



Minutes of the Burlington City Council Meeting Virtual Meeting 7:00pm – Tuesday, June 15, 2021

The City Council of the City of Burlington held a regularly scheduled meeting remotely beginning at 7:00pm on June 15, 2021. Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, this meeting was convened remotely via Zoom Webinar platform.

Mayor Ian Baltutis presided.

Council Members Present:

Mayor Ian Baltutis
Mayor Pro Tem Kathy Hykes
Council Member Robert Ward
Council Member James Butler
Council Member Harold Owen

Staff Present:

City Manager Hardin Watkins
City Attorney David Huffman
Interim City Clerk Beverly Smith

Council Members Absent: None

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Ian Baltutis
The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.

INVOCATION Council Member Harold Owen
The invocation was offered by Council Member Owen.

CODE OF ETHICS DISCLOSING CONFLICTS OF INTEREST Interim City Clerk, Beverly Smith
There were no conflicts reported.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- April 20, 2021, City Council Meeting

Council Member Ward made a motion, seconded by Council Member Butler, to approve the foregoing minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONS TO CONSENT AGENDA:

Item E: 0 Melrose Drive Voluntary Non-Contiguous Annexation
Item F: 2257 Melrose Drive Voluntary Non-Contiguous Annexation
Item G: 2272 Durham Street Voluntary Non-Contiguous Annexation
Item H: 1734 Sharpe Road Voluntary Non-Contiguous Annexation

Council Member Owen made a motion, seconded by Council Member Butler, to approve the foregoing minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Council Member Ward made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Hykes, to adopt the agenda with the additions. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. To adopt an Ordinance to approve the following Traffic Commission Ordinance recommendations:
 - 1) Install No Parking signs on Shaw Street from Gunn Street to Richmond Avenue
 - 2) Install a Stop Sign on Cottage Place at Berkley Road

Ordinance #21-12

AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF BURLINGTON TRAFFIC ORDINANCE

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Burlington:

- 1) Request to install No Parking signs on Shaw Street from Gunn Street to Richmond Avenue.
- 2) Install a Stop Sign on Cottage Place at Berkley Road.
- 3) That all ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent or in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.
- 4) That this ordinance shall take effect upon passage.

Adopted this 15th day of June 2021.

- B. To temporarily close a portion City Parking Lot #1 located at the corner of Spring Street and Front Street for event space use during 4th Friday’s Special Event in downtown Burlington on the following dates beginning at 4:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m.
 - June 25, 2021
 - July 23, 2021
 - August 27, 2021
 - September 24, 2021
- C. To adopt a Resolution authorizing City staff to apply for a RAISE (Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity) Grant for the Renew Maple Avenue Corridor Plan.

Resolution #21-11

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE CITY STAFF’S AUTHORITY TO APPLY FOR A RAISE (REBUILDING AMERICAN INFRASTRUCTURE WITH SUSTAINABILITY AND EQUITY) GRANT - CITY OF BURLINGTON, NC

WHEREAS, at its regular meeting on September 1, 2015 the City Council adopted the “Destination Burlington” Comprehensive Plan;

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive plan recommended that the City pursue focused corridor plans to address redevelopment opportunities and public realm investment for challenged corridors;

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan identified the Maple Avenue Corridor as the least preferable gateway to represent the character of Burlington;

WHEREAS, on March 21, 2017 City Council approved a contract with Toole Design Group to undertake a corridor study on Maple Avenue;

WHEREAS, said Maple Avenue Corridor study included significant public input, including: Steering Committee meetings, direct stakeholder meetings, Maple Talks (initial public presentation), surveys for public Input, a public workshop, public alternative vetting, and a public recommendations reveal.

WHEREAS, the completed corridor plan, the “Renew Maple Avenue Corridor Plan”, includes recommendations related to conceptual transportation, land-use, and economic development improvements along the corridor;

WHEREAS, the Renew Maple Avenue Corridor Plan was presented to City Council at its June 3, 2019, Work Session meeting;

WHEREAS, a Public Hearing on the Renew Maple Avenue Corridor Plan was held by City Council and approved at its June 18, 2019, meeting;

WHEREAS, on April 13, 2021 the United States Department of Transportation announced the federally administered RAISE (Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity) Grant opportunity, which has an application deadline of July 12, 2021;

WHEREAS, the RAISE Grant opportunity includes \$1 billion available nationwide and projects are eligible for grant awards up to \$25 million;

WHEREAS, Burlington is eligible for up to 100% RAISE Grant funding without a local match, due to Burlington being in a federally designated urbanized area with a population of less than 200,000 and the Renew Maple Avenue Corridor Plan project being considered to be located in a rural area;

WHEREAS, City Council desires that City staff apply for the RAISE Grant to be used for the appropriate Renew Maple Avenue Corridor Plan elements; and

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BURLINGTON does hereby approve for City staff to apply for the RAISE Grant for the Renew Maple Avenue Corridor Plan.

