



COMMUNITY HOUSING, NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Chaired by Councilman Golden

Committee Members: Golden, Peters, Scarborough, and Williams

May 8, 2018 – 10:00 a.m.

3rd Floor Lobby Conference Room

MINUTES

Present:

Chairman Jeff Golden and Committee Members Monica Peters, Don Scarborough, and Chris Williams [arrived at 10:18 a.m.]

Staff Present:

Randy McCaslin, Deputy City Manager; Randy Hemann, Assistant City Manager; Brian Beasley, Police Attorney; JoAnne Carlyle, City Attorney; Angela Kirkwood, Human Resources Director; Mike McNair, Director of Community Development & Housing; Thanena Wilson, Assistant Director of Community Development & Housing; Lori Loosemore, Local Codes Enforcement Supervisor; Michelle McNair, Community Resource Manager; Sandra Keeney, Deputy City Clerk; and Lisa Vierling, City Clerk

Others Present:

Catherine Clodfelter, Outside Legal Counsel- Parker Poe
Judy Stalder, TREBIC
Pastor Brad Lilley, Lisa Hitch, Sarah Bullard, Steve Bird, Kathy Wheeler, James Adams
Gene Brown, Community Housing Solutions
Sofia Crisp, Housing Consultants Group

News Media Present:

Pat Kimbrough, *High Point Enterprise*

Note: The following handouts will be attached and incorporated as a part of these proceedings:

- ✓ *Article O- Parades, Special Events and Picketing (Revised)*
- ✓ *Operation Inasmuch 2018 Information Sheet*

✓ *Community Housing Solutions 2017 IMPACT Report*

1. Discussion- Amendments to the Current Parade/Picketing Ordinance

Transcript

City Attorney JoAnne Carlyle: I'll get started. You guys probably remember Catherine Clodfelter, who is assisting us with Parker Poe. Brian Beasley, the Police Attorney is also here this morning. Let me start out by just saying that we've had communications with the ACLU, as well as the NAACP. We've gone through the process and modified the document and the ordinance a little bit here and there. The good news about the involvement of these organizations is it's been a positive experience. As Catherine was saying before we walked into the room, they haven't really had complaints. It's not exactly that I think they would come out and say we're in favor and support it, but I think it's been a process and very positive on both sides. Chris Brook has been excellent to work with and has been very complimentary in the manner in which we handled it.

We did receive a letter, regretfully, from the NAACP. It was not specifically on point as to items they had issues with, but it was overall that they just didn't approve of us rewriting it. From my perspective and I think Catherine and Brian will agree with this. What we have before you is so much better than what we currently have in place and in addition to the protection that allows city, in my opinion it certainly lays out and clarifies and therefore provides more opportunity for people that want to participate in parades or picketing that we just don't currently have.

So, with that said, I know you guys have visited this several times and I'll just kind of go through by heading and give you a brief description of it. You can ask any questions, and I will ask both Brian and Catherine to chime in.

What you see before you, again, we're going to repeal what is on the books now because we've done such a drastic amendment. We really just gutted the entire thing. That's why you see now we have them labeled as Division 1 will be the Parades and Special Events and Division 2 will be the part that covers Picketing. It's numbered that way so that we can set it up the appropriate way that it's done in ordinance form.

Section 10-1-271 simply lays out the definitions. You will note that this does include the pickets, picketer and picketing under the definitions. We wanted to have the definitions set out for Division 1 and Division 2 in one place so that when we get to Division that will say that it incorporates the definitions that are set forth in this. They will be separately considered, but when you look at Picketing, those definitions are only set forth under the Parade section.

Section 10-1-272 deals with Parade Permits. Subsection A basically says permits are required and it provides the times that are allowed for parades, which is 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Subsection B Application specifications, it says it must be submitted at least 10 days before and not more than 180 days before the event, unless it is one of those spontaneous responses to a current issue, or where after there's consideration given by the manager or designee that he

deems that it's okay to go ahead and have it without providing that notice that's at least 10 days and not more than 180 days. Once he weighs the balance of what the responsibilities will be placed on the city with the actual parade permit itself. Subsection B also sets forth the contents of the application of what's required.

