

Jim Palenick

From: Jim Palenick [jpalenick@dallasnc.net]
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2012 12:14 PM
To: 'Ricky Coleman'; 'ronniemorrow@att.net'; 'JOHN BEATY'; 'Martin, Scott'; 'huggybarber@att.net'; 'hoylewithers@yahoo.com'
Cc: 'Maria Stroupe'; 'Doug Huffman'; 'David Kahler'; 'Bill Trudnak'; 'slambert@dallasnc.net'; 'Gary Buckner'; 'A Martin'
Subject: Town Manager's Weekly report (#8)
Attachments: themedata.thmx; SponsorshipNaming Rights for Dallas Historic Courthouse Renovation Capital Campaign.htm

Mayor & Board of Aldermen:

Please accept the following as the **Town Manager's Report for the Week-ended Friday, November 30th, 2012.**

- While our contractors on the Gym bathrooms had been making steady and appropriate progress toward an expected completion in advance of the basketball season-start on Monday, they have not been as diligent or committed in this weeks' efforts and have fell behind. As a result, they have been sternly reminded of the consistently-maintained and communicated deadline for the completion of this work and have been motivated to re-commit to an expeditious effort.
- The NCDOT sidewalk project was fully completed early in the week and looks great.
- Maria Stroupe and I conducted a final meeting with the Auditors yesterday (Thursday) and received the final draft copy of the complete Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. Said document will be forwarded on to the State for approval, and we will get the final document and a presentation at the January Board Meeting. In the meantime, I have all the data I now need to complete the NC Utilities Commission Annual Report for our Electric Utility which I will be completing for the first time, since we stopped contracting with Kevin O'Donnell for such services. Nothing unusual or alarming within the Audit, but we will go over all the financial details of the Fiscal-year-ended 6-30-12, when the Auditors present in January.
- As a result of a conversation I had with Duke Energy representatives at the Wholesale Customer Forum I attended in Greenville, I have begun the ball rolling on soliciting a Naming Rights Sponsorship from Duke for the Courthouse capital campaign (copy attached). If we can get an important, substantive corporate benefactor to begin the solicitation, we might then find greater success in getting other similar entities to step forward.
- David Kahler is completing the proposed Stormwater Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and our hope is to bring it for review at the December Board Meeting. The CIP will detail and prioritize the next 5-7 years of needed improvements to the Town stormwater infrastructure and establish a clear prioritized path for budgeting and planning.
- We met with our ATT-assigned customer representative this week to further review, consolidate and minimize, to the fullest extent possible, our phone and internet costs and will continue, as a result to further improve service and capacity; lower costs; and better streamline billing. You may recall that our initial efforts decreased monthly bills by nearly \$2,000 per-month.
- I will be developing a simple Contractual services agreement for use and possible adoption by the Board in engaging the new Town Attorney services. I will have it for the December Board Agenda so that you can hopefully finalize a relationship with your chosen Contractor.

Thank You,

Jim Palenick
Interim Town Manager

From: Jim Palenick [jpalenick@dallasnc.net]
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2012 9:57 AM
To: 'david.johnson@duke-energy.com'
Subject: Sponsorship/Naming Rights for Dallas Historic Courthouse Renovation Capital Campaign
Attachments: DHCF Project Highlights..docx; DHCF Major Activities.docx

Dear Mr. (Dave) Johnson:

The Town of Dallas, which is set to celebrate its Sesquicentennial (150th Anniversary as a Chartered municipality) in February, 2013, recently set up an IRS 501(c)(3) Charitable Foundation to "solicit, provide, and manage resources and support for the preservation, protection, renovation, improvement, upkeep, maintenance and operations of the Nationally-Registered, historic (1848) Courthouse building and surrounding public square in Dallas". Specifically, The Dallas Historic Courthouse Foundation is now actively engaged in a Capital campaign to raise \$850,000 for the complete renovation of the Courthouse and Town square as detailed in the "Project Highlights" attached hereto.

The Courthouse and traditional surrounding Town Square actually pre-dates the Town's founding and served as the original Courthouse and center of Government for Gaston County. It is arguably the most important historic building in the County and is the enduring symbol for and cultural heart of the Town of Dallas. As owner's and caretaker's of this iconic structure, the Town of Dallas has already stepped forward to contribute \$78,000 toward Architectural design services; \$200,000 in a capital "challenge" grant; and considerable in-kind resources and services. To support the full project costs, however, non-profit, charitable, corporate, and individual-benefactor contributions are being sought.

One of the ways that such contributions are being solicited is through the permanent sponsorship/naming of the meeting rooms to be created within the Courthouse building. The first floor will be configured with (4) such rooms; while the upper level (original judge's chamber/courtroom) will be maintained as a single, open public meeting/banquet room. Given the exceptionally long-standing presence of and importance to the Dallas community, and to all of Gaston County, that Duke Energy has maintained, it is only fitting that Duke become permanently a recognized part of this local icon.

It would be of particular importance and significance if Duke could be recognized as the first important sponsor in this campaign – allowing other benefactors to recognize the credibility and substance of the efforts, and to be challenged to also support this enduring symbol of small-town, hard-working, faithful community life in North Carolina.

On behalf of both The Dallas Historic Courthouse Foundation and the Town of Dallas, we would like to request that Duke Energy, the Duke Endowment, or whatever appropriate entity of charitable and corporate giving on behalf of Duke, consider becoming a permanent "Naming Sponsor" for the Dallas Historic Courthouse renovation. Associated, permanent named recognition for any (1) of the (4) first-floor meeting rooms can be achieved for \$50,000; while the sponsorship of the entire upper-floor meeting/banquet room is requested at \$200,000. Contributions to the Foundation are fully tax-deductible under IRS 501(c)(3).

Might I also add that the revered patriarch of North Carolina higher education, the late William C. Friday, spent his entire youth growing up in Dallas, in a small house only blocks from the Courthouse square. Since the to-be-renovated Courthouse building will serve to bring diverse groups and individuals together to share information; learn from one another; and further the common good of community building; much like the life's work of Mr. Friday on behalf of the North Carolina University System, it would be only fitting that a tribute to Mr. Friday be incorporated into a sponsorship by Duke.

If you have questions, or wish to have additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

James M. (Jim) Palenick
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