

CITY OF NORTHWEST
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2024
6:00 pm

ASSEMBLY

The Northwest City Council held their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, October 22, 2024, at 6:00 pm, at Northwest City Hall, located at 4889 Vernon Road.
Present: Sheila Grady, Mayor; Councilmen Sylvester Ballard, Charles Carroll, Michael Troy and Councilwoman Alexis Clemmons.
Absent: Councilwoman LaKrystal Bowen and City Clerk Donna Strickland
Also Present: Gwen Spicer

CALL TO ORDER & INVOCATION

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor Grady.

The invocation was given by Councilman Sylvester Ballard.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Councilman Sylvester Ballard **MOVED, SECONDED** by Councilman Charles Carroll to adopt the agenda. The **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Lisa Jennings stated that the railroad crossing is pretty bad on Port Royal Road. It has holes in it and the crossties are sticking up. She also asked; If there is something coming off Northwest Road just before you get to Spring Green Church across the road back through Port Royal neighborhood? Council Carroll stated that the railroad is proposed to cross between the Medlin Field and Bear Branch Road. There is nothing proposed across the road.

Mr. Ernest Fields announced that he will be willing to take whoever needs a ride to vote.

Mr. Foster McKoy asked about the project going on Gooseneck Road. He wants to know if the council knows what it will be. Councilman Carroll stated that it was approved for close to 296-300 homes. He then asked if COG has any contingency in place concerning the traffic? Councilman Troy stated that they have a meeting planned.

LIAISON REPORTS

A. Annexation & Emergency Management **Councilman Carroll**

No more updates since the last one. They're trying to get the storm named so municipalities can get some help.

B. Park Equipment, Buildings & Grounds**Councilman Ballard**

They're trying to finish up all the primary groundwork. The estimated date for paving the walkway is possibly two weeks after our fall festival. He still needs to check with the master gardeners about the shrubbery. He called Trey Moore's office, but he didn't talk to him. He wants to set up a meeting with him about the quality of work the contractors are doing. He wants to know if they would appropriate the funding to us and we could contract it out ourselves. He wants him to come out and look at the quality of work the contractors are doing. We appreciate them coming in and doing it but the quality of it is not acceptable. It's not going to last. The gutters on the City Hall are completed.

C. Police & Information Technology**Councilwoman Clemmons**

Councilwoman Clemmons reported that they do have two applicants. They're waiting to do some more recruiting with Southeastern. Don't have anything as far as Information Technology. Mayor Grady announced that if you know of anyone that is interested in taking the BLET course, Northwest will consider sponsoring them.

D. Roads**Councilman Troy**

Councilman Troy reported that he reached out to DOT. He talked to Larry Joyner. He's going to send a crew out here within the next week or two. They're going to paint Sawmill, Gooseneck and Northwest Road this year or a little after December. They're still scraping the roads. They have run out of crushed asphalt. A couple of roads must be cut back. Hopefully, he can get back on them this week to cut back.

E. Marketing & Recreation

Councilwoman Bowen was absent, but she sent in her report. Mayor Grady read the report.

- The recreation committee met to discuss and plan for the upcoming city events on Oct. 7. The next scheduled recreation meeting is set for Nov. 4 at 6 pm.
- On October 26 there will be a 4H meeting held at Bethel AME Church from 11 am to 1 pm. Ages 5-18 can come out and register if interested.
- On October 31 we will have our city fall festival in the Northwest Park from 5:30 pm – 8 pm. So far there are 14 trunkers signed up.
- On November 10 starting at 2 pm, we will have our Veterans Day Celebration program. We will have a guest speaker, Northwest Native Dr. Carl Brown (Chief Master Sergeant). There will also be a musical selection from the North Brunswick High School Chorus.
- On December 7, we will have our Christmas Festival and Parade. We are still in the planning phase and are accepting applications for the event.

F. Administration, HR, Finance & Grants**Mayor Sheila Grady**

Mayor Grady stated that the financial snapshot will be given at our November meeting, and she will be giving the mayor's report. She thanked Ms. Spicer for assisting tonight and appreciated her for all she does for the city. Mrs. Donna Strickland has posted

the NWPD positions that are available. She will be working to acquire additional grant funds.

- On Oct. 5, she attended Sandy Creek's Fall Festival representing Northwest.
- On Oct. 14, she attended an online meeting with the Cape Fear Council of Government. This was their regular monthly meeting. It was reported that 36 of 40 roads had been repaired that were damaged due to the unnamed storm. The DOT's response has been great, and COG is continuing to work on flood mitigation grants. There have been no Federal funds released to support repairs from this storm because it wasn't given a name.
- In another meeting she was in, Representative Iller stated that if there were Federal funds for that storm could slow down the repair especially for individuals that are filing damages with their homeowner's insurance.
- On Oct. 16, she spoke with Bonnie Monteleone, who works at UNCW, but is a representative for Plastic Ocean Project, commonly called (Trash for Trees). They partner with the Alliance for Cape Fear Tree and Land Rover Cape Fear who will provide the volunteers to pick up the trash and plant the trees. We will schedule a time to meet with Bonnie to determine the location for the trees and a date for planting.

Mayor's Report

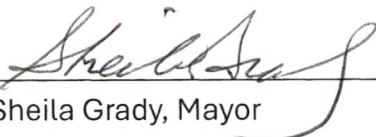
The mayor's report was included in her previous report.

Before closing, Mayor Pro-tem Clemmons stated that on September 28 our Honorable Mayor was honored at the White Lotus Leadership Awards Dinner Gala and featured in the Southeastern North Carolina Commemorative Magazine, Tour East, recognizing outstanding community, regional, and national leaders. Councilman Ballard presented Mayor Grady with the prestigious White House Lotus Lifetime Achievement Award.


Mayor Pro-Tem Clemmons read some of the write up about our mayor that was in the magazine.

Adjournment

Councilman Carroll **MOVED, SECONDED** by Councilman Ballard to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 pm. The **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**



Sheila Grady, Mayor



Gwen Spicer, Retired CMC