



City of Greensboro

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council Work Session

Thursday, September 11, 2014

12:00 PM

Plaza Level Conference Room

1. Call To Order

This City Council meeting of the City of Greensboro was called to order at 12:00 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 Abuzuaite, Mike Barber, Jamal Fox, Sharon Hightower, Nancy Hoffmann, Zack Matheny, and Tony Wilkins.

Also present: City Manager Jim Westmoreland, Assistant City Attorney Terri Jones, and Acting Deputy City Clerk Angela R. Lord.

Mayor Vaughan called the meeting to order at 12:12 p.m.

City Manager Jim Westmoreland showed a photo recognizing Interim Assistant City Manager Wesley Reid for being awarded the Long Leaf Pine Award in Sea Pines; spoke to the honor of the award; congratulated Mr. Reid; and stated two other winners would be recognized at the next City Council meeting.

2. Presentations

ID 14-0571 North Carolina League of Municipalities Conference Update

Interim Assistant City Manager Mary Vigue made a brief PowerPoint Presentation and distributed a pamphlet to Council for the North Carolina League of Municipalities (NCLM) Annual Conference, October 11 - 14, 2014 at the Koury Convention Center; spoke to the golf tournament at the Grandover Resort; the Host City event at the ACC Hall of Champions; the opening of the session on Monday by Mayor Vaughan; the Greensboro City Council being recognized as Host City on Monday night; and to training on social media by Mark Weaver.

ID 14-0605 Washington DC Legislative Support Update - Craig Saperstein (Pillsbury)

City Manager Jim Westmoreland spoke to the item and recognized Craig Saperstein as the City's connection to Representatives and Senators in Washington.

Councilmember Matheny entered the meeting at 12:16 p.m.

Mr. Saperstein made a PowerPoint Presentation (PPP); spoke to being from Greensboro; the 2014 priorities and opportunities; gave a history to what he has done for the City; communication with Congressional Delegation and Federal Agencies staff; matching Greensboro's need to federal funding; Congressional Delegation support; enhancing the reputation of Greensboro; and monitoring opportunities.

Mr. Saperstein referenced workforce development delegation; Federal Railroad Administration visiting Greensboro; approaching problems and opportunities at the federal level; leadership visits in June 2014; Intergovernmental Affairs meeting; U.S. Department of Agriculture; local food promotion program; Department of Transportation; housing development; Union Square Campus: Economic Development Assistance (EDA) program; and current funding applications.

Discussion ensued regarding grant funds; being competitive; food desert issues; implementing ideas to handle food deserts; the potential of a planning grant; the local United States Department of Agriculture (USDA); and the Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) ranking.

Mr. Saperstein outlined the successful work at the airport; gave an estimate to finish the taxiway; spoke to the efforts for a new control tower; timelines; funding for construction; the Federal Government partnering with neighborhoods; and Promise Zone Designation (PZD) communities.

Discussion ensued regarding Greensboro applying for PZD grants; various cities that had been selected for PZD; North Carolina being a battleground state; applying for future funding; and Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership (IMCP).

Mayor Vaughan spoke to burn grants; referenced a trip to the White House; and a \$50,000 IMCP investment with the Piedmont Triad Partnership and Penny Whiteheart.

Discussion ensued regarding contacting Ms. Whiteheart for the list of grants which had been applied for.

Councilmember Matheny requested City Manager Westmoreland to set up a meeting with Ms. Whiteheart; and inquired to a future grant for \$25 million.

Mr. Saperstein gave an estimated amount for the grant; spoke to forthcoming opportunities for science, parks and research institutions; new fire capabilities; referenced Chief Greg Grayson meeting with the FEMA staff; spoke to funding opportunities for GM911; workforce training with the Partnership; the Downtown Greenway; expressed his appreciation in working with the City; and opened the floor for questions.

Discussion took place regarding an \$88,000 Grant received for firefighter fitness; a letter of support from Senator Kay Hagan; allocated funds for veterans or homeless veterans; and the Mayor's Challenge on Homelessness.

