

**CITY OF DARLINGTON
PUBLIC HEARING TUESDAY MAY 2, 2017 AT 6:00 PM WITH
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING – 6:30 PM**

PRESENT AT MEETING:

Mayor Gloria Hines, City Manager, Mr. Howard Garland and Councilpersons: Carolyn Bruce, Elaine Reed, Coleman Cannon and John Milling. Also, present: Mrs. Lisa Rock, Mr. Alex Gainey.

Mayor Hines called the meeting to order. She said the purpose of the public hearing is to get public comment on the zoning of Mr. Fleming's property to R-10. Mayor Hines asked for public comment and hearing none she asked for Council comments. There were no comments from Council. Upon motion of Councilwoman Elaine Reed, seconded by Councilman Cannon, the Public Hearing adjourned at 6:02 PM.

City Attorney Kevin Etheridge, Mr. Lee Andrews, Mr. Pat Cavanaugh, Mr. Freddie Kinsaul, Mr. Charles Bailey, Mr. Alex Gainey, and Mr. James Jackson.

**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY – FEBRUARY 7, 2017- 6:30 PM**

In addition to those present at the Public Hearing included: Councilmembers John Segars and Bryant Gardner, Mr. Norman Steadman, Mrs. Rosena James, Fire Chief Pat Cavanaugh, Police Chief Danny Watson, Ms. Jannie Lathan, Mrs. Savannah Etheridge, Ms. Harriett Hobbs, Mr. Will Isgett, Mrs. Dyan Cohen, Mr. Ben Zeigler, Mr. Wilbur Vaughan, Mr. Pete Dennis, Mr. Billy Hill, Frances Ewart, Mr. Tony Watkins, Mr. Eugene Vaughan, Mr. Ronnie Ward, Mr. Henry Funderburke, Mr. Parker Howle, Mr. Hunter Jordan, Mr. Kerry Tharpe, Mr. Bobby Kilgo and other visitors.

NEWS REPORTERS

Also present were News Reporters from the News & Press and the Morning News.

PRAYER

Councilman Coleman Cannon did the invocation which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion of Councilman Bryant Gardner, seconded by Councilman John Segars to approve the minutes of the Regular City Council meeting on April 4, 2017, which unanimously carried. Upon motion of Councilman Cannon, seconded by Councilwoman Reed to approve minutes of Work Session, which unanimously carried. Upon motion of Councilman Gardner, seconded by Councilwoman Bruce, to approve minutes of Special Meeting on April 17, 2017, which unanimously carried.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Upon motion of Councilwoman Elaine Reed, seconded by Councilwoman Carolyn Bruce, to approve the City Council Meeting Agenda, which unanimously carried.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

A) DARLINGTON DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION ASSOCIATION – MRS. LISA ROCK

Mrs. Rock introduced the DDRA Board of Directors to everyone. Mr. David Vaughan, Chair, Vice-Chair, Mrs. Carolyn Abbott, Mr. Pete Dennis, Ms. Frances Euark, Mr. Billy Hill, Mr. Tony Watkins, Mr. Eugene Vaughan, Mr. Ronnie Ward, Mr. Henry Funderburke (not present), Mr. Parker Howle, Mr. Hunter Jordan, Mr. Kevin Lane, Mr. Kerry Tharpe, Mr. Bobby Kilgo, and Mayor Hines. She thanked the City of Darlington for their support of DDRA since its inception in 1986. Mrs. Rock said in lieu of her report, Mr. Ronnie Ward and Mr. Kerry Tharpe wanted to address Council. Mr. Ronnie Ward said the DDRA started under his tenure in 1986 and felt like they were an arm of the City to help accomplish their goals which is economic development and downtown revitalization. He said at one time all of their efforts to stay alive revolved around the Taste of Darlington and the Golf Tournament and they had to use a lot of those funds along with their dues to keep their Executive Director paid. He said when the City put Ms. Rock in charge of DDRA along with her planning duties, it became a perfect fit for them. He said this also gave Ms. Rock a group of people that helped her accomplish what her job description is. Mr. Ward said he felt the committee

