



City of Greensboro

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council

Tuesday, July 10, 2018

5:30 PM

Council Chamber

Call to Order

This City Council meeting of the City of Greensboro was called to order at 5:30 p.m. on the above date in the Council Chamber of the Melvin Municipal Office Building with the following members present:

Present: 9 - Mayor Nancy Vaughan, Mayor Pro-Tem Yvonne J. Johnson, Councilmember Marikay Abuzuaiter, Councilmember Sharon M. Hightower, Councilmember Nancy Hoffmann, Councilmember Michelle Kennedy, Councilmember Justin Outling, Councilmember Tammi Thurm and Councilmember Goldie F. Wells

Also present were City Manager David Parrish, City Attorney Tom Carruthers, and City Clerk Elizabeth H. Richardson.

Mayor Vaughan confirmed that Councilmember Hoffmann was participating in the meeting via telephone.

Moment of Silence

The meeting opened with a moment of silence.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Mayor Vaughan recognized Councilmember Wells to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Recognition of Courier

City Manager David Parrish recognized Tebony Rosa of the Police Department who served as Courier for the meeting.

Council Procedure for Conduct of the Meeting

Mayor Vaughan explained the Council procedure for conduct of the meeting.

Mayor Vaughan recognized Ray Trapp who announced the North Carolina A&T State University ribbon cutting scheduled at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday; spoke to what the Pavilion would include; stated it was a \$16 million investment in East Greensboro; and invited the public to attend.

Councilmember Hightower voiced appreciation for the project.

Mayor Vaughan stated she would like to have monthly meetings with Mr. Trapp; and asked City Manager Parrish to join her for a State of the Community event once classes resumed.

Mr. Trapp spoke to moving forward with a partnership with the City; and confirmed North Carolina A&T State University's commitment to the community.

I. CEREMONIAL AND/OR PRESENTATION ITEMS

1. [ID 18-0386](#) Presentation on REAL ID

Mayor Vaughan recognized Lisa Crawford, Senior Advisor - Special Projects, Division of Motor Vehicles and Patrice Bathea, Division of Motor Vehicles for a presentation.

Ms. Crawford made a PowerPoint Presentation outlining the REAL ID process; referenced material she had provided to Council; provided the history of the REAL ID process; an overview of the new Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) guidelines; spoke to documentation that would be required when applying for the ID; outlined the benefits of the program; and stated the requirement was a result of 9-11.

Ms. Bethea provided the contact number of 919-715-7000 for questions and to make an appointment; explained the differences between current licenses and the new one; outlined what persons would need to do should they decide not to get a REAL ID when flying and entering federal facilities; and stated the deadline was scheduled for October 1, 2020.

Ms. Crawford spoke to the number of persons that were expected to sign up; reiterated the types of documentation that would be needed when applying; and asked Council to get the word out to citizens.

Councilmember Hightower verified that a person would not need one if they did not intend to fly.

Ms. Bethea replied that you would not but that you would need one or specific documentation when entering federal facilities or military bases.

Mayor Vaughan spoke to her experience in getting a REAL ID; to documents that married/divorced females would need; and recommended that people make an appointment.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson inquired about an incorrect name on a current license to which Ms. Crawford responded it could be corrected at the time a REAL ID was issued.

(A copy of the PowerPoint Presentation is filed in Exhibit Drawer A, Exhibit No. 15, which is hereby referred to and made a part of these minutes.)

**2. [ID 18-0410](#) Update on Workforce Development - Workforce Development Director
Lillian Plummer**

Mayor Vaughan recognized Director of Workforce Development Lillian Plummer.