Mayor Vaughan referenced Forsyth County getting a grant from the Federal Government on homelessness; and spoke to talks with counterparts in Winston-Salem and Forsyth.

City Manager Westmoreland stated the contract with Mr. Saperstein would end in January; spoke to division of financing being split with the Partnership; and recommended a two-year contract extension.

Councilmember Fox requested a copy of the contract.

Councilmember Matheny inquired as to the amount of funding Mr. Saperstein had brought to the City; if it had exceeded the cost of the contract; recommended moving forward with an extension; and commended Mr. Saperstein for his representation of Greensboro.

City Manager Westmoreland stated he would send Council a copy of the contract; and would prepare an extension contract for Council approval.

Purpose Recycling Economic Development Proposal Overview

City Manager Westmoreland spoke to members of Economic Development working on an exciting opportunity; introduced Andy Scott of the Economic and Development Business Support Office and Bob Savino of Purpose Recycling to speak to the item.

Mr. Scott spoke to a request for financial assistance by Purpose Recycling; a lease purchase agreement; and joint work efforts with Director of Field Operations, Dale Wyrick.

Councilmember Wilkins inquired to the background of Purpose Recycling; and referenced a previous request for tax returns.

Mr. Wyrick spoke to the bidding process; outreach; and a centralized contracting system.

Mr. Savino made a PowerPoint Presentation (PPP); spoke to the business expanding; the history of the company; being a second chance employer; cost of recovery; data collection; size and volume; scrap at the landfill; and compacting of materials.

Councilmember Hightower referenced Council supporting small businesses; and inquired as to the number of

staff for Purpose Recycling.

Discussion ensued regarding the number of employees; employing people with criminal records; collection of mattresses, box springs and furniture; servicing the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and University of North Carolina at Wilmington; reupholstering of furniture; and competition with mattress manufacturers.

Mr. Wyrick spoke to the collection system; reviewed cost per unit for recycling; a pilot program; Purpose Recycling saving the City from doing specialized collections; volume of size of collections; and cost effectiveness.

Mr. Scott spoke to buying equipment from Purpose Recycling; using equipment as collateral; deducting lease amount; and gave history of other funding attempts.

Councilmember Matheny inquired about the City buying the equipment; and the recovery of the investment.

City Manager Westmoreland stated the City would own the equipment until the funds were recovered.

Council discussed employee benefits; workforce being registered voters; an affiliate company; number of employees at each company; location of business; investing in small business; collection in Orange County; the selling of scrap metal; donations to District 1 and to displaced residents from the Heritage House; and bed bug proof mattresses.

Councilmember Fox requested the item be put on the next Council agenda; and recommended moving forward.

City Manager Westmoreland stated the need to advertise for a Public Hearing; referenced providing tax records in response to Councilmember Wilkins request; and stated the item would be on the October 7th Council meeting.

Mayor Vaughan asked Council to send questions to the City Manager's office.

ID 14-0603

CPD Downtown Camera Project Overview

City Manager Westmoreland introduced Interim Police Chief Anita Holder to speak to the item.

Interim Police Chief Holder spoke to providing an update for the wireless video camera project; and to getting Council support.

Councilmember Hightower left the meeting at 1:22 p.m. and returned at 1:26 p.m.

Police Captain Joel Cranford made a PowerPoint Presentation (PPP); spoke to wireless cameras, focus on the Downtown area; options for expanding outside Downtown; goals; and advantages.

Councilmember Wilkins asked if the cameras were portable.

Captain Cranford explained cameras were both portable and fixed.

Councilmember Barber inquired as to video footage; body worn cameras; issues with a Police Department run program; criminal investigations; police activity; and a sensitivity to public records.

Interim Chief Holder spoke to the Administrative Code; Municipal Records Retention Schedule; security footage; and public safety.

Police Attorney Jim Clark outlined the purpose of video footage; North Carolina General Statute 132.14; criminal investigation; and criminal intel.

City Manager Westmoreland spoke to making footage public records; and the Police Departments purpose for the program.