Subsection C lists the criteria for the manager to issue a permit and the main remembrance of this section is that the manager must issue the permit. Remember we're taking all the subjectivity, which would cause it to be unconstitutional, away from anyone to make that decision. So, basically, they've got to issue the permit unless there are certain things that are present. For example, again, for the protection of the city and the participants. You're looking at the safety issues. He can determine whether or not there's misinformation on the application that would be necessary for him to make the proper decision. Whether there's a schedule conflict that's currently on a city calendar with other events or if there's a primary purpose in the applicant's permit that references something that would be for profit. Perhaps advertisement by a private entity or something like that, which would not be allowed. Again, the main thing under Subsection C and throughout this entire document is that there's no discriminatory basis allowed.

Section 10-1-273 deals with the revocation of permit and it basically says if there's a violation of the standards for conduct that's set forth in this document for parades, then you can revoke the permit.

Section 10-1-274 addresses parade costs and fees. The actual costs, we talked about this before we came over. You know when we're talking about a fee in this document, to reduce any confusion we're going to delete that and just call this cost when we do a little clean-up of the document. Because to me when we talk about fees, we're talking about that nominal fee for the actual permit application and I wouldn't want that to be confused. This section only deals with the actual costs. So when you're talking about cost, you're talking about the off-duty law enforcement officers, you're talking about any other personnel that the city requires to do the set-up and the equipment and that sort of thing. So these are actual costs that you can identify.

Under that same section, Subsection B, it addresses a waiver of cost for indigent applicants. We have incorporated it in that section. We discussed that the last time about incorporating the statutory language and those types of references. Catherine, you have it in front of you if you want to go over it.

Attorney Catherine Clodfelter: Again, this is mandatory. There's no discretion. The permit official shall grant a waiver if the applicant qualifies as an indigent applicant and we have qualified and given specific direction as to what an indigent applicant would be and that would be a person who receives any of the following:

- ✓ Electronic food and nutrition benefit stamps,
- ✓ Work First cash assistance, or
- ✓ Supplemental Social Security income.

We did also provide in that section simply a manner stating that the indigent applicant will be the one that provides the evidence for the city and that the city has the right to review and make sure those are true representations.

Chairman Golden: We'll let them know that at application time whenever they submit it?

City Attorney Carlyle: Yes, definitely. One other thing that we probably need to work on is setting up some forms so that this will be, you know, one that the manager gives an applicant when they come so that we can be consistent with everybody that comes in too.

Unidentified Speaker: As far as that section, what if it's a group that doesn't take any funds or bring in any money at all? Would that be considered in that section?

Attorney Clodfelter: No, it's an individual applicant, not a group.

Unidentified Speaker: Even if it brings no money or makes no money? Okay.

City Attorney Carlyle: *Section 10-1-275* is notice of action on permit application and the appeal procedure. The permit official, or manager, shall act within three days after receiving the application and then notify the applicant of the decision. Included in that notice will be their right to appeal and the description of what that appeal process will be. Again, that's an example of where I think we probably should proceed in my office and create some forms that could be used for that.

The appeal process is going to be in the nature of a quasi-judicial hearing. Of the permit official and whether or not somebody's been denied at that point, and if they are denied again, then they will have the right to appeal through Superior Court following that within 30 days. That's a very similar process that you see throughout the statutes with like the Board of Adjustment, quasi-judicial hearings.

Section 10-1-276 alternative permit, an applicant may amend an application. Say an applicant submits an application, the manager looks at it and the manager has issues with it, he can go back and let the applicant know that you're deficient in this area, and then the applicant, if they ask for it, will have a right to come back.

Section 10-1-277 duties of permittee, basically they are simple. They have to comply with all the laws, regulations, and ordinances.

Section 10-1-278 sets out the duty of the parade chairman. The parade chairman will be responsible for the physical conduct of parade participants. So the actual on-site and what's happening at the parade itself.

