A regular meeting of the Greenville City Council was held on Thursday, April 11, 2019 in the Council Chambers, located on the third floor at City Hall, with Mayor P. J. Connelly presiding. Mayor Connelly called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Council Member Litchfield gave the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Those Present:
Mayor P. J. Connelly, Mayor Pro-Tem Rose H. Glover and Council Members Monica Daniels, Will Bell, Rick Smiley, William F. Litchfield, Jr. and Brian V. Meyerhoeffer, Jr.

Those Absent:
None

Also Present:
City Manager Ann E. Wall, City Attorney Emanuel D. McGirt and City Clerk Carol L. Barwick

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Council Member Smiley moved that the agenda be approved as presented. Council Member Meyerhoeffer seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mayor Connelly opened the public comment period at 6:06 pm, explaining procedures which should be followed by all speakers.

Amanda Mann – 717 Hillsford Lane – Apex, NC
Ms. Mann stated she is here to address the Joyner rezoning item under Old Business and knows there are people from that neighborhood here to speak as well. They have had a good bit of dialogue over the past few weeks and have met a couple of times, including one meeting to go through ordinance items and DOT items with the engineer. They have also had phone and electronic contact with people, trying to work through issues the best way they could. They looked at deed restrictions or covenants that could potentially restrict the density if it was to become a multi-family project in the future. Some neighbors were in favor of that, but they didn’t reach quite the consensus that they’d wanted.
Doreen Liverman – 3115 Cleere Court – Greenville, NC
Ms. Liverman said regarding the same rezoning issue addressed by Ms. Mann, they have not seen a conceptualization of this. From her understanding, once the construction is done on Fire Tower, there will be no left-hand turns allowed into Meeting Place or this new neighborhood. That will cause traffic needing to get into either neighborhood to have to come down and make a U-turn in front of Red Banks, where it is already very dangerous. She asked that Council be certain they understand what the traffic pattern will be in this area and the impact it will have on an already dangerous situation.

Nicole Katuzis – 3116 Cleere Court – Greenville, NC
Ms. Katuzis stated she understands Mr. Joyner’s desire to make his property more desirable to potential buyers, but she has a petition with over 660 signatures of voters who live in the area. They have been working with Ms. Mann and Mr. Anderson over the past couple months and the general consensus they’ve come to is that the deed restriction lasting only five years is simply not enough time. She noted that Ms. Mann has been very open and available to meet with neighbors, but there was simply not enough time to reach a consensus between four neighborhoods and Mr. Joyner’s team.

Tamra Harris – 310 Lindsay Drive – Greenville, NC
Ms. Harris stated she is a teacher at South Central High School and would like to thank the City Council for providing time to honor the school’s basketball team. She and others are very proud of the team, but wondered if they truly know what that means. In her interpretation, P stands for Pride, R stands for Religion, O stands for Obedience, U stands for Understanding and D stands for Determination. South Central took home its first ever State 4A Championship and this marks the first time in history that a coach from North Carolina has been named National Coaches Association High School Coach of the Year. It has been a pleasure to watch these players and coaches achieve these goals.

Hearing no one else who wished to speak during the Public Comment period, Mayor Connelly closed the public comment period at 6:18 pm.

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

SOUTH CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM – STATE 4A CHAMPIONS

Mayor Connelly and Council Members recognized the players and coaches of the South Central High School Boys Basketball team including players Shykeim Phillips, Travon Ward, Cydney Williams, Isiah Mills, Jahzeer Baker, Sky’Quan Jones, Joseph Thompson, Phillip Chen, Jordan McMillian, Raquan Vann, Larry Lassiter, Jeremy Lewis, Day’ron Sharpe, Howvante Hutcherson and Taric Hill, Associate Head Coach Leland Jones, Assistant Coaches Joey Gaddy, Tim Elliott, James Hilliard, Myles White and Felix Harris, Managers Demerica Sharpe, Aaron Jones and Makayla Chance, and Athletic Trainer Hallie Sayre.
APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Community Appearance Commission
Council Member Smiley made a motion to reappoint Diane Kulik to a first three-year term that will expire April 2022. Council Member Bell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Council Member Smiley made a motion to reappoint William Wooten to a second three-year term that will expire April 2022. Council Member Bell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Council Member Smiley continued all remaining appointments.