Adopted this 15th day of June 2021.

- D.** To approve Budget Amendment 2021-29 Parts A and B for all funds as of fiscal year ending June 30, 2021.

Budget Amendment 2021-29 Parts A & B

General Fund

Increase Revenues:

01008000-30550	Sale of Surplus	\$ 14,570
01004511-30117	Alamance-Burl School System	70,000
01010000-38399	Residual Equity Transfer In	138,952
01005680-30200	Building permit fees	241,000

Decrease Revenues:

01007000-30500	Interest on Investments	\$	400,000
01006722-30332	Day Camp Fees		70,000
01006722-30343	Day Care Program		150,000
01006723-30334	Fees Athletic		100,000
01006724-30351	Carousel Festival		40,000
01006726-30337	Fees – Rec Rentals		30,000
01006727-30323	Pool-City Park		50,000
01006729-30321	Concessions Park		75,000
01006729-30369	Amusement Park-Ride Operations		50,000
01006731-30344	Paramount Rental		20,000
01006731-30346	Paramount Ticket Surcharge		45,000
01006731-30347	Reimb of Cost-House Staff		35,000
01006731-30349	Downtown Programs		20,000

Increase Expenditures:

Planning:

01046490-44500	Maint & Service Contract	\$	10,000
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General Administration:

01048500-49100	Operating Transfer Out	\$	400,000
01048500-46000	Miscellaneous		138,952

Police –Administration:

01051511-46014	Fema – Reimb Expenditures	\$	50,000
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Fire Emergency Response Equipment:

01053536-43100	Automotive Expense	\$	45,000
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Public Works – Equip-Maint:

01060610-44815	Fuel Purchase for Resale	\$	370,000
01061640-41900	Professional Services		70,000

Recreation – Indian Valley:

01072730-40402	Pers Svcs PT Retirement	\$	65,000
01072730-40500	FICA		4,973
01072730-40700	Retirement Expense		6,643
01072730-43309	Chemicals		35,000

Recreation – Willowbrook Park

01072732-41500	Maint & Repair Bldg/Grounds	\$	20,000
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Decrease Expenditures:

General Administration:

01048500-49100	Operating Transfer Out	\$	15,827
01048500-40601	Insurance Retired		98,040

Finance:

01042441-40200	Personnel Services	\$	50,000
01042441-40402	Pers Svcs PT Retirement		3,825
01042441-40600	Group Insurance		5,110
01042441-40700	Retirement Expense		2,500

Human Resources:

01045481-41901	Medical Services	\$	40,000
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Planning:

01046491-40200	Personnel Services	\$	180,000
01046491-40500	FICA		13,770
01046491-40700	Retirement		18,396
01046491-40800	401K		9,000

Police Administration:

01051511-40200	Personnel Services	\$	130,000
01051511-40500	FICA		9,945
01051511-40700	Retirement		13,286
01051511-40800	401K		6,500
01051511-41900	Professional Services		20,000

Police Records:

01051513-42100	Bldg & Equipment Rental	\$	10,000
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Police Communications:

01051519-41100	Telephone	\$	75,000
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Recreation - Supervision:

01072721-41900	Professional Services	\$	70,000
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Recreation – Day Camps/Afterschool:

01072722-40400	Personnel Services PT	\$	175,000
01072722-40500	FICA		13,388
01072722-40700	Retirement		17,885
01072722-40800	401K		8,750
01072722-43300	Departmental supplies		50,000
01072722-44500	Maint & Service Contracts		40,000

Recreation - Athletics:

01072723-40400	Personnel Services P/T	\$	20,000
01072723-40500	FICA		1,530
01072723-41300	Utilities		15,000
01072723-44500	Maint & Service Contracts		75,000
01072723-46009	ASA Softball Tournament		20,000

Recreation – Special Events:

01072724-44500	Maint & Service Contracts	\$	25,000
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01072724-44519	Contracted Svcs-Downtown	30,000
01072724-46012	Carousel/Arts	45,000

Recreation – Buildings:

01072726-43300	Departmental supplies	\$ 50,000
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Recreation – Aquatics:

01072727-40400	Personnel Services PT	\$ 130,000
01072727-40402	Pers Svcs PT – Retirement	60,000
01072727-40500	FICA	14,535
01072727-40700	Retirement	6,132
01072727-41300	Utilities	50,000

Recreation – Camp Greenleaves:

01072728-40400	Personnel Services PT	\$ 45,000
01072728-40500	FICA	3,443

Recreation – Amusement Park:

01072729-40400	Personnel Service PT	\$ 55,000
01072729-40500	FICA	4,208
01072729-44800	Purchases for Resale	30,000