Ms. Plummer recognized members of the Guilford County Workforce Development Board in the audience; made a PowerPoint Presentation; highlighted the Guilford County Workforce Development Consortium; provided an update on the purpose and services of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity ACT (WIOA); explained that they currently had one-stop NCWorks Career Centers located in Greensboro and High Point; highlighted the number of customer visits, education level, and demographics of the persons they assisted; and spoke to the employees of the Career Centers. Ms. Plummer provided an overview of the individual career services; outlined the work of the Business Services Unit in working with local businesses; explained the work shops and training opportunities in relation with state approved career path plans; and the differences in years for the WIOA funding. Ms. Plummer mentioned an upcoming business closing that would impact 120 employees; explained the process for Workforce Development in assisting said employees; funding received by grants; clarified the carryover of funds on the funding summary; and spoke to tracking zip codes to assist persons living in pockets of poverty.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson and Councilmember Hightower thanked Ms. Plummer for the presentation; and the work of WorkForce Development.

Ms. Plummer introduced the Chairman of the Board Carl Robinson.

Mr. Robinson outlined the makeup of the board; spoke to the mission of the board; and asked board members to introduce themselves.

The Board members provided a brief overview of their membership on the board.

Discussion took place regarding efforts from board members during the storm recovery; appreciation for those attending the meeting; and the work of the board in bringing the community out of poverty.

Mayor Vaughan verified that the WIOA budget had not been cut; that carryover funds had been transferred; and requested that a memo be provided to Council with regard to the use of the carryover funds.

(A copy of the PowerPoint Presentation is filed in Exhibit Drawer A, Exhibit No. 15, which is hereby referred to and made a part of these minutes.)

3. [ID 18-0411](#) Update on Students Overcoming Situations - Partnership with the Guilford County Schools - Police Chief Wayne Scott

Police Chief Wayne Scott made a PowerPoint Presentation; explained the mission of the 2018 Students Overcoming Situations (SOS) pilot program; the process for the involvement and selection of elementary schools; introduced therapy dog Mia who had been on loan for the pilot program; spoke to the customized curriculum; highlighted students' quotes at the graduation program; outlined the current partners and funders of the program; the proposed 2018-2019 expansion of SOS; introduced the new therapy dog Hero that had been donated to the City; spoke to the training process for Hero; and voiced excitement about the program.

Discussion took place regarding the creation of the program; relationship between the Police Department and Guilford County Schools; appreciation for those involved in the program; cross section of officers involved in the program; selection of the first and fifth grades for the program; and possibly changing first grade to third grade going forward.

Community Engagement Supervisor Jenny Caviness provided an overview of working with Guilford County Schools in developing the curriculum and grade selection.

(A copy of the PowerPoint Presentation is filed in Exhibit Drawer A, Exhibit No. 15, which is hereby referred to and made a part of these minutes.)

Senior Civil Engineer Lydia McIntyre provided an overview of the Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO) draft project of assignments; stated the public had the opportunity to provide feedback on the plaza level until 7:00 p.m.; added that the documents would be available online; and provided the address for citizens to provide comments.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Jason Yow, 819 Lankwood Drive stated he grew up in Greensboro; spoke to his disability; to his relationship with minorities; provided a suggestion for getting guns off the streets while reducing prison time for incarcerated persons; voiced concern with a child getting shot; and emphasized the need to reduce the amount of guns on the streets.

Sondra Wright, P.O. Box 811 reviewed the handout provided to Council with regard to the 50 point good faith effort requirements for the M/WBE program; spoke to the work of the M/WBE Coordinating Committee; voiced concern with advice provided by the attorney assigned to M/WBE; underutilization; and asked that an outside attorney be hired to better serve the Committee.

Councilmember Hightower asked if the series of meetings regarding the Disparity Study had been completed; referenced conversations with City Attorney Carruthers regarding the outside counsel that had been hired to assist the City; and asked that Griffin and Strong be involved in writing the plan.

Assistant City Manager Barbara Harris stated that the series of meetings had finished up yesterday; and added that changes to the 50 point system would be proposed.