Environmental Advisory Commission
Council Member Meyerhoeffer continued all appointments to the next meeting.

Greenville Bicycle & Pedestrian Commission
Council Member Bell continued all appointments to the next meeting.

Human Relations Council
Mayor Pro-Tem Glover continued all appointments.

Recreation & Parks Commission
Mayor Pro-Tem Glover appointments to the next meeting.

Youth Council
Mayor Pro-Tem Glover continued all remaining appointments to the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE REQUESTED BY BOBBY W. JOYNER TO REZONE 12.943 ACRES LOCATED ALONG THE NORTHERN RIGHT-OF-WAY OF EAST FIRE TOWER ROAD AND ADJACENT TO MEETING PLACE SUBDIVISION FROM RA20 (RESIDENTIAL-AGRICULTURAL) TO OR (OFFICE-RESIDENTIAL [HIGH DENSITY MULTI-FAMILY]) – Ordinance No. 19-021

Having been heard at the March 11, 2019 City Council meeting, no formal presentation was made.
Council Member Smiley stated he would like the City Council to reconsider the vote taken at the last meeting. Traffic is getting worse in this area. Neighbors have tried to communicate with the applicant, but no consensus has been reached. This property is located in District 4 – his district – and in the past, Council Members have asked that others take their word for things within their district. This land will likely be rezoned and used at some point, but now is not the right time.

Council Member Smiley made a motion to deny the rezoning request, seconded by Council Member Meyerhoeffer. Motion failed by a vote of 2 to 4, with Council Members Smiley and Meyerhoeffer casting the only affirmative votes.

Mayor Pro-Tem Glover made a motion to approve the rezoning request, seconded by Council Member Bell. Motion passed by a vote of 4 to 2, with Council Members Smiley and Meyerhoeffer casting the only dissenting votes.

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC HEARINGS

ORDINANCE TO ANNEX BLACKWOOD RIDGE, PHASE 3 INVOLVING 3.6167 ACRES LOCATED BETWEEN COREY ROAD AND COUNTY HOME ROAD AND ADJACENT TO BLACKWOOD RIDGE SUBDIVISION – Ordinance No. 19-022

Chief Planner Chantae Gooby showed a map depicting the proposed annexation area, which is located within Winterville Township in voting district #5. The property is currently vacant with no population. A population of seven (7) is expected at full development. Current zoning is R9S (Residential-Single Family), with the proposed use being three (3) single-family lots. Present tax value is $70,000, with tax value at full development estimated at $1,333,747.

Mayor Connelly declared the public hearing for the proposed annexation open at 6:34 pm and invited anyone wishing to speak in favor to come forward.

Hearing no one, Mayor Connelly invited comment in opposition. Also hearing none, Mayor Connelly closed the public hearing at 6:35 pm.

Council Member Bell moved to adopt the ordinance to annex Blackwood Ridge, Phase 3, involving 3.6167 acres located between Corey Road and County Home Road and adjacent to Blackwood Ridge Subdivision. Council Member Litchfield seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.
ORDINANCE REQUESTED BY BLACKWOOD, PARROTT & ROBERSON, LLC TO REZONE 3.6167 ACRES LOCATED EAST OF COREY ROAD AND ADJACENT TO BLACKWOOD RIDGE SUBDIVISION FROM RR (RURAL RESIDENTIAL – PITT COUNTY’S JURISDICTION) TO R9S (RESIDENTIAL-_SINGLE-FAMILY) – Ordinance No. 19-023

Chief Planner Chantae Gooby stated Blackwood, Parrott and Roberson, LLC has requested to rezone 3.6167 acres located east of Corey Road and adjacent to Blackwood Ridge Subdivision from RR (Rural Residential – Pitt County’s Jurisdiction) to R9S (Residential-Single-family).