Recreation Paramount:

01072731-40400	Personnel Services PT	\$ 30,000
01072731-40402	Pers Svcs PT- Retirement	15,000
01072731-40500	FICA	3,443
01072731-40700	Retirement	1,533
01072731-44500	Maint & Service Contract	30,000

Water Resources

Increase Expenditures:

W&S Bldg Admin & Services:

03080750-49100	Operating Transfers Out	\$ 2,165,000
03080750-49102	Transfer To Wtr Cap Res	307,365
03080750-49103	Transfer To Swr Cap Res	307,366

W&S Line Supervision:

03080760-41500	Maint & Repair Bldg/Grounds	\$ 10,000
03080760-43100	Automotive Expense	5,000
03080760-44500	Maint & Service Contracts	10,000

Sewer Line Maint & Repair:

03080763-41521	Outfall Rehab	\$ 65,000
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Sewer Line Service & Construction:

03080764-47300	Capital – Other Improvements	\$ 400,000
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East Burlington Waste Treatment Plant:

03080775-43309	Chemicals	\$	25,000
03080775-44500	Maint & Service Contract		150,000

Composting:

03080777-43100	Automotive Expense	\$	45,000
03080777-43309	Chemicals		40,000

Decrease Expenditures:

W&S Customer Service:

03080751-41600	Maint & Repair Equipment	\$	5,000
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Water Line Maint & Repair:

03080761-47500	Construction in Progress	\$	200,000
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Sewer Line Service & Construction:

03080764-40200	Personnel Services	\$	40,000
03080764-40500	FICA		3,060
03080764-40700	Retirement		4,088
03080764-40800	401K		2,000
03080764-41900	Professional Services		100,000
03080764-47500	Construction in Progress		2,065,000

Water Sources Protect:

03080771-41513	Maintenance - Watershed	\$	10,000
03080771-41600	Mint & Repair Equipment		50,000
03080771-41900	Professional Services		20,000

Ed Thomas Water Plant

03080772-41900	Professional Services	\$	280,000
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Mackintosh Water Plant:

03080773-40200	Personnel Services	\$	40,000
03080773-40500	FICA		3,060
03080773-40700	Retirement		4,088
03080773-40800	401K		2,000
03080773-41300	Utilities		50,000
03080773-43309	Chemicals		125,000
03080773-44500	Maint & Service Contract		45,000
03080773-47200	Buildings		25,000

South Burlington Waste Treatment Plant:

03080774-41300	Utilities	\$	50,000
03080774-41600	Capital Other Improvements		25,000
03080774-41900	Professional Services		50,000

East Burlington Waste Treatment Plant:

03080775-40200	Personnel Services	\$	50,000
03080775-40500	FICA		3,825
03080775-40700	Retirement		5,110
03080775-40800	401K		2,500
03080775-41300	Utilities		175,000
03080775-41900	Professional Services		75,000
03080775-47200	Buildings		20,000

Water Capital Reserve

Decrease Expenditures:

03680000-47307	Misc Capital Improvement	\$	4,000,000
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Increase Expenditures:

03680000-49100	Operating Transfer Out	\$	4,000,000
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Group Health Benefits

Increase Revenues:

04417000-38390	Transfer from General Fund	\$	400,000
04417000-38391	Transfer from W&S Fund		100,000

Increase Expenditures:

04440000-45500	City Claims Active	\$	350,000
04440000-45509	City Active/Prescriptions		150,000

North Park Pool

Decrease Expenditures:

42372000-47200	Buildings	\$	56,611
42372000-48000	Contingency		90,048

Increase Expenditures:

42372000-41900	Professional Services	\$	103
42372000-47300	Capital Other Improvements		7,958
42372000-49100	Operating Transfer Out		138,598

Animal Shelter

Increase Revenues:

45204000-30104	Donations-Animal Shelter Bld Fund	\$	1,535
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Decrease Expenditures:

45252503-47300	Capital – Other Improvements	\$	18,812
45252503-48000	Contingency		9

Increase Expenditures:

45252503-41900	Professional Services	\$	13,828
45252503-47200	Buildings		6,174
45252503-49100	Operating Transfers Out		354

Governor's Crime Comm Human Trafficking

Increase Revenues:

52504000-30124 Misc State Grants \$ 88,000

Decrease Expenditures:

52551000-43300 Departmental Supplies \$ 3,090

52551000-13390 Equip/Const Not Cap 48,969

Increase Expenditures:

52551000-40200 Personnel Services \$ 66,000

52551000-40300 Personnel Services OT 15,300

52551000-40500 FICA 5,607

52551000-40600 Group Insurance 26,471

52551000-40700 Retirement 8,215

52551000-40800 401K 4,066

52551000-41100 Telephone 4,688

52551000-41401 Staff Training 882

52551000-47400 Equipment 8,830

AMI Meter Project

Increase Revenues:

