

Councilmember Davis (James) spoke to previous relationships between the jurisdictions; referenced earlier meetings with Mayor Vaughan and Mayor Bencini; voiced his support in the project; and stated he would be voting in the affirmative.

#### 5. Motion to Approve the Resolution

City of Greensboro:

**Moved by Mayor Vaughan, seconded by Councilmember Barber to adopt the joint resolution authorizing the establishment of the Guilford County Economic Development Alliance (GCEDA) between Guilford County, The City of High Point, The City of Greensboro, The Greensboro Partnership and the High Point Economic Development Corporation. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.**

Mayor Vaughan stated Mayor Pro-Tem Yvonne Johnson was out of town but that she was in support of the resolution.

City of High Point:

Mayor Bencini referenced Councilmember Davis (James) previously serving as Mayor, his contributions to the project; and requested Councilmember Davis move the resolution.

**Moved by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Ewing to adopt the joint resolution authorizing the establishment of the Guilford County Economic Development Alliance (GCEDA) between Guilford County, The City of High Point, The City of Greensboro, The Greensboro Partnership and the High Point Economic Development Corporation. The motion carried by a 7 – 1 voice vote with Councilmember Davis (Cynthia) voting ‘no’.**

Guilford County:

**Moved by Commissioner Phillips, seconded by Commissioner Trapp to adopt the joint resolution authorizing the establishment of the Guilford County Economic Development Alliance (GCEDA) between Guilford County, The City of High Point, The City of Greensboro, The Greensboro Partnership and the High Point Economic Development Corporation. The motion carried unanimously by a voice vote.**

#### **0372-15 A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE GUILFORD COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE WHICH WOULD SERVE AS A COALITION BETWEEN GUILFORD COUNTY, THE CITY OF GREENSBORO, THE CITY OF HIGH POINT, THE GREENSBORO PARTNERSHIP AND THE HIGH POINT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION TO CONDUCT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MATTERS IN A MORE UNIFIED MANNER**

WHEREAS, Guilford County, City of Greensboro and City of High Point officials believe that having one strong centralized economic development organization in Guilford County, to manage all aspects of economic development within the county and region, would be beneficial in creating a unified effort toward the recruitment of corporations interested in making capital investments and creating jobs in Guilford County; and

WHEREAS, Guilford County, the City of Greensboro, the City of High Point, the Greensboro Partnership and High Point Economic Development Corporations have reviewed various organizational structures for a centralized economic development organization for approximately one year; and

WHEREAS, significant progress has been made toward the goal of a centralized organization which would represent the entire county to include increased communication between the local governments regarding economic development and a much closer working relationship between the Greensboro Partnership and the High Point Economic Development Commission staffs; and

WHEREAS, all of the parties agree that the initial step in establishing a centralized economic development organization for Guilford County would be to establish a coalition known as the Guilford County Economic Development Alliance (GCEDA) and establish a structure under which all of the stakeholders could work in a coordinated and unified fashion on all economic development matters impacting the county and the region; and

WHEREAS, the Leadership Group of the Guilford County Economic Development Alliance will oversee the activities of the Greensboro Partnership and the High Point Economic Development Commission and will be accountable for making sure the two agencies work closely on marketing Guilford County and working closely on all economic development matters; and

WHEREAS, The GCEDA Leadership Group membership will be composed of the Chairman of the Guilford County Board of Commissioners, the Mayor of High Point, the Mayor of Greensboro, the Guilford County Manager, the High Point City Manager, the Greensboro City Manager, the Chairman of the HPEDC Board; with the Chairman of the GP Board and the presidents of the Greensboro Partnership and the High Point Economic Development Corporation serving as ex-officio members; and

WHEREAS, the Greensboro Partnership Board Chairman will chair the Leadership Group in odd numbered years and the Chairman of the High Point Economic Development Commission will serve as chair on even number years, with the Leadership Group meeting at least once per month; and

WHEREAS, The presidents of the two economic development organizations will alternate serving as the GCEDA Director with the President of the High Point Economic Development Commission serving as director in odd numbered years and the Greensboro Partnership President serving as director in even numbered years; and

WHEREAS, there will also be a 12 member Guilford County Business Advisory Council to give input and advice to the GCEDA Leadership Group and support the economic development efforts of the GCEDA, the HPEDC and the GP; and

WHEREAS, the GCED Advisory Council membership will include five (5) appointees by the Chairman of the Greensboro Partnership board of directors, five (5) appointees by the chairman of the HPEDC Board of Directors, the director of the Greensboro / High Point / Guilford County Workforce Development Board who shall chair the Advisory Council in even numbered years and the president of Guilford Technical Community College who shall serve as chair of the Advisory Council in odd numbered years; and

WHEREAS, it is the goal that all economic development marketing will be done jointly with the GP and the HPEDC with prior approval of the GCEDA Leadership Group, the GCEDA will also create an economic development strategic plan that will target industries that would likely have expansion projects within 1 to 3 years; and

WHEREAS, the GCEDA would be proactive in working with site location consultants and make strategic visits to corporations to familiarize them with Guilford County; and

WHEREAS, the Greensboro Partnership and the High Point Economic Development Corporation will share all client and prospect information and the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina will be asked to direct any projects for Guildford County to the lead person of the GCEDA; and

WHEREAS, The presidents of the Greensboro Partnership and the High Point Economic Development Corporation will meet in person every other week and the economic development recruiting staffs for both organizations will meet at least every other month; and

WHEREAS, the GCEDA would have an annual budget of \$300,000 with each of the three local governments contributing \$100,000 to be used for joint marketing and to fund a staff person to conduct research for client proposals, collect data and work with local real estate professionals to maintain a data base of available buildings / sites for clients; and

WHEREAS, the presidents of HPEDC and GP will confidentially share information with the Leadership Group on all of the clients and prospects of GCEDA and with the senior staff and elected officials of the three local governing boards; and

WHEREAS, the respective Boards of HPEDC and GP have reviewed and approved the Guilford County Economic Development Alliance proposal and agree to be parties to an interlocal agreement outlining the structure and responsibility of the GCEDA Organization.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, Guilford County, the City of Greensboro, the City of High Point, the Greensboro Partnership and the High Point Economic Development Commission agree that the Guilford County Economic Development Alliance should be established to coordinate and unify the economic development efforts in Guilford County and each organization intends to execute an interlocal agreement outlining the structure and responsibilities of the proposed GCEDA Organization.

Adopted this the 20<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2015.

(Signed) Nancy Vaughan, Mayor  
Greensboro City Council

(Signed) William "Bill" S. Bencini, Jr., Mayor  
High Point City Council

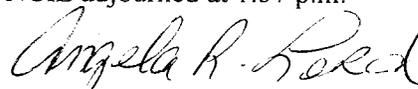
(Signed) Paul Henry "Hank" Henning, IV, Chairman  
Guilford County Board of Commissioners

Mayor Vaughan spoke to the dedication and contributions of City Manager Jim Westmoreland. Mayor Bencini and Commissioner Henning recognized Councilmember Latimer Alexander and Commissioner Kay Cashion that were unable to attend the meeting.

#### 6. Adjourn

**Moved by Councilmember Hightower, unanimously seconded by the group to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by voice vote.**

The SPECIAL JOINT MEETING OF THE GREENSBORO CITY COUNCIL, THE GUILFORD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND THE HIGH POINT CITY COUNCIL adjourned at 1:57 p.m.



ANGELA R. LORD  
DEPUTY CITY CLERK

NANCY VAUGHAN  
MAYOR

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