



City of Greensboro

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council

Thursday, February 12, 2015

6:00 PM

Plaza Level Conference Room

SPECIAL MEETING WITH THE GUILFORD COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION

I. Call to Order

This City Council meeting of the City of Greensboro was called to order at 6:00 p.m. on the above date in the Council Chamber of the Melvin Municipal Office Building with the following members present: Mayor Nancy Vaughan, presiding; Mayor Pro-Tem Yvonne Johnson; Councilmembers Marikay Abuzuaiter, Jamal Fox, Nancy Hoffmann, Zachery Matheny, and Tony Wilkins. Absent: Councilmember Mike Barber.

Members of the Guilford County Legislative Delegation Present: Senators Trudy Wade and Gladys A. Robinson; Representatives John M. Blust, Cecil Brockman, John Faircloth, Jon Hardister, Ralph Johnson and Pricey Harrison. Absent: Senator Phil Berger.

Also present were City Manager Jim Westmoreland, City Attorney Tom Carruthers, and City Clerk Elizabeth H. Richardson.

Mayor Vaughan welcomed members of the Delegation; thanked them for coming; stated that the purpose of the meeting was for the City to present its Legislative Agenda; and recognized City Attorney Tom Carruthers for a presentation.

City Manager Westmoreland welcomed the Delegation; stated there were many important issues of the community this year; spoke to the important role of the Delegation; and the importance in being responsive to the needs of the community.

Senator Wade voiced the Delegation was glad to be here; and asked those present to introduce themselves.

II. Presentation and Discussion

City Attorney Carruthers stated the City Council had adopted the Legislative Agenda on January 20, 2015 which incorporated the Greensboro Partnership's Legislative Agenda; emphasized that the items listed were not in an order of ranking; and made a PowerPoint Presentation (PPP) which listed the items. City Attorney Carruthers provided a brief overview of each item as well as the vote results.

Senator Robinson inquired about the permits needed for Item #8 Regulate After Hours Clubs.

City Attorney Carruthers responded that they held a brown-bagging permit which was less restrictive than an ABC permit.

City Attorney Carruthers continued the PPP; elaborated on four additional legislative changes the City was requesting for Item #11 Police Body Worn Cameras; referenced the disclosure rules and laws for the release of personnel records; and clarified what records could be released should the legislation be adopted.

Representative Harrison asked if this would be a change to State Statute.

City Attorney Carruthers responded that it would be a change to State law which would keep the records under personnel records and not criminal records. City Attorney Carruthers provided the differences between Charlotte's and Greensboro's requests; spoke to the need for there to be a counter balance for the public to have a right to view camera footage; stated the City would urge the General Assembly to recognize the right to view

while protecting the rights of those who might inadvertently be videoed; emphasized that this would be a statewide regulation for municipalities that used body worn cameras; referenced challenges other cities were currently facing; and stated that this would be an opportunity to create the correct balance.

Mayor Vaughan interjected that the reason for the City's motivation was the technology had gotten ahead of legislation; and municipalities needed clarification on how the new media would be handled.

Councilmember Matheny referenced the passing of Frank Mascia who was instrumental in the Greensboro Police Departments obtaining body worn cameras; and emphasized he wanted to honor Mr. Mascia for his work.

Representative Faircloth voiced that there was broad interest on both sides of the aisle; voiced that the State did not need to be involved in dictating whether a local municipality had cameras; and verified this bill would guide those who chose to use cameras.

City Attorney Carruthers continued the PPP and concluded with Item #14 Reconfiguration of City Council.

Councilmember Wilkins inquired as to how Council voted on seven members on January 20th.

City Attorney Carruthers explained that on January 20th there had been common discussion that the members would be reduced to seven.

Councilmember Matheny spoke to why he voted against the four year terms.

Mayor Vaughan added that the Council would revisit 14A) City Council opposes efforts in the General Assembly to reduce the number of City Council members from 9 to 7 at the February 17th meeting; and stated that an updated resolution would be forthcoming.

City Attorney Carruthers provided an overview of the Greensboro Partnership's Agenda in the PPP.

(A copy of the PowerPoint Presentation is filed in Exhibit Drawer X, Exhibit No. 4 which is hereby referred to and made a part of these minutes)

Adjournment

Senator Wade voiced appreciation for the presentation of the City's Legislative Agenda; stated the Delegation had met with High Point, Guilford County and the Greensboro Partnership; stated the Delegation would review the information provided this evening; and thanked everyone for attending.

THE CITY COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 6:44 P.M.

ELIZABETH H. RICHARDSON
CITY CLERK

NANCY VAUGHAN
MAYOR