

## SUMMARY OF MINUTES

### PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

5:38 P.M., MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2006

COMMITTEE ROOM

ROOM 239, CITY HALL

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*MEMBERS PRESENT:* Council Member Vivian H. Burke, Chair  
Council Member Molly Leight, Vice Chair  
Council Member Wanda Merschel

*MEMBER ABSENT:* Council Member Nelson L. Malloy, Jr.

*OTHERS PRESENT:* Council Member Joycelyn Johnson  
Council Member Dan Besse

Chair Burke called the meeting to order and asked for the first order of business.

1. ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 42-122(f) OF THE CITY CODE RELATING TO 25 MILES PER HOUR SPEED LIMITS ON CERTAIN CITY STREETS - *Lockland Avenue, Trillium Lane and Barclay Terrace.*

Council Member Merschel made a motion for approval. The motion was duly seconded by Council Member Leight and unanimously carried.

2. ORDINANCE CREATING CHAPTER 11 OF THE CITY CODE ENTITLED "PAWNBROKERS."

Police Chief Patricia Norris presented the staff recommendation. She commented that staff met with all of the pawnbrokers in the City and explained the requirements of the proposed ordinance. She stated that everyone was very receptive and staff received no objections from anyone in the group. Chief Norris stated, however, that after that meeting, she received a letter from Mr. Howard Kramer, an attorney representing the North Carolina Pawnbrokers Association, in which he advised that the proposed ordinance would be contradictory to a General Statute, and he therefore opposed the standardization of electronic reporting on behalf of the Pawnbrokers Association.

Ms. Julie Risher, Public Safety Attorney, explained that Mr. Kramer must have overlooked N.C.G.S. 91A-12, which says that all cities and counties may, by ordinance, adopt such other further rules and regulations as the governing bodies of the cities and counties deem appropriate. She pointed out that there are things that cannot be regulated such as interest rates, fees, and hours of operation, but those issues are not addressed in the City's ordinance.

Council Member Besse noted that the committee has also received a memo from City Attorney Ron Seeber confirming that the Council has the authority to adopt this ordinance.

Chair Burke requested that staff respond to Mr. Kramer in writing, and Council Member Johnson

asked that a letter be sent to the Forsyth County Legislative Delegation as well. Chair Burke suggested that the letter be sent in care of Senator Linda Garrou with a copy to the North Carolina League of Municipalities.

Council Member Leight made a motion for approval. The motion was duly seconded by Council Member Merschel and unanimously carried.

3. CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS RELATED TO THE CITY'S EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FOR THE UPCOMING TORNADO AND HURRICANE SEASON:
  - a. REPORT ON THE CITY'S EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FOR THE UPCOMING TORNADO AND HURRICANE SEASON.

Mr. Mel Sadler, Emergency Management Director, distributed copies of a draft information card regarding severe weather which will be included in water bills with the approval of Council. He offered to respond to any questions regarding the information sent out with the agenda.

Council Member Johnson stated that there are apartment complexes where water and sewer is included in the rent, so residents will not receive the card in a utility bill. She asked Mr. Sadler to make arrangements to have those cards available to those citizens, many of whom are elderly.

Mr. Sadler stated that he would make sure that this information was distributed to those locations. In addition, copies will be available at various public areas such as libraries and recreation center. TV13 also plans a series of programming regarding severe weather.

Mr. Greg Turner, Assistant City Manager/Public Works, reviewed emergency preparedness plans of the Vegetation Management, Streets, and Transportation Departments.

Chair Burke asked staff to do a better job with checking storm drains in advance of an expected weather event to prevent problems from occurring.

- b. RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (NIMS).

Council Member Leight made a motion for approval of this item. The motion was duly seconded by Council Member Merschel and unanimously carried.

#### ADDITIONAL ITEM

Council Member Merschel stated that there was yellow marking tape on several large oak trees in front of Chad Davis' property on West First Street at the Five Points intersection. She asked staff what is planned for those trees.

Mr. Turner stated that he was not familiar with this, but he would find out and report back.

Chair Burke remarked that Council Members should be advised of work that would create notice in an area so they would be able to respond if citizens inquire.

ADJOURNMENT: 6:02 p.m.