

City of Winston-Salem Government Meetings Summary

City of Winston-Salem: 2000-2009

HIGHLIGHTS

- 2000-Contract approved for mobile data terminals in police cars; Allen Joines appointed deputy city manager; city departments move to City Hall South; major bond referendum passed; construction begins on new clubhouse at Winston Lake Golf Course
- 2001-City begins using new logo; city website unveiled; Legacy Comprehensive Plan adopted; ward realignment leads to alderman's resignation; Allen Joines elected mayor
- 2002-State action forces massive budget cuts; Public Assembly Facilities Commission created; Mayor begins Talk of the Town forums; Rock the Block event celebrates the completion of the 4th Street Revitalization project
- 2003-Aldermen now known as members of council; free wireless Internet connection in the 4th Street restaurant area offered; City Hall rededication and open house held
- 2004-Two recreation centers sold to private organizations; Pat Norris named police chief; convention center management turned over to adjacent hotel; Northwest Water Treatment Plant dedicated; new No. 2 Fire Station dedicated
- 2005-Union Station acquired; council meeting minutes now available online; urban bicycle plan adopted
- 2006-New zoning notification signs approved; City Manager Bill Stuart retires; Lee Garrity named city manager; new field house approved at Bowman Gray Stadium; annexation; in-car cameras for police
- 2007-New baseball stadium discussed; Police Sgt. Howard Plouff killed; electric message boards approved; City Attorney Ron Seeber retires
- 2008-Contract awarded for new Fire Station 20; parking on residential front lawns addressed; Ernie Shore baseball stadium sold to WFU; Police Sgt. Mickey Hutchins killed; Anthony Farmer named new Fire Chief
- 2009-New baseball stadium discussed; Public Safety Training Facility named for Al Beaty; tree ordinance approved; grant received for construction of Fire Station 19; youngest member of city council elected.

2000

January 18-Contract awarded for the first 25 of the mobile data terminals for police cars. The cost was \$146,720. (136-45)

Carrie Sizemore Collins named new director of marketing and communications on February 21. She was presented to the Board at the March 6 Meeting. (136-187)

Allen Joines appointed Deputy City Manager. Prior to this he had served as assistant city manager with the responsibilities for community and economic development programs. The title of deputy city manager had been formally created by the Board on February 21 following the recommendations of the Citizen Efficiency Review Committee. Joines would retire on August 1, 2000.

In May, city departments moved to a new building, City Hall South, while old City Hall was completely renovated for the first time in 74 years. The move was completed by mid-July.

BOND REFERENDUM PROPOSED

May 15- Board held a public workshop on a proposed bond referendum at the LJVM Coliseum. Still smarting from the resounding 2 to 1 defeat of the Bond Referendum in 1997, this meeting was to gather citizen input as to what they would and would not support in bond votes.

A public hearing was held at the July 17 meeting. (137-501)

September 12-Police Department began first Citizen's Police Academy. 25 citizens applied for a ten-week course to learn the inner workings of the department.

CITY BUDGET 2000-2001 \$306.2 Million; tax rate set at 49.67 per hundred dollars of valuation

BONDS TO NOT CAUSE A TAX INCREASE

August 21-A resolution was proposed by the Mayor expressing the intention that the upcoming bond referendum would not require an increase in property taxes to pay the debt service. It was pointed out the resolution would not be legally binding on any Board of Aldermen in the future. The minutes state “Mayor Cavanagh commented on the bond package and stated that if this resolution passes, it would take away one of the arguments of bond opponents, so they will have to find something else to criticize. He then called for the question on the original motion for adoption of the resolution. The minutes state:

“Alderman Whiton stated that if Alderman Robinson was ruled out of order earlier, then he felt that the Mayor’s comments should be ruled out of order.

“Mayor Cavanagh responded that he was using the prerogative of the chair.

“Alderman Robinson disagreed and stated that if the Mayor was going to make political statements, then he should surrender the gavel to the Mayor Pro Tempore.

“Mayor Cavanagh ruled Alderman Robinson out of order and again called for the vote on the motion.”

The motion passed 7-1 with only Robinson voting against it.

The debate was not over. The minutes state that after the vote, “Alderman Robinson asked for a ruling from Mr. Seeber since Robert’s Rules of Order clearly indicated that when a chair wants to speak to an issue or editorialize, then the appropriate procedure is to surrender the gavel to the Mayor Pro Tempore.

“Mr. Seeber replied that if the Mayor wishes to speak on a subject that goes beyond that at hand, then it would be up to the Board of Aldermen to so find by a majority vote and the Mayor Pro Tempore would take the chair at that point.

“Alderman Robinson commented that this is not what is indicated by Robert’s Rules of Order.