needed to come as a group and say thank you to the City for the joint effort. Mr. Kerry Tharpe said when he was approached about a year ago about the possibility of becoming President of the Darlington Raceway, it was the farthest thing from his mind. He said nine months later, he's President of Darlington Raceway, living in Darlington, SC and he couldn't be prouder of being in Darlington, SC and of the community. Mr. Tharpe said he has been on the DDRA committee for a short time, but they do great work and this City has great potential and the leadership in this City can seize that. Mr. Tharpe said they are committed to this community. He said he is proud to be a part of Darlington and part of the DDRA because they all work together to make this community a better place to live. He said he plans on this being his last job and they are going to take this racetrack to heights they've never seen.

B) GREATER DARLINGTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE –MR. NORMAN STEADMAN

Mr. Steadman said the Chamber is looking for participants in their local gallery program. He said Ms. Rhonda Gandy is coming in at the end of May to show her artwork. He said their upcoming Lunch & Learn on “Coaching Teams to Become Champions” will be on May 18, 2017 at the Darlington County Club facilitated by Ms. Toyinda Smith. Freedom Fest will be held July 1, 2017 from 4:00 PM – 10:00 PM. The chamber will host another Lunch & Learn in June at the Library about Effective Email Marketing.

CITIZENS WISHING TO SPEAK BEFORE COUNCIL

A) MS. RHONDA BROWN

Ms. Brown said the Kalmia Garden Study Club has recently changed their name to The Darlington Garden Club. Ms. Brown said they recently finished the clean-up project around the Square and they put in over 700 flowers in the pots and related areas. She said they just finished the new installation of the sign on Lamar Highway. She said the columns are up and the City has been working on getting the lighting and other items in, but the garden club has installed all the plants. Ms. Brown said thanks goes to the Council for supporting the Club and the members of the community who support their fundraisers and members of the Garden Club. She said the Street Department really pulled through and helped them with all of the prep work at the site as well as help from the Beautification Board.

MR. WILL ISGETT – MISS DARLINGTON PAGEANT

Mr. Isgett thanked the City of Darlington for everything they did for him in bringing Miss Darlington Pageant back. He said their Pageant is the biggest in South Carolina. Mr. Isgett said they have 21 contestants already committed. He said he is most proud of the scholarship money that they raise from numerous sponsors. He said the event is May 21, 2017, 5:00 PM at St. John's Elementary School. Mr. Isgett said Mayor Hines will do the welcome address and also crown the new winners. Nicole Boone will MC the event. Mr. Isgett invited all City employees to attend the event for free since the City of Darlington is the presenting sponsor. Mayor Hines thanked Mr. Isgett for a job well done.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

C) SECOND READING ON ORDINANCES 2017-15

Bond Attorney, Mr. Ben Zeigler asked that Council vote on the Master Storm Water Bond Ordinance first because it's the foundational document that takes those storm water fees and basically draws a circle around them and state what they are reserved for. Mr. Zeigler said that State Law allows us to impose a storm water fee and take that fee and borrow against it and pledge it for debt in order to improve our storm water system. He said the project being funded here is the W. Darlington Storm Water Project. Mr. Zeigler said Council will adopt the general bond ordinance and then supplemental and subsequent to that they will adopt a Series Ordinance which is the ordinance that provides for the specific borrowing pursuant to the terms of the Master Ordinance. This Series Ordinance is specific to W. Darlington Storm Water Project and allows us to borrow not exceeding \$1.4 million dollars to be repaid in not more than 15 years. Mr. Zeigler said Mr. within the last week Mr. Garland said there's a sense of urgency in getting this project started and completed, so he went ahead and made inquiries at some banks. One proposal they received was from BB&T with an offer to purchase the bond in the amount of \$1,350,000 a 15-year repayment at 2.79%. Mr. Zeigler told Council if they enact these two ordinances they can go ahead and award this to BB&T. **Upon motion of Councilman John Milling, seconded by Councilwoman Elaine Reed, Second Reading on Ordinance 2017-15 Master Storm Water Bond Ordinance.** Councilman Milling said this will be 15 years that we will be tying up our storm water fee for this one project and he wanted to make sure he understood Mr. Zeigler to say that we can use the fee for other things, but first commitment would be this storm water project. Mr. Zeigler said, "Yes". Mr. Zeigler said what you can borrow for the project is going to be driven by what you collect. He said Mr. Garland said has data on how much has been collected

