



City of Greensboro

Melvin Municipal Building
300 W. Washington Street
Greensboro, NC 27401

Meeting Minutes - Final City Council Work Session

Tuesday, June 9, 2020

3:00 PM

Virtual

VIRTUAL MEETING

I. Call To Order

This City Council Work Session of the City of Greensboro was called to order at 3:00 p.m. on the above date; Mayor Vaughan held a roll call to confirm attendance; The virtual meeting began with the following members present:

Mayor Nancy Vaughan, Councilmembers Marikay Abuzaiter, Sharon Hightower, Nancy Hoffmann, Yvonne J. Johnson, Tammi Thurm, Goldie Wells, Justin Outling, and Michelle Kennedy.

Also present were City Manager David Parrish, City Attorney Chuck Watts and Assistant City Clerk Victoria Howell.

II. Presentations

City Manager David Parrish introduced Director of Budget and Evaluation, Jon Decker, and Assistant City Manager, Larry Davis, for a PowerPoint Presentation (PPP) of the budget for the fiscal year 2020-2021.

1. [ID 20-0435](#) Review of Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-2021 Budget

Mr. Decker made a PPP for the recommend Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-2021 budget; spoke to projected revenue updates; to deadlines; to monitoring impacts on shared revenues; to a hiring freeze; and to travel restrictions.

Discussion ensued regarding a 2021 increased revenue; ABC board updates; property tax projections; motor vehicle property tax; a decrease in the fund balance; user fee changes; and general fund expenditure changes in the Police and Communications Departments.

Mr. Decker provided an overview of a proposed merit increase; and the Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA).

Councilmember Hightower requested staff to research a 2.5% or 3% merit increase.

It was the consensus of Council for staff to review funding for a 2.5% or 3% COLA.

Mr. Decker outlined challenges associated with a higher percentage increase; explained a potential pause on minimum wage increases; and spoke to the limited Fund Balance.

City Manager Parrish spoke to the Fund Balance; to risks of lending funds; to a time frame for merit raises; and to trainings and certifications.

Discussion continued regarding various budget scenarios; and peer cities and counties projections.

Mr. Decker continued the PPP; spoke to the recommended Greensboro Transit Authority (GTA) budget; and to the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES).

Discussion ensued regarding the CARES funding for GTA; eligible uses; applying for additional funding; and current and projected GTA fares.

Councilmember Thurm requested staff to review GTA's service hours; and research use of the CARES Act funding for transit.

2. [ID 20-0468](#) Public Policy Review

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson spoke to the Police budget for the fiscal year 2020-2021; to racism training; and to providing funds for said training.

Councilmember Kennedy voiced concerns with the funding of School Resource Officers (SRO);

Mayor Vaughan entered the meeting at 3:39pm.

Discussion took place regarding the impact of COVID-19 on school openings in the fall; SRO contract and funding; relationship building; conversations with Guilford County; and to the safety of students.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson left the meeting at 4:10 pm due to technical difficulties and returned to the meeting at 4:11 pm.

City Clerk, Angela Lord, recommended a roll call in order to confirm proper audio for Council. Mayor Vaughan conducted a roll call. All Councilmembers were present and audio was working properly.

Discussion continued regarding reallocation of the SRO budget to other areas.

It was the consensus of Council that the SRO be funded by the county, with Councilmember Abuzuaiter in opposition.

Councilmember Kennedy requested City Manager Parrish to research and communicate a proposal with Guilford County regarding SRO funding.

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson reiterated the need to allocate funds to racism training.

Discussion continued regarding the police budget; maintenance and operations; personnel cost; expenditures; racism training cost; certifications; equality training; bid process; exploring local training opportunities; town hall meetings; and crowd control supplies.

Councilmember Kennedy spoke to the organization structure of the City Attorneys office.

City Attorney Chuck Watts voiced agreement with reorganizing the department.

City Manager Parrish referenced conversations with City Attorney Watts regarding the location of attorney offices.

Discussion ensued regarding budget allocations; vehicles; lighting packages; Communications; policing in neighborhoods; and employee workforce merit increases.

City Manager Parrish discussed being in alignment with peer cities regarding budget growth.

III. Adjournment

Moved by Councilmember Kennedy, seconded by Councilmember Outling, to adjourn the work session. The motion carried by the following roll call, 9-0.

Ayes: Mayor Nancy Vaughan, Mayor Pro-Tem Yvonne J. Johnson, Councilmembers Marikay Abuzuaiter, Sharon Hightower, Nancy Hoffmann, Michelle Kennedy, Justin Outling, Tammi Thurm, and Goldie Wells.

Nays: None

THE CITY COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 5:47 P.M.

VICTORIA L. HOWELL
ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

NANCY VAUGHAN
MAYOR