“Mr. Seeber noted that Robert’s Rules of Order is designed primarily for large assemblies and club meetings and does not fit with precision the mechanics of a political board. In North Carolina, the Board of Aldermen is the final arbiter and can overrule any of the Mayor’s rulings.” (135-569)

September 5-There was a major debate regarding the city funding of the Experiment in Self-Reliance. Again Robinson and the Mayor used parliamentary procedures to get their respective points across...both accusing the other of being out of order. Ultimately the ESR program received its city funding. (135-606)

September 18- Contract was awarded for a digital photo system for the Police Department at \$151,841.80. This replaced the old photo processor for mug shots and crime scene pictures. (135-644)

September 18- Contract awarded for the construction of a new club house at Winston Lake Golf Course at a cost of \$705,000. (135-653)

November 7-Voters approved bond referendum. The results announced at the November 20 meeting were (135-757):

Item	Yes	No
\$40,600,000 in street and sidewalk improvements	41,553	20,329
\$12,500,000 economic development projects	37,027	25,236
\$11,500,000 for public safety communications system	43,589	18,633
\$6,400,000 Home-buyer Assistance Program	40,131	22,892

MAYOR’S REQUEST FOR FREE PARKING DENIED

November 20- The Mayor had proposed that he and the Board receive free parking downtown on the meters. He stated that he had received "...a surprising number of comments regarding this proposal and he read from a tongue-in-cheek letter from a citizen who urged others to send in quarters to help fund parking for the Mayor and other elected officials. Although Mayor Cavanagh noted the merit of his proposal, he withdrew it from consideration in response to the public's reaction."

December 4- Board approved a new cable franchise agreement with Time-Warner cable. (135-779)

2001

NEW CITY LOGO UNVEILED

City vehicles began using a stylized W-S logo instead of the city seal. The logo was created by The Woodbine Agency, advertising and design firm. The logo was to be used on city publications and on city vehicles. It had been presented to the Board on December 4, 2000.

March 5- Aldermen viewed the city's new website- www.cityofws.org (138-121)

LEGACY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

April 1-Aldermen adopted Legacy-A Comprehensive Plan for Managing Future Growth in Winston-Salem and Forsyth County. It included recommendations for reducing traffic congestion and suburban sprawl that would detract from the quality of life here. It replaced the Vision 2005 document and outlined strategies over the next 15 years. Aldermen held public hearing on February 20 at which 36 citizens spoke in favor of the plan and only one against it. (138-200)

Lee Garrity was appointed assistant city manager on April 27.

WARD ALIGNMENT LEADS TO APPOINTMENT OF NEW ALDERMAN

June 4, 2001- Aldermen approved ward realignment in light of the 2000 census. (136-278) West Ward Alderman Northington had recently moved and the realignment placed him two blocks in the Northwest Ward. This was discussed in detail at the May 21 meeting. (138-257) The Board did not change the realignment and Northington resigned from the Board. A special meeting on the budget was held the next night (June 5), and following the budget public hearing, there was a discussion about how the replacement of the West Ward Alderman would be made. It was decided that the Board would name the replacement and not be, as has been tradition, bound to the recommendation of the Republican Party.

June 18, 2001- W. H. Roberts, who was the Republican Party's choice for the seat, was appointed West Ward Alderman. (138-305)

BUDGET WAR FOR THE TELEVISION AUDIENCE

June 18, 2001- A lively discussion is documented regarding items on the upcoming City budget. (138-327) Alderman Robinson, as he had done the previous year, presented a series of changes to the upcoming budget. The Mayor's problems with parliamentary procedure continued. "A brief discussion ensued regarding whether this was a new motion or an amendment to the motion on the floor.

"Alderman Burke asked if Mr. Seeber would like to comment.

"Mayor Cavanagh stated that he had not recognized the city attorney and noted that Alderman Robinson has the floor.

"Questions were raised regarding parliamentary procedure; Alderman Merschel called for a point of order, and moved that the Mayor was out of order.

"The motion was seconded by Alderman Johnson.

“Mayor Cavanagh called for the vote on Alderman Robinson’s amendment. When questioned about Alderman Merschel’s point of order, he responded that Alderman Robinson had the floor and no other motion had been recognized.”

During the next few minutes Alderman Merschel twice asked to be recognized and the Mayor recognized Alderman Robinson. All his proposed changes failed by a 3-4 vote until he moved to eliminate the position of intergovernmental relations coordinator. This came to a 4-4 vote with the Mayor voting in favor of the motion. The minutes state “...Mayor Cavanagh stated that this position did not work out as he had envisioned. He had thought this position would be closely tied to the Mayor’s office, but this is not the case. Mayor Cavanagh stated that he has had a number of discussions with the city manager about this.

Alderman Burke commented that she supported the position when it was first created because the Mayor felt it was needed. She stated that she did not see the progress that she expected and with regard to the work this individual did on grants, she remarked that seeking of grants occurred before this position was created and that work will continue.”

Robinson also proposed cutting \$88,000 from the marketing and communications budget. This motion also went to a 4-4 tie with the Mayor voting in favor of the motion.