63709000-38393 Transfer In From Wtr Cap Res \$ 4,000,000

Increase Expenditure:

63780000-47300 Capital Infrastructure \$ 4,000,000

Alamance Creek and Faucette Lane Project

Increase Revenues:

63809000-38391 Transfer In From Wtr Resources Fund \$ 2,065,000

Increase Expenditure:

63880000-47300 Capital Infrastructure \$ 2,065,000

Ordinance# 21-13

Advanced Metering Infrastructure Replacement (AMI)
Capital Project Ordinance
BA2021-29

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BURLINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, that pursuant to Section 13.2 Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following Project Ordinance is hereby adopted.

Sec. 1. The project authorized is for the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Replacement.

Sec. 2. The officials of the City of Burlington are hereby directed to proceed with this project

within the budget outlined in this project ordinance.

Sec. 3. The following revenues are anticipated to be available to the City to complete the project:

63738000-38390	Operating Transfer In – W&S	<u>4,000,000</u>
		4,000,000

Sec. 4. The following amounts are appropriated for the project:

63750000-47300	Infrastructure	<u>4,000,000</u>
		4,000,000

Sec. 5. The Finance Director shall report on the financial status of this project as directed by the City Council and shall inform the Council of any unusual occurrences.

Sec. 6. Copies of this Project Ordinance shall be made available to the Budget Officer and the Finance Director for direction in carrying out this project.

Sec. 7. That this ordinance shall take effect upon passage.

Ordinance# 21-14

Little Alamance Creek Sewer Interceptor Rehab
and Faucette Lane Sewer Extension
Capital Project Ordinance
BA2021-29

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BURLINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, that pursuant to Section 13.2 Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following Project Ordinance is hereby adopted.

Sec. 1. The project authorized is for the Little Alamance Creek Sewer Interceptor Rehab and Faucette Lane Sewer Extension.

Sec. 2. The officials of the City of Burlington are hereby directed to proceed with this project within the budget outlined in this project ordinance.

Sec. 3. The following revenues are anticipated to be available to the City to complete the project:

63838000-38390	Operating Transfer In – W&S	<u>2,065,000</u>
		2,065,000

Sec. 4. The following amounts are appropriated for the project:

63850000-47300	Infrastructure	<u>2,065,000</u>
		2,065,000

Sec. 5. The Finance Director shall report on the financial status of this project as directed by the City Council and shall inform the Council of any unusual occurrences.

Sec. 6. Copies of this Project Ordinance shall be made available to the Budget Officer and the Finance Director for direction in carrying out this project.

Sec. 7. That this ordinance shall take effect upon passage.

Ordinance# 21-15

Transportation Sidewalk and Intersection Improvement Projects
Capital Project Ordinance
BA2021-29

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BURLINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, that pursuant to Section 13.2 Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following Project Ordinance is hereby adopted.

Sec. 1. The project authorized is for the Transportation Sidewalk and Intersection Improvement Projects.

Sec. 2. The officials of the City of Burlington are hereby directed to proceed with this project within the budget outlined in this project ordinance.

Sec. 3. The following revenues are anticipated to be available to the City to complete the project:

62209000-38390	Transfer In Transportation Fund	<u>2,490,800</u>
		2,490,800

Sec. 4. The following amounts are appropriated for the project:

62261000-46039	Transit Ped Improv Project	<u>2,490,800</u>
		2,490,800

Sec. 5. The Finance Director shall report on the financial status of this project as directed by the City Council and shall inform the Council of any unusual occurrences.

Sec. 6. Copies of this Project Ordinance shall be made available to the Budget Officer and the Finance Director for direction in carrying out this project.

Sec. 7. That this ordinance shall take effect upon passage.

E. To defer the public hearing and consideration of the Applicant’s petition for annexation for the 0 Melrose Drive property to a future time pursuant to N.C.G.S. 160D et seq., Burlington City Code Section 40.40, and the terms of the Annexation Agreement executed by the Applicant and the City and filed in the Alamance County Register of Deeds.

F. To defer the public hearing and consideration of the Applicant’s petition for annexation for the 2257 Melrose Drive property to a future time pursuant to N.C.G.S. 160D et seq., Burlington City

Code Section 40.40, and the terms of the Annexation Agreement executed by the Applicant and the City and filed in the Alamance County Register of Deeds.

- G.** To defer the public hearing and consideration of the Applicant's petition for annexation for the 2272 Durham Street property to a future time pursuant to N.C.G.S. 160D et seq., Burlington City Code Section 40.40, and the terms of the Annexation Agreement executed by the Applicant and the City and filed in the Alamance County Register of Deeds.
- H.** To defer the public hearing and consideration of the Applicant's petition for annexation for the 1734 Sharpe Road property to a future time pursuant to N.C.G.S. 160D et seq., Burlington City Code Section 40.40, and the terms of the Annexation Agreement executed by the Applicant and the City and filed in the Alamance County Register of Deeds.