since September. He said we will generate between \$130,000-\$150,000 a year and the debt service on this bond will be approximately \$111,000 a year so there's a pretty good cushion on top of that. Councilman Milling said we have about a \$30,000-\$35,000 a year cushion and if there were some issues that came up, we would have to adjust the rates. Mr. Zeigler said, "Yes". Councilman Milling asked Mr. Zeigler if he had a general feeling what kind of borrowing would \$30,000 be able to support if we needed to raise money for other storm water projects. Mr. Zeigler said banks are usually looking for 120 coverage (revenues 120% of debt service), and he doesn't know what the calculation would be, but it wouldn't be a lot to stay within the 120-coverage ratio. Mayor Hines asked Mr. Garland how much is in the capital fund since we started collections and he said roughly \$65,000 and it doesn't include anything money deposited within the last week or so. Mr. Garland said we get approximately \$11,300 - \$11,600 per month. He said we can adjust the fees because we currently charge \$4.00 per residence and \$5.00 per business, but we could place more of the burden on larger businesses to have them pay a larger portion of this. Councilman Bryant Gardner asked Mr. Zeigler if he believes the current rate that we're taxing our citizens for the storm water plan is a little close as far as how much we have in our fund and how much we're going to be using to pay our debts. He said it's between 75%-85% of our fund total for 15 years and we might be putting ourselves a little close. Mr. Zeigler said that's above his pay grade, but what he sees with our system and what we're charging versus what we're borrowing doesn't seem to be out of line. Councilman Gardner said the concern he has is the Storm Water Comprehensive Plan that was done a few years ago doesn't include anything on the opposite side of Swift Creek towards the Square so we don't have a complete view of our entire City to know where we should best spend our funds. He said he's afraid our hands will be tied for the next 15 years. Councilman Gardner said to do this could harm our city's potential future especially if we have any more collapses. He said we need to invest in an HVAC system which is \$300,000 to maintain the facilities that we already have. He said if we do this we can help maintain the infrastructure we currently and help the areas that are truly flooding throughout the City. Councilman Gardner said there are multiple areas in the City that have flooding problems and he's afraid that if we spend all our funds in one area, this could harm us. He asked if Council would consider looking at this in a phase process. Councilman Cannon asked, "How long has this been going on"? Councilman Cannon said this has been going on for years and if we have this grant to do the job, we need to go ahead and get it done. Councilman Gardner said he's fine with this if we

had more funds, but he's worried we're using 85% of our funds and we don't have a comprehensive plan for our entire City. He said he thinks it will be a dangerous thing for us to spend 85% of our storm water fund that we just taxed our citizens on last year. Mayor Hines said if we do this project in phases we will lose the grant. Councilman Gardner said we had a meeting with the lady in Columbia and she adjusted the grant one time so it's reasonable to assume it would be possible to adjust it again and on top of that, we don't have the easements for the properties yet. Mayor Hines asked Mr. Garland how many easements we need and how many do we have? Mr. Garland said we need 11 and City Attorney, Kevin Etheridge said he's just waiting on Hanna Engineering and he doesn't see a problem with getting them. Councilman Segars said he wants to piggyback on Councilmen Gardner and Cannon said. He said he is not opposed to improving the Chalmers Street ditch, but he's opposed to the "Cadillac plan" that's been thrust upon us when we started out with a \$400,000 project and now we're up to \$1.4 million and it will probably go to \$2 million before we're finished with the railroad tracks. Councilman Segars said he doesn't agree with spending our money in one section of town and if the document can be reworded to where it's not the W. Darlington area, but just storm water improvements. He said we can then tailor this plan back to piping part of the ditch and going on Ms. Lathan's comprehensive plan where she states we can clear out vegetation and regrade some of the ditches. Councilman Segars said we need to pipe part of the ditches that we can afford for the \$400,000 and regrade the ditches that are left. Then, at some point and time when funds become available we can go back and do further piping. He said there are several projects that has been mandated for us to fix. Councilman Segars said he was annexed into the City in 1981 and he's still waiting on sewer in his neighborhood. He said we have other pressing issues as well. Councilwoman Elaine Reed said she can appreciate everybody's comments, but the grant that was awarded to us was specific for the conditions that was in Ward 2 because it was affecting people's health as well as the situation with the smell. She said what's amazing to her at this point, is that they can only see other projects once we were able to get the grant for that condition. Now they can see where this money can be used for other projects. She said, "You're pointing out all these projects prior to the situation at Chalmers Street, but there was no effort made to do whatever you needed to do to get it. She said this grant was put in jeopardy because of the initial design to correct the problem and now that we were able to get the proper engineering firm to come and in and they're calling them a "Cadillac Plan" but that is what gave the approval. Councilwoman said the "Cadillac Plan" they are