Again, Alderman Merschel asked to be recognized. The Mayor stated that Alderman Robinson still had the floor. Alderman Merschel stated that she wanted the record to show that she has been shut out of this meeting for more than two hours. The Mayor stated that anyone could discuss any of Alderman Robinson’s motions during the discussion periods for each.

The budget, with several other minor changes was finally approved.

CITY BUDGET 2001-2002

\$331.4 Million. Tax rate set at 46 cents per \$100; water and sewer rates increase 9%

“NO CONSIDERATION”

The use of the “No Consideration” call by an Aldermen was traditionally used to stop debate on an item. It was usually used to give the Board members time to gather more information and come to an agreement before the item is brought up at the next meeting. It was used on zoning cases and sometimes on appointments to boards and commissions. On July 16, Alderman Robinson used it to stop an honorary resolution recognizing the United Way of Forsyth County. (139-350)

At the August 6 meeting, the United Way asked that the resolution be pulled from the agenda. After a great deal of discussion, the Board instead voted to pass the resolution with Aldermen Robinson and Whiton asked to have their names removed from it. (139-394)

July 16, 2001-Contract awarded for copier, mail, printing services for the city. The city print shop was closed and its personnel reassigned. (139-384) Resolution approved authorizing construction of the Fourth Street Streetscape Improvement project. (139-389)

MAYOR RULED OUT OF ORDER

Aug 20, 2001-Mayor Cavanagh had generally used the first few minutes of the Board meetings following roll call to review a list of events in the community during the upcoming week. He once said that he thought it was important that the public know of the variety of things going on in the city...other news media notwithstanding. This list was prepared for him before the meeting by the Office of Public Information. For three years the Board had quietly listened, but since the items had no effect on city government his comments are not recorded in the Minutes Books. That said, it was during the August 20 meeting with the municipal election campaign in full swing that this exchange took place.

Immediately after the roll call, “Mayor Cavanagh spoke about recent articles which appeared in the Winston-Salem Journal which, in his opinion, focused on insignificant issues rather than the vision he has for the city. He continued giving information about programs and issues which have been developed during the current term of office.

“Alderman Robinson expressed his objection to Mayor Cavanagh’s statements, stating that they sounded too much like a campaign speech.

“Mayor Cavanagh stated that Alderman Robinson had not been recognized.

“Alderman Robinson appealed the ruling from the chair and made a motion that the Mayor relinquish the gavel to the Mayor Pro Tempore.

“The motion was seconded by Alderman Whiton.

“Mayor Cavanagh continued with his remarks, and Alderman Whiton called for a point of order.

“Mr. Ron Seeber, city attorney, explained that the floor now belonged to Alderman Whiton, who called for the point of order.

“Alderman Whiton commented that he believed that the Mayor was out of order to continue speaking in this fashion and asked him to stop.

“Mayor Cavanagh declined to recognize the point of order and continued with his remarks.

“Mr. Seeber advised that any member of the Board could make a motion to appeal the rejection of the point of order.

“Alderman Whiton made a motion to appeal the point of order to the full Board.

“The motion was seconded by Alderman Robinson.

“Alderman Robinson withdrew his earlier motion for the Mayor to relinquish the gavel.

Alderman Whiton’s motion passed unanimously. (139-444)

EMPLOYEE SHARED LEAVE PROGRAM

November 19, 2001- Resolution approved allowing employees to donate leave to a fellow employee who is involved in a catastrophic health event. Employees were able to draw from a shared leave “bank” to which consenting employees had donated leave hours. (139-608)

MUNICIPAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 4

Allen Joines, a retired assistant city manager was elected Mayor in a landslide. He is the first former city employee to be elected Mayor.

Aldermen

Northwest Ward	Wanda Merschel
North Ward	Nelson Malloy
Northeast Ward	Vivian Burke
East Ward	Joycelyn V. Johnson
Southeast Ward	Frederick N. Terry
South Ward	Vernon Robinson
Southwest Ward	Dan Besse
West Ward	Robert C. Clark

City Hall building placed on National Register of Historic Places.

December 3, 2001- The new Board of Aldermen was sworn in but not before the outgoing Board has a major discussion on the expansion of the Hanes Mill Road landfill. (139-615) The discussion was continued with the new Board at a special meeting held on December 10 (139-629) and at the regular meeting on February 18, 2002.

2002

SPECIAL RULES OF ORDER

January 7, 2002- In an effort to curtail some of the raucousness that the previous board had become known for, Mayor Joines presented a resolution adopting Special Rules of Order for the Board that would supersede the

often maligned Robert's Rules of Order. He stated that he had discussed this issue with each member of the Board and this item was presented as a way to move meetings forward in an efficient manner. (140-25)

The resolution read in part that "A member may speak twice on a particular question before the Board and is limited to five minutes on each of the two occasions. The Mayor or Mayor Pro Tempore may grant permission to waive this rule at the member's request.

"...Debate should be confined to the merits of the pending question.

"...Members should maintain a courteous tone and should avoid interjecting a personal note into the debate.