Council Member Owen made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Hykes, to approve the foregoing consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Item 1 – Municipal Service District Services Agreement:

Mayor Baltutis announced a public hearing has been set to consider an agreement between the City of Burlington and the Burlington Downtown Corporation for Municipal Service District (MSD) services.

Downtown Manager, Sara Beth Hardy briefed City Council on a proposed agreement and recommended entering a new contract with the Burlington Downtown Corporation (BDC) for services in the MSD with a term that expires

Mayor Baltutis called for public comments; the following person spoke:

- Downtown President, Coleman Rich. 2116 Hawthorne Lane, Burlington expressed appreciation to the City of Burlington and spoke on the long-standing relationship with the City of Burlington.

Interim City Clerk, Beverly Smith reported there were no written comments received.

Public Hearing Continued

Upon a motion by Council Member Owen, pursuant to N.C.G.S. 166A-19.24(e), seconded by Council Member Ward, it was resolved unanimously to continue the public hearing to June 17, 2021, at 9:00am via Zoom for the sole purpose of allowing additional written comments to be submitted for a 24-hour period beyond the close of this meeting.

Item 2 – FY 2021-2022 Budget and Community Development Budget:

Mayor Baltutis announced a public hearing has been set to consider adoption of the proposed Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget and the adoption of the Community Development Budget.

City Manager Hardin Watkins presented the FY21-22 Proposed Budget and provided an overview of the proposed budget General Fund and shared the following highlights:

- Proposed Budget of \$62,479,369
- No property tax increase – keep same rate of \$.5973 per \$100 valuation
- Funding increase for health insurance (~\$181,000)
- Mandated retirement system increase (~\$369,000)
- Merit salary adjustment (2%)

- Other increases across departments: travel & training – for 75% of year post-COVID, auto expense/fuel, maintenance. service contracts – all normalized from pandemic year
- Unfreezing 5 remaining frozen PT positions (Recreation)
- All other FY 20-21 FT frozen positions were unfrozen in Jan. 2021 by Council action
- Budget Manager – remains frozen – only one remaining
- 2 new positions & 4 restructured positions:
 - > 2 new positions – Animal Services Officer & PC Tech (ASO costs covered by increased revenues & PC Tech covered by cost cutting measures)
 - > 4 positions restructured (ECU Tech, Accreditation Manager, Records Clerk (1 FT from 3 PT), and The Valley Asst. Golf Manager (increase covered by cost cutting measures))
- Change in fire hours from 2912 to 2756 for full 12 months
- If receive SAFER grant is successful – 4 new firefighter positions

City Manager Watkins explained the following Revenues and Expenditures and provided an overview of the General Fund Budget for FY 21-22:

Revenues:

- Growth in projected Property Tax revenue due to new development and robust real estate market
- Growth in projected Sales Tax revenues due to strong consumer purchasing trends
- *Safer Grant - \$232,000 (*to be determined)
- Growth in Building Permit revenues projected
- Projected increases in Animal Service revenues
- Increase in Sanitation revenues/fees

Expenditures:

- All departments asked to submit limited growth budget.
- Minimal new items/programs – all asked to show offsetting cuts or revenue enhancement (our organizational norm).

General Fund Expenditures:

- Major Infrastructure & Capital
 - Tandem dump truck \$ 106,000
 - Rear Loader truck \$ 290,000
 - 16 Police cars \$ 702,732
 - Street resurfacing \$ 900,000
 - Computer hardware \$ 454,100
 - Fairway sprayer \$ 50,000
 - Other vehicle replacements \$ 163,800

City Manager Watkins presented the Water Resources Fund and provided the following highlights:

- Proposed Budget of - \$31,781,367
- Proposed Budget includes a 1% increase in water and sewer rates to offset inflation and allow continued attention on capital improvements.
- Average residential customer increase of 45 cents per month using 5,000 gallons of water & sewer service monthly
- Proposed Budget contains funding for employee health insurance, OPEB funding, and mandated retirement contribution increase

Water Resources Revenues:

- Water usage – projected flat
- Sewer usage – projected flat
- Proposed 1% increase in water and sewer rates

Water Resources Key Expenditures:

- Capital requests funded at 100%
 - Water line replacements (Greeson Road – from Kirkpatrick Road to Loch Ridge)
 - Little Alamance Creek 21”sewer interceptor rehab
 - Mayfair Mill & Innovative Knitting Outfalls
 - SCADA PLC & hardware replacement
- Water & Sewer Master Plan
- Personnel cost increases: health insurance, retirement contributions, 2% merit pay
- Unfreezing 2 meter readers, 2 pipe maintenance staff, & 1 wastewater operator

