

1 **PRESENT:** Mayor William L. Lewis, Jr.; Commissioners Jim Kohr, Josh Kohr, Karen
2 Lewis, Danny Walsh and Brenda Wilson
3

4 **STAFF**

5 **PRESENT:** City Manager Chris McGee; City Attorney Troy Smith; Information
6 Technology Director Chad Ives; Interim Police Chief Chris Morning; Planning
7 Director Katrina Marshall; Recreation Director Travis Adams; Public Works
8 Director Patrick Lee; Interim Public Utilities Director Rick Day; Finance
9 Director Lee Tillman; Fire Chief Tom Dorn; TEC Sales Manager Pam Holder;
10 City Clerk Cindy Morgan, and Deputy City Clerk Mary Weigl
11

12 Mayor Will Lewis called the regular meeting of the Havelock Board of Commissioners to
13 order at 7:02 p.m. on March 28, 2022 at Havelock City Hall with a quorum present. At this
14 time, Mayor Lewis called for a moment of silence, followed by the pledge of allegiance.
15

16 **REGULAR & CONSENT AGENDA**
17

18 City Clerk Cindy Morgan presented the Board of Commissioners with the Regular Agenda
19 and the Consent Agenda for their review and approval. Commissioner Lewis made **motion to**
20 **approve the consent agenda and regular agenda as presented.** Commissioner Josh Kohr
21 seconded and the motion carried unanimously. (5-0) The motion included the following
22 approvals:
23

24 **Regular Agenda as presented**
25

26 **Consent Agenda as presented:**

- 27 • **Minutes of the February 28, 2022 Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting**
 - 28 • **GFL Environmental Solid Waste Contract Amendment for Extension (5 year term)**
 - 29 ○ *This contract is on file in the City Clerk's Office.*
- 30

31 **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
32

33 Prior to discussing the agenda topics, Mayor Lewis stated he would like to give the public an
34 opportunity to address the Board of Commissioners on any issue. Anyone providing a public
35 comment was asked to speak their name and address for the record and noted that comments
36 would be limited to five (5) minutes. In summary, it was further explained that the Board
37 would take all comments and questions very seriously and would assign follow-up as
38 necessary to City staff.
39

40 **Maggie Pimentel, 106 Leslie Lane, Havelock:** Ms. Pimentel stood before the Board this
41 evening to ask the City to do something about the clogged ditches in front of her residence.
42 She stated that she called the City last year when she purchased her home and asked for
43 something to be done and nothing has been done yet. She also stated that any help with this
44 matter would be appreciated. Mayor Lewis responded that the Public Works Director, Patrick
45 Lee had noted her address and would be addressing her concerns. He went on to state that
46 Public Works has been working on clearing out all of the clogged ditches in the City and over
47 the past five months, with 80% completed 80%. Mayor Lewis encouraged Ms. Pimentel to
48 leave her contact information with the City Clerk for follow up.
49

50 **Richard Henderson, 103 Bells Court, Havelock:** Mr. Henderson stood before the Board
51 this evening to ask the City to do something about the clogged ditches in front of his residence
52 and also about the leaning pine tree in his neighbors' front yard at 105 Bells Court. He would
53 like to know if the City has funds to cut the tree down because his neighbor is retired and on a
54 fixed income. His concern is property damage to his neighbor's residence, his residence as
55 well as his two propane tanks if this tree were to fall during a hurricane. He went on to state
56 that the main drainage ditch on Manchester Road is overgrown, thus preventing the other
57 ditches from draining and would like the City to clean it out. Mr. Henderson provided
58 pictures for the Board to review. These pictures are on file in the clerk's office. Public Works
59 Director Patrick Lee noted all of Mr. Henderson's concerns and will assess the situation to see
60 if the ditches belong to the City or not. Mayor Lewis stated that the City cannot do anything
61 about the tree at 105 Bells Court because it is private property; however, he advised Mr.
62 Henderson that he could start a private fund to help his neighbor. Mayor Lewis also

63 encouraged Mr. Henderson to leave his contact information with the City Clerk for follow up.
64

65 Mr. Henderson also stated that he has a concern about the manholes at the intersection of
66 Nottingham Drive and Berkshire Drive as well as Berkshire Drive and Little John Lane. For
67 the past three to four years, the manhole areas of the road have been sinking and is
68 increasingly getting worse over time. He states that vehicles have begun driving into the
69 wrong lane to avoid driving in the area of the manholes because they are so bad. He would
70 like to know if the City is going to do more than “put rocks in it with a traffic cone.” Mayor
71 Lewis responded that Mr. Rick Day, Interim Public Utilities Director would add this to his list
72 to address.

