

**City of Harrington**  
**MINUTES**  
**City Council Workshop**  
**March 14, 2012**

A workshop with the Harrington City Council was held on March 14, 2012 and was attended by the following: Mayor Robert E. Price, Jr.; Vice Mayor Cheryl Lahman; Council Member Duane E. Bivans; Council Member Jack Stewart; Teresa Tieman, City Manager; and Kelly Blanchies, Clerk of Council.

Absent from the workshop was Council Member Fonda Coleman; Council Member Wayne Porter; and Council Member Kenneth Stubbs.

Mayor Price called the meeting to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

**Ordinance Review Committee**

**Proposed ordinance to amend Chapter 297, Portable Storage Units**

The Clerk of Council stated that the only proposed change is to reference Chapter 180, Municipal Fees, in § 297-10. Council Member Bivans requested a copy of the each Chapter in its entirety be provided for each proposed Ordinance. He asked for clarification on fines for each day the violation occurs.

Vice Mayor Lahman asked if there is a fee for a permit for a portable storage unit. The City Manager stated that there is. The Clerk of Council stated that the initial permit fee is twenty-five dollars, and the renewal fee is fifty dollars.

Vice Mayor Lahman suggested a permit extension at no cost rather than a renewal. Council Member Bivans suggested a fifteen day extension. Mayor Price stated that means people are basically given forty-five days immediately, so why not make the original permit for forty-five days. Council Member Bivans stated that the extension could be conditional and require the applicant to call or come into the office for the extension.

Council Member Bivans stated that there is a portable storage unit by the Public Works yard that has been there for a couple of months. The Clerk of Council stated that she will let the Code Enforcement Officer know.

**Proposed ordinance to amend Chapter 378, Taxation**

The Clerk of Council stated that the proposed changes to this Chapter include referencing Chapter 180, Municipal Fees; requiring an application for the senior discount, which is already something done by the office that is not required by Code; setting a due date for the application of May 31; and removal of the early payment discount and capitation tax.

Mayor Price asked what the reasoning was for removing the early payment discount. The City Manager stated that the City will receive less money when the capitation tax is removed so removing the early payment discount will offset that.

The City Manager stated that having income limits for the senior discount should be considered too. Vice Mayor Lahman stated that we could ask for the County's list of senior discount recipients and give those same people a discount on their City taxes. The City Manager stated that the property would also have to be your primary residence.

#### **Proposed ordinance to amend Chapter 425, Water**

The Clerk of Council stated that the proposed change is just to change one section to reference Chapter 180, Municipal Fees. The City Manager stated that referencing Chapter 180 makes future changes to fees easier, because then only Chapter 180 has to be changed and not each Chapter.

#### **Proposed ordinance to amend Chapter 180, Municipal Fees**

The Clerk of Council stated that the changes to Chapter 180 include removing the Capitation tax; adding in the fines for the portable storage units; adding in the late payment charge for water; and adding in the senior citizen discount. She also stated that she can add the change to the permit renewal fee for the portable storage units.

Vice Mayor Lahman asked if the senior discount is already 5%. The City Clerk replied that it is and that no numbers were changed in this ordinance. Vice Mayor Lahman asked if removing the capitation tax and early payment discount would balance each other. The City Manager stated that she looked at the numbers, and they would.

There being no further business, the Council Workshop adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Blanchies  
Clerk of Council