Section 10-1-279 sets out the conduct during the parade. There shall be no interference, no driving through parades, and then the city manager will be the one that will set forth the route of the parade that's acceptable.

Section 10-1-280 defines what's allowed for hand-carried signs. We had some discussion about that before as to what material the sign is made of, the sign's size, etc....and then all of this mostly focuses on the safety issues and making sure we have everyone protected.

Section 10-1-281 parade routes, this might be a little duplication. It says that it will be designated and approved by the city manager. Brian, I was wondering, would you mind addressing the foot races, bicycle races, and the block parties?

Police Attorney Brian Beasley: Certainly. In recent years, we've had more of these foot races, bicycle races, 5Ks. There are a lot of different charities that do these now. So this just sets out...we don't have anything currently in our ordinance that covers those events. We've kind of just been making it up as we go along so-to-speak and negotiate with the people that are organizing it to make sure that everybody's safe. This just codifies the best practices for that to include payment for, again, off-duty law enforcement. Any street closures that have to be manned and those sorts of things, so that nobody can see the city treated them differently than the last person. That could open us up to some kind of argument there.

10-1-283 is Block Parties. We've had neighborhoods before that wanted to have block parties and we probably have allowed a few of those. Those are difficult for us because you've got so many different residents that are impacted by that. This allows block parties for places of worship, businesses, non-profits or community interest groups. So, if I'm just a homeowner in the neighborhood, I can't decide to close down the streets. I have to be with one of these organizations. It could be a community interest group. It could be a neighborhood association or something like or a non-profit entity. Again, it just sets out rules for that. The deadlines, and I think it was mentioned in here before, there's another group that's working on kind of the back end of that with some of the forms that go into that. Who the contact people are and how all that operates. Practically, this sets out kind of outside, kind of big picture rules for when you can do that, what you need to be aware of and so forth.

Festivals are similar to block parties, except a festival could beit doesn't have to be in a particular controlled-geographic area. So, again, that's a similar situation. You see a lot of those in a lot of different places. I don't know that we have that many that we've done like that in High Point lately, but I know there's been talk about using the PIT for different things. So, we're trying to get ahead of that. That's in *10-1-284*.

City Attorney Carlyle: Another thing in regards to the fee that we were talking about a while ago. I think if it's amenable tomorrow that will have to be adopted prior to this because the actual fee amount is going to be based on what that Event Policy says. We already have the language in here that references that event policy.

Moving on to **Division 2**. I will make a comment and Catherine is going to talk about picketing.

Pastor Brad Lilley: Before you go there, the festivals and you've given a definition for that. My church at times, we do festivals or concerts on our church property, would we need to have to have a permit for that?

Police Attorney Beasley: If it's completely on your private property or church property, you shouldn't need a permit.

City Attorney Carlyle: One of the things that...I mean there won't be very many changes at all. As far as substance, there will not be any changes, I predict, after today's meeting. But we'll have some clean-up to do. For example, on the Division 2 picketing, you'll see that it says this Division incorporates all the terms like we talked about earlier and incorporates those definitions. I'll have to move that down into a section so that it will have a number because in the event that we are in a lawsuit, you have to have a number that you can refer to so, we would, for example, have to say in accordance with section blah, blah, blah, those definitions are incorporated in this section. And we don't have that set up properly right now. So, it's kind of, again, cleanup.

Attorney Clodfelter: So, Division 2 is just Picketing. Again, as JoAnne was saying, it does reference all the definitions contained at the front, including the term Picketing. So, that should be clear. Again, the picket size that has to give notice would be a group of 15 or more, and we've addressed your issue with when it would be considered that number. As you see under 10-1-285(b), it's whether a group consists of 15 or more persons such that notice is required shall be determined from a time immediately prior to initiating a picket. So that if people decide to join the picket or not, you won't be penalized.

Let's see....so, again, it provides all information which is limited that should be given in the notice and, again, you'll reference down to (d) upon receiving that notice, the Chief of Police or designee shall immediately issue a receipt. So, there is no discretion whether the receipt is given and the receipt must be immediate. There's also no restriction on how the notice must be provided. It can be verbal. It can be written, emailed, faxed, whatever an individual or organization chooses to do.