Discussion ensued regarding the camera footage being public record; difference in video surveillance and body worn cameras; a panel discussion arranged by Interim City Attorney Tom Carruthers; dilemma of where cameras

would be installed; sharing footage with Fire Department; cameras assisting the Police Department to identify suspects; and Downtown not feeling safe.

Discussion continued regarding cameras being a deterrent to crime; Department of Transportation (DOT) cameras; comparison of DOT cameras and surveillance cameras; Rail Safety Initiatives; College Hill reaching out to the Police Department; the Downtown perimeter; monitoring main streets coming into Downtown; connections with GM911; communications with Downtown residents; public safety initiatives; privacy issues and the privacy act; and surveillance signage.

Mayor Vaughan left the meeting at 1:48 p.m. and returned at 1:51 p.m.

Captain Cranford spoke to special events and locations in Downtown that brought enormous amounts of people to Downtown; addressing the needs of the public; and cameras being installed as a safety measure.

Council discussed higher expectations of Police officers; more training; and compensation.

Councilmember Matheny left the meeting at 1:55 p.m.

Discussion ensued regarding cameras benefiting the college community; the capacity to expand; and being a surveillance state.

Interim Assistant City Manager Wesley Reid reiterated staff was looking to Council for feedback; spoke to needing a consensus; intentions to focus on Downtown; and cameras on the Greenway and public parks.

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

Councilmember Barber requested staff explore Boston's policy; and for any future presentation, to clearly identify that it would not be intrusive to residential areas.

Councilmember Abuzuaiter spoke to comparing Greensboro to other cities; and inquired how many Greensboro businesses had outside cameras.

Mayor Vaughan declared a recess at 2:01 pm. Council reconvened at 2:11 pm with all members in attendance.

CPD Neighborhood Oriented Policing Update

City Manager Westmoreland introduced the Greensboro Police Department Neighborhood Oriented Policing (GSO NOP) item.

Interim Police Chief Anita Holder spoke to change and transition; the geographical piece; matching resources to needs; community forums; citizen concerns; Community Resource Officers; police zones; serving at the neighborhood level; the planning process; finalizing plan when a new Chief of Police was named: implementation of the GSO NOP; Officer survey's; providing a 90 day notice for schedule changes; and recommended moving forward on later than February 2015.

Discussion ensued regarding angst over change; shifts in schedules; community resource teams; officers getting out of cars and meeting the community; cost effectiveness; proactive policing; addressing crime problems; officers in zones; and fleet assessments.

ID 14-0604

GFD Ladder Company Staffing Update

City Manager Westmoreland spoke to adding a 4th person to ladder trucks; and introduced Fire Chief Greg Grayson.

Mayor Vaughan spoke to a ride along on a ladder truck; concerns of one firefighter handling the truck; and stated the ride along was a good lesson as to why a 4th person was needed on the trucks.

Fire Chief Grayson had a PowerPoint Presentation (PPP) available.

Councilmember Barber asked if additional firefighters could be added to Station 11 and Station 5 immediately; and asked the City Manager Westmoreland to provide information on the next City Council agenda.

City Manager Westmoreland stated staff would need to look at resources; spoke to the ongoing financial commitment; and confirmed he would provide information for Council members at the October 7th meeting.

Discussion ensued regarding financial cost of increasing the number of firefighters at the fire stations; the number and location of ladder trucks; recommended standards; Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) law requirements; number of firefighters required on a fire scene before entering a building; the exception to the law for a known rescue; wait time for backup; funding; public safety; safety issues for the firefighters; priorities; and budgeting.

Councilmember Wilkins spoke to the Partnership Accelerator Program; and referenced a story in the Rhino Times.

Councilmember Abuzuaiter spoke to the Guilford Cup Challenge on September 20th at 11 a.m. at Jaycee Park.

(Copies of the PowerPoint Presentations are filed in Exhibit Drawer W, Exhibit No.20, which are hereby referred to and made a part of these minutes.)

3. Adjournment

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

THE CITY COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 2:40 P.M.

ANGELA R. LORD
ACTING DEPUTY CITY CLERK

NANCY VAUGHAN
MAYOR