

## AGENDA

### PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

6:00 p.m., Monday, April 11, 2016

COMMITTEE ROOM

Room 239, City Hall

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*COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Council Member James Taylor, Jr., Chair  
Council Member Vivian H. Burke, Vice Chair  
Council Member Molly Leight  
Council Member Jeff MacIntosh*

#### GENERAL AGENDA

- G-1. REPORT ON WINSTON-SALEM POLICE DEPARTMENT'S RECENT REACCREDITATION BY THE COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES.
- G-2. ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 22 OF THE CITY CODE RELATING TO FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION.

CONSENT AGENDA

- C-1. ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 42-122(F) OF THE CITY CODE RELATING TO 25 MILES PER HOUR SPEED LIMITS (NORTHEAST WARD) - *McGill Drive; Hemphill Drive; Stonewall Street.*
- C-2. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC SAFETY SUMMARY OF MINUTES. - *March 21, 2016.*

Presentation to be made at the Public Safety Committee meeting.



**City Council – Action Request Form**

**Date:** March 9, 2016  
**To:** The City Manager  
**From:** W. L. Mayo, Fire Chief

**Council Action Requested:**

Adoption of an Ordinance Amending Section 22-10 of the City Code to Adopt the State-mandated Schedule for Fire Prevention Code Inspections.

**Summary of Information:**

Winston-Salem is the only major municipality in North Carolina that has a code-enforcement program primarily based in the Fire Department’s Operations Division. Winston-Salem is also the only major city that conducts inspections more frequently than what is required by the State.

North Carolina General Statutes (N.C.G.S) 153A-364 and 160A-424, as set out in N.C.G.S 153A-351 and 160A-411, require jurisdictions that conduct NC State Fire Prevention Code inspections to adopt “a periodic inspections schedule for the purpose of identifying activities and conditions in buildings, structures, and premises that pose dangers of fire, explosion, or related hazards.” Each jurisdiction is required to submit the adopted schedule, which cannot be less stringent than that listed in Section 106 of the Fire Code, to the N.C. Office of State Fire Marshal. Winston-Salem last did this in 1975, when City Code 22-10 was adopted.

The City’s adopted schedule requires that hazardous, institutional, high-rise, assembly, residential (except one-and two-family), and educational occupancies be inspected annually; churches, synagogues, and all other occupancies are to be inspected every 18 months. For certain occupancy types, the City’s adopted schedule far exceeds what is recommended by the National Fire Protection Association and required by the Fire Code. The Fire Code requires hazardous, institutional, high-rise, some assembly, and residential (except one-and two-family) occupancies to be inspected annually. Industrial and educational occupancies are to be inspected every two years. Certain assembly, business, mercantile, storage, church, synagogue, and miscellaneous occupancies are to be inspected every three years.

<b>Committee</b>		<b>Action</b>	
<b>For</b>		<b>Against</b>	

**Remarks:**

When compared to peer cities in the state, no correlation could be established between the frequency of building fires and inspection frequency above what the State requires. In relative terms, Winston-Salem does not have fewer fires in inspected occupancies than peer jurisdictions that utilize the State schedule.

Operations-based Fire Code enforcement programs have a history of poor performance, which is the primary reason most jurisdictions have abandoned them. Operations inspectors find fewer Code violations than do Fire Prevention Bureau inspectors. Operations companies must remain in service for emergency calls while conducting inspections, so business owners and managers are sometimes interrupted numerous times as the inspector(s) come and go, answering emergency calls. Customer complaints about Operations inspections are noticeably more frequent than complaints about Fire Prevention Bureau inspectors. Some fire companies are so busy with inspections, they have little time to conduct fire, rescue, and emergency medical training. The greatest concern is that the current inspection schedule creates a non-emergency workload so great that some fire companies are limited in their ability to relocate to close gaps in the coverage area created by multi-company training and the response to building fires, major auto crashes, hazardous materials incidents, and technical rescues.

If approved, making the transition to the State schedule and moving fire inspections to the Fire Prevention Bureau would take three years. For each of the three years, an additional inspector would be required in the Bureau, and the Operations Division would shed one-third of its inspection load. In 2019, the Bureau would assume total responsibility for conducting Fire Code Inspections. The worst-case-scenario cost associated with the proposed schedule, including salaries, benefits, vehicles, training, and equipment, is \$81,000 in year one, \$153,000 in year two, and \$225,000 in year three. Beginning in year four, the annual cost would be approximately \$220,000.

The proposed Ordinance adopts a Fire Code inspection schedule in accordance with the requirements of Section 106 of the N.C. State Fire Prevention Code, and it is the recommendation of the Fire Department that the Ordinance be adopted.

**ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 22 OF THE CITY CODE  
RELATING TO FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION**

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina General Statute 160A-424 provides that jurisdictions that conduct NC State Fire Prevention Code inspections shall adopt “a periodic inspections schedule for the purpose of identifying activities and conditions in buildings, structures, and premises that pose dangers of fire, explosion, or related hazards;” and

**WHEREAS**, each such jurisdiction is required to submit the adopted schedule, which cannot be less stringent than that listed in Section 106 of the Fire Code, to the North Carolina Office of State Fire Marshal; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Winston-Salem last adopted an inspection schedule in 1975, when City Code 22-10 was adopted; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Winston-Salem’s adopted schedule in City Code Section 22-10 does not follow that required by the North Carolina State Fire Prevention Code and that recommended by the National Fire Protection Association; and

**WHEREAS**, the City’s use of operations-based fire code inspectors combined with an inspection schedule which requires more frequent inspections than are mandated and/or recommended by the appropriate authorities has resulted in less efficiency in carrying out of both inspections and operations responsibilities.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Winston-Salem City Council for the City of Winston-Salem, that Chapter 22, Fire Prevention and Protection, of the Code of Ordinances, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, shall be amended as follows:

Section 1. Section 22-10. Inspection schedule, is hereby deleted in its entirety and the following substituted therefor:

“Sec. 22-10. In order to preserve and protect public health and safety, and to satisfy the requirements of G.S. 153A and G.S. 160A-424, with respect to political subdivisions assuming inspection duties, as set out in G.S. 153A-351 and G.S. 160A-411, and to satisfy the

requirements of the state Building Code, the following inspection schedule shall apply to all buildings within the city except those buildings listed under section 103, “Exceptions to Applicability” in the North Carolina State Building Code, Volume V, Fire Prevention:

- (1) Once every year (12 months): Hazardous, institutional, high-rise, assemblies with an occupant load of 100 or greater, and residential (except one-and two-family) occupancies.
- (2) Once every two years (24 month): Industrial and educational occupancies.
- (3) Once every three years (36 months): assemblies with an occupant load of 99 or less, business, mercantile, storage, church, synagogue, and miscellaneous occupancies.

Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the date of its adoption.

This the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.

**City Council – Action Request Form**

**Date:** April 11, 2016

**To:** The City Manager

**From:** Gregory M. Turner, Assistant City Manager

**Council Action Requested:**

Approval of an Ordinance Amending Section 42-122(f) of the City Code relating to 25 miles per hour speed limits (Northeast Ward).

**Summary of Information:**

The Department of Transportation has received a request to lower the speed limit from 35 miles per hour to 25 miles per hour on McGill Drive, Hemphill Drive and Stonewall (see Attachment A).

The Department of Transportation has conducted the necessary field investigations and traffic engineering studies of the roadways and is recommending the speed limit be reduced to 25 miles per hour.

**Committee Action:**

<b>Committee</b>	_____	<b>Action</b>	_____
<b>For</b>	_____	<b>Against</b>	_____
<b>Remarks:</b>	_____		



**ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 42-122(f) OF THE CITY CODE  
RELATING TO 25 MILES PER HOUR SPEED LIMITS ON CITY STREETS**

**BE IT ORDAINED**, by the City Council of the City of Winston-Salem as follows:

**SECTION I.** Section 42-122(f) of the City Code relating to 25 miles per hour speed limits is amended by adding the following subsection to the end thereof:

Neighborhood limits:

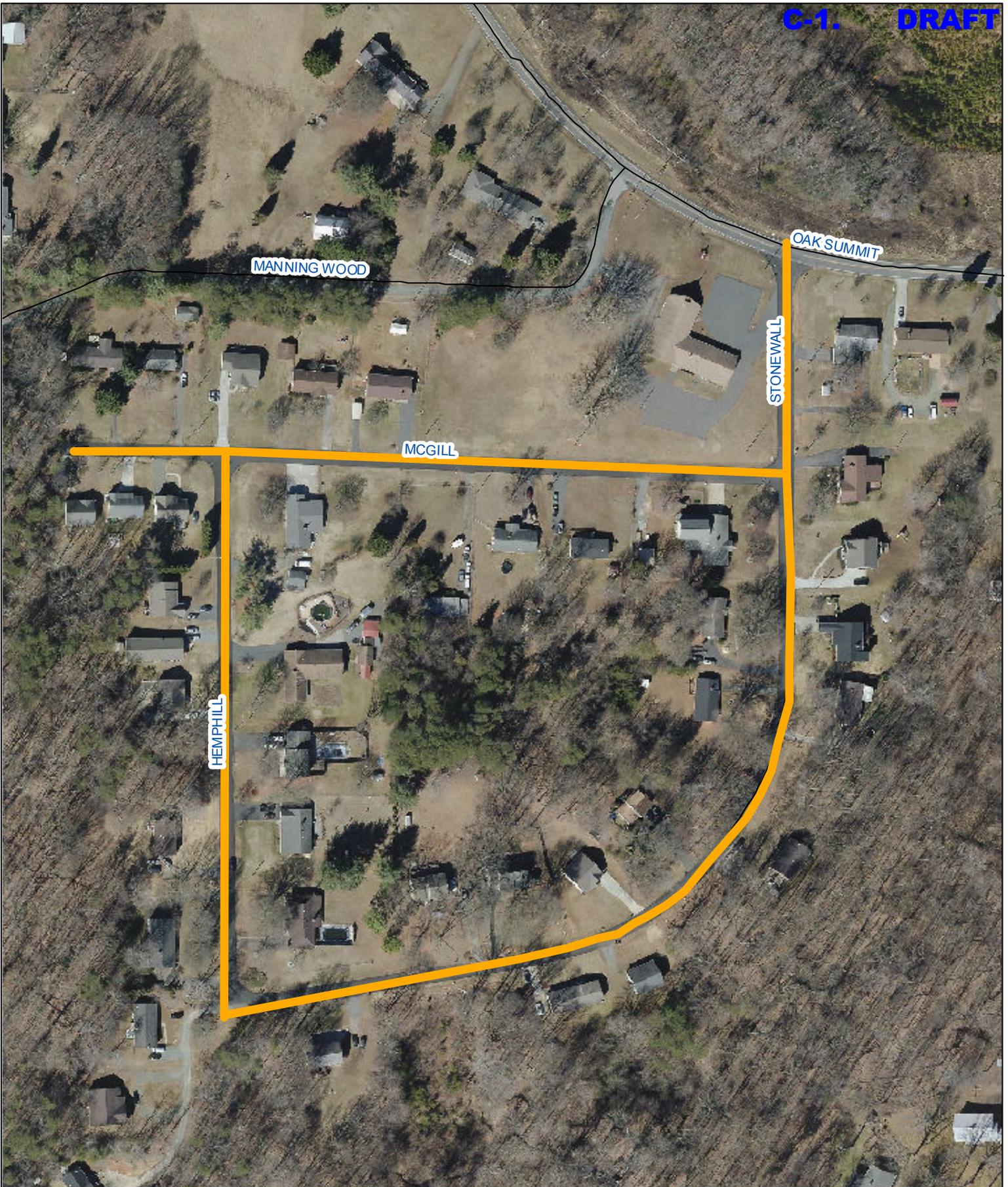
“McGill Drive from Stonewall Street to Dead End.”

“Hemphill Drive from McGill Street Stonewall Street.”

“Stonewall Street from Oak Summit Road to Hemphill Drive.

**SECTION II.** This Ordinance shall be effective upon adoption by the City Council and upon the erection of appropriate signs giving notice thereof.





ATTACHMENT A  
HEMPHILL DR, MCGILL DR, STONEWALL ST  
PROPOSED 25 mph SPEED LIMIT



**SUMMARY OF MINUTES****PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

6:00 p.m., Monday, March 21, 2016

**COMMITTEE ROOM**

Room 239, City Hall

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*MEMBERS PRESENT:*            *Council Member James Taylor, Jr., Chair*  
   *Council Member Vivian H. Burke, Vice Chair*  
   *Council Member Molly Leight*  
   *Council Member Jeff MacIntosh*

*OTHERS PRESENT:*            *Council Member Dan Besse*  
   *Council Member Derwin L. Montgomery*

Chair Taylor called the meeting to order and stated without objection, the Committee would first consider the Consent Agenda. No items were removed for discussion.

Council Member Leight made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was duly seconded by Council Member MacIntosh, and carried unanimously.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- C-1.    ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 42-122(F) OF THE CITY CODE RELATING TO 25 MILES PER HOUR SPEED LIMITS (WEST WARD) - *Wellington Road.*
- C-2.    UPDATE ON CITY BUILDING SECURITY PLANNING AND IMPROVEMENTS.
- C-3.    APPROVAL OF PUBLIC SAFETY SUMMARY OF MINUTES. - *February 8, 2016.*

**GENERAL AGENDA**

- G-1.    INFORMATION ON THE PROPOSED WINSTON-SALEM POLICE DEPARTMENT FOURTH POLICE DISTRICT.

Mr. Barry Rountree, Chief of Police, gave the staff presentation on this item.

In response to Council Member Besse, Chief Rountree explained the beats are divided up to ensure more consistent call time responses. He stated he would investigate complaints of low police presence in the Burkhardt neighborhood, the District 3 area and the areas around Novant Health Hospital and Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center.

Council Member Leight requested a larger copy of the division of beats including the road names and wards.

Council Member Montgomery requested a detailed map outlining the beats as they are currently and highlighting the proposed changes, as well as information on call times as the districts are divided currently and the expected times as proposed. He also requested a comparison of the cost of hiring a captain and a communications officer versus hiring more officers.

ADDITIONAL ITEM:

Council Member Burke offered copies to Council Members of the Lassiter Report from 1985 which she requested on the murder investigation of Deborah Sykes.

ADDITIONAL ITEM:

Council Member Burke requested the City Manager meet with the members of the Finance Department individually regarding their concerns and implored the employees to be candid in their responses, and ensured their confidentiality.

ADDITIONAL ITEM:

Chair Taylor requested staff investigate ways to improve the safety of crossing guards at Winston-Salem/Forsyth County schools.

ADJOURNMENT: 6:25 p.m.