Chairman Golden: Question. I have had some concerns brought to me. Throughout this thing, the manager was the person making the decisions or his designee, then on this particular part it switches to the Police Department. Why?

Police Attorney Brian Beasley: The reason for that is there's not really a decision to be made, it's just a receipt of notice for the picketing. The police chief doesn't have any discretion, but he's the one that has to make sure that the officers are there to keep everybody safe. So, it was quicker to actually go to the police chief rather than the city manager.

Chairman Golden: The manager still has the discretion to say?

Attorney Beasley: For the parade, but not for the picketing.

Committee Member Peters: I think that it all needs to be the same. I think it should all say to the city manager or designee. I don't think it should all of a sudden go to the chief of police.

City Attorney Carlyle: I'll mention, I was getting ready to interrupt Catherine on this very point because this was something that we really discussed at length with the ACLU, and a lot of what their comments were incorporated into this section. That was my recollection. It's been a

couple of months now. So, I just mention that. I was going to mention it before their comments even because I think it was really important for you guys to know that what you're looking at here has been heavily vetted by the them. I hear what you're saying, and we can certainly look at....I guess you want to put it all under the manager or.....

Committee Member Peters: Just word it the same as the other. Like under.....it says city manager or designee, I would just say that there too. Just change that language.

Police Attorney Beasley: I would only caution that if you do that, you run some risk of slowing down the process because you've got another person. I think when the city manager gets a notice of picket, he's going to pick up the phone and call the chief of police.

Committee Member Peters: And you wouldn't do that for a festival or a parade?

Police Attorney Beasley: Well, really he has a decision to make. The city manager has to make that decision whether the festival can take place or the parade can take place. So, there's not that decision, there's no decision to be made for the picket. The picket is going to be allowed. It's just a matter of having police know about it so that they can take the precautions to keep everybody safe. That would be my only concern if you add that extra layer to it, it slows down our ability to turn those around and allow that.

Committee Member Peters: I'm not happy with the language. So, I'm just telling you.

City Attorney Carlyle: I think the result is really going to be the police chief either way. We can definitely change that.

Chairman Golden: That's fine and I think if we go through the manager first and that keeps him in the loop. That way if anybody can point fingers they can go straight to the top.

City Attorney Carlyle: I think the chief will appreciate that.

Attorney Clodfelter: Okay, turn to page 11, Section 10-1-286. None of this has really changed since last time we met. There was an edit that we had to do due to one of the statutory references regarding prohibition against picketing at someone's residence. That's been edited, but substantively, everything is the same. The standards are set out for picketing activity. The size and type of hand-carried signs, and then, of course, when there would be a clear offense.

Chairman Golden: Section 101-1-286(e), the dog effect. Are we just allowed to bring pets to picketings normally? I understand service animals, but why would we even have dogs there in the first place? Can we put some language in there and restrict that to service animals?

City Attorney Carlyle: I think we need to include the reference to vicious animals regardless because we capture that in our ordinance definition.

Chairman Golden: So, we leave it in there?

City Attorney Carlyle: I will refer to the Police Attorney. I just clearly remember when Trader Joe's was coming to Greensboro and they had their dogs out there, Labradors and Golden Retrievers with those signs. The signs were on the dogs' bodies.

Police Attorney Beasley: I guess I could envision a group for animal rights or something that wanted to demonstrate and have their dogs out there. So, they would get upset. I don't mind either way.

Chairman Golden: Because a dog does not have to be vicious to bite. It would put them in an unfamiliar situation.

Police Attorney Beasley: I don't really have an opinion either way.

City Attorney Carlyle: I don't either. I think we have enough laws on the books that would cover it.

Chairman Golden: Who would be responsible, liable? The person who brought the dog, or the person doing the picketing?

Committee Member Williams: I would say the dog owner, wouldn't you?

City Attorney Carlyle: The dog owner should be.

Chairman Golden: Alright, go ahead Pastor Lilley. You had a question.

