



Municipal Building

**Minutes of the Burlington
City Council Work Session**
425 S. Lexington Avenue, Burlington, NC
5:00pm - Monday, February 6, 2023

Mayor Jim Butler presided.

Council Members Present:

Mayor Jim Butler
Mayor Pro Tem Harold Owen
Council Member Robert Ward
Council Member Kathy Hykes
Council Member Ronnie Wall

Council Members Absent: None

Staff Present:

City Manager, Craig Honeycutt
City Attorney, David Huffman
City Clerk, Beverly Smith

John Andoh, Scott Bibler, Sherri Hamlett, Rachel Kelly, Nolan Kirkman, Jamie Lawson, Todd Lambert, Morgan Lasater, Tony Laws, Brian Long, Jay Mebane, Mike Nunn, Bob Patterson, Paige Shepard, and John Vernon

Media: Alamance News, Tomas Murawski

Mayor Butler called the meeting to order at 5:01pm.

A) 2023-2024 Federal Advocacy Agenda

Assistant City Manager, Rachel Kelly introduced the topic of discussion and introduced the City's lobbyist Jennifer Imo, Managing Partner of Client Services for The Ferguson Group.

Ms. Imo led the discussion and provided an overview of the City's 2023-2024 Federal Advocacy Agenda. Topics were broken down by department and each item was discussed briefly.

Economic Development: Tarheel Army Missile Plant and Affordable Housing

Water and Wastewater: Emerging Contaminants and CERCLA PFAS Exemption for Public Water Utilities

Transportation: Link Transit

Information Technology: Broadband Access and Broadband Policy

Recreation & Parks: Citywide Greenway and Western Recreation Center

Police: Technology Upgrades

Fire: Grant Support

Other: Municipal Bonds and Federal Agency and regulation

Ms. Kelly explained the requirements for the eligible earmarks that qualify for federal funding and preparations involved in the development of the list that will be provided to the federal delegation.

Ms. Imo recommended that the federal agenda be distributed to staff so that they can search for opportunities to apply to one of the priorities. She also stated that it is ideal to have staff aware of what the city is working on.

B) Burlington Fire Department – Assistance to Firefighter Grant (AFG)

Fire Chief Jay Mebane presented a proposal for the Burlington Fire Department to make an application for federal Assistance to Firefighter Grant (AFG) through FEMA to offset the expense for the purchase of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SBCA) equipment to replace air packs that are nearing their end of life. He asked for City Council to consider an addition to the February 7, 2023, City Council Meeting to support the City's application to the grant in order to be eligible for this opportunity which will require a 10% cost share with a future update to City Council on actual costs once award has been determined.

Mayor Pro Tem Owen inquired about old air packs.

Chief Mebane responded that they can no longer use them but they could be evaluated and sold to FEMA which would lessen the City's contribution. He stated that once they are evaluated, he will come back to council with a final number.

Following discussion, City Council consensus was to place an addition on the consent agenda at the February 7, 2023 City Council Meeting to approve an application to the federal Assistance to Firefighter Grant (AFG).

C) CDBG Re-Allocation Request for Utility Connections

PTRC Community Development Director Michael Blair presented on an amendment to the FY22/23 Annual Action Plan to reallocate \$50,000 that initially was going towards the Morgantown Stormwater Project to the installation of four water and sewer connections on Faucette Ave. The Morgantown Stormwater project did not qualify for the funds.

City Engineer, Todd Lambert briefly explained the discussion had with the contractors regarding line installation and the expected start dates. He clarified that this project is only to connect from the right of way to the existing homes.

Following discussion, City Council consensus was to place an addition on the consent agenda at the February 7, 2023, City Council Meeting to approve the Amendment to the FY22/23 Annual Action Plan.