"Members should not attack or make any allusion to the motives of the other Board members."

After some debate the resolution passed 7-1.

CABLE TV FRANCHISE

January 22, 2002- The Board discussed in depth the new cable agreement with Time-Warner Cable. This discussion also includes the contract for funding of the local Community Access Channel. (140-61) The agreement was unanimously approved at the February 4 meeting. (140-119) The contract regarding operation of the access channel was approved on February 18. (140-233)

POLICE TRAINING FACILITY

January 22, 2002- Resolution approving rental of space in the Wagon Works building on East 3rd Street for use as a Police Department Training Facility. (140-31)

STATE ACTION FORCES MASSIVE BUDGET CUTS

February 8, 2002-(140-130) Aldermen held an emergency meeting and a special meeting was held on February 15 (140-168) to discuss the actions of the Governor to withhold expected funds for the city. On February 22, the Board voted to cut \$8.16 million from the current budget. The cuts were required when Governor Mike Easley announced that he would withhold that amount in reimbursements that the city had coming. The city manager proposed a budget of \$268.6 million that cuts overall spending by more than 15 percent to cope with the poor economy and the state's withholding.

February 18, 2002-Resolution approved for \$800,000 for the development of a park in the Piedmont Triad Research Park. (140-233)

March 6, 2002- Fire Station 18 on Peace Haven Road dedicated as Robert S. Northington, Jr. Fire Station. Northington served as West Ward Alderman from 1977 until 2001.

May 20, 2002- Board agreed to merge the Fairgrounds Commission and the Coliseum and Convention Center Commission into the Public Assembly Facilities Commission. (140-430)

May 28, 2002-Mayor began "Talk of The Town" forums with each alderman in their respective wards. The series would continue until a session had been held in each ward. The series was repeated in 2003-04 and for several years after that.

June 3, 2002- Resolution approved for the purchase of a heavy duty rescue truck for the Fire Department-\$241,730. (140-466)

June 17, 2002- Mayor Joines offered a resolution donating his \$11,000 salary as Mayor into a fund to be used for the "...benefit of the city, community agencies, or religious, educational or charitable organizations, at the discretion of the Mayor."

Attorney Seeber affirmed that this applied only to Mayor Joines and not to future mayors. The resolution passed 6-2. (140-483)

July 22, 2002- The Mayor and the Board engaged in a strategic planning session held at the LVMC meeting rooms to set out their goals for the city in the coming year. This would become an annual event for the Board.

August 19, 2002- Resolution approved regarding stream bank restoration projects for Brushy Fork Creek and Silas Creek.

CITY BUDGET 2002-2003

\$268.7 Million Adopted in September.

Property tax rate increased to 49.5 cents per \$100

Utility rates increase 9 %

The Utility Commission and W-S/Forsyth County schools agreed to establish a comprehensive recycling program in schools beginning with the 2002-2003 school year. The program was phased in over 3 years with a goal to divert as much as 2,000 tons of solid waste from the landfill each year. The commission allocated \$227,500 over three years to implement the program at all 67 public school campuses in the county.

ROCK THE BLOCK

4th Street revitalization was completed in September. Fourth Street between Main and Broad streets was converted to two-way traffic on September 14. The completion of the project was celebrated with the first Rock the Block street party on Sept. 20.

A second Rock the Block Celebration on May 2, 2003 was swept with driving rain and thunderstorms. Still some 2-3 thousand people came out. It then became an annual fall event. The event continued through 2012.

Departments began to return to the completely renovated City Hall with TV 13 being the first to move in October. Total renovation costs \$8.2 million, not including the Council Chamber or Committee Meeting Room.

Tom Griffin retired as Assistant City Manager for Public Works on December 1. He was succeeded by Greg Turner. Turner had been director of the Department of Transportation since Sept 2001. Stan Polanis named new director of Transportation.

2003

ALDERMEN NOW “MEMBERS OF COUNCIL”

The Board of Aldermen began using the name “City Council” effective Monday February 10, 2003. This change to the City Charter was first discussed at the December 2, 2002 meeting with the Mayor breaking a 4-4 tie. (141-319) The change had been approved at the January 6 meeting. (142-5)

February 17, 2003- Nissen Building was designated as a Historic Landmark. (142-84)

A major ice storm struck the city on February 27, 2003. Mayor asked that the city be declared a disaster area and declared a state of emergency on February 28. (142-92) Debris collection was still going on in mid-April.

“WiFi on Fourth”, one of the first government sponsored free wireless Internet services in North Carolina became available on April 1, 2003. The service was available along Fourth Street between Spruce and Main streets.

A public hearing on the city’s proposed annexation drew several hundred, mostly irate citizens, to the LJVM Coliseum on May 27, 2003. (142-237) The hearing was televised live on TV 13 using a microwave setup between the coliseum and City Hall.

The total area for annexation was downsized somewhat and a lawsuit held up a portion of the proposed annexation.

