

City of Mount Holly
Mount Holly City Council Work Session Meeting
Monday, May 3, 2010
Council Chambers
6:30 pm

Call to Order

Mayor Bryan Hough called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. The following were present:

Mayor Bryan Hough	Danny Jackson, City Manager
Mayor Pro-Tem Carolyn Breyare	Jamie Guffey, Assistant City Manager
Councilman Jerry Bishop	David Belk, Chief of Police
Councilman Jim Hope	Dale Oplinger, Fire Chief
Councilman Perry Toomey	James Friday, Director of Utilities
Councilman Bennie Brookshire	Greg Beal, Senior Planner
Councilman David Moore	Mark Jusko, Interim Director of Parks & Recreation
Kemp Michael, City Attorney	Mike Santmire, Streets & Solid Waste Director

Invocation

Councilman Toomey led the Council, staff and attendees in prayer.

Set the Agenda

Mayor Hough asked Council for any changes to the May 3, 2010 work session agenda. With no changes from the Council, Mayor Hough added a closed session for attorney client privilege to the work session agenda. Councilman Moore made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Mayor Pro Tem Breyare seconded the motion. With all Council members present, all voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

1. Presentation of the County Branding Logo

Mayor Hough introduced Donna Lockett with Gaston 2012. Ms. Lockett thanked the Council for the opportunity to come before them to clarify any misunderstandings regarding the county branding logo campaign. She advised that each municipality in Gaston County has been asked to support the concept of a branded logo. Ms. Lockett explained that each municipality has its own unique feature that individualizes each town or city. She gave examples of each cities unique feature and advised that the logos primary purpose is to be used for Economic Development. Ms. Lockett reported that each municipality is being asked to contribute \$550 to the logo campaign which would cover the design costs. Mayor Hough thanked Ms. Lockett for her presentation and added that he will be in touch with her in the next few days.

2. Presentation of the Revised Plan for Alive After Five

Ms. Featherstone came before Council to report on Alive After 5. She advised that there has been an overwhelming response to the event this year. So much that additional dates maybe added. She reported that there are plans for three (3) food vendors, Little Ceaser, Chickfila and Mount Hollydays will be serving Choice Cola. The food vendors will be located in the Stowe Insurance parking lot. Council suggested that if more dates are added it would be nice if they could move to the other end of town of the additional dates.

3. Presentation Regarding an Archives Display in Grand Hall

Ms. Brinkley came before Council to present an example of a display that the Archives Committee would like to pursue for the Citizens Center. The display is not permanent and fairly in expensive. Ms. Brinkley asked Council for their guidance on this project. Council gave their blessing to move forward with the display as long as the funds were budgeted.

4. Discussion of the Alarm Ordinance

Chief Belk reported that in 2003 an Alarm Ordinance was adopted by the City. During the past several years, the ordinance has more or less been ignored and the statistics show that 99% of all alarm calls are false. Therefore the Police Department will be stepping up the enforcement of this ordinance which will begin with an inventory of the alarm systems in the City, both commercial and residential. This will let the Police Department make immediate contact with the property owner if a crime is committed. Chief Belk further advised that after the Department steps up the enforcement aspect of the ordinance, Staff will come back before Council and ask for certain amendments to the ordinance.

5. Discussion of the Media Policy

Mr. Guffey explained that the proposed Media Policy will clarify whom department heads should contact if approached by the media and who has the authority to speak with the media. Council had no objections with the policy therefore the policy will be part of the Consent Agenda at the May business meeting.

6. Discussion of the Bids for Cleaning the Citizens Center

Mr. Guffey reported that G & G Cleaning Services came in with the low bid for cleaning the Citizens Center on a weekly basis. He advised that G & G also cleans the Grand Hall after rental events. There were questions regarding the bids and the reasons why G & G was considerably lower than the other cleaning services. Mr. Guffey explained that G&G is a family owned and operated business and therefore can keep their costs at a minimum. He further added the G&G is a very reputable company in Mount Holly. Council agreed that this item would be placed on the Consent Agenda for approval at the May business meeting. In further discussion it was the consensus of Council to drop the Grand Hall cleanup deposit to \$200.

7. Discussion of Training Room Rental Policy

Mayor Pro Tem Breyare reported that the Facilities Committee met and came up with a draft Training Room Policy. She advised that there is a few associated with outside organizations renting the Training Room. Council discussed the fee and the number of people that the policy would allow. It was the consensus of the Council to state the maximum capacity allowed by the fire code. Councilman Toomey further suggested that non-residents be charged a higher rate. Council agreed to charge non-

residents a fee of \$100 for the use of the Training Room. It was the consensus of Council to place this item on the Consent Agenda for approval at the May business meeting.

8. Discussion of Marketing Firms for City Owned Property

Mr. Jackson advised that he is looking for Council direction in regard to marketing firms for city owned property. It was the consensus of Council to continue to work with L&E Properties while actively searching for a firm that better suits the City. In the meantime, look to the Economic Development Committee for additional recommendations.

At this time, Councilman Moore made a motion to enter into closed session. Councilman Hope seconded the motion. All Council members present voted in favor. **(Motion carried)**

Councilman Moore made a motion to come out of closed session. Mayor Pro Tem Breyare seconded the motion. All Council members voted in favor. **(Motion carried)**

Open session reconvened at 9:22 p.m. and Mayor Hough advised that no action was taken during closed session.

At this time Council went around the table, Councilman Moore advised that he would like to see money in the budget for the City to purchase tables and chairs for the Grand Hall.

Councilman Bishop asked about the status of the contractor for cutting grass. Mr. Guffey reported that a settlement has not been made therefore in the mean time, City Staff is trying to keep up with the mowing.

Councilman Toomey advised that Council should expect Mr. Epps off of Hawthorne to come before them and ask that the speed limit be changed on that street.

Mayor Pro Tem Breyare commented that the kudzo and the crepe myrtles at the Triangle are taking over and desperately need to be cut back.

Mayor Hough asked for Council direction on the branded logo. It was the consensus of Council that they agreed with the logo concept but did not like the features of the logo designed especially the reference made to Whitewater. Therefore after further discussion among Council, Councilman Moore made a motion to accept the branded logo concept but with different unique features for Mount Holly. Councilman Toomey seconded the motion. All council members present voted in favor. **(Motion carried)**

Mr. Jackson reported that someone has come forward with a proposal to film a religious based movie in the city. He advised that he would provide Council with more details as they are made available.

Mayor Hough advised that representatives from the Runnymede HOA plan to come to the May meeting to request speed humps and the removal of boats from the right of way.

9. Adjourn

With no additional items for discussion, Mayor Hough entertained a motion to adjourn. Councilman Toomey made the motion to adjourn the May 3, 2010 Work Session Meeting. Councilman Moore seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. **(Motion carried)**

The meeting adjourned at 9:47 p.m.

