



City of Greensboro

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council Work Session

Thursday, October 16, 2014

12:00 PM

Plaza Level Conference Room

1. Call To Order

This City Council Work Session of the City of Greensboro was called to order at 12:05 PM on the above date in the Plaza Level Conference Room of the Melvin Municipal Office Building with the following members present: Mayor Nancy Vaughan, Mayor Pro-Tem Yvonne Johnson, Councilmembers Marikay Abuzuaiter, Jamal Fox, Sharon Hightower, and Nancy Hoffmann.

Absent: Councilmembers Mike Barber, Zack Matheny, and Tony Wilkins

Also present were City Manager Jim Westmoreland, City Attorney Tom Carruthers, and Acting Deputy City Clerk Angela R. Lord.

2. Presentations

ID 14-0688 Aviation Thrives Here Funding Request - Bill Lancaster, WFMY News 2

City Manager Westmoreland thanked the News 2 representatives Larry Audas, General Manager and Bill Lancaster; spoke to the City's investment; and recommended Council support the item.

Mr. Audas provided a brief history of the item; spoke to investments; Aviation Triad connecting to young people; aviation employment; education; training; jobs in the community; and introduced Bill Lancaster.

Mr. Lancaster made a PowerPoint Presentation (PPP); spoke to objectives; awareness of aviation jobs; connecting to the potential pool of talent; promoting the Piedmont Triad's aviation sector through the campaign which was scheduled to launch in August 2013; the components of the campaign; targeting students; partners; the airing of "Taking off in the Triad"; and digital connections including FaceBook and Twitter.

Mr. Lancaster continued by providing information on Greensboro's featured page; data on website visits; spoke to engaging the community through a job-fair; marketing; profiling companies and community colleges; and key takeaways.

Mayor Vaughan inquired as to the ask; spoke to the regional approach; wanting more companies in Greensboro with well paying jobs; and stated Kevin Baker, Executive Director of Piedmont Triad International Airport had provided demographics.

Mr. Lancaster stated the request for funding was \$35,000.

Councilmember Fox requested clarification on funding contributed by High Point, Winston Salem and Greensboro; and inquired about The Greensboro Partnerships (The Partnership) participation.

City Manager Westmoreland spoke to Economic Development; funding contributed by other cities; marketing to bring companies to Greensboro; growing the aviation market; and funding provided by The Partnership.

Councilmember Hightower inquired as to the source of funding; spoke to marketing; reaching people without internet access; providing additional information in commercials; and informing the community to contact the Workforce Development office.

Discussion ensued regarding the use of Economic Development funds; other cities contributions; concerns

regarding underprivileged areas not getting information; raising awareness through television; alerting the community to available opportunities; November being Aviation Month; partnering with the school systems; offering education; and billboard advertising.

City Manger Westmoreland stated staff would work on awareness tactics with the Aviation group; spoke to using Channel 13 to advertise; and to providing a phone number for citizens to call.

Mr. Lancaster spoke to providing downloadable information on the website; easy resources; and marketing on the ground.

Mayor Vaughan clarified Council's consensus to place the item on the November 3rd agenda.

(A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is filed in Exhibit Drawer W, Exhibit No.25 which is hereby referred to and made a part of these minutes)

2a. Cultural Center Performance Space Proposal - Tom Philion, Arts Greensboro

City Manager Westmoreland recognized Tom Philion and Jane Van Dyke; spoke to an exciting opportunity; and deferred to Mr. Philion to make proposal.

Mr. Philion, President and Chief Executive Officer of Arts Greensboro introduced area choreographer of Dance Project, Ms. Van Dyke; spoke of a vision; multi use spaces; and a project with the Cultural Arts Center.

Mr. Philion continued by stating Ms. Van Dyke had made a \$1 million commitment to the project; provided the history of the Cultural Center; made a PPP; spoke to expanding existing facilities in the cultural arts center; a fully equipped, income-generating, for-rent space; showed a diagram of the floor plan; spoke to connectivity; facilities of similar size and amenities around the state; and showed a photograph of the proposed facility.