referring to will address several flooding problems across the City because it is needed. She said until they made the effort to get this addressed, now they can see how this money can be used for other projects which was in existence prior to this. **Councilpersons Carolyn Bruce, Elaine Reed, Coleman Cannon and Mayor Hines voted in favor the motion. Councilpersons John Milling, John Segars and Bryant Gardner voted against the motion. Motion passes.**

A) SECOND READING ON ORDINANCE 2017-09 STORM WATER BOND

Councilwoman Reed made a motion to approve Second Reading of Ordinance 2017-09 Storm Water Bond. Councilwoman Carolyn Bruce seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion except Councilpersons John Milling, John Segars and Bryant Gardner. Motion Passes.

D) SECOND READING ON ORDINANCE 2017-16 MASTER HOSPITALITY TAX BOND

Upon motion of Councilman Gardner, seconded by Councilman Segars, Second Reading on Ordinance 2017-16 Master Hospitality Tax Bond. Mr. Garland asked that recreational trails or Central Park South be added in ordinance. Mr. Zeigler said they added “other recreational which should cover this. All approved the motion.

B) SECOND READING ON ORDINANCE 2017-10 HOSPITALITY TAX BOND

Upon motion of Councilwoman Elaine Reed, seconded by Councilman Bryant Gardner, Second Reading on Ordinance 2017-10 Hospitality Tax Bond, which unanimously carried.

E) SECOND READING ON ORDINANCE 2017-17 ZONING FLEMING PROPERTY AS R-10

Upon motion of Councilman Cannon, seconded by Councilman Gardner, Second Reading on Ordinance 2017-17 Zoning Fleming property as R-10, which unanimously carried.

F) SECOND READING ON ORDINANCE 2017-18 ZONING CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT (\$100)

Mr. Alex Gainey said they only change will be to change wording to 2-night minimum, 7 nights maximum. Upon motion of Councilwoman Reed,

seconded by Councilman Gardner, Second Reading on Ordinance 2017-18 Zoning Conditional Use Permit, which unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A) MR. KEVIN MAHONEY – QUALITY OF LIFE

Mr. Mahoney said Councilman Gardner asked him to come before Council and talk about quality of life. He said he works at Sonoco in Hartsville, SC, and has lived in Darlington about 30 years. He said 102 people from Darlington work at Sonoco and that's \$8 million dollars of wages a year that are here. Mr. Mahoney said it would make a difference if there was a plan to focus on downtown and bring it back alive again. He said as we think about quality of life it's very important how we invest in the future.