Since the current zoning and proposed zoning will accommodate the same use and density, a traffic volume report was not generated.

This property was annexed into the City with the previous item based on a voluntary annexation request and as such, it is appropriate to apply City zoning. There are no known historic effects on the site and both water and sanitary sewer are available. There is a blue line stream along the northern property line, which will require a 50-foot riparian buffer along the bank. There is not a mapped flood plain along the stream. Hydric soils may be present requiring a wetland delineation and possible permits before approval of a development plan. The property is located in the Fork Swamp Tributary 1 Watershed. If stormwater rules apply, it would require 25-year detention and nitrogen reduction.

Under the current and proposed zoning, Ms. Gooby stated the site could accommodate three (3) single-family lots. The anticipated build-out time is within 2-3 years.

Surrounding land uses and zoning are as follows:
North: RR - Farmland
South: RR - Farmland
East: RR - Woodland and farmland
West: R9S - Blackwood Ridge Subdivision

Ms. Gooby stated that, in staff’s opinion, the request is in compliance with Horizons 2026: Greenville’s Community Plan and the Future Land Use Plan and Character Map. "In compliance with the comprehensive plan" should be construed as meaning the requested zoning is (i) either specifically recommended in the text of the Horizons Plan (or addendum to the plan) or is predominantly or completely surrounded by the same or compatible and desirable zoning and (ii) promotes the desired urban form. The requested district is considered desirable and in the public interest, and staff recommends approval of the requested rezoning.

Ms. Gooby stated the Planning and Zoning Commission voted unanimously to recommend approval of the request at its March 19, 2019 meeting.

Mayor Connelly declared the public hearing for the proposed rezoning open at 6:34 pm
and invited anyone wishing to speak in favor to come forward.

**Ken Malpass – No Address Given**
Mr. Malpass, representing the applicant, stated he is available to answer any questions the Council may have.

Hearing no one else wishing to speak in favor of the proposed rezoning, Mayor Connelly invited comment in opposition. Also hearing none, Mayor Connelly closed the public hearing at 6:35 pm.

Council Member Meyerhoeffer moved to adopt the ordinance to rezone 3.6167 acres located east of Corey Road and adjacent to Blackwood Ridge Subdivision from RR (Rural Residential – Pitt County’s Jurisdiction) to R9S (Residential-Single-family). Council Member Daniels seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

**ORDINANCE REQUESTED BY OCEAN REEF INVESTMENTS, LLC TO AMEND THE FUTURE LAND USE AND CHARACTER MAP FOR 3.058 ACRES FROM THE RESIDENTIAL, HIGH DENSITY (HDR) LAND USE CHARACTER TO THE COMMERCIAL (C) LAND USE CHARACTER FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE SOUTHEASTERN CORNER OF THE INTERSECTION OF MACGREGOR DOWNS ROAD AND B’S BARBEQUE ROAD** – Ordinance No. 19-024

Chief Planner Chantae Gooby stated the City received a request from Ocean Reef Investments, LLC to amend the Future Land Use and Character Map for 3.058 acres from the Residential, High Density (HDR) land use character to the Commercial (C) land use character for the property located on the southeastern corner of the intersection of MacGregor Downs Road and B’s Barbeque Road.

Ms. Gooby explained that the current use has residential areas composed primarily of multi-family housing in various forms. It is defined by existing development patterns where building size and style tend to be consistent within a development, with large blocks, and limited connectivity between different building types and uses. Future development should take a more traditional neighborhood pattern where different residential types are connected in a walkable pattern. High density residential is typically appropriate near activity centers and corridors.

The proposed land use is primarily community and regional-scale commercial development situated near and along major roadway corridors. Existing development is characterized by buildings set back from streets behind surface parking. That existing pattern should evolve to become more walkable with shorter blocks, buildings near streets, shared parking and connections to surrounding development.

