

Tuesday – May 29, 2012 – 6:30 p.m.
Public Works Facility

Community Meeting - Central Asheville

Present: Mayor Terry M. Bellamy, Presiding; Vice-Mayor Esther E. Manheimer; Councilman Cecil Bothwell; Councilman Jan B. Davis; Councilman Marc W. Hunt; Councilman Christopher A. Pelly; Councilman Gordon D. Smith; City Manager Gary W. Jackson; City Attorney Robert W. Oast Jr.; and City Clerk Magdalen Burleson

Absent: None

Mayor Bellamy opened the meeting, welcomed the audience and introduced City Council members.

Assistant City Manager Jackson provided the audience with a brief overview of the City Council Strategic Goals, noting that the 2011-12 end of year update would be provided at Council's August 28 meeting.

Director of Planning & Development Judy Daniel provided a brief update on the following: upgrades and renovations to City Hall; Buncombe County Courthouse repairs and additions; Charlotte Street potential traffic study; private investments in the east end of the Charlotte Street Corridor; Central Business District Food Truck Court; Lenoir Rhyne University in the Chamber of Commerce Building; new Harris Teeter grocery on Merrimon Avenue; Eagle-Market Street development; Pack Square Park Pavilion; Aloft Hotel; Art Museum expansion; new Diana Wortham Theatre entry; Pack Place historical exhibit; consideration of a Business Improvement District; update on 88 Haywood Street property; US Cellular Center continuing interior upgrades; and Lexington Avenue "Best Main Street Award".

Mayor Bellamy then opened up the meeting for questions. Questions/comments responded to consisted of (and those which could not be immediately responded to would be followed-up by City staff to the appropriate individual): how was the decision arrived at that Asheville needs another hotel on the Haywood Street property; who serves on the City Council Planning & Economic Development Committee; why hasn't the decayed Flying Frog building already been demolished; suggestion for City to tear down Flying Frog building and add the cost to the purchase price; complaints of noise, drunk and disorderly conduct at the Brewgrass Festival in Martin Luther King Jr. Park and request that it be relocated next year; opposition to Business Improvement District; support of Business Improvement District; request for relocation of Water Maintenance Division at 174 S. Charlotte Street due to unacceptable noise levels; what terminates the grandfathering of an existing digital billboard; concerns of prostitution in the South French Broad area; overwhelming traffic on South French Broad during school hours; need to include African Americans in planning processes; what are the roles of the ambassadors of the proposed Business Improvement District; and request not to proceed with the Charlotte Street Corridor traffic engineering analysis.

Mayor Bellamy and Council members expressed their appreciation for the community involvement.

At 8:15 p.m., Mayor Bellamy adjourned the meeting.

CITY CLERK

MAYOR