent and affordable housing.

Council asked clarifying questions and received responses from the Manager. Ms. Small-Toney advised that the property will be developer-owned and will be taxable property.

Councilmember Blackwell stated there will be an opportunity for creating pathways for full participation in the community and will shift the narrative on who needs affordable housing. Councilmember Miller stated she is happy this will add to the tax base. She questioned if those living in the units have to be directly impacted by the flood and was advised by the Manager that will be a focus but not the only focus.

Councilmember Knight asked the Manager to explain the difference between workforce housing [and public housing] and emphasized that a "ghetto" is not being built downtown and this will not be public housing.

Ms. Small-Toney reported that residents will need to be employed and working at 60% of the area median income. She provided a list of City jobs with salary ranges that would qualify for residency and suggested that students and teachers at the community college may be

eligible for residency. Ms. Small-Toney added that seniors could also live in the community and it could be a very diverse community.

Councilmember Joyner noted the project is expected to be a reflection of the beautiful Beal Street project and will not be a slum.

Motion was made by Councilmember Blackwell, seconded by Councilmember Knight and unanimously carried that **Resolution No. R-2019-5** entitled **RESOLUTION TO PARTNER IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF AFFORDABLE WORKFORCE HOUSING ON TARBORO STREET** be adopted.

WORKFORCE HOUSING ADVISORY COMMISSION (ADDED TO AGENDA IN OPEN MEETING)

The City Council was provided with a Resolution establishing the Workforce Housing Advisory Commission. The City Manager said in 2018 an assessment of fair housing was performed and in working with the DownEast Home Consortium it was recommended that the commission be established. She outlined the makeup of the commission.

Motion was made by Councilmember Joyner, seconded by Councilmember Rogers and unanimously carried that **Resolution No. R-2019-6** entitled **RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH THE WORKFORCE HOUSING ADVISORY COMMISSION, TO APPOINT INITIAL MEMBERS, TO SET FORTH TERMS FOR STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES** be adopted.

Councilmember Rogers said he is proud we are moving forward to address the need in the community and for the project to be a success it will need citizen participation.

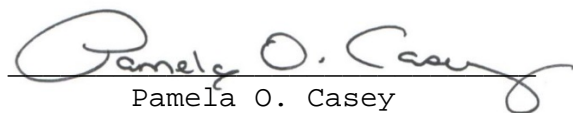
Councilmember Knight thanked Sue Perry Cole and her group for obtaining the facts, reporting to the Council and not distorting the facts. He said he is sad that some have voiced opposition to the project because Council is trying to move the community forward.

APPOINTMENT

Councilmember Blackwell confirmed the appointment of Dr. Antwan Lofton (made at the City Council Retreat) to serve on the Central City Revitalization Panel as a Member-At-Large for an unexpired term to expire June 2019.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the City Council meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.


Pamela O. Casey
City Clerk