Based on the analysis comparing the existing land use category (384 daily trips) and requested land use category, the proposed land use category could generate approximately
274 trips to and from the site on B’s BBQ Road, which is a net decrease of 110 trips per day. Since the traffic analysis indicates that the proposal would generate less traffic than the existing land use category, a traffic volume report was not generated. During the review process, measures to mitigate the traffic will be determined.

Ms. Gooby stated that in staff’s opinion, the current Future Land Use and Character Map recommendations for this area still fulfill the principles that guided the Comprehensive Plan Committee. There have been no unexpected changes in development patterns that would warrant an amendment to the Future Land Use and Character Map since its adoption; therefore, staff recommends denial. The Planning and Zoning Commission voted to unanimously to approve the request at its March 19, 2019 meeting.

Mayor Connelly declared the public hearing for the proposed amendment open at 6:40 pm and invited anyone wishing to speak in favor to come forward.

Mike Baldwin – No Address Given
Mr. Baldwin stated having gone through foreclosure, this property has been continually marketed for office and multi-family with no success. Commercial use adjacent to High-Density Residential has come to be considered as transitional zoning. He offered to answer any questions the Council may have.

Council Member Smiley commented on how frequently Mr. Baldwin asks the Council to consider changes to the land use plan and encouraged them to deny the request.

Council Member Litchfield stated there are many thousands of parcels within the City and no all will make sense. He said he feels change is warranted in this case.

Council Member Smiley said he feels other groups are taking their queues from Council and are no longer defending the land use plan.

Council Member Meyerhoeffer feels the public has spoken on this in that the property has sat idle for five years in spite of attempts to make it marketable.

Mayor Pro-Tem Glover noted Mr. Baldwin is not the applicant in this case, but merely someone hired to do a job, which includes representing the applicant.

Hearing no one else wishing to speak in favor, Mayor Connelly invited comment in opposition. Hearing none, Mayor Connelly closed the public hearing at 6:45 pm.

Council Member Litchfield moved to adopt the ordinance to amend the Future Land Use and Character Map for 3.058 acres from the Residential, High Density (HDR) land use character to the Commercial (C) land use character for the property located on the southeastern corner of the intersection of MacGregor Downs Road and B’s Barbeque Road.
Council Member Meyerhoeffer seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 5 to 1, with Council Member Smiley casting the dissenting vote.

**ORDINANCE REQUESTED BY THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TO AMEND TITLE 9, CHAPTER 4, ARTICLE U, TABLE OF USES (C) (3) TO ALLOW BARBER AND BEAUTY SHOPS AS A HOME OCCUPATION WITH A SPECIAL USE PERMIT IN THE R9S AND R15S ZONING DISTRICTS** – Ordinance No. 19-025

Chief Planner Chantae Gooby stated the City received a text amendment application from Sharnisha Little to amend the table of uses that would allow a barber and beauty shop as a home occupation. The applicant’s property was zoned R9S, or single-family. After researching the proposed text amendment, staff determined that the text amendment should be more broad and include other zoning districts to meet the intent and definition of a home occupation. Therefore, staff refunded the applicant’s fee and determined this should be a staff-initiated request in order to meet the intent of home occupations.

Ms. Gooby stated that in staff’s opinion, the request is in compliance with Horizons 2026: Greenville’s Community Plan. Many entrepreneurs begin working out of their own home before committing to designated office space. Support infrastructure necessary for telecommuting, which can provide flexibility for workers and businesses to expand. Therefore, staff recommends approval. The Planning and Zoning Commission voted to unanimously to approve the request at its March 19, 2019 meeting.

Mayor Connelly declared the public hearing for the proposed text amendment open at 6:59 pm and invited anyone wishing to speak in favor to come forward.