Council thanked Ms. Van Dyke for her donation; discussed agencies not being displaced; a six month construction timeline; involving the community; murals; signage; community events; the Tanger Arts Center accommodating larger events; business driven models; a smaller facility addressing the need of smaller events; and concerns with young artists leaving Greensboro because they did not have a place to practice or showcase their talents.

Councilmember Hightower voiced concern for the Cultural Center honoring previous commitments.

Mr. Philion stated he felt the proposal would move the Center forward; and spoke to the current lack of concessions and parking.

Mayor Vaughan spoke to cost effectiveness; to the space being an income generator; thanked Ms. Van Dyke for her contribution; and requested City Manager Westmoreland to have the item on the Tuesday, October 21st City Council agenda.

City Manager Westmoreland spoke to providing a resolution and information for Council.

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Mayor Vaughan declared a recess at 12:56 p.m. Council reconvened at 1:07 p.m. with all members in attendance except Councilmembers Barber, Matheny, and Wilkins.

ID 14-0689 Police Chief Search Process - Jim Westmoreland

City Manager Westmoreland gave an update on the Police Chief Search process; spoke to retaining Development Associates; provided steps in the process, timeline and next steps; spoke to a survey for key characteristics; advertising; targeting applicants; screening applications; and background checks.

City Manager Westmoreland continued with referencing input from Council; stated a community forum would take place on November 6, 2014 at the Civil Rights Museum; that there would be an online survey; referenced conversations that would be with the faith based community, business focus groups, and with the Police Department command team; and to low attendance at community forums.

Council inquired as to whom would do the applicant screening; about the State Code of input; providing additional community forums; and to providing other avenues for citizens to complete the survey.

City Manager Westmoreland stated the consultant and City team would handle screenings; spoke to follow-up interviews; making a selection around mid-February; and the importance of community feedback.

Discussion took place regarding scheduling a second community forum if the first forum was highly attended.

Councilmember Hightower inquired about the stakeholder and assessment pieces; reaching out to the small business community; and to the cost of the consultant.

Discussion ensued regarding the faith community participation; consultant fees; covering travel expenses; timeline for the search process; the effect of the holidays on the timeline; estimated start date for a new Chief; and expected number of applicants.

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ID 14-0690 CRC Enhancement Committee Recommendations Overview - Mayor
Vaughan

Mayor Vaughan stated Councilmember Wilkins was absent due to a death in the family.

Mayor Vaughan spoke to the Citizens Review Committee (CRC) which she Chaired; and deferred to Interim Assistant City Manager Wesley Reid to review the item.

Interim Assistant City Manager Reid made a PPP; spoke to ordinance and non-ordinance changes; and Council recommendations.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson spoke to skill sets for appointees; and Mayor Vaughan's authority to make appointments.

Interim Assistant City Manager Reid spoke to citizen representation; changing the name of CRC to the Police Citizen Review Board (PCRB); changing the meeting time and location; having an open session format; intake methods; the appeals process; ambassadors; training; and diverse perspectives.

Mayor Vaughan added that each Councilmember would have an appointment; term limits which could run with Council appointments; Council's accountability; and emphasized the need for training.

Interim Assistant City Manager Reid continued by referencing community partners; spoke to joint efforts with University of North Carolina Greensboro (UNCG) and North Carolina A & T State University in regards to house party incidents; dialogues with college campus; education materials; and an expanded scope area plan.

Councilmember Hightower inquired as to conversations with the District Attorney regarding expungement.

City Attorney Tom Carruthers spoke to discussions with the District Attorney; the role of the commission; procedure of charges; the Sebastian Village arrest; steps to go through a process that must be followed; expungement; a City facilitated process; State law and documents signed off by a Judge; and legislative changes.

Discussion ensued regarding acknowledging issues and complaints; healing the community; building trust; amending language of the Review Board; reasonable approaches; experience of appointees; Human Relations Department support; the Board being independently run by Council; and reporting to Council.

Interim Assistant City Manager Reid spoke to the expanded scope of Council commitment; education; review and adjustment of rules and procedures.

Council discussed independent commissions; the number of appointments; the PRCB not being a part of the Human Relations Commission; liaisons; and placing the item on the November 3rd Council agenda.

City Manager Westmoreland recommended a brief presentation of item at the next Council meeting for Councilmembers not present; and spoke to the importance of notifying the public.