Emphasis in Water Resources Fund – Mission – Planned Major Improvements:

- Mission: maintain & improve infrastructure to provide safe & clean drinking water, effectively treat wastewater, promote economic development, & improve quality of life.
- Planned major improvements:
 - *Initiate radio meter read conversion (\$2,000,000 Water Cap Reserve Fund)
 - *Greeson Lane waterline replacement (\$375,000)
 - *Little Alamance Creek 21” sewer interceptor rehab (\$1,900,000)
 - Inflow & infiltration reduction (\$425,000)
 - 2” water line replacements (\$275,000)
 - *Replace SCADA PLC & hardware (\$200,000)
 - *Mayfair Mill & Innovative Knitting outfalls (\$561,000)
 - Replace filter actuators (\$120,000)
 - 6” sewer line replacements (\$175,000)

City Manager Watkins provided an overview of the Water/Sewer Rates and shared the proposed for 21-22;

Typical Utility Service Bill (Based on 2,500 gallons per month) Low Volume User

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed 21-22</u>
Water	\$ 10.50	\$ 10.60
Sewer	12.95	13.03
Stormwater	7.00	7.00
Solid Waste / Recycling	<u>9.36</u>	<u>9.36</u>
TOTAL MONTHLY BILL	\$ 39.81	\$ 39.99
COST PER DAY	\$ 1.327	\$ 1.333

Typical Utility Service Bill (Based on 5,000 gallons per month) Average User

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed 20-21</u>
Water	\$ 21.00	\$ 21.20
Sewer	25.80	26.05
Stormwater	7.00	7.00
Solid Waste / Recycling	<u>9.36</u>	<u>9.36</u>

TOTAL MONTHLY BILL	\$ 63.16	\$ 63.61
COST PER DAY	\$ 2.11	\$ 2.12

City Manager Watkins presented the following highlights of the Transportation Fund:

- Link Transit start date – June 6, 2016 (5 years)
- Major success | **404,000+** riders
- Goal: *Clean – Safe – On Time*
- Funding of \$203,975 for operations from General Fund
- One-time capital expense of \$662,000 (bus replacements, shelters & bus apparatus)
- Proposed Budget: \$2,752,500
Federal funding: 80% for capital items, 50% for operations

Stormwater Fund:

- No change in rates
- Rate \$7.00 per month per 24,500 customers
- Proposed Budget of \$1,974,044
- Continuing to develop, implement, enforce program to reduce the discharge of pollutants
- Mapping the City’s storm drainage system to aid the Illicit Discharge, Detection and Elimination program
- Public education and outreach program
- Assist residents with drainage/flooding problems
- Conduct impervious area and fee structure analysis

City Manager Watkins expressed appreciation for the budget team, Peggy Reece, Nolan Kirkman, Rachel Kelly, Bob Patterson and Cacie Langley, the entire finance staff, and City’s department heads for their role in the development of the FY 21-22 proposed budget.

Mayor Baltutis expressed interest in a pay study report specifically for police officers pay in comparison to those in the surrounding area east and west of Burlington.

Following a brief discussion, consensus was to receive a year-end recap report from Finance including a report on salary comparisons at a future meeting

Mayor Baltutis called for public comments; the following person spoke:

Charles Beasley, 1134 Cardross Street, Burlington, NC spoke on the FY21-22 budget and offered suggestions for future budgeting.

Interim City Clerk Beverly Smith reported the following written comment was submitted:

*Charles Beasley
1134 Cardross Street
Burlington, NC
Email received from Mr. Beasley 6/14/2021*