D) Utility Request – 819 N. NC Highway 87 (PID 117466)

Planning Director Jamie Lawson presented a utility request that has been initiated by the property owner of 819 N NC Highway 87 (PID 117466). The owner is requesting for a water connection to serve a commercial use. Staff is recommending that the request be denied due to the following reasons:

- There are no zoning or development controls because the property is located outside of the City’s corporate limits and ETJ.
- The adjacent uses in the area are residential.
- The City has only approved single-family or duplex connections along this line in the past.
- In this instance annexation is not an option at this time due to the proximity of the property to another jurisdiction.
- Over 65% of the parcel is within the 100-year floodplain. Connection to public water and sewer would facilitate development within the floodplain, which would be in conflict to our Floodplain Development Ordinance (Chapter 3.20.C of the UDO).

Following the presentation, City Council consensus was to place an addition on the consent agenda at the February 7, 2023, City Council Meeting to deny the request as recommended by City staff.

E) Burlington-Greensboro – Fiber Connection Update – North State Lease Agreement

Information Technology Director Scott Bibler presented an update on the status of the NorthState agreement to implement a fiber pathway between the Cities of Burlington and Greensboro for governmental and educational use. He reported North State has begun installing the conduit and fiber along Highway 70, with work expected to be completed by the end of 2023. He reported staff will be requesting a lease agreement between the City and North State for this fiber connection between Burlington and the City of Greensboro. This agreement will be for a 30-year lease of the 72-strand count fiber connection between the two municipalities, where North State will be responsible for providing the maintenance and support of the fiber connection. He explained the benefits of fiber connection for disaster recovery and public safety, the costs associated, and staff’s recommendation to proceed.

City Council consensus was to proceed with the preparations to draft an agreement for consideration potential in March 2023 once those terms have been finalized and present associated budget amendment.

F) Service Consent Resolution for ACTA Operations in Burlington City Limits

Director of Transportation Mike Nunn presented a request to City Council to consider approving a consent resolution that would clarify what services Alamance County Transportation Authority (ACTA) may provide inside Burlington’s city limits in an effort to maximize the efficient utilization of limited federal transit funds.

Following discussion, City Council consensus was to adopt a Service Consent Resolution clarifying what services the Alamance County Transportation Authority (ACTA) may provide inside Burlington’s city limits at the May 1, 2023, City Council Meeting.

Council Member Wall requested additional numbers for this presentation.

Following discussion, City Council consensus was to place an addition to the February 7, 2023, City Council Meeting to consider adopting a Consent Resolution for Determination of Territorial Jurisdiction for Public Transportation Services within the City of Burlington provided by the Alamance County Transportation Authority.

G) Boards & Commissions Reports – There were no reports from advisory boards and commissions.

H) City Manager Report

City Manager Honeycutt expressed appreciation to City staff on the presentation to state and federal delegation at the February 6, 2023, Special Meeting.

Mayor Butler commented on a resident's concerns that was brought to his attention related to crime and trespassing concerns in the Rainey Street area. He suggested a multi-departmental approach to address concerns like those shared with him by this resident.

Mayor Pro Tem Owen requested an update from Police Chief Long on the status of the hiring and onboarding of officers at the Police Department.

Chief Long provided an update, including officers recently onboarded as well as the number departed.

Council Member Hykes encouraged neighborhoods to get together as well and to report crime. She suggested looking into neighborhood watch programs through Burlington Police Department.

Council Member Wall commented on neighborhood meetings held in the past throughout the year with various neighborhoods which were valuable conversations with residents about issues and concerns in their neighborhoods.

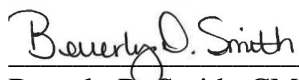
City Manager Honeycutt asked for direction from City Council on preferences to address as many areas as possible throughout the Burlington community.

Following discussion, City Council consensus was to have City Manager and staff collaborate on areas that need to be addressed and update City Council at a future meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Owen commented on a pop-up skateboard event he recently attended in Raleigh that included portable staging for skateboarding and asked city staff to look into the possibility of exploring this for future venue preparations and event planning.

I) Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:12pm.



Beverly D. Smith, CMC, NCCMC, City Clerk

February 6, 2023, Work Session