

Tuesday – January 30, 2001

Municipal Building

100 Court Plaza

7:00 p.m. - Community Meeting

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

The following topics were raised by residents and addressed by City Council and City staff: urge for City Council to work with Buncombe County to find a different location for their satellite jail to be located on South Lexington; graffiti on mailboxes on Cherry Street and Church Street; pieces of property in Asheville are not being allowed to be developed, i.e. Gerber Road and Swannanoa River Road properties; support of Green Building Program in Asheville; water leak on Houston Street near Hill Street; allegation that there is too much chlorine in water due to poor infrastructure; development should occur in City only if the infrastructure can support it; concern that City Council traveled to Tryon, N.C., for their annual retreat instead of keeping Asheville's tax dollars in Buncombe County; need for more sidewalks to be wheelchair accessible; litter problem in downtown area; concern that minimum wage residents are having a problem finding affordable housing; what is City doing to try to alleviate air pollution with regard to their fleet management; bicycle safety; need to expand hours of operation of buses; will the type of issues City Council considers change when the City Council make-up changes; what is the procedure for approaching government to express concerns and place issues on City Council agendas; importance of clean air; sidewalks are in a state of disrepair; request for City Council to institute an education program on personal products regarding indoor air pollution; encouraged City to establish a wind solar or hydro-energy power source; encouraged City to adopt a living wage ordinance; question as to how City residents can be more involved in City Council's goal-setting process; and observation that City Council's goals do not impact the common person.

At 8:32 p.m., Councilman Worley moved to go into closed session (1) to discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the City Council, including agreement on a tentative list of economic development incentives that may be offered in negotiations – G.S. 143-318.11 (a) (4); (2) to establish or to instruct the City's staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the City in negotiating the terms of a contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange or lease – G.S. 143-318.11 (a) (5); and (3) to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the City in order to discuss matters with respect to which the attorney-client privilege must be preserved, including a lawsuit involving the following parties: City of Asheville, Carolina Power & Light Company, The Eaton Corporation, Cutler-Hammer Corporation, Myrna Briggs, Ridgefield Properties, LLC, et al. – G. S. 143-318.11 (a) (3). This motion was seconded by Councilwoman Field and carried unanimously.

At 11:30 p.m., Councilman Hay moved to come out of closed session. This motion was seconded by Councilman Worley and carried unanimously.

Mayor Sitnick adjourned the meeting at 11:30 p.m.

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CITY CLERK MAYOR