City Attorney Tom Carruthers spoke to the role of Griffin and Strong in the process; informed Council that Deputy

City Attorney James Dickens had been successful in defending the City's current program in Superior Court; that the 50 point program was mandated by state statute; stated that Attorney Ted Edwards had been working with Attorney Dickens on rewriting the program; and spoke to the opinion of Griffin and Strong.

Councilmember Hightower emphasized that changes in the M/WBE Program were important; voiced the need to ensure the program was written correctly; and asked for verification that Griffin and Strong would assist in the writing of the program.

City Attorney Carruthers confirmed that Griffin and Strong would be included.

Andrew Young, 1907 Bradford Street spoke to the apartment fire on Summit Avenue; explained that refugee communities were located throughout the City; referenced the International Advisory Committee (IAC) and other service agencies in place to assist and speak on behalf of the immigrant/refugee communities; asked that Council look at how the funding was being spent at said agencies; and that Council assist the immigrant population in the City.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson suggested that Council meet with the community to hear their concerns; and assist them.

Mayor Vaughan stated some of Council had been working with the communities; and suggested a community meeting be scheduled.

Councilmember Kennedy referenced a model that was based in Los Angeles where members of the community assisted in leading and organizing the community to get safe and affordable housing; suggested that community members lead the charge; voiced the need to empower the community; spoke to the importance of Code Enforcement; the elimination of slum housing; and reminded the audience that Council took the issue seriously.

Councilmember Wells stated she would get the group together as this had come up at the District 2 community meeting; and would get a meeting scheduled.

Councilmember Abuzuaiter requested that all groups involved be in the coordination of the meeting; and voiced the need to come under one umbrella to empower the immigration community.

Mayor Vaughan requested Community Relations Manager Donna Gray assist with the coordination of the site for the meeting.

Mashengo Lows Pasteur, 3102 Summit Avenue, Apartment E voiced concern for the condition of the apartments; emphasized that no work had been done to date; spoke to having to pay bills and rent every month; requested Council take action on the issue; voiced the need for good paying jobs for the community; and asked for Council's support.

Mayor Vaughan stated Council would have a meeting in the area of the apartments; would follow up with their complaints; asked about the raise in rent; and spoke to the inspection process.

Councilmember Wells asked about the status of the inspections for the apartments.

Assistant City Manager Harris provided an update on the status; stated there were over 40 units that needed to be inspected; explained that staff would coordinate and schedule the reinspections with the residents; and would provide interpretation services.

Discussion took place regarding the deadline for reinspections; timeframe for coming before the Minimum Housing Commission; clarification on the 30 day process; and a request that the inspections report be provided to Council upon availability.

Lawrence Cromier, 3007 Scout Trail provided the history of the Equal Right Amendment (ERA); stated only one

more state was needed to ratify the ERA; that this would be an opportunity for North Carolina to be at the forefront; and asked for Council support of the proposed resolution he had provided.

Councilmember Hightower voiced support for equal rights; and requested City Attorney Carruthers to prepare a resolution regarding the ERA for Council consideration at a future meeting.

Mayor Vaughan left the meeting at 7:16 p.m. and returned at 7:20 p.m.

Tyler Beall, 415 Guilford College spoke to equality for women; to why the community should strive for equality; to women being limited in certain areas; and asked that North Carolina become the 38th state to ratify the amendment.

Megan Longstreet, Leon Rotary Drive provided a quote regarding women asking to be treated equally; spoke to the status of the ERA; voiced concern with the country not granting equal rights to women; with gender based discrimination; emphasized that the amendment was long overdo; referenced the MeToo movement; and requested Council urge legislators to support the amendment.

Eddie Brewer, 407 East Washington Street stated he had a job working for Goodwill; voiced concerns with the panhandling ordinance; emphasized that people needed jobs; spoke to harassment from the Police; and requested Council's assistance with homelessness.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson left the meeting at 7:28 p.m. and returned at 7:31 p.m.