June 16, 2003- Resolution approved regarding the keeping of animals and fowl within the city. The keeping of hogs was still prohibited but in keeping with some of the rural nature of recently annexed areas the keeping of goats, sheep, horses, mules, donkeys and cattle was allowed as long as their stables are maintained "...in a clean and sanitary condition." The revised ordinance deleted the word "stable".

Further, the law ended the tradition of allowing guineas to run loose while keeping chickens, etc. in pens. A flock of guineas had run loose in Old Salem for a number of years. (142-283)

June 17, 2003- A resolution was approved revising the personnel policy and moving every employee's anniversary date to July 1 for pay increases. (142-315)

CITY BUDGET 2003-2004

\$307,605,080 Utility rate increased 12 percent.

Tax rate set at 46 cents per hundred dollars of property valuation.

July 21, 2003- The Longevity Pay Bonus Plan for city employees was frozen at its current levels. (143-16)

A City of Winston-Salem University, with 25 citizens attending, began on September 11, 2003. In addition to educating citizens about city functions, the course emphasized how citizens can have a more active voice in government. The program was held annually after 2003.

September 15, 2003- A City Hall open house and rededication ceremony was held. Council Chamber renovations were completed at a cost of approximately \$550 thousand dollars...almost exactly the amount of the total cost of construction of City Hall in 1926.

September 15, 2003- Resolution approved adopting a policy for the naming of city facilities. (143-111)

November 17, 2003- Resolution approving purchase of a fire pumper truck for \$319,000. (143-194)

Loris Colclough retired on December 1, 2003 as city's chief financial officer. Colclough was responsible for the creation of the North Carolina Municipal Leasing Service which allowed the city to spread out capital outlays for new equipment and vehicles over a five year period. He also raised that the city's bond rating to the highest in its history. Denise Bell, the long-time deputy chief financial officer, was named as his replacement.

2004

Beginning in 2004 as scanning technology improved, the permanent minutes now include site plans of zoning cases and other pertinent maps, as well as photographs and proclamations that were presented as part of Council discussions.

January 20, 2004- Resolution approved allowing the location of an ambulance at Fire Station 11 at 2745 Waughtown St. (144-17)

February 16, 2004- Resolution approved for the redevelopment plan for the Happy Hill Gardens Area. (144-79) In a continuing effort to downsize, the Council approved donation of the Northhampton Community Recreation Center to the NAACP. (144-82) The North Hills Recreation Center was sold to New Life Church for \$150,000. (144-85)

POLICE CHIEF P.D. NORRIS

February 28, 2004- Police Chief Linda Davis retired, Patricia Norris sworn in as second female and first black police chief.

May 3, 2004-City Hall was designated a historic landmark.

CITY BUDGET 2004-2005

\$292.4 Million Tax rate set at 52.5 cents per hundred.

CONVENTION CENTER NO LONGER A CITY PROPERTY

July 1, 2004- Convention center management was turned over to Nobel Investment as part of a deal that they buy the two adjacent hotels. One would be converted into an Embassy Suites Hotel and the other into a Marriott Hotel. City employees at the convention center were offered jobs with Nobel. At the February 16 meeting the proposal was first discussed. Nobel would invest \$28 million in the properties with the city providing \$10 million in capital over 15 years. The Board had approved the proposal 7-1. A public hearing, with no opposition was held on March 22. (144-151)

July 23, 2004- The city manager cut eight current positions as part of the Fiscal Year 2004-'05 budget. Seven of these were placed in other departments, one took early retirement. (145-32)

Northwest Water Treatment Plant came online in August. The \$84.4 million project has been in the works for 16 years. On November 16, 2009 the facility was named for long time assistant city manager as the Pascal "Pat" Swann Water Treatment Plant. (G-6)

September 11, 2004- New Fire Station 2 dedicated. This larger station had bays for two fire trucks and an emergency services unit.

September 20, 2004- Plans for Bethabara's 250th birthday celebration are announced and funded. (145-151) The celebration was scheduled for November 1-14, 2004. (1445-205)

2005

UNION STATION ACQUIRED BY THE CITY

March 28, 2005- Resolution authorizing application for a transportation grant (\$1.3 million) and acquisition of the historic Union Station building was approved. (146-152) This was discussed again on April 18 (146-193).

June 6, 2005- Ed McNeal introduced as the new Marketing and Communications Department director. He replaced Carrie Collins who resigned in February. (146-295)

CITY BUDGET 2005-2006

\$359.4 Million Tax rate set at 48.5 cents per hundred.

