

MINUTES
FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING
JULY 13, 2009—5:45 PM
CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM—2ND FLOOR, CITY HALL

The Facilities Committee met on Tuesday, July 13, 2009 at 5:45 P. M. and reports the following items for City Council's consideration:

Council Members Present: John Howren, Chairman
 Councilman Dave Kirlin (Committee Member)
 Councilman Dale Burkett
 Councilwoman Brenda Craig

Chairman Howren called the meeting to order and asked if there were any changes or additions to the agenda. Councilman Dave Kirlin requested an additional item be added to the agenda regarding a plaque commemorating James Lee and Mary S. Love's contribution of property now at the site of the Farmer's Market. Chairman Howren agreed to add this item. Chairman Howren recognized Pat Johnson, Keep Gastonia Beautiful Administrator, for the first item.

ITEM 1: CONTRACT FOR MANAGEMENT SERVICES AT THE GASTONIA FARMER'S MARKET

Pat Johnson stated lawyers representing the Farmer's Market Association met with the City to work out this agreement and recognized Melissa Magee, Assistant City Attorney. Ms. Magee explained this is a management agreement to manage the actual selling of vegetables and farmer's market activities. Ms. Magee advised the Farmer's Market Advisory Board has approved this agreement, however, there might be one more change to the agreement. Joe Carpenter, County Commissioner, has requested an additional county appointment. Currently, the City holds one City Council position and two positions appointed by the City Council. Ms. Johnson advised that Clara Pasour and John Andringa filled those two appointments. Chairman Howren asked if the wording on the agreement should reflect the honorary name of Mrs. Dougie Henry. Ms. Magee stated the honorary name does not have to be reflected in the agreement. Ms. Johnson advised that Mrs. Henry would be recognized at the next Council meeting.

The Committee voted unanimously to approve the contract for management services at the Gastonia Farmer's Market and submit to full Council.

ITEM 2: PROPOSED GRAFFITI ORDINANCE

Chairman Howren recognized Tim Adams, Police Chief, for staff's presentation. Chief Adams stated this ordinance, if adopted, would amend the City of Gastonia Code of Ordinances, Chapter 5, General Offenses, numbered as Sections 5-25 and 5-26. Under the proposal, a person convicted with a violation of this ordinance is subject to a fine of

\$250 for the first offense and a \$500 fine for the second offense. Under N.C.G.S. § 14-4(a), \$500 is the maximum fine that can be charged. The court could also force the defendant to pay restitution. Property owners who have been subject to graffiti will have ten days to remove the graffiti. After that time, the City can elect to remove the graffiti at no cost to the property owner; however, the City will incur costs for graffiti removal. In order for the City to appropriate funds to remove graffiti, a budget amendment will be submitted to Council.

The Committee voted unanimously to approve the proposed graffiti ordinance and submit to full Council.

ITEM 3: PROPOSED WRECKER SERVICE AGREEMENT CHANGES

Councilman Howren recognized Chief Adams for Staff's presentation. The Police Department along with the Legal Department have reviewed the current rotation wrecker service agreement in order to bring the contract more in line with other jurisdictions and current fees. This proposed agreement has been presented to wrecker service contractors, and they are in agreement with the changes. The majority of the changes were general wording clarification, however, the rate increase is the main reason for the service agreement changes.

The Committee voted unanimously to approve the proposed wrecker service agreement change and submit to full Council.

ITEM 4: OTHER BUSINESS

- I. **LOVE FAMILY MEMORIAL:** Councilman Kirlin stated it has been brought to his attention that James Lee and Mary S. Love contributed the land now occupied by the Farmer's Market. In order to recognize the contribution of the Love family, Councilman Kirlin made a motion to place an honorary plaque on-site at the property. Chairman Howren requested that Keep Gastonia Beautiful design the plaque. Councilman Kirlin also recommended that Keep Gastonia Beautiful develop guidelines for future plaques and historical markers. The Committee recommended this be taken to full Council for approval.

- II. **PROPERTY AT 1152 WEST AIRLINE:** Melissa Magee stated she received a call from the property owner at 1152 West Airline whose house was recently demolished. The property owner would like to deed the property to the City in lieu of paying the lien. Ms. Magee requested permission from the Committee to pursue the opportunity to obtain this property. The Committee advised Ms. Magee to move forward to determine the feasibility of obtaining this property.

With no other business, Chairman Howren adjourned the meeting.