**Sharnisha Little – No Address Given**
Ms. Little stated as a single mother with four daughters, this will impact her significantly. Not only will this allow her to work close to come so she can be there for the girls, having to work away from home essentially requires her to pay two mortgages. She stated she already has blueprints drawn for a shop at her home and has the neighbors’ blessings

Hearing no one else wishing to speak in favor, Mayor Connelly invited comment in opposition. Hearing none, Mayor Connelly closed the public hearing at 7:02 pm.

Mayor Pro-Tem Glover wished Ms. Little much success with her shop and moved to adopt the ordinance to amend the table of uses that would allow a barber and beauty shop as a home occupation. Council Member Litchfield seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

**RESOLUTION APPROVING A JOB CREATION GRANT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH TAFT FAMILY VENTURES** – Resolution No. 019-19
Assistant City Manager Ken Graves stated that Taft Family Ventures is redeveloping a vacant building at 631 Dickinson Avenue for their new corporate headquarters. The relocation and expansion of their corporate headquarters will assist in the revitalization of the Dickinson Avenue Corridor and West Greenville Area. The project is expected to increase the taxable property base, stimulate the local economy, promote business, and provide employment opportunities. The anticipated headquarters will require roughly $3.5 million in acquisition and renovation costs and locate 38 full-time jobs, 15 of which are new, to the Uptown area.

If the City does not issue this grant, Mr. Graves stated Taft Family Ventures could relocate its headquarters to another city in North Carolina. In addition, the proposed vacant building to be renovated is in an Economic Development Investment (EDI) Zone that is a priority area established for economic development.

Job Creation Grant funding is based on an increase in property tax generated from the investment, with up to 75% of the increase being returned to the business as an incentive. Grants may be awarded in annual installments with a grant period ranging from 3 to 5 years, but up to 7 years for transformative projects. Mr. Graves said the Job Creation Grant request for Taft Family Ventures was approved by the City Council Economic Development Committee on February 13, 2019. At its March 14, 2019 City Council meeting, staff recommended approval of the grant request.

Based on Office of Economic Development estimates, Mr. Graves stated a 7-year grant period for Taft Family Ventures will result in an incentive totaling approximately $69,560.40. Due to the incentive being generated through a property tax offset, the incentive will have a net-neutral budget impact.

Mayor Connelly declared the public hearing for the proposed job creation grant open at 7:06 pm and invited anyone wishing to speak in favor to come forward.

Hearing none, Mayor Connelly invited comment in opposition. Also hearing none, Mayor Connelly closed the public hearing at 7:07 pm.

Mayor Pro-Tem Glover moved to authorize the execution of an economic development agreement with Taft Family Ventures, awarding the Job Creation Grant in an amount not to exceed $69,560.40. Council Member Bell seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

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**OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

**STORMWATER UTILITY FEE ALTERNATIVES**
Assistant City Manager Michael Cowin stated in August 2016, after presentation of the Watershed Master Plans to City Council, Public Works was directed to assemble a stakeholders group to complete a utility rate study linking maintenance, capital improvement needs, financing, and policy.

The Stormwater Advisory Committee (SWAC) met 14 times over the last two years and presented recommended changes to the extent and level of service, capital project implementation, and impacts to utility rate. City staff provided additional information on the SWAC recommendation and other alternatives for a sustainable Stormwater Management Program at the February 11, 2019 City Council Workshop. These alternatives detailed levels of service and capital project implementation for various utility rates.

Council provided input at the February workshop, which staff utilized to develop two additional alternatives. Staff presented an overview of the two alternatives at the March 25, 2019 City Council Workshop. Following some additional guidance, Council directed staff to present the two alternatives for stormwater fees at tonight's meeting. In short, the two alternatives, A and B, increase the ERU rate over a five year period by $2.00 and $4.00 per month over a five-year period.

Mr. Cowin stated both alternatives were evaluated based on funding parameters, preventive maintenance levels, preventive maintenance levels and projects funded.