Pastor Brad Lilley: Foot races, bicycle races, parades, are allowed to use public streets, but not picketers. To me, it's like a discrimination against picketers because all others are allowed to use public streets except for picketers. If it's not conducted on portions of the public streets, sidewalks not used primarily for vehicle parking and moving traffic. And, all other sections of this ordinance allow for the use of public streets except for picketers.

Chairman Golden: I think that's why we had the discussions about definitions, but in Section 10-1-286, it says picketers shall conduct on or portion of public street, sidewalks not primarily used for vehicular traffic. So it's saying you can use the streets as long as you are not blocking traffic. That's how I'm reading it.

Pastor Lilley: But it's also saying that all other activities can use the public streets.

Committee Member Williams: To which they've got to get permits first.

Pastor Lilley: Picketers do too.

Chairman Golden: I see your point, but remember we were talking about the difference between picketing and parades when we were talking about parades generally move. Picketers don't move as much. So that's what my thinking was that they wouldn't need to use the public

streets. Then they become a parade or a march. So, then they fall into the other part of the ordinance.

Committee Member Peters: That's what I thought to.

City Attorney Carlyle: No, that's spot on. Exactly. And, Sir, you would not have to get a permit for picketing. That's what he was just saying a while ago. There's no discretion or judgement or review or anything like there is for the parade.

Attorney Clodfelter: This only requires notice. No permit is issued. It's just simply notice that the picketing is taking place if it's a certain group size. So, you know you have that ability to organize the size of the group, where you want it, and then let the chief or now it's the city manager or designee know. So, there's no waiting, I guess, for an approval.

Pastor Lilley: Also, the last time we met I asked about prayer vigils and I was told that it's requiring that it also eliminates being picketing, but in your definitions of picketing, make a public display of due demonstration or sentiment for or against a personal cause. I don't see why if we're going to have a prayer vigil that we need to be concerned about how many people are going to pray at a certain location or anything. Or, to have that prayer vigil and not to know how many people are going to be there and if we know that it's going to be more than 15, then we have to get a permit to pray.

Committee Member Peters: Unless you prayed at church. Just have the prayer vigil in your parking lot.

City Attorney Carlyle: I don't believe that's accurate at all. I think....and Brian and Catherine, please feel free to jump in. I do recall some of that discussion, it was more when it switched from being a picketing situation to a parade situation. I think that was the main focus at that point.

Chairman Golden: So, you're talking about moving vehicles versus a stationary vehicle. Are you okay with that?

Pastor Lilley: Yeah, I mean most of my prayer vigils don't turn into marches.

Chairman Golden: Yeah, if they march, then they have to follow the marching guidelines.

City Attorney Carlyle: And, that won't require an application, permit process, or any of that. That would be just a matter of peaceful picketing.

Pastor Lilley: I don't agree with just a prayer vigil at all being called picketing.

City Attorney Carlyle: I understand what you're saying for sure.

Pastor Lilley: That's Freedom of Religion basically and now we've crossed it into other freedoms that are being chipped away.

City Attorney Carlyle: I hear you loud and clear and agree with you actually, personally. But, we are in a position where we can't designate prayer and identify it separately or identify different categories. That's where we get in a precarious position of doing something that's unconstitutional because prayer has to be protected equally to other events or whatever purpose they're holding it for.

Attorney Clodfelter: It's an attempt to make it content neutral, and I think it's a success even though you might like the term "picket," it does preempt any content of what the activity would be the same. And that's to meet the Constitution standard that no matter what you're talking about, no matter why you are gathering together in that location, it's all treated equally and it's allowed. It just has to have notice.

Chairman Golden: Can we put some language in here that says picketing to include prayer versus making prayer picketing? I think that's what you were saying. Because you're not going to be picketing anything if you're praying.

City Attorney Carlyle: Right. Let me play devil's advocate a bit. We don't have the opposite of that language in here. We're not saying that prayer is picketing. We're not saying that anything is picketing or vice versa. And the whole reason for that is because if we start naming things, I don't know where we'll be able to stop to identify and predict what we need to include. We also then begin the content issue of saying, okay, we've identified one. I completely understand and when I think of a prayer vigil, I don't think of calling that picketing. To me, there's just two different connotations there.

