

Jim Palenick

From: Jim Palenick [jpalenick@dallasnc.net]
Sent: Friday, November 22, 2013 10:49 AM
To: 'Rick Coleman'; 'huggybarber@att.net'; 'hoylewithers@yahoo.com'; 'scott.martin@duke-energy.com'; 'JOHN BEATY'; 'ronniemorrow@att.net'; 'jjerryc2@att.net'; 'jcmalker@gmail.com'
Cc: 'mstroupe@dallasnc.net'; 'Gary Buckner'; 'Steve Lambert'; 'btrudnak@dallasnc.net'; 'David Kahler'; 'Doug Huffman'; 'amartin@dallasnc.net'; 'J. Thomas Hunn'
Subject: Town Manager's Weekly Report (#54)

Mayor & Board of AlderMen(Women):

Please accept the following as the **Town Manager's Report** for the Week-ended Friday, November 22, 2013.

- Electric Director Huffman and I attended the yearly Duke Energy Wholesale Power Purchaser customer forum in Charlotte on Wednesday evening and Thursday morning. This is the meeting where Duke representatives present a review of the economic, market, and technical issues which impacted the previous year's demand for, and ultimate cost of energy; as well as the projections for the upcoming year's impacts. We were hoping that we would have been given the precise wholesale increase for the year beginning January 1st, but unfortunately that was still not the case. In generalized terms, it would appear that we can expect a 4% or less increase, but we still don't have the exact number. We will continue to press Duke for the final figures.
- With the election of a new Alderman to fill the Board seat held by Alderman Beaty, the newly-seated Board of Aldermen will be required, among various appointments, to name an Alderman to serve as a Director on the Board of the Dallas Historic Courthouse Foundation to fill Mr. Beaty's vacated seat. The Articles of Incorporation of the DHCF require that the elected Mayor and two Alderman always serve on the Foundation Board for the length of their elected term. Appointments to vacancies created when such Alderman's terms expire are then to be filled by action of the Full Board of Aldermen.
- In an effort to continue to use the Town's website to proactively inform citizens of ongoing issues in the community, we will begin (with this report) to include these weekly Manager's reports on the website so that anyone interested can view these updates.
- The Town's Auditors completed their on-site reviews of financial documents and procedures this week and are now back in their offices putting the finishing touches on what will be the comprehensive financial reports for the fiscal-year-ended June 30, 2013. We hope to have those draft reports within the next week or so and will, in turn, use those to complete several State-mandated reports which require the use of post-Audit data.
- The Planning Board met last night and took action on the proposed draft Ordinance Amendment to the Electronic Variable Message Sign Ordinance which I had proposed, and which will allow the planned reader board sign to be installed along Trade Street in the Courthouse Square and be used for both community messaging and limited advertising. The Planning Board voted 4-3 to narrowly recommend approval to the Board of Aldermen that the Ordinance be adopted. As such, the public hearing and possible action on the Amendment will be scheduled for the December 10th Board of Aldermen Meeting. The Planning Board also took up the issue of the proposed preliminary plat for an 11-lot addition to the Summey Knoll development which proved quite controversial and elicited significant resident input. Ultimately, the Board also narrowly approved recommending the plat be approved, but there are a number of design issues and principles about the proposal that are highly questionable and should be the subject of discussion and review by the Board of Aldermen when this Agenda item comes before them at the December Meeting.
- The Town held its yearly pre-Thanksgiving employee appreciation cook-out at the Public Works warehouse on Thursday afternoon during the lunch hour. We cooked hamburgers and hot-dogs for employees and a number of desserts and accompaniments were provided by Department heads. It has also been tradition that holiday bonuses (if budgeted and approved) are distributed at this event. This year each full-time employee received a bonus check of \$ 595.00 (before taxes), while permanent part-time and full-time with less than one year tenure,

received \$200.00. Thanks to all who helped make it happen and a special thanks to all employees for their dedicated efforts and commitment throughout the year.

- Of course next week we celebrate the Thanksgiving Holiday and Town Offices will be closed on Thursday and Friday. Allow me to wish all a very happy, healthy, and safe Thanksgiving Holiday.

James M. (Jim) Palenick
Interim Dallas Town Manager
210 N. Holland St.
Dallas, NC 28034
704-922-3176 office
704-214-1031 cell
jpalenick@dallasnc.net