Mayor Vaughan voiced the need to discuss when appointments would begin; determination of terms; and stated training would be needed by January.

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ID 14-0692 Water/Sewer Assessment Update - David Parrish

City Manager Westmoreland spoke to past discussions regarding water/sewer assessments; and recommendations on how the City would handle future assessments.

Assistant City Manager David Parrish made a PPP; and provided a brief history.

Councilmember Hightower left meeting at 1:53 p.m. and returned at 1:59 p.m.

Assistant City Manager Parrish continued by outlining the public necessity process; septic systems; petitions; charge fees for City installations; spoke to being governed by state law; options for payment; involuntary annexation projects; fee structures; a public necessity survey; comparisons to other cities; abeyance and assessment options; and customer friendly options.

Councilmember Hightower requested clarification of fees; payment options; and financing possibilities.

Assistant City Manager Parrish provided fee structure information; spoke to working with customers; and the City's ability to collect fees.

Councilmember Abuzuaiter spoke to an annexation and a lien on a property; and referenced City Attorney Carruthers assisting with property liens.

City Attorney Carruthers spoke to abeyance set by the Charter; Greensboro's ability to hold an abeyance up to 10 years; and to liens taking precedence over mortgages.

Assistant City Manager Parrish spoke to preventing citizens from unknowingly buying properties with assessment fees attached; outlined staff recommendations; a public hearing to explain abeyance; and Council adopting a resolution with each set project with abeyance set in.

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ID 14-0691 Boards/Commissions Review Update - Mary Vigue/Betsey Richardson

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson left the meeting at 2:06 p.m.

City Manager Westmoreland spoke to providing an overview of the boards and commissions process; and deferred to Interim Assistant City Manager Mary Vigue for the update.

Interim Assistant City Manager Vigue made a PPP; spoke to research done along with City Clerk Betsey Richardson; and the five types of boards.

Mayor Vaughan requested additional information on Mayoral appointments.

Interim Assistant City Manager Vigue referenced autonomous boards; quasi-judicial boards; administrative boards; legislative boards; policy making and advisory boards; explained how appointments were made by Council; spoke to terms; and information made available to Council.

Councilmember Hightower inquired as to who made appointments; the War Memorial Commission; spoke to unlimited appointments; recommendations by the Housing Authority; voiced concerns regarding life time appointments; and accountability of boards and commissions.

City Clerk Richardson spoke to the boards that did not have term limits; State Statutes; Mayoral appointments; and Council recommendations.

Mayor Vaughan requested a presentation be made by the Housing Authority; spoke to the lack of district representation; inquired as to the placement of the new PRBC board; spoke to At-Large members not making appointments; verified that life time appointments did not have voting rights; and honorary appointments.

Interim Assistant City Manager Vigue spoke to policy making; advisory boards; State Statutes; the War Memorial Commission; mandates of City Code; term limits; appointments made at every Council meeting; focus on policy making and Advisory Boards; and each district having a representative.

Council discussed candidate experience; the power of current Councilmembers to make appointments; continuity; consistency in term limits; reporting to Council; keeping boards weighted; making appointments for future dates; and inquired to how board members were sworn in.

Interim Assistant City Manager Vigue spoke to appointments at specific times; and recommended appointments be made at the second Council meeting of the month going forward.

City Clerk Richardson stated termination dates were provided to Council approximately two months prior to the date; spoke to boards required to be sworn in; Councilmembers having discussions prior to making appointments; and providing a list of positions that were sworn in to Council.

Mayor Vaughan requested for the information to be provided in an IFYI.

Discussion continued regarding making appointments at only one Council meeting per month; board and commission liaisons providing updates; the importance of making appointments; and identifying who made an appointment.

Interim Assistant City Manager Vigue spoke to a new format; original appointments; the restructuring plan; implementation of proposed changes; staggered term limits; and concluded by stating Council would have to adopt changes through a formal resolution.

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3. Adjournment

Moved by Councilmember Fox, seconded by Councilmember Abuzuaiter, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by voice vote.

THE CITY COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 2:32 P.M.

ANGELA R. LORD
ACTING DEPUTY CITY CLERK

NANCY VAUGHAN
MAYOR