Attorney Clodfelter: Again, I also understand. I think the last time we met there were a lot of questions about different terminology that might not be considered and Chris Brook and I actually discussed the definition of picket a lot and in his mind and in my mind, everyone understands that it's the best term to understand the actions that are involved. Not at all what's being discussed, what the sentiment is. It is the best visual description of what people are doing regardless of the content. So, that's why this language was chosen. And it's also a commonly used word so across-the-board people will know what it is. But, again, I totally understand the negative connotation you might feel from it.

Pastor Lilley: Well, if somebody is killed at a certain place and the family wants to go to that place and have prayer. It doesn't have to be an act of violence, it could be from a car accident. You know we see memorials all the time on the sides of the roads and different things. And I can understand not praying in the middle of the street, but if people want to gather for prayer at sort of a memorial, then I don't think it should be restricted. I think we should get a total pass on everything. We should not be considered any part of this at all.

Attorney Clodfelter: I hear you, but the law, the constitutionality of it, and to provide exceptions would be content-based treatment and preferring an individual to another type of gathering. That's something that we cannot do.

City Attorney Carlyle: I just have to point something else out too. We have to write the due diligence into the law, but when the rubber meets the road, the police department is going to use

common sense to enforce this in regards to the application. I felt that the chief made that clear when he was here before. Seeing what's written on paper versus what's actually happened.

Pastor Lilley: I would feel comfortable also that it's not discretionary by the police chief.

Chairman Golden: It's not though. He does not have a choice in the matter. He just has to be notified. He can't make a decision and say, no, you can't do that. He doesn't have that power.

City Attorney Carlyle: We're basically just asking for notice. If you're going to be out there 15 or more peacefully picketing, you know, just give us a heads up. That's basically it.

Unidentified Speaker: Would a prayer vigil, regardless of size fall under the breaking news and would it be protected under that spontaneous event?

Attorney Clodfelter: Well, that would be an application for a parade I believe.

Unidentified Speaker: But what if it was in a breaking news because if we're responding, that would be a breaking news scenario.

Police Attorney Beasley: If you're going to be stationary and in a particular location, it won't matter because the notice has to be turned around immediately. If you're going to be in the street, it would then be termed a parade, moving from one location to another. That would affect the turn-around time for the permit for the parade. Actually, to address one of your concerns, if you're on, you know, if this is a scene of a shooting and you're on private property, none of this matters anyway. This only affects if you're on public property or in the streets.

City Attorney Carlyle: And you wouldn't want this spontaneous part to apply to you. It wouldn't. You wouldn't want it to because then you'd move under the process for the parade.

Unidentified Speaker: Spontaneous moves under the ordinance?

City Attorney Carlyle: it doesn't apply to permits at all. You can get out there whenever.

Attorney Clodfelter: The spontaneous.....it was created so that when you think about parades, it takes so much more effort to get safety and everything to the route of the parade. So, we have a timeline, generally, from an application not for pickets, but for parades. And then you get a turn-around time and we've provided a specific number of days. But, understanding that there are events, someone is shot, massive trauma in the community, or if there's a happy celebration that everyone wants to get together to celebrate, you need a spontaneous turn-around time. So we limited that turn-around time to only 24 hours, or as fast as possible. If it's easy to turn around, it's going to be turned around, but that's when the spontaneous event comes into play. Not for something that's stationary, and not for something that's on private property. Only when you're trying to walk through the public streets, block the traffic. And not only for protection, but also to keep people aware.

City Attorney Carlyle: So, comments? How do you feel about the way we separated it into two different divisions?

Chairman Golden: That was the request, that we separate it. I think we've vetted it as much as we can vet it. I would suggest we move it on to Council. Not necessarily with a favorable or an unfavorable, but just move it on to Council for a decision.

Chairman Golden: I'll make that in the form of a motion.

Committee Member Peters: Second.

