



# City of