MEETING MINUTES NOW ONLINE

Beginning with the July 5, 2005, meeting of City Council, the minutes of all meetings became available online under the Office of The City Secretary tab. The bound volumes of the minutes dating back to the foundings of the towns of Winston and Salem were still kept as required by law. For those interested in the details of a particular event, it became much easier to scan the minutes online than to page through the oversized volumes kept in the vault of the City Secretary's office in City Hall. While the Council's regular meetings were still broadcast on the city government TV channel, it would not be until March 2006 that technological advances

would allow them to be available on demand to the general public online. This access would be refined in July 2012 when more details of specific meetings was available online.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ADDED TO COUNCIL MEETINGS

July 18, 2006- Mayor Joines advised that the North Carolina General Assembly has enacted a bill which requires local governments to hold a public comment period once per month. The Council had never had a formal policy on comments. Meetings often were wrapped up with the Mayor asking if anyone had anything else to say prior to adjournment. The Mayor stated that the Community Development/Housing/General Government Committee will be discussing some procedures for the comment period at its next meeting, but since the act became effective immediately, the Council will entertain public comments at this time. Mayor Joines stated that in the absence of an official policy, he would recommend that each speaker limit his or her comments to three minutes as is typically done for non-zoning public hearings. The first speaker was Richard Norman who stated that he hoped citizens would participate in this feature.

August 15, 2005- Ordinance amending the public comment period of City Council meetings was thoroughly discussed. The ordinance limited comments from the public to city-related issues. (147-135) Since the vote to approve was not unanimous, the resolution came back for a second reading on September 6.

At the September 6, 2005 meeting the Council approved the committee’s recommendation that the public comment period be held at the end of the regular meeting on the third Monday of the month.

August 15, 2005- Resolution approving the purchase of two fire pumpers at \$329,113 each. (147-109)

URBAN BICYCLE PLAN ADOPTED

August 15, 2005- City adopted an Urban Area Comprehensive Bicycle Plan Master Plan. It was pointed out that this was only a plan and no city funding was currently requested. (147-135)

MUNICIPAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 1, 2005

Mayor
Allen Joines

Members of Council

Northwest Ward	Wanda Merschel
North Ward	Nelson Malloy
Northeast Ward	Vivian Burke
East Ward	Joycelyn V. Johnson
Southeast Ward	Evelyn A. Terry
South Ward	Molly Leight
Southwest Ward	Dan Besse
West Ward	Robert C. Clark

Nov 21, 2005 - \$375,000 federal grant announced to improve the public safety mobile data network used by the Police and Sheriff’s departments.

Dec 1, 2005 Johnnie Taylor named Sanitation Director. Taylor, the traffic maintenance supervisor for the city, was a 13 year city employee. He succeeds Becky McBride who retired.

2006

January 17, 2006- Council approved the purchase of property on Patterson Avenue between Northwest Boulevard and Liberty Street for use as a public safety evidence storage and training facility for \$650,000. (148-134)

January 30, 2006- Mayor and members of Council meet in their annual Strategic Planning Session. This continued to be an annual event under Mayor Joines.

Feb 20, 2006 Resolution approved to increase in the Motor Vehicle Privilege Tax.

NEW ZONING NOTIFICATION SIGNS

April 20, 2006- City-County Planning Board has changed the look of the signs it post to advertise pending zoning cases. The new signs have a giant white “Z” on a red background with the words Rezoning Notices”. The signs were designed to be easier to read and cost less.

May 15, 2006- The recently merged coliseum, fairgrounds and minor league ballpark complex was given an identity logo as the Entertainment-Sports Facilities of the City of Winston-Salem. The names of the individual facilities was not changed but the brand logo was to be used for marketing efforts. ((148-434)

CITY MANAGER RETIRES

June 19, 2006- City Manager Bryce A. Stuart retired and was honored at the Council meeting. His 26 years far exceeds any other Winston-Salem City Manager’s tenure. (148-485)

June 19, 2006- Members of Council receive a 3% raise, their first since 1988. The council members now receive \$8,755 per year and the Mayor \$11,330 per year. . Public officials will receive the same pay increase as the merit pay increase for city employees in future years. (148-513)

2006-2007 City Budget-\$258 million;
Tax rate at 48.5 cents per hundred dollars of valuation.

July 3, 2006 –City Hall South renamed the Bryce A. Stuart Municipal Building. (149-013)

LEE GARRITY CITY MANAGER

July 17, 2006- Lee D. Garrity was named Winston-Salem’s fifth city manager. His salary was set at \$152,000 per year. Garrity was a former assistant city manager. (149-018)

NEW BOWMAN GRAY FIELDHOUSE

August 30, 2006- Groundbreaking held for a 4.7 million field house at Bowman Gray Stadium.

August 31, 2006- City Manager Lee Garrity announced changes in the organization of city government. Assistant City Manager Derwick Paige will have additional duties and assume the title of deputy city manager. The assistant city manager position that was vacant since Garrity became city manager was filled by Martha Wheelock. Wheelock previously served as the deputy finance officer.

September 18, 2006- Resolution approved authorizing the purchase of two Fire Department pumper trucks for a total of \$727,980.00. (149-161)

ANNEXATION

September 30, 2006- City annexed nearly 20 square miles and 17,000 residents. The annexation was approved by City Council in 2003 but opponents took the issue all the way to the State Supreme Court who refused to hear the challenge

IN-CAR VIDEO CAMERAS FOR POLICE

October 23, 2006- 35 In-car video cameras purchased for the Police Department. (149-214)

December 1, 2006-Mellin L. Parker appointed Housing and Neighborhood Development Director for the city. She was the senior housing development manager for Fulton County, Georgia.