Mr. Butler, After we spoke last week, I did some more research based on what I watched from the last city council meeting. The biggest thing in my mind that was discussed at the last meeting, was the Federal grant to hire six new patrol officers. Here's why: Burlington's reported total crime rate is ~120% above the national average, and violent crime is ~125% above the national average. I realize we report all crimes, not just those required by our responsible agencies, but this is still concerning. Has anyone looked into what our rates would be if we reported similarly to other jurisdictions? I took the time to compare other cities with similar size and geographical position to both interstates and large cities, and came back with many other municipalities that carry much lower crime rates than Burlington, and very few with higher crime rates. Yet, the previous council meeting is the first time in months, if not years, that anyone has broached the topic of community safety and policing in a positive light. (Despite Mayor Pro Tem Hykes diverting the conversation as soon as it was brought up.) What is our comparable statistic if we as a city reported similarly to other jurisdictions? There is also the seemingly useless application of the diversion programs, which many younger and first-time offenders are placed into. Have we tracked their effectiveness in any manner? How many repeat offenses are seen from those given over to a diversion program versus those arrested, charged, and made to pay account for their crimes, whatever they may be? Given our crime rates, failure of community programs, and lack of general direction for the BPD after our chief of police resigned this year...why is there even a conversation about aggressively going after this Federal grant? As well as aggressively seeking an experienced, tough-on-crime, chief of police? I can only assume the City Manager is handling the search for a new chief, as it has not been mentioned at any of the recent city council meetings. Getting that grant should be a non-issue, without opposition. Moving somewhat away from the subject of crime, total income in Burlington is also below the national averages for median and per capita income, by several percentage points. It seems our problems are socio-economic in nature, given the direct correlations between income and crime. What are the plans to aright this problem from our city council and city manager? Have we reached out to any companies, small businesses, entrepreneur groups, etc. who could bring higher paying jobs to the area? I know there are new companies coming in as well as expanding in Burlington City, but what is the city governance actively doing to attract those businesses to pay a higher wage to myself and my fellow citizens? Tax incentives, land grants, rail access, airport access, local college feeder programs, etc? What are we doing other than making requests of the city manager, debating zoning, annexing single occupant land parcels, and combating our seemingly ridiculous crime rates? Please understand, I know we are all doing our best, and there are many things for the council and manager to tackle, but I feel the top few items that could benefit our community the most have been largely ignored, and willfully opposed by some parties. In earnest, why is our Mayor taking the time to march to another town (some months back in Graham) and speak out about police accountability when our own crime rate is sky high? There seems to be a lack of interest to tackle the truly hard problems by those in city council, and the mayor's office. If action should be taken to improve our community, it falls to us. Not Washington, not Raleigh, us, the citizens, city council, and the city manager of Burlington, NC. Now is the time for actions on these two fronts. Please consider my email for comment at the next city council meeting. If I can attend, I will.

Council Member Butler addressed Mr. Beasley's comments and requested he coordinate with City staff to seek additional information on

Public Hearing Continued

Upon a motion by Council Member Butler, pursuant to N.C.G.S. 166A-19.24(e), seconded by Council Member Owen, it was unanimously resolved to continue the public hearing to June 17, 2021, at 9:00am via Zoom for the sole purpose of allowing additional written comments to be submitted for a 24-hour period beyond the close of this meeting.

Item 3 – Grant Reimbursement Agreement – Samet Corporation:

Mayor Baltutis announced a public hearing has been set to consider adopting a Resolution in support of a Grant Reimbursement Agreement between the City of Burlington and Samet Corporation for construction of public infrastructure for a new medical office park development at the southeast corner of Grand Oaks Boulevard and Huffman Mill Road.

Economic Development Director Peter Bishop provided proposed plans and partnership with Samet Corporation. He reported on a request from Samet Corporation to enter into a Grant Reimbursement Agreement to recover construction costs for public road, water and sewer infrastructure to serve a 22-acre property Samet is developing as a medical office park. He provided a brief overview of the project plans and explained the proposed Resolution highlights the agreement elements and is recommended by City staff for adoption.

Mr. Brian Hall of Samet Corporation was in attendance and spoke on the investment of the proposed project and expressed appreciation for City Council consideration and complimented the diligent efforts by City staff.

Mayor Baltutis called for public comments and there were none received.

Interim City Clerk Beverly Smith reported there were no written comments received.

Public Hearing Continued

Upon a motion by Council Member Owen, pursuant to N.C.G.S. 166A-19.24(e), seconded by Council Member Ward, it was unanimously resolved to continue the public hearing to June 17, 2021, at 9:00am via Zoom for the sole purpose of allowing additional written comments to be submitted for a 24-hour period beyond the close of this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Item 4 – 2021-2022 Advisory Boards and Commissions:

Mayor Baltutis announced City Council will consider appointments to 2021-2022 Advisory Boards and Commissions.

Community Engagement Manager, Morgan Lasater briefed Council on the current applications for the 2021-2022 of thirty-three vacancies to fill across ten Boards and Commission to serve the City of Burlington. She reported the city received thirty-one applications, including reappointment applications, and are seeking guidance on the recruitment of additional applicants to make the appointments for all the current vacancies.