B) PEE DEE PICKLERS PICKLEBALL CLUB – DICK SPINZAOLLA

Mr. Spinzaolla said he came to Florence two years ago, but they didn't have pickleball and when he looked into it the game wasn't played, so he decided to start a club. Mr. Spinzaolla said he and his wife started the club in 2016. Mr. Spinzaolla said he wanted to get some indoor courts to play on here in Darlington so he contacted Mr. Lee Andrews at the Recreation Department, but they couldn't get anything started. He said in less than two years they now have 70 people in the club. He said they have a number of courts that they play on in Florence. He said he hopes Darlington can get together and get a club of their own and they will do everything possible to help do that. Mayor Hines asked Mr. Spinzaolla if pickleball can be played on the tennis courts and he said, "Yes". Mayor Hines asked Mr. Spinzaolla if he has a price for us to re-tape the tennis courts for pickleball and he said he does it himself. Mr. Lee Andrews said they have already purchased the pickleball set and they are ready to go once they get interest in it. Mayor Hines told Mr. Spinzaolla that Mr. Andrews will get with him. Mr. Spinzaolla said the club is Florence-Darlington Pickleball Club.

C) FIRST READING ON ORDINANCE 2017-19 APPROVAL 2017-2018 BUDGET

Upon motion of Councilman Cannon, seconded by Councilwoman Reed, First Reading on Ordinance 2017-19 approval 2017-2018 budget. All approved the motion.

D) FIRST READING ON ORDINANCE 2017-20 TAX ANTICIPATION NOTICE

Upon motion of Councilman Cannon, seconded by Councilwoman Reed, First Reading on Ordinance 2017-20 Tax Anticipation Note, which unanimously carried.

E) FIRST READING ON ORDINANCE 2017-21 BUSINESS LICENSE COLLECTION

Upon motion of Councilwoman Elaine Reed, seconded by Councilman Bryant Gardner, First Reading on Ordinance 2017-21 Business License Collections, which unanimously carried.

F) FIRST READING ORDINANCE 2017-22 TAX LEVY (TABLED)

G) FIRST READING ON ORDINANCE 2017-23 SUNDAY ALCOHOL SALES AND CONSUMPTION

Mayor Hines said this is on the agenda for the citizens to decide if they want this in the City of Darlington. Mayor Hines said he and Mr. Garland called Mr. Hoyt Campbell and he called Columbia and they will put this on the ballot in November of this year. **Upon motion of Councilwoman Elaine Reed, seconded by Councilwoman Carolyn Bruce, First Reading on Ordinance 2017-23 Sunday Alcohol Sales and Consumption, which unanimously carried.**

H) SIDEWALK REPAIR PRESENTATION – PRECISION SIDEWALK COMPANY

Mrs. Lisa Rock said the Planning Commission did a study on our sidewalks in 2013-2014 and one of the solutions that they came up with Ms. Melissa O'Connor will explain to them about their patented technology. She said they did a sample with them of doing some of this work on Oak Street from North Street to Cashua Street, on Cashua Street in front of Pee Dee Health Care and then from Cashua Street on Spring going toward the park. Mrs. Rock told Council they will be able to see some of the work they did. Ms. O'Connor said they did the work in February, 2014. She did a PowerPoint Presentation so everyone could see the method. This method is supposed to prevent trip hazards. Ms. O'Connor said she provided the executive summary for Myrtle Beach because they have been doing work for a number of years and they spend approximately \$50,000 every year and that is why she thought this would be of interest to us because it will show what we will

get for our investment. She said she provided Mrs. Rock with an executive summary at the end of the project for the City of Darlington showing the areas that they could not repair and why (excessive breakage, hazard above 2 inches, etc.) Ms. O'Connor said this plan lets you repair what you have to repair with demolition and replacement. She said we would get a report at the back end of every project that shows the location of every hazard repaired, what the size and the address. Ms. O'Connor told Council to look through the information provided. She said oftentimes this will reduce your insurance rates because you have eliminated some liabilities and we become ADA compliant. Councilman Milling asked Ms. O'Connor about the \$50,000 that Myrtle Beach spends and how many repairs does that give them. She said it depends on the size of the hazards. She said the way they price their repairs, the larger repairs cost more than the smaller ones because you are removing more concrete and it takes longer to repair. Mayor Hines asked Mr. Garland how he feels about this. He said he likes the technology because he gets calls several times a year where someone has tripped on a sidewalk and fell. Mr. Garland said this can be paid for out of hospitality tax money. Councilman Milling said if we are interested in going forward with this we ought to have a representative come back and go with Mrs. Rock and look at those things and give us a dollar amount. Ms. O'Connor said that would be a survey up front and that costs more than what municipalities typically do. Councilman Milling asked if we wanted to repair 300 hazards in fiscal year 2017-18 would the company charge us based on this? Ms. O'Connor said they measure in inch feet and not by the number of hazards. She said they charge by the amount of concrete they remove. Councilman Milling wanted to know if the rates for how they measure included in the brochure. She explained how they measure the hazard and charge based on that. Councilman Milling said he wants to know how much is charged per inch foot. Based on Richland County's contract, it's \$33.25 per inch foot pricing. Mayor Hines said Mrs. Rock can prioritize the areas and Mrs. Rock said the Planning Commission did a scoring scale so it is prioritized. Mrs. Rock said in 2014 there was about 900 hazards they could address and since then that number could have changed. Mayor Hines said we can get together on this and see what and how much we can do.

DEMOLITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – MR. ALEX GAINEY

Mr. Gainey told Council they should have a packet that explains what he wants to address tonight. He said there have been some issues in the past with demolition so he wants to address those issues to start with. Mr. Gainey said he proposes a demolition assistance program to remove unsafe,

uninhabitable and dilapidated buildings, assist low income property owners to remove blighted buildings while maintaining ownership. He said individuals that own property and are on the demolition list that can't afford to tear the properties down, they can come before the City and pay a fee (proposing \$500.00) which gives the City the right to tear the property down. The City will tear the property down and incur the additional cost. Mr. Gainey said qualifying property owners will pay \$500 fee, the City of Darlington will remove the structure from the property and the homeowner will still have ownership of their property. Mr. Gainey read requirements for the program. He said this is only for low-income property owners. Mayor Hines said we will receive this as information at this time and study it. Mr. Gainey said several other municipalities that have similar programs and they have been very successful and that's where he got the idea. Mayor Hines asked for clarity on the \$500.00 charge. Mr. Gainey said following the guidelines for low income that HUD set forth which is what we would use. He said if they qualify they would only pay the City \$500.00 and the City would take the property down. He said if they don't qualify for the program and they don't take the property down, then the City will take it down, but we'll send them the bill to get our money back. Mayor Hines said we need to study this some more. Mayor Hines said with the City having so much to maintain already and we can't take care of some of it, how are we going to start a program tearing down houses. She asked him who was going to help him. Mr. Gainey said depending on which way we decide to go. If we decide to bid it out, we will do like we've done in the past. He said if we decide to purchase a piece of equipment, we can do the work ourselves. Mr. Gainey said he can go to different areas in the City and see them sitting around every day and if they can't make 40 hours doing their job, we put them on a tractor and let them make 40 hours. Mr. Gainey said he doesn't think the program will be a problem. A lady in the audience wanted to know who is paying for this if the property owner is paying only \$500.00. She said if the property owner is paying only \$500.00 and obviously it costs more than that to tear down a building. Mr. Gainey said this is money that the City has budgeted and we're trying to recoup some of our costs. Mayor Hines said we will receive this as information.

ENGINEERING CONTRACT AMENDMENT RIA GRANT

Mr. Garland said the original contract was \$64,900 for RIA Grant and the additional amendment pushes the total over \$200,000. Mr. Garland said he asked them to back out the railroad permit because the railroad they have down is \$6,000, but the last one we paid for was \$1,500 so the adjusted

