

Tuesday – May 30, 2000

Reed Memorial Baptist Church

756 Fairview Road

7:00 p.m. - Community Meeting

Present: Mayor Leni Sitnick, Presiding; Councilman Edward C. Hay Jr.; Councilman Brian L. Peterson; Councilwoman Terry M. Whitmire; and Councilman Charles R. Worley; City Attorney Robert W. Oast Jr.; City Manager James L. Westbrook Jr.; and City Clerk Magdalen Burleson

Absent: Vice-Mayor M. Charles Cloninger and Councilwoman Barbara Field

On behalf of City Council, Mayor Sitnick welcomed the official delegation from Asheville Sister City Saumur, France, and exchanged gifts.

Mayor Sitnick said that many citizens and residents of east Asheville have expressed concerns to Council members and City staff about the proposal to redevelop the old Sayles Bleacheries property with a shopping center, and have indicated a desire to address Council at this community meeting about those concerns. The proposal for the old Sayles Bleacheries site is a proposal for a conditional use permit. A conditional use permit may only be issued or denied after a public hearing held for that specific purpose, and Council may only base its decision to issue or deny the conditional use permit on the information presented at that hearing. Council may not consider information that it receives outside of that public hearing, including information presented at this community meeting. If you are concerned about the proposal for the old Sayles Bleacheries site, either in favor of or opposed to it, and wish Council to hear your concerns or receive other information that you wish to present, please come to the public hearing that will be held on the proposal, and present your concerns or information then. That public hearing is tentatively set for July 25. Please notify our City Clerk or City's Planning Department if you wish to receive written notification of the public hearing.

The following topics were raised by residents and addressed by City Council and City staff: Beechwood Road should be closed where it intersects with Swannanoa River Road with a cul-de-sac to eliminate the large amount of cut-through traffic; speeding on Crockett Lane; no sidewalks in Redwood Forest community; need for traffic to be on commercial thoroughfares, not residential streets; no more development in the area is needed; speeding in Beverly Hills community; Beverly Road and East Hawthorne is in need of repair; request to see plans for corner of Cedar Street and Fairview Road; closure of Liberty Street should be preceded by specific signage informing travelers of the change; signs should be placed on Sweeten Creek Road directing traffic to the Asheville Mall, Home Depot and River Ridge to I-40 rather than Fairview Road and signs should also direct travelers leaving those shopping areas to I-40; need for sidewalks from Oakley School to River Ridge shopping center; need to improve lighting at the bridge near Home Depot; need improved stoplights at the intersection in front of Home Depot; need for safer sidewalks in the vicinity of the Library; need for a "No Thru Trucks" sign on either end of Fairview Road; vacant and deteriorating houses at 155 Onteora Boulevard, store at the corner of Raleigh Road and Liberty Street, 10 Westview and 82 Crayton Road; a request for a "No On-Street Parking" sign on Stoner Road; need for benches and trash cans to be placed at bus stops and Arrowood Apartments; better bus service in evening; bike lanes; need to repair fire hydrant in front of 60 Liberty Street; request to close Reservoir Road and use it for bike traffic only; sewerage system problem behind Eastview Apartments; concern about emergency response times on Tunnel Road when traffic is heavy; no police enforcement of "No Large Trucks" signs on Fairview Road; request to leave Creighton Road open for a period of time after the new interchange is opened to see where traffic flows in order to determine if there is a need to close Creighton Road; and concerns over development review process.

**RESOLUTION NO. 00-87 – RESOLUTION RATIFYING INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR FORMATION OF LOCAL AIR POLLUTION CONTROL PROGRAM AND AGENCY**

City Attorney Oast reviewed with City Council the most recent draft Interlocal Agreement with Buncombe County on the WNC Regional Air Quality Control Agency. He said that Buncombe County, earlier in the day, had adopted an Interlocal Agreement. He then reviewed with Council the differences in the City's draft of the Agreement and in the County's adopted Agreement. A lengthy discussion occurred on several points and issues the City and the County have come to agreement on and their remaining differences.

Mr. Alan McKenzie (County appointment to the current WNC Regional Air Pollution Control Board but speaking only as an individual) and Mr. Arlis Queen (City appointment to the current WNC Regional Air Pollution Control Board but speaking only as an individual) both felt that the Agreement Buncombe County adopted was an acceptable and workable agreement. They urged City Council to adopt the Agreement Buncombe County adopted earlier in the day.

More discussion occurred regarding the County's adopted Agreement and the City's draft Agreement.

As a result of the discussion, City Attorney Oast then read the following resolution ratifying an interlocal agreement for formation of local Air Pollution Control Program and Agency: WHEREAS, the City of Asheville has the authority pursuant to G.S. 160A-461 et seq., and G.S. 143-215.112(c)(3) to enter into an interlocal agreement with other units of local government to establish a regional program for air pollution control and to form an independent agency to administer said program; and WHEREAS, the City of Asheville and Buncombe County have been negotiating an interlocal agreement for a local air pollution control program to supersede and replace the interlocal agreement that established the Western North Carolina Air Pollution Control Agency, which is set to expire on June 30, 2000, as a result of the withdrawal of Haywood County from said agreement; and WHEREAS, the City desires to enter into an interlocal agreement with Buncombe County and to submit said agreement to the appropriate agencies of the State of North Carolina for approval as provided by law; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASHEVILLE CITY COUNCIL THAT the interlocal agreement attached hereto as Exhibit A be and the same is hereby ratified, and that the Mayor be and is hereby authorized to execute said agreement, subject to the approval of the City Attorney.

Councilman Worley moved to adopt Resolution No. 00-87. This motion was seconded by Councilwoman Whitmire and carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION BOOK NO. 26 – PAGE 35**

Mayor Sitnick adjourned the meeting at 10:09 p.m.

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CITY CLERK MAYOR

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