Unidentified Speaker: Could I just get a little clarification on the part about the costs? I had asked you if it's a group that doesn't bring in any money, doesn't have any kind of fundraising or anything, is it the organizer of the group that you take into account? Is that the case? And then you decide whether they can afford it?

Attorney Clodfelter: I understand. The law in this area is very unclear. Whether or not there even needs to be an indigent waive is unclear. What this ordinance attempts to do is to provide what was seen as already recognized under North Carolina laws, a person unable to provide any form of financing for themselves. That would only be an individual as it's written. Meaning there may be other ways to identify just that organization, but the ordinance itself only recognizes the individual. So, as it's written, numerous individuals could have applications, but the organization itself would not be considered indigent.

Unidentified Speaker: So, you would register an event as an individual?

Attorney Clodfelter: Yes.

Unidentified Speaker: Okay. Not for an organization, but as an individual. Okay, I see.

Chairman Golden: I have a motion on the table to move this on to Council and I have a second. All in favor?

Chairman Golden and Committee Members Peters, Hudson, and Scarborough: Aye. [4-0 vote]

[end of transcript]

2. Update on Operation Inasmuch (OIAM)

Sofia Crisp with Housing Consultants Group shared a video of Operation Inasmuch and thanked the City of High Point and all the volunteers for the great work they are doing in the community. She stated the OIAM event would not be possible without volunteers. Since its inception, OIAM has impacted over 59 families. The fifth OIAM event is scheduled for May 19th in the Washington Street neighborhood. She mentioned that they were contacted by the Town of Chapel Hill who is interested in replicating this work.

3. Update on Community Housing Solutions – Program Impact Report

Gene Brown with Community Housing solutions provided a brief overview of who they are and the work that they do in the community. CHS is a non-profit with ten employees, half of the staff is experienced construction staff. They work to preserve home ownership in Guilford County through home repairs and home construction. They provide home repairs to qualifying families who own their homes and who are below specific income levels. They also promote home ownership opportunities for low income families while helping to stabilize neighborhoods.

Mr. Brown shared that they assisted with 165 home repairs last year in Guilford County and provided opportunities in the Southside neighborhood in High Point. They build/rehab about 5-10 homes a year. They do this in partnership with Sofia Crisp, who conducts HUD home ownership training classes.

He then distributed the 2017 Community Housing Solutions IMPACT report, which is hereby attached as a permanent part of these minutes.

He then shared the impact that CHS has on the High Point community in 2017.

- ✓ Completed 46 home repairs
- ✓ 32 were OIAM repairs (funded by the City of High Point)
- ✓ 10 heating repairs made possible with Piedmont Natural Gas funds
- ✓ 10 accessibility modifications
- ✓ 4 were aging gracefully participants who got home repair services, but also had nurses and occupational therapists visiting with them as well.
- ✓ Total of \$241,123 that was invested in High Point to help preserve affordable homes for low income families.

Mr. Brown noted the City of High of High Point has been doing this for a little over two years now and has had a positive impact on five neighborhoods with 59 homes that have been repaired. New construction in the Southside neighborhood has resulted in:

- ✓ 4 homes completed; 3 of them have been sold
- ✓ 2 homes started at 806 George Place and 605 Vail
- ✓ 3 scheduled for 2018 at 608, 610, and 700 Vail

Mr. Brown explained they have been working with Advanced Energy who develop models of high return on investment for energy efficiency. He shared they have a model called SystemVision and every new home they build is built to the SystemVision standard. He provided an example of the home at 809 George Place that is part of the SystemVision and for two years they get a guarantee that their heating/cooling costs will be no more than \$33.18 a month. Chairman Golden inquired as to what happens in Year 3. Mr. Brown advised that they would evaluate the usage, but theoretically, they could have low utility bills throughout the life of being there.

He then shared a map identifying homes that have been built on George Place, Vail, Cassell Street, and Tryon Avenue and entertained any questions.

There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m. upon motion duly made and seconded.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa B. Vierling, MMC
City Clerk

Jeffrey Golden, Chairman

DRAFT