Public Works Director Kevin Mulligan discussed work that could be done under the two alternatives, which can be summarized as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Alt. A</th>
<th>Alt. B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increase in Rater per ERU Over 5 Years</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly Administrative Charge per Account</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Charge of 1 ERU per Account</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pay-As-You-Go Funding of Projects</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt Financing Used to Fund Projects</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Range Debt Plan Methodology Used</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund Balance Used to Manage Projects</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inspections of New Infrastructure</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Channels Cleaned</td>
<td></td>
<td>Every Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catch Basins Cleaned/Inspected</td>
<td></td>
<td>Every 2.5 Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Pipes Cleaned/Inspected</td>
<td></td>
<td>Every 7 Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utility Bill Audits</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Condition Assessment</td>
<td>20 Yr Full Review</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Funding for Preventive Maintenance</td>
<td>$1,500,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Projects Over 5 Years</td>
<td>$15,200,000</td>
<td>$25,500,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Council Member Smiley moved that the Council select Alternative B, which includes a $4.00 increase in the ERU rate over a five year period. Council Member Litchfield seconded the motion.

Mayor Pro-Tem Glover stated she knows it takes money to do the jobs that need to be done, but her constituents find $0.50 to $1.00 to be a lot of money. There are many elderly residents who are on fixed incomes and she does not want to see the citizens of Districts 1 and 2 burdened with another tax for stormwater.

Council Member Meyerhoeffer said he heard the word “capacity” quite a few times and that is key in completion of projects. He favors Alternative A, which will still increase the amount of work that can be done to address stormwater, but will be more manageable.

Mayor Connelly stated he also favors Alternative A. There are many needs in the community and stormwater is a big priority, but there is only limited funding to do them all. The road still isn't complete in front of J. H. Rose from the bond adopted a few years ago. He feels Alternative B is setting the City up for failure.

There being no further discussion, the City Council voted 4 to 2 in favor of Alternative B, with Mayor Pro-Tem Glover and Council Member Meyerhoeffer casting the dissenting votes.

**RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION REGARDING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AND PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE FEDERAL DEFINITION OF “WATERS OF THE US” IN THE FEDERAL CLEAN WATER ACT**

City Manager Ann Wall stated the Environmental Advisory Commission (EAC) adopted resolutions at their meeting on March 7, 2019 meeting pertaining to (1) greenhouse gas emissions and (2) the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-proposed revisions to the federal definition of "Waters of the US" in the Federal Clean Water Act. Further, the EAC recommended that the resolutions be forwarded to City Council for their consideration. Council Member Smiley asked that it be added to the agenda.

Public Works Director Kevin Mulligan stated EAC has made recommendations related to climate change and the Waters of the US. He said he will address the latter first.

To provide some history, in 1988, the definition of the Waters of the US claim navigable waters, tributaries and adjacent wetlands. In 2015, the rule expanded jurisdictional claim to include ephemeral streams (something like a stormwater ditch) and concentrated flows or point source outfalls. Comments are due next week on the 2017 rule, which retracts the jurisdictional claim to ephemeral streams and concentrated flows, and defines adjacent to
mean surface water connection only. Basically, it moves back some of the past restrictions. The EAC crafted a resolution they would like to submit as their public comment to the EPA.

Council Member Smiley said basically the EPA has asked for public comment, the EAC has drafted its comments and are asking the Council to approve sending them to the EPA.

Mr. Mulligan stated that was correct.

Council member Meyerhoeffer asked if expert opinions were heard on this matter. He stated he would like to hear those opinions on why the City should or should not support these changes. He said he didn’t feel comfortable sending a recommendation without that.

Mr. Mulligan stated there are some very well-qualified people on the EAC who put this together. The impact of sending this to the EPA is certainly no harm, and the impact to the City is minimal because of the Waters of the State.

Mayor Connelly asked when the City last sent a recommendation to the Federal Government on a policy.

City Manager Ann Wall stated it has not been done within her tenure with the City. It does not appear to be standard practice.

Council Member Smiley stated this is why the EAC was established. They are engineers and scientists and they’ve taken it upon themselves to research this and find out what would be in the City’s best interest. He feels the City Council should forward the recommendation on their behalf and moved to do so.