The Following appointments were made by City Council to the *2021 City Advisory Boards and Commissions:*

Burlington Housing Authority

Reappointments

Melinda Freeman (*Expires June 30, 2024*)

Board of Adjustment

Reappointments

Robert Giles (*Expires June 30, 2024*)

New Appointments

John Glenn (*Expires June 30, 2024*)

Eric Grant (*Expires June 30, 2024*)

Historic Preservation Commission

Reappointments

Kristina Meinking (*Expires June 30, 2024*)

Brian Pennington (*Expires June 30, 2024*)

Russ Vandermaas-Peller (*Expires June 30, 2024*)

New Appointments

Josh Adkins (*Expires June 30, 2024*)

Wendy Geiss (*Expires June 30, 2024*)

Valencia Reid (*Expires June 30, 2022*)

Minimum Housing Commission

New Appointments

Shakeitha Jones - (*Expires June 30, 2024*)

Planning & Zoning Commission

Reappointments

John Black (*Expires June 30, 2024*)

New Appointment

Lee Roane (*Expires June 30, 2024*)

Mark Kennedy (*Expires June 30, 2024*)

Amber Wright (*Expires June 30, 2023*)

Patricia Gamble (*Expires June 30, 2024*)

Recreation and Parks Commission

Reappointments

Mark Clapp (*Expires June 30, 2024*)

Tim Ross (*Expires June 30, 2024*)

New Appointment

Christopher Wyman (*Expires June 30, 2024*)

Val Cauther (*Expires June 30, 2024*)

Traffic Commission

Reappointment

Scott Hrinko (*Expires June 30, 2024*)

New Appointment

Suzanne Hughett (*Expires June 30, 2024*)

Tree & Appearance Commission

Reappointment

Scott Keener (*Expires June 30, 2024*)

New Appointment

Bryan Ickes (*Expires June 30, 2024*)

Cameron Holmes (*Expires June 30, 2024*)

Public Transportation Advisory Commission

Reappointment

Mike Mills (*Expires June 30, 2024*)

New Appointment

Bonita Brown (*Expires June 30, 2023*)

Library Committee

Reappointment

Mary Angele Hill (*Expires June 30, 2024*)

City Council consensus was for City staff to return to the July or August City Council Meeting to fill the remaining vacancies with a slate of candidates once additional applications have been received.

CITY MANAGER REPORT:

Operations/COVID Advisory Committee On-Going Recommendations

City Manager Hardin Watkins reported almost every component of City of Burlington's operation is open and running normally. He stated he believes the city has been the leader in our region on reopening safely as quickly as we could without negatively impacting the safety of our staff or patrons. He reported the COVID Advisory Committee (CAC) regularly advising and working with all our various operational groups and divisions to bring back all our services to meet the needs of our constituents. He reported the city has been steadily reopening and allowing divisions to restart and reopen for the past few months.

Manager Watkins explained most of the services that the city provides kept operating all through the pandemic – police, fire, water, sewer, trash pickup, building inspections, street repairs, maintenance, code enforcement, Link Transit, etc. He reported the city is allowing indoor and outdoor rentals in Recreation & Parks which was one of our last remaining high visibility areas that were still restricted.

He highlighted the following programs throughout the community for residents to get out in the community:

- North Park Pool opened on May 17th, two weeks earlier than past seasons (pre-COVID).
- Summer Splash at North Park Pool this Saturday.
- Burlington Sock Puppets began their season on June 5th with 100% capacity in the stands
- Splash Pad and MAC are open!
- Park & Play Mobile Rec Van – moving all over the neighborhoods
- Softball leagues and other athletics are fully operational – lots of outlets to get outside
- We never closed the trails, lakes/marinas, or our passive park elements – those are still options to get outside
- Construction progress is evident at City Park (Carousel House, tree removal, new restrooms near Jimmy Combs Stage) and Willowbrook Park Arboretum - new and better facilities
- July 3rd Fireworks at Burlington Athletic Stadium
- Concert series (July – September)
- Art Walk – Downtown on June 25th

Manager Watkins reported all our buildings are open (except the bill pay area at the Annex - billing is all handled via drive through). He reported the city will begin scheduling appointments for new hookups, water services, and special needs related to taxes. He expressed appreciation for City staff and noted he had received many calls from area communities (Piedmont and Triangle) on how we operated so seamlessly an opened so quickly and safely and many asked for our guidance and help.

Council Member requested input on returning to in person City Council meetings.

Community Engagement Manager, Morgan Lasater shared some technology updates to the City Council Chamber, system upgrades to streamline the video/streaming process, and have prepared for overflow seating to allow for social distancing as needed.

City Council discussed returning to in person meetings with consensus to return to in person beginning the next meeting scheduled for July 19, 2021.

Council Member Owen inquired about the plans for July fireworks.

Recreation and Parks Director Tony Laws provided an update on the status of the July 3rd fireworks. He reported City staff will work on combining the show with the Burlington Sock Puppets show scheduled for July 4th.

City Manager Watkins provided an update on the Police Chief hiring process.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

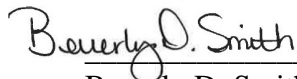
There were no public comments received.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Baltutis requested a status update on several HR policy revisions, including a nepotism policy, that were tabled in previous discussions and requested an update at the next Work Session.

ADJOURN

Upon a motion by Council Member Ward, the meeting was unanimously resolved to adjourn at 9:06pm.



Beverly D. Smith, NCCMC
Interim City Clerk