amount will be \$207,438. **Councilwoman Elaine Reed made a motion to approve the engineering contract for the RIA Grant. Councilman Bryant Gardner seconded the motion.** Mr. Segars said, “Now our engineering fees are going to be over half of what the total grant was to start with”. Mr. Garland said the engineering fees are within the guidelines for design and construction observation. Mr. Garland said they came to us with a higher proposal, but we talked them down a bit. Mr. Segars asked if we tried to get them to re-engineer this without going with the total piping all the way through the ditch and Mr. Garland said he doesn’t think so. Councilman Segars asked why we can’t go back to RIA explaining our situation because this project has gotten way out of hand and see if we can’t get it re-engineered down to something we can afford to pay for. Mr. Garland said we met with RIA once and asked for an extension of the project area and explained the situation to them. He said we’re under a time constraint with RIA and signed an agreement last June and have until the end of May, 2018 to complete the entire project. Mr. Garland said if we turn the grant back in, he doesn’t think we’ll be able to apply for any more RIA grants. Councilman Segars said he’s not talking about turning the grant back in, but get an engineering plan that we can afford to do rather than pipe the whole ditch. He said there has to be cheaper ways of solving our problem with this ditch rather than the way this guy is trying to engineer it for us plus the fact that since we have reduced the amount of industrial waste going into the ditch, it should take care of the smell issue and health issues. Councilwoman Reed said, “Where are all of these questions coming from”? She said the problem is much larger than what they are saying and that is why it’s costing this. She said of course we are going to have to amend this because there have been so many changes. Councilwoman Reed said it’s time that we do this proper and stop going back doing minimal patchwork. She told Councilman Segars he claims the design is costly because it’s a “Cadillac”, but what was submitted was like a “Moped” and that’s why we had to throw it out. Councilman Reed said we’ve paid engineers over \$130,000 all year long that should have already identified all of this, but that doesn’t seem to be a problem to you. Councilman Cannon asked if there was a time frame on this and Mr. Garland said, “Yes, it needs to be completed by May, 2018. Councilman Segars said in answer to Councilwoman Reed, we’ve got an engineering firm doing this job for us that is inherently their “modus operandi” they get a project and expand on the job. He said this project can be done more efficiently and cheaper than the plan we are getting. Councilwoman Reed said we put the bids out and she was looking to our engineering firm that we have as our consultant that

we've paid for years and when they submitted their bid it didn't measure up to the one we decided on. Councilman Gardner told Councilwoman Reed he wants this done as much as she does, but he wants us to use our funds in a judicious fashion and make we do what's best for the entire City. He said Hanna Engineering said this project can be done in a stage fashion, but the only reason that we're scared we can't do it is because we possibly will lose a grant of \$400,000. Councilman Gardner said he doesn't want to handicap our City's future (85% of our funds for 15 years). **Councilpersons Carolyn Bruce, Elaine Reed, Coleman Cannon, Bryant Gardner and Mayor Hines voted for the motion. Councilpersons John Milling and John Segars voted against the motion. Motion Passes**

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Segars said he wanted to clarify a comment made at the meeting they had at Baldwin Gym last week about expenditures in certain wards. He said he had Mr. Garland give them an update on what was spent in different wards from January, 2010 to January, 2017

Ward #1 - \$3,265,000; Ward #2 - \$2,805,000; Ward #3 - \$683,000 and \$250,000 of that was spend 2 years ago when they put a 12-inch waterline in from Bristow Oil Company to the Square. Mayor Hines said she wishes she had a count from 2000 to 2010 of what was spent on ward #3. She said whatever they wanted to do in Williamson Park, she voted for it. She said anything on that side of town and as long as it was needed, she voted for it. Mayor Hines said just because it's coming back to the other side, there's a lot to be said about it. She said when something is going on, you report it, you don't wait until somebody else is getting something to report it. Mayor Hines nobody came to council about a ditch in the Country Club and if it's been going on for 25 years, you should have fought for it. She said she's been looking at water in front of First Baptist Church and Joe's Grill area since she was a little girl and wanted to know why somebody didn't fight for it then. Councilman Segars said maybe he need to request those funds from 2000 and see how much was spent. Councilman Milling thanked Mr. Andrews and Mr. Garland on the presentation given for the ballfields.

REMINDERS

Budget Work Session – May 9th, 6:00 PM

Monday May 29,2017 – Memorial Day (City Offices Closed)

Tuesday, June 6, 2017 at 6:30 PM-Regular Monthly Council Meeting

ADJOURNMENT

**Upon motion of Councilman Cannon, seconded by Councilman Milling,
the meeting adjourned at 8:27 PM.**

Mayor

ATTEST:

Clerk & Treasurer