Mayor Pro-Tem Glover seconded the motion, which resulted in a 3 to 3 tie with Mayor Pro-Tem Glover and Council Members Daniels and Smiley in favor. Council Members Bell, Litchfield and Meyerhoeffer were opposed. Mayor Connelly also voted in opposition to break the tie, causing the motion to fail.

Mr. Mulligan stated the second part of EAC’s recommendation is to hire additional staff to implement further efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. He then provided a quick summary of what the City has done over the past ten years to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

- Evaluated and changed purchasing policies so that the City purchases appliances and equipment that are all Energy Star rated
- Implemented an environmental purchasing policy, monitored by the Finance Department and Purchasing Division
- Transmitted Agendas and minutes for Council and Commission meetings electronically
- Provided recycling containers for all city offices and facilities
- Contracted with Snyder Consulting for guaranteed energy savings
- Conducted energy audits of all City facilities
• Required LEED Certification for buildings of certain sizes
• Implemented a Vehicle and Equipment Idle Reduction Policy
• Adopted Street Lighting Standards
• Expanded multi-modal transportation
• Adopted a Complete Streets Policy
• Converted traffic signals to LED
• Replaced selected vehicles with alternative fuel vehicles
• Continued development of Urban Forestry Master Plan

Council Member Smiley asked if there is any way of putting a number to how effective these efforts have been.

Mr. Mulligan stated with some of these initiatives, it is certain possible to estimate what the impact has been. Certain aspects of the energy savings contract are measurable.

Council Member Meyerhoeffer feels Council should all be in favor of this. It is a sustainable energy promise. The goals are to
• Recommitt to a goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
• Require that a plan of action to achieve this objective be incorporated in the work of all departments of city government and its adoption be promoted among all organizations and residents of the city.
• Direct the creation within city government of an entity, to include staff and relevant stakeholders, which will be responsible for this program, to include responsibility for measuring greenhouse gas emissions, setting baseline, short- and long-term emission objectives consistent with scientifically established norms; development, implementation and evaluation of programs and activities that will achieve a transition to renewable energy.

Council Member Smiley moved that City Council support portions of the EAC resolution to (1) recommit to the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, (2) continue actions within the City where feasible to build efficient and sustainable processes into daily operations and construction and (3) ask the EAC, with support of staff, to work with experts on the EAC or in the community to find a way of evaluating how successful the City has been at controlling and reducing its carbon footprint. Council Member Bell seconded the motion.

Following a general discussion on how various impacts can be measured and clarification that hiring a dedicated staff person for this is not part of the motion, the City Council voted unanimously to approve the motion on the floor.

Mayor Connelly asked who are the community experts to which Council Member Smiley referred.

Council Member Smiley stated he was referring to EAC members and to published researchers at ECU.
CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

City Manager Wall stated several Public Information staff members are attending the 3C Conference, which is the association for Communications professionals throughout North Carolina. At that event today, Greenville received 5 first place and 1 second place award, including Social Media Use, Printed Publication Use, Annual Reports, Most Creative with Least Dollars Spent and Still Photography.

City Manager Wall stated the City has also been awarded an NC Department of Transportation Mobi Award, which recognizes efforts in multi-modal transportation. Greenville won the Tourism category for the G. K. Butterfield Transportation Center.

On a more serious note, City Manager Wall stated the City’s computer system has been impacted by ransomware in recent days, with over 130 systems and over 800 work stations that must be addressed. The IT staff is working diligently to restore the City’s computer network, while other staff continues to provide services to the City’s residents. It has been necessary to revert to old methods for some things, but the City has not missed a beat in providing for the needs of its citizens. She thanked the City’s staff for the hard work and the citizens for their patience while the City is in recovery mode.

COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

The Mayor and City Council made comments about past and future events.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Bell moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Glover. There being no further discussion, the motion passed by unanimous vote and Mayor Connelly adjourned the meeting at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol L. Barwick, CMC
City Clerk