



REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL

April 3, 2023

Ronnie Thompson, Mayor

Sally W. Sandy, City Manager
Louis E. Vinay, Jr., City Attorney

Wendy Cato)
Christopher Hawkins) Council
Chris Jernigan)
Butch McSwain)

Interpreters
Danette Steelman-Bridges
Ernest Williams, IV

- I. Call to Order in the Council Chamber at City Hall at 5:00 p.m.
- II. Public Comment – *Anyone wishing to speak during this time must sign in with the Clerk before the meeting begins, and upon being called will have 3 minutes to address the Council.*
- III. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
- IV. Invocation Given by Pastor Lisa Marshall, St. Matthews United Methodist Church
- V. Introduction of Council
- VI. Service Pins
 - a. Jason Whisnant, Director, Public Safety Department, 25 years.
- VII. Public Advocacy Issues and Strategies
 - a. Recognition: North Carolina Department of Commerce recognized the City of Morganton Grounds Team as a 2022 North Carolina Main Street Champion for their contributions to the City of Morganton Downtown program. The grounds team is made up of Public Works employees.
 - b. Announcement: Friends of Fonta Flora State Trail would like to solicit community input on 26 miles of Fonta Flora State Trail corridor in McDowell

County and a 3-mile planned connection to the Town of Glen Alpine in Burke County. The community input sessions will take place from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 4th at the Old Fort Train Depot at 25 W. Main Street in Old Fort, and from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Thursday, April 6th at the Glen Alpine Town Hall at 103 Pitts Street in Glen Alpine. Comments from the public are welcome. For more information, visit www.fontaflorastatetrail.com.

- c. Announcement: The gym area at Mountain View Recreation Center will be closed for the next 4 to 6 weeks due to gym floor restoration.
- d. Proclamation: Burke County Chamber of Commerce Second Annual Litter Sweep Week – April 24 – 29, 2023. Accepted by: Tonia Stephenson, President/CEO of the Burke County Chamber of Commerce.
- e. Upcoming events:

- **Downtown/City Hall**

- Pop-Up Farmers' Market

- Saturday, April 8th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at 111 North Green Street

- Art in the Hall: Signature Day Program – The Enola Group – offers creative expression and learning opportunities for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Programs include the arts, by way of painting, music, graphic art, theater, pottery, fabric and mixed media. The Signature Day Program works to promote a supportive work environment, assist people to explore their creative potential, develop their unique talents and gifts, and profit from their experience. The goal is to provide meaningful activities that enhance, enrich and expand a person's life. The Enola Group finished works will be displayed in City Hall during the months of April and May 2023.

- **CoMMA Performing Arts Center**

- Monday, April 3rd at 7:30 p.m. – On Your Feet! – The Story of Emilio & Gloria Estefan

- Tuesday, April 18th at 7:30 p.m. – Amos Nachoum's Killer? A Photographic Exploration

- Tuesday, May 2nd at 7:30 p.m. - Chicago

- **Collett Street Recreation Center**

Monday, April 17th at 5:45 p.m. – Opening Night for Youth Baseball and Softball at Catawba Meadows Park – Mayor Thompson to throw out first pitch and Conrad the Crawdad will be in attendance.

VIII. North Carolina Municipal Power Agency Number 1 Update

IX. Consent Agenda – All items below are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council member, staff member or citizen so requests. In the event a request is made, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and considered under Item XI.

- A. Consideration of Approval of Minutes – For a Regular Meeting held on March 6, 2023 and for the Council Workshop held on February 24, 2023.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve minutes as submitted.

- B. Consideration of Tax Releases – None to report

- C. Consideration of Award of Contract for Sidewalk Connector Project Located at the 200 Block of Caldwell Street

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve a contract in the amount of \$87,087 for sidewalk connector project located at the 200 block of Caldwell Street and to authorize the Mayor and/or City Manager to execute such contract and any other necessary documents.

- D. Consideration of a Resolution of Support for Changes to NCDOT Intersections for Pedestrian Improvements

RECOMMENDATION: Approve a resolution of support for changes to NCDOT intersections for pedestrian improvements.

- E. Consideration of Approval of a Budget Amendment for Insurance Reimbursement for Public Works

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve a budget amendment in the amount of \$54,947.37 to recognize receipt of payment for insurance reimbursement for damage to Public Works Mack truck.

F. Consideration of Award of Contract for Audit Services

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Award a contract for audit services to Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams for the fiscal year 2023/2024 audit at a cost of \$39,000 and to authorize the Mayor and/or City Manager to execute such contract and any other necessary documents.

G. Consideration of a Memorandum of Agreement with Environmental Service Consultants, Inc. to Assist with the Hunting Creek Restoration Project

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve a Memorandum of Agreement with Environmental Service Consultants, Inc. to assist with the Hunting Creek Restoration Project.

X. Items Removed from Consent Agenda

XI. New Business

A. Other Business

1. Consideration of a Budget Amendment in the Amount of \$75,000 to Appropriate Retained Earnings for Increased Costs in Chemicals for Wastewater Treatment
2. Consideration of a Budget Amendment in the Amount of \$169,000 to Appropriate Retained Earnings for Increased Costs in Chemicals for Water Treatment (\$85,000) and for Increased Costs in Water Treatment Related Supplies (\$84,000)
3. Consideration of Approval of a Sidewalk Encroachment Agreement for 202 South Sterling Street – Thornwell Books
4. 30-Day Notice Boards and Commissions
 - a. Human Relations Commission

XII. Other Items from City Manager and City Council Not on Agenda

XIII. Reports

XIV. Consideration of a Closed Session to Discuss Legal Matters and Consult with City Attorney and to Preserve Attorney-Client Privilege as per N.C. General Statutes section 143-318.4(a)(3); and to Discuss Economic Development Matters as per N.C. General Statutes sec. 143-318.11(a)(4)

XV. Adjournment