

City Manager Robert Wilson spoke briefly concerning extending sidewalks along S. Third Street. He stated further studies need to take place in order to bring a more detailed report back to Council. No formal action was taken.

City Manager Robert Wilson stated staff is waiting for estimates from companies concerning the cost of having video equipment installed in Council Chambers. He stated other options are also being researched. Councilmember Philipps suggested having a freelance videographer record meetings and post on the City's website, then calculate how many hits the site gets to determine if the demand is significant enough to spend money towards purchasing city owned equipment. City Manager Wilson stated staff will report back. No formal action was taken.

During the Public Comment time, Mary McFarland, 307 Wilba Road, questioned why the Council meetings start at 6:00 p.m. and if the Council does decide to video meetings, when would those recordings been made available to the public. The Council responded it would be immediately available. City Manager Robert Wilson responded to her earlier questioned about the meeting start time. He stated Council voted years ago to start the meetings at 6:00 p.m.

A Public Hearing was held on a request for Council's approval of the proposed Jordan Lake Stream Buffer Ordinance, "Riparian Buffer Protection Ordinance." Josh Johnson P.E. with Alley, Williams, Carmen & King, Inc. provided a brief overview of the proposed ordinance. The purpose of adopting the Ordinance is to protect and preserve existing riparian stream buffers throughout the Jordan Watershed. The 50' stream buffers are intended to limit stream pollution and are required for the City's compliance with the Jordan Lake Rules as passed by the NC General Assembly in 2009. The stream buffers will apply to streams that are shown on the USGS and Soil Survey maps.

Councilmember Philipps brought to attention that pages 15-17, within the document, were not printed in English.

There was considerable discussion among Council and staff concerning identified and unidentified streams within the maps, enforcement of the ordinance and educating the property owners.

Twila Buffington, 1255 Woodhaven Drive, questioned how staff will notify affected property owners if streams on their property are not identified on the current maps.

Mr. Johnson stated only the streams identified on the USGS and Soil Survey maps will be required to meet regulations, so property owners with streams that are not on the maps will not be liable.

Mayor Stephenson closed the Public Hearing and called for a vote. Councilmember Philipps made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Hooks, to approve the request with the corrections made to pages 15-17.

Tom Boney, Editor of Alamance News, questioned Council's approval of text within the document that's not readable.

Mayor Stephenson called for a break at 7:10 p.m. to print the correct pages within the document. At 7:20 p.m., Mayor Stephenson called the meeting back to order. Councilmember Philipps and Councilmember Hooks renewed their motion to approve the request. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Hooks made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Bradley to approve the Tax Releases. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Hooks made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Philipps to approve the Code of Ethics as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

City Manager Robert Wilson spoke about a recent letter received from Destination Downtown concerning downtown activities taking place, including a “restaurant search” committee they created.

Mr. Wilson shared with Council an Employee Newsletter recently created by Esther Bennett, Human Resources Director.

Mr. Wilson spoke briefly about the Clay Street water and sewer line updates. He stated City Engineer Darrell Russell had to leave for another meeting but his submitted report noted that based on the review of the sewer line, it does appear that plans to replace it should be made in the near future. The water line flow testing has not been performed yet. In preparation of the flow testing valves had to be replaced, staff anticipates testing to be done within the next two weeks. A report will be made upon completion along with any recommendations.

Mr. Wilson reminded Council of the City Hall Open House/Ribbon Cutting to take place on November 19, 2010, 3:30-5:00pm.

Councilmember Philipps spoke about the contract presented to Council in regards to a Billboard to promote Mebane. She stated she feels that it is premature to make a decision. She hopes to provide more details at next month’s meeting.

Councilmember Auditori stated she would like to see the City of Mebane create a logo or motto which could help entice people and small businesses to locate in Mebane.

Councilmember Greene stated due to other obligations he resigned from serving on the Alamance Economic Development Committee and another Council member needs to be appointed to serve on that committee. Councilmember Bradley stated he would be willing to serve on the committee.

The minutes of the October 4, 2010 regular meeting were approved as presented.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Glendel Stephenson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Stephanie W. Shaw, City Clerk