73
74 Lastly, Mr. Henderson asked the Board to address the situation of vagrants in the Walmart
75 parking lot area of the City. He came across a gentleman recently who he offered to pay in
76 exchange for yardwork and the man told him that he just wanted the cash – he didn’t want to
77 work. Mayor Lewis thanked Mr. Henderson for his comments this evening.

78
79 **Albert Lester, 706 Badger Lane, Havelock:** Mr. Lester stood before the Board this evening
80 to first concur with Ms. Pimentel and Mr. Henderson about the drainage ditches. He also
81 stated that Hwy 101 between Cunningham Boulevard and the main gate needs attention.
82 Mayor Lewis stated that Public Works Director Patrick Lee would investigate this and
83 forward the information along to NCDOT.

84
85 Mr. Lester also informed the Board and audience that the All County Band concert is
86 tomorrow, March 29 at 6:30pm at Havelock High School. He encouraged everyone to go hear
87 them.

88
89 In conclusion, Mr. Lester stated that in the beginning of 2022, the City gave all employees a
90 substantial raise, “which was wonderful, we love that, keep our employees here!” He said that
91 he would like to see the City match that or come substantially close to matching that. He also
92 praised Finance Director Lee Tillman for her outstanding job managing our money. Mayor
93 Lewis stated that the Board just had their budget retreat and this was discussed and thanked
94 Mr. Lester for his comments.

95
96 **Pat Jones, 436 Sycamore Lane, Havelock:** Ms. Jones stood before the Board this evening to
97 express concern about the young Marines in her neighborhood “racing” their motorcycles in
98 Slocum Housing. She went on to state that she is still in contact with Cracker Barrel. In the
99 past, Cracker Barrel stated that the population of Havelock did not meet the criteria to place a
100 store here. Ms. Jones would like Cracker Barrel to consider using Craven County’s
101 population in addition to Havelock’s population to bring them to our City. She went on to
102 state that if the base supported the City like they have in the past, that might help. Mayor
103 Lewis thanked her for her comments.

104
105 **Michele Leo, 200 Poplar Road, Havelock:** Ms. Leo stood before the Board this evening to
106 let the Board know that over the weekend the Appearance Commission cleaned up their
107 storage area, with the assistance of the Single Marine Program from the base. They paired up
108 the boots and have between 300 and 350 pair of boots. Ms. Leo reminded everyone that the
109 Annual Plant Swap would be held on Saturday, April 30, 2022 from 10 am–12 noon. New
110 this year will be a “potting stand” for the children.

111
112 At this time, Ms. Leo asked for an update on the Miller Boulevard Project. Mayor Lewis
113 responded stated that the City Manager has an update to provide in his report later in tonight’s
114 meeting. She went on to state how exciting it is to see all of the work being done on the
115 Woodhaven Bridge. Mayor Lewis advised that the bridge is on track to be completed by
116 September.

117
118 **REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS**

119
120 **PUBLIC HEARING: REZONING REQUEST – ZONING MAP AMENDMENT**

121
122 Planning Director Katrina Marshall appeared before the Board of Commissioners this evening
123 to present a rezoning request. In summary, G&H Tire and Auto, Inc. requested to rezone 0.88
124 acres located at 242 US Highway 70 West, Tax Parcel #6-045- 024 and a portion #6-045-022,

125 from R-20 (Single-Family Residential) to HC (Highway Commercial). Michael Gray is the
126 agent for the request.

127

128 The site is located on the east side of US 70 near Ketner Boulevard and is the site of G&H
129 Tire & Auto Inc. The Technical Review Committee reviewed the February 8, 2022 meeting
130 notes. The Planning Board heard this request at the March 1, 2022 meeting and voted
131 unanimously to recommend approval to the Board of Commissioners. The motion included
132 that the request is consistent with the City's future land use map. The two properties identified
133 in this request are among several owned by Mr. Michael Gray of G&H Tire and Auto and
134 Gray's Towing. The properties are contiguous and most are zoned HC with the exception of
135 tax parcel 6-045-024 and the rear portion of 6-045-022 that are zoned R-20. Tax parcel 6-045-
136 024 has no access to Greenway Court and could not be used for residential purposes. Since all
137 the parcels are being used for at least one of the businesses, staff supports that it would be
138 appropriate for all the parcels to be zoned HC.

139

140 A public notice was published in the March 18, 2022 edition of the Sun Journal and notices
141 were mailed to abutting property owners and via certified mail to USMC Cherry Point
142 Commander, as required. A certificate of mailing was included as a reference.

143

144 After the presentation of the request, Commissioner Jim Kohr **moved to open the public**
145 **hearing**. Commissioner Wilson seconded and the motion carried unanimously. (5-0)

146

147 In discussion, Commissioner Lewis asked if anyone has come forward disagreeing with the
148 rezoning request. Ms. Marshall stated that no one came forward in disagreement.

149

150 After a call for public comments, the following appeared before the Board:

151

152 **Albert Lester, 706 Badger Lane, Havelock:** Mr. Lester stood before the Board this evening
153 to commend the Planning Department and Katrina Marshall. He stated that this shows that the
154 City is working with individuals to increase their businesses and the growth of the City.

155

156 With no other public comments, Commissioner Lewis **moved to close the public hearing**.
157 Commissioner Josh Kohr seconded and the motion carried unanimously. (5-0)

158

159 During Board discussions, Commissioner Josh Kohr stated that in the future, the Board needs
160 to address the fact that at this time, in Havelock there is no place to put an auto repair shop
161 without having to obtain a Special Use Permit. He went on to state that as we move forward,
162 we need to take steps to change this. Commissioner Walsh replied that he was involved in the
163 writing of those ordinances and the noises of the motorcycles and revving engines was part the
164 reason that these were originally written. He explained that in a shop, when you are "tuning
165 up a car, if you didn't rev it up, you didn't do your right job. You have to rev it up, you have
166 to make noise." He went on to state that depending on what time the shop closed, or if it was a
167 Sunday etcetera, was the reason that those were written so that the City could control the
168 noise.

169

170 With no further discussion, Commissioner Jim Kohr made a **motion that the proposed map**
171 **amendment is consistent with the Future Land Use Map as this area is classified on the**
172 **map as "Business and Office," as this category accommodates the full range of sales and**
173 **service activities including retail and services; and furthermore, the proposed**
174 **amendment is reasonable and in the public interest since the subject properties are on a**
175 **major highway and are bordered on two (2) sides by commercial properties.**
176 Commissioner Wilson seconded and the motion carried unanimously. (5-0)

177

178 Secondly, Commissioner Josh Kohr made a **motion to approve the Planning Board's**
179 **recommendation to rezone Tax Parcels 6-045-024 and a of Parcel 6-045-022 from R-20**
180 **(Single-family residential) to HC (Highway Commercial).** Commissioner Walsh seconded
181 the motion and it carried unanimously. (5-0)

182

183 **UPCOMING PARKS & RECREATION EVENTS**

184

185 The Havelock Parks & Recreation Department will be hosting two (2) events in the month of
186 April.

187

188 First, the Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 9, 2022 beginning at 10:00 a.m. at
189 Havelock City Park. The park will be divided into four (4) age groups to include all
190 participants. In addition to the Easter Bunny; free games, prizes and refreshments will be
191 available. The Mayor reminded everyone that special needs designated parking will be the
192 parking lot of the City Park. Also, Director, Travis Adams reminded the public that the Park
193 will not be groomed or grass cut until after the Easter Egg Hunt. Doing this helps hide the
194 eggs better.

195

196 Secondly, the department will be hosting a Spring Movie Event on Thursday, April 21, 2022
197 beginning at dusk at Havelock City Park. The featured movie will be Disney's "Encanto."
198 This event does take place during Spring Break and everyone is encouraged to bring a lawn
199 chair or blanket. There will be popcorn, fruit punch and food trucks on site. Mr. Adams
200 reminded everyone that glass containers, pets or alcohol are not allowed at this event.

201

202 **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

203

204 **NCDOT U-3431: Miller/Fontana Boulevard Widening Project:** On November 8, 2021,
205 NCDOT officials attended the Board of Commissioners Fall Retreat to provide a formal
206 overview of the Miller/Fontana Widening Project. As a summary, three (3) alternates were
207 provided and briefed as follows:

208

- 209 • Alternate 1: Symmetrical Widening - \$8M
 - 210 ○ Residential housing would be affected. Discussions would need to take place with homeowners.
 - 211 Riverside Ford would have a significant impact.
- 212 • Alternate 2: Widening to the Southside - \$7.5M
 - 213 ○ ROW line would go through all structures
- 214 • Alternate 3: Widening to the Northside - \$7.4M
 - 215 ○ Does not encroach utility easements, structures on the north would be impacted.
 - 216 ○ Potential wetlands impact but Corps of Engineers not concerned.

217

218 In order for NCDOT to proceed with the design stage, they requested the Board provide a
219 resolution of support of a preferred alternate. As a result, the Board adopted a resolution on
220 December 13, 2021 in support of Alternate 2, the "Southern Widening Alternative."

221

222 Based on March 15th discussions with NCDOT officials, the City has been asked to consider
223 supporting Alternate 3, widening to the Northside as such is described as the least
224 environmentally damaging. If the Board still wants to move forward with Alternate 2, another
225 public informational meeting would need to be held, potentially resulting in the project as a
226 whole being dismissed. The project engineers are also open to an additional workshop with
227 the Board if desired.

228

229 All agreed that this needs to be discussed at a workshop meeting.

230

231 **Jaycee/Cunningham Intersection:** City Staff met with NCDOT officials on March 15th to
232 discuss the Jaycee Street/Cunningham Boulevard intersection. As background, there have
233 been a total of 18 vehicle accidents at this particular intersection between December 1, 2016
234 and November 30, 2021. In an effort to reduce the potential for further accidents and improve
235 the safety in this area, an "All Way Stop Concept" was presented as a possible solution.
236 NCDOT has requested a *Resolution of Support* prior to moving forward with this concept. All
237 agreed that such needs to be discussed further at the same workshop meeting as the NCDOT
238 U-3431: Miller/Fontana Boulevard Widening Project.

239

240 **Upcoming Events/Meetings:** The manager took the opportunity to remind the Board of the
241 following upcoming events/meetings:

242

- 243 • **ENC Tech Bridge Industry Day/Technology Scan Event:** Craven County Economic
244 Development, the Eastern North Carolina (ENC) Tech Bridge and Fleet Readiness
245 Center East (FRC East) will hold an Industry Day/Technology Scan Event on
246 Wednesday, April 27, 2022, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Tourist and Event
247 Center. This will be a working event and will serve as an opportunity to bring together
248 government, state, industry, academia, small businesses, and private capital to expand

249 and sustain partnerships aimed to bringing innovative capabilities to the Navy and
250 Marine Corps. Please inform the City Clerk if you would like to attend as registration
251 is required.

252 Commissioner Walsh stated that he would attend on behalf of the Board. Mayor Lewis
253 also stated that other City employees would be present at this event as well as ACT
254 representation.

255

256 • NCLM Annual Conference: Registrations and hotel accommodations have been made
257 for the Board to attend the NC League of Municipalities Annual Conference. The
258 event will be held in Wilmington from April 26-28, 2022.

259

260 • Volunteer Appreciation Dinner: The City of Havelock will host a Volunteer
261 Appreciation Dinner to honor our volunteers on Friday, April 29, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. at
262 the Havelock Tourist & Event Center. If your schedule will permit, please join us in
263 passing along our gratitude for their service.

264

265 • ACT's Brews & Bites: Allies of Cherry Point's Tomorrow are back to hosting their
266 annual Brews & Bites fundraiser to celebrate MCAS Cherry Point and to continue
267 raising awareness of ACT's efforts to protect and grow our base. This event will be
268 held on Thursday, May 5, 2022 from 5-8 p.m. at the New Bern Riverfront Convention
269 Center. If you are interested in attending, please inform the City Clerk for tickets.

270

271 • FY 2022-23 Budget Work Sessions: On Monday, May 9, 2022, the Board will begin
272 their work sessions regarding the proposed FY 2022-23 budget. Two additional work
273 sessions are scheduled in May (May 11-12, 2022) followed by a public hearing set for
274 Monday, May 23, 2022. The Board will then have the opportunity to consider any
275 public comments at a June workshop. At the conclusion of the workshops, Staff will be
276 seeking the Board's adoption of the budget on Monday, June 27, 2022.

277

278 **CITY ATTORNEYS REPORT**

279

280 City Attorney Troy Smith had no comment/report.

281

282 **COMMISSIONERS REPORTS/COMMENTS**

283

284 Commissioner Wilson said thank you to the City for the street lights on Marsha's Way in
285 Tucker Creek. All of the lights are installed and burning and it is great! The Mayor
286 commented that Patrick Lee worked with Duke Power, NCDOT and Pike Engineering to get
287 this project completed in less than one year. Everyone is proud of the work that has been done
288 out there.

289

290 Commissioner Wilson also stated that the NCMAC would be having a BBQ tomorrow for
291 CNATT at Miller's Landing. She also mentioned the ECAHF Summer Engineering Camp are
292 coming up at the TEC this summer and the application time is now.

293

294 Commissioner Lewis thanked the City Staff for all that they do. She encouraged everyone to
295 attend the Easter Egg Hunt.

296

297 Commissioner Josh Kohr stated that with the drainage concerns that were discussed this
298 evening, as a Board they need to go back and reevaluate what the City can do with easements
299 and discuss methods to educate the property owners on drainage maintenance. He understands
300 that the City workers are doing a great job with the issues that are within City control and now
301 we need to figure out what to do with the stuff that is not within our control. He went on to
302 state that there are mechanisms that exist that can help with the drainage.

303

304 Commissioner Josh Kohr also thanked Mr. Lester for mentioning the road conditions on Hwy
305 101 between the Main and Cunningham gates.

306

307 He went on to state that the Mayor, Manager and two of the commissioners had the
308 opportunity to travel to Washington DC for the ADC Summit. Commissioner Josh Kohr
309 stated that it was a very productive Summit and prior to going, he did not realize how much of

310 these things weave into other things. He said that as a newer commissioner, he learned a lot
311 from other defense communities.

312
313 Commissioner Jim Kohr thanked the citizens for coming this evening and voicing their
314 concerns and compliments adding that both concerns and compliments are needed.

315
316 He went on to thank Public Works Director Patrick Lee for his hard work on the lights at
317 Marsha's Way; Planning Director Katrina Marshall for her hard work on the public hearing
318 and rezoning; and Recreation Director Travis Adams for getting these activities going again
319 and using the new City stage.

320
321 Continuing on, he reminded the Mayor and Board that Mayor Jay Bender will be at the April
322 11th Workshop meeting to discuss the ECCOG.

323
324 To conclude, he stated that we are celebrating Easter soon. "Remember and be thankful for
325 our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ."

326
327 Commissioner Danny Walsh echoed what Commissioner Jim regarding Easter. Secondly, the
328 City does a great job of taking care of the ditches. He said that his son takes care of 500 feet
329 of ditches for him because the landowner owns most of the ditches in the City, not the City.
330 He went on to state that we should all be friends and neighbors and take care of each other and
331 if you need help with your ditch, just ask your friends and neighbors for help. He reminded
332 everyone that Havelock is a swamp and that "if we do what we can do, and they (the City) do
333 what they have to do, it will make it better".

334
335 He went on to ask Public Works Director Patrick Lee to ask the City of New Bern utilities to
336 fix the street lights in Don Lee Subdivision. He stated that they have one good street light and
337 none are LED.

338
339 In closing, Commissioner Walsh thanked everyone for their prayers for his wife Ginny and
340 asked for continued prayers.

341

342 **MAYOR'S REPORTS/COMMENTS**

343
344 The City of Havelock is hosting an official Meet & Greet with the City Manager this
345 Thursday, March 31, 2022 at the Tourist & Event Center from 5:30 – 7:00p.m. This is an
346 open event where citizens can come and talk with the Manager. He added that the City would
347 also kick off our Strategic Plan that evening and we would bring back our mini listening
348 sessions that COVID prevented us from beginning in 2020. Light refreshments will be
349 provided.

350
351 ACT's annual Brews & Bites is Thursday, May 5 at the New Bern Riverfront Convention
352 Center. "You will get a sampling from a local brewery, there will be food and music and it is
353 always a great time. All monies raised go to protect MCAS Cherry Point." Mayor Lewis
354 encouraged all to attend.

355
356 Mayor Lewis then spoke about the Board's annual planning retreat. The Board will go into
357 workshops in May for two days to be ready for the budget in June. Just about all department
358 heads have to present their needs to the Board. It is an important and productive process.

359
360 Continuing on, Mayor Lewis stated that on April 30, 2022 in conjunction with Congressman
361 Murphy's district – wide cleanup, the Community Cleanup Alliance will have their cleanup
362 event from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Everyone will meet at City Hall and break into groups from
363 there. Ray Celeste, Ben Ball and their scheduler will all be here to volunteer their time with
364 this cleanup event.

365
366 Lastly, Mayor Lewis stated that the City had to make minimal changes to the trash collection
367 contract this year. When originally signed, the fee in 2009 was \$8.43 per month and now in
368 2022, the fee has only increased to \$10.22 per month. He added that the City works very hard
369 to provide the same level of service with minimal price increase.

370

371 **ADJOURNMENT/RECESS**

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372

373 With there being no other business to discuss, Commissioner Jim Kohr made a **motion to**
374 **adjourn**. Commissioner Lewis seconded and the motion carried unanimously. (5-0)

375

376 The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

377

378 Date approved: _____

William L. Lewis, Jr., Mayor

379

380 Attest:

381

382

383

384 _____
Mary C. Weigl
385 Deputy City Clerk

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