2007**NEW BASEBALL STADIUM**

January 3, 2007 -Public Hearing held on the proposed 5,500 seat baseball stadium. Ernie Shore Field will then be sold to WFU for their baseball team. (150-22) A decision was put off until the next council meeting. A public comment session continued the discussion at the January 16 meeting and continues for some 15 pages of minutes before it was approved unanimously. (150-82). At the August 6, 2007 meeting, Council approved a revised economic development assistance package to the developers of the complex. (151-88)

January 16, 2007- Issues with the keeping of pigs and chickens and goats within the city limits have been addressed in the council meetings since the beginnings of the city. A new ordinance was first discussed on October 3, 2005 and approved on October 24, 2005. At this meeting the penalties for violating Chapter Six of the city code was amended to reduce the penalty from a misdemeanor to a civil penalty of \$20 per day. (150-50)

POLICE SGT. HOWARD PLOUFF KILLED

February 23, 2007- Police Sergeant Howard Plouff died after being shot in the line of duty while responding to a fight outside a nightclub.

ON-PREMISES SIGN ORDINANCE

May 7, 2007- A public hearing was held regarding changes in the Unified Development Ordinances regarding revisions to regulations for on-premises signs. Specifically the changes dealt with electronic signs. There were a number of public comments and ultimately it was returned to committee. (C-16). It was unanimously approved on May 21, 2007. (G-5) Revisions were almost immediately being considered. A special meeting was held with the message board signs being one of only two items on the agenda on August 27, 2007. One of the main points of contention was how long before each message changed. It was decided that 8 seconds would be the allowable interval. After going back to the Planning Board and through Committee, the revised ordinance would come before the Council again on October 1, 2007 where it passed by a vote of 7-1. (G-14) (150-277)

May 21, 2007- Resolution approved renaming the Reynolds Park Recreation Center as the William Roscoe Anderson Jr. Recreation Center. (C-14)

2007-2008 City Budget-\$385.2 million

Tax rate at 49 cents per hundred dollars of valuation.

August 20, 2007-Rollout refuse carts purchased \$259,850. (C-9-e)

October 10, 2007- Shazam, a black Labrador retriever trained to sniff out gasoline and other accelerant that arsonists use to start fires was added to the WSFD fire investigators team. State Farm Insurance paid for Shazam and his training.

CITY ATTORNEY RETIRES

December 3, 2007- A resolution passed honoring City Attorney Ron Seeber who retired after 37 years of service to the city. (150-402)

2008

February 16, 2008- Downtown Transportation Center named for longtime driver Clark Campbell who drove a bus for WSTA and Safe Bus for 42 years before his retirement in 1992.

FIRE STATION 2

March 24, 2008-Contract awarded for the construction of Fire Station 20 at 1595 Bethania-Rural Hall Rd. \$1,582,268 (C-13)

March 24, 2008- Resolution approved for funding of construction for traffic calming plans for Countryside Drive and Milhaven Road. (C-7)

May 19, 2008- A lengthy discussion was held regarding revisions to the city's Post Construction Stormwater Management Program. (G-3)

2008-2009 City Budget-\$396.3 Million

Property tax rate unchanged at 49 cents per hundred dollars of valuation.

PARKING ON RESIDENTIAL FRONT LAWNS

July 7, 2008 - Ordinance discussed prohibiting parking on residential front lawns; 21 citizens spoke. The proposal was returned to the Community Development/Housing/General Government Committee consideration at their September meeting. (G-5)

August 18, 2008- Resolution adopted approving purchase of two fire pumper trucks- total cost \$831,945.10. (C8a)

August 18, 2008- Resolution approved regarding requiring smoke detectors in every bedroom on each story of a dwelling. (C2)

August 18, 2008-The public comment period of the second Council meeting of the month allows citizens to bring any issue to the Council. On this day Ms. Mattie Young, 1001 E. 15th Street, president of the Resident Council of Cleveland Avenue Homes, stated that she has collected over 600 signatures on behalf of Citizens Against Sagging to end the trend of youth exposing their body parts by wearing sagging pants. She noted that Winston-Salem is a city of grace and beauty and it should be illegal for youth to wear sagging pants in public. She asked that the city consider passing a law prohibiting such behavior and if that type of public display is made, allow law enforcement agents to arrest or fine those that violate the law. Winston-Salem would not be the first city to vote on such a law and would not be the last. Ms. Young noted that although some residents may question the City Council's authority and justification to pass such a law, citizens have the right to be free of this type of display. She proclaimed, "Let it be known, pull up or pay up." Council Member Burke noted that she has spoken with the city manager and asked that he have the city attorney review this suggestion and have the item brought to the Public Safety Committee for review.