Hester Petty, 3402 Canterbury Street referenced a Duluth newspaper article she had provided to Council regarding panhandling; the recent community forums on the issue of panhandling; spoke to the need to raise the minimum wage; to fund low income housing; and referenced persons who deserved tips.

Richard Vaught, 407 East Washington Street referenced the creation of a poverty board; spoke to homeless persons picking up trash near Urban Ministries; an article in the Rhino Times; and comments made by the Chicken Lady.

Marcus Hyde, 136 Julian Street referenced Duluth, Minnesota; comments made at the recent community forums on panhandling; articles by John Hammer; suggested a Police Protocol Bill be adopted; voiced that the solution began with police protocol; and the need to protect the rights of the homeless population.

III. ITEMS CALLING PUBLIC HEARINGS (One Vote)

There were no items calling public hearings for this meeting.

Matters to be discussed by the Mayor and Members of the Council

Councilmember Hightower spoke to the Fun Fourth Festival; stated she attended the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Banquet; announced the ribbon cutting at North Carolina A&T State University on Wednesday; spoke to growth and development in East Greensboro; provided an update on Mr. Foster's building on Gateway; and inquired about the status of the Tribute to Women.

Assistant City Manager Chris Wilson stated he would provide an update.

Councilmember Thurm invited the public to attend the open house on Thursday evening from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. for the New Garden Road Corridor Plan at Kathleen Clay Edwards Library; encouraged people interested in serving on the Participatory Budgeting (PB) Committee to submit interest forms; and spoke to the formation of the new committee.

Councilmember Outling spoke to Council's ability to provide explanations for their decisions; provided an overview of what was included on his website; announced that he had office hours on Friday mornings at 8:30 a.m. before the Council business meetings at Dolce Aroma Coffee Bar; and invited the community to drop by to voice their

concerns.

Councilmember Abuzuaiter voiced appreciation to those involved in the Fun Fourth Festival; stated she attended the fireworks on Saturday evening; explained the role of the MPO; and encouraged people to view and provide comments on the website at GUAMPO@greensboro-nc.gov.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson provided the names of Jose Sandoval, District 3 and Willie Taylor, District 5 for the Participatory Budgeting Committee; spoke to Ms. Taylor's service on the Library Board; and submitted the name of Dana Madison Lowe into the databank for future service on the Human Relations Commission.

Discussion took place regarding a vacancy on the Human Relations Commission.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson voiced appreciation to Marty Kotis for the mural/artwork that was done in Midtown; spoke to honoring the Native American Lumbee Indian Tribe; and thanked him for his creativity.

Councilmember Wells voiced appreciation for the presentation of the REAL ID Program.

Councilmember Kennedy stated that a group of local elected officials across North Carolina had submitted a joint statement in response to what was taking place on the borders with regard to the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE); read a portion of the statement; and invited Councilmembers wishing to join the statement to email her.

Councilmember Hoffmann thanked Downtown Greensboro Inc. (DGI) for the Fun Fourth event; reiterated the invitation of Councilmember Thurm for citizens to come to the New Garden Road Corridor meetings; and spoke to the history of the New Garden Road corridor rezonings.

Matters to be presented by the City Manager

City Manager Parrish announced that the City of Greensboro had been noted on Wallet Hub as one of the best cities to drive in; referenced the City's rating on the WAZE app; spoke to being number 12 out of 150 best run cities in America; and highlighted things the City was doing right.

Matters to be presented by the City Attorney

City Attorney Carruthers stated that Council would be receiving updates from the legal staff and Parker Poe.

Councilmember Hightower voiced the importance of the continued storm recovery effort; advised people how to avoid scams when hiring contractors for repair work; and asked that they be cautious.

Adjournment

Moved by Councilmember Hightower, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by voice vote.

THE CITY COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 7:59 P.M.

ELIZABETH H. RICHARDSON
CITY CLERK

NANCY VAUGHAN
MAYOR