Council-Manager Memo #13
Friday, February 25, 2011

CHARLOTTE.

WHAT'S INSIDE:

Page

Calendar Details 2

Agenda Notes:
Agenda Item #44 B,C, D – In Rem Remedy, 832 Siegle Avenue 2-3

Information:
February 25 State Legislative Report 3-4

Attachments:
Policy Calendar: March 2011 – May 2011 4
Council Follow-Up Report 4
--Median Maintenance for Landscape Services
February 7 Governmental Affairs Committee Summary 4

WEEK IN REVIEW:

Mon (Feb 28)	Tues (Mar 1)	Wed (Mar 2)	Thurs (Mar 3)	Friday (Mar 4)
3:45 PM Environment Committee, Room 280 5:00 PM Council Business Meeting, Room 267 6:30 PM Citizens' Forum, Meeting Chamber		12:00 PM Housing and Neighborhood Development Committee, Room 280 3:00 PM Budget Retreat, Room 267		

CALENDAR DETAILS:

Monday, February 28

3:45 pm Environment Committee, Room 280
AGENDA: FY12 Focus Area Plan; Tree canopy goal and investment strategy

5:00 pm Council Business Meeting, Room 267

6:30 pm Citizens' Forum, Meeting Chamber

Wednesday, March 2

12:00 pm Housing and Neighborhood Development Committee, Room 280
AGENDA: FY12 Focus Area Plan follow-up; Single room occupancy text amendment follow-up; Neighborhood Symposium update; Quality of life report update and proposed enhancements review

3:00 pm Budget Retreat, Room 267

February and March calendars are ATTACHED (SEE TABLE OF CONTENTS ON LEFT).

AGENDA NOTES:

Agenda Items #44 B,C,D – In Rem Remedy, 832 Siegle Avenue
Staff Resource: Walter Abernethy, N&BS, 704-336-4213, wabernathy@charlottenc.gov

On January 24, Rodney Faulkner asked City Council to defer the Council vote to demolish three buildings at 832 Seigle Avenue. Mr. Faulkner is a real estate agent for the property owner. Council voted to give Mr. Faulkner thirty days to sell the property and return to Council with a detailed plan to bring the property into compliance with the City's Non-Residential Building Code. Mr. Faulkner was also required by Council to clean up the property and secure the building to limit vagrant access. Mr. Faulkner and some neighborhood volunteers did make a good faith effort to secure the buildings and clean up the property, however Code Enforcement checked the buildings on February 23 and found vagrants back inside the buildings. (Photos below)

On February 9, Mr. Faulkner notified Council by email that his two prospective buyers had chosen not to purchase the property.

On February 18, Mr. Faulkner notified Council again by email that six new prospective buyers had been identified. He added that Green City Development had agreed to purchase the property indicating a closing date of Friday, February 25. Green City Development also

intended to make an offer on the City-owned property behind the church on Seigle Avenue to be used for parking. As of February 23, City Real Estate had received no such offer. It is difficult to determine from the e-mail if the sale of the Seigle Avenue property is contingent on the purchase of the City property.

Code Enforcement has had no direct contact with the current owner of the property. The location of the three buildings and their deteriorated state will result in continued vagrancy problems and other community safety related issues. The property was submitted by CMPD as a public agency referral to Code Enforcement nearly a year ago.

At the February 28 Council meeting, Mr. Faulkner and Green City Development will ask City Council for more time to consummate the aforementioned sale and proposed development of the property.

INFORMATION:

2011 February 25 State Legislative Report
Staff Resource: Dana Fenton, City Manager's Office, 704-336-2009, dfenton@charlottenc.gov

ATTACHED is the February 25 State Legislative Update. Changes from last week's update are denoted in **bold face** type **(SEE TABLE OF CONTENTS ON LEFT).**

Budgetary and annexation issues were front and center at the General Assembly this week. The House and Senate Appropriations Committees subcommittees continue to meet jointly, hearing presentations from state staff on the Governor's proposed budget. While the Governor vetoed the Balanced Budget Act of 2011 (SB 13), which would have required the Governor to find over $500 million in savings from this year's budget for FY13, the House and Senate didn't even try to overturn the veto. Instead SB 109 was filed calling on the Governor to find $537 million of savings in the current budget to be used for next year. SB 109 does not specify where to find the funds unlike SB 13, which listed various economic development grant funds to tap.

The Involuntary Annexation Moratorium bill was heard in Senate Finance this week. In response to information from the City of Charlotte showing that the City had already expended

or committed in excess of $5 million for the 2011 annexations, Senator Clodfelter offered an amendment in Senate Finance on Tuesday to exempt the 2011 Charlotte annexations from SB 27. The bill sponsor accepted the amendment and the amended bill was reported out of Senate Finance. The Charlotte exemption was the only such exemption in the bill. By Wednesday morning, the Republican Senate leadership received many complaints from other Senators and cities that Charlotte was receiving "special treatment". The leadership decided that day to re-refer the bill back to Senate Finance so the amendment could be stripped out on Tuesday, March 1. On Friday, Senate President Pro Tem Phil Berger, addressing the Metro Mayors Coalition Winter Meeting in Greensboro, alluded to the exemption stating that no exemptions would be in the bill. Senator Berger expects the bill to be reported out of committee and to pass the Senate next week.

ATTACHMENTS (SEE TABLE OF CONTENTS ON LEFT):

Policy Calendar: March 2011 – May 2011

Council Follow-Up Report

Contents Include:
--Median Maintenance for Landscape Services

February 7 Governmental Affairs Committee Summary