ERNIE SHORE FIELD SOLD TO WFU

September 15, 2008- Resolution regarding the sale of Ernie Shore Field to Wake Forest University approved. (C-1)

September 15, 2008- Discussion of a new downtown park to be known as City Plaza. (G-4)

POLICE SGT MICKEY HUTCHINS KILLED

October 12, 2009- Police Sgt. Mickey Hutchens died after being shot on October 5 while responding to a call to backup his fellow officers.

ANTHONY FARMER NEW FIRE CHIEF

December 1, 2008. Fire Chief John Gist retired. He was replaced by Anthony Farmer who was sworn in at this meeting. Farmer was a 25 year veteran who was currently serving as a district fire chief.

2009

POPULATION CHANGE

January 14, 2009- The US Census Bureau has agreed to add more than 8,000 people to its estimate of the city's population on July 1, 2007. The new estimate puts the city population at 223,532. The change was the result of a challenge from the city and is important for determining federal distributions or grants based on population. The change moved Winston-Salem from 91st to 8th on the list right behind Orlando, Florida and Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

KOGER FIRE STATION

February 16, 2009- Resolution naming new Fire Station 20 at 5991 Koger Lane as Koger Fire Station. The station was built on property purchased from the Koger family, an African American family of entrepreneurs who owned and operated a store on the property selling art items, canned goods, shuck mats, knitted items, rugs, quilts and clothing in the early 1900's.

April 6, 2009-Minutes from 2002 Council meetings were approved. Responding to a question from Council Member Robert Clark, City Secretary Renee Phillips, explained that preparing the summaries of minutes into an official format is a long and laborious process.

BALLPARK DISCUSSION

June 15, 2009 -Special meeting to hear comments on the construction of the ballpark and its construction financing. Another meeting was held on June 17 with the council approving continued financing of the project.

July 6, 2009- Council created a Baseball Stadium Review Committee to oversee construction. September 8 (item 6) more discussion of finance, city manager says financing should be completed within 10 days and hope this is the final discussion of this issue. At the September 21 meeting it was announced that financing had been completed and a projected opening day of the new stadium was April 1, 2010.

TRAINING FACILITY NAMED FOR AL BEATY

June 15, 2009 Public Safety Training Facility on Patterson Ave. named for long time Assistant City Manager Al Beaty. It opened August 17, 2009. It also housed evidence storage and had a forensics area with two bays for processing vehicles and a clean room for examining evidence. The project cost \$10.15 million including acquisition of the land and building (a former furniture plant), design renovation, equipment and furnishing.

June 15, 2009-Traffic calming system approved for Lockland Ave. Cost \$120,000.

June 15, 2009-Per a study performed by Budget staff, the total property tax of Winston-Salem is the lowest in North Carolina. Mayor Joines also noted that Winston-Salem is the only major city in the state still providing backyard garbage collection.

2009-2010 City Budget (approved June 15)-\$371.4 Million
Tax rate 46.75 cents per hundred dollars of valuation.

July 20, 2009-TV13 (now known as WSTV) programming policy defined and revised. (C-16)

TREE ORDINANCE APPROVED

July 20, 2009-Tree ordinance approved. (G-2) City-County Planning Director Paul Norby explained that this ordinance has been in the works since 2004 and this proposal is the city's portion under the Unified Development Ordinance.

October 19, 2009-Grant received from FEMA to proceed with the construction Fire Station 19 on Glenn High Road.

October 1, 2009- Plastic bottles banned from landfills under state law.

October 19, 2009-Contract awarded for fire pumper trucks. Total cost -\$913,041.44. (c-12) Council Member Johnson asked for staff comment on the acceleration efforts in construction of Fire Station 19 off of Glenn Hi Road and the potential for new design of the public safety arena in community.

Gregory M. Turner, assistant city manager over public works, explained that the city has the opportunity to receive a grant under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act for Fire Station 19 to the west of Glenn Hi Road and the design will be a two-company station similar to Station 20. He noted it could possibly house law enforcement onsite as well.

Council Member Johnson pointed out that this is in a newly annexed area and she noted that while the city has been able to provide sufficient fire protection in this area, it will now be able to build the fire station in an accelerated fashion due to the federal stimulus funds.

YOUNGEST COUNCIL MEMBER IN HISTORY ELECTED

Municipal Election November 3, 2009

Mayor Allen Joines

Council Members:

South Ward	Molly Leight
Northeast Ward	Vivian H. Burke
West Ward	Robert C. Clark
North Ward	Denise D. Adams
Northwest	Wanda Merschel
Southwest Ward	Dan Besse
Southeast Ward	James Taylor, Jr.
East Ward	Derwin L. Montgomery

Montgomery was a 21-year-old student at Winston-Salem State University. He had mounted a grass roots door-to-door campaign in the ward and among students to win the seat. He was the youngest person ever to be elected to City Council.

All members were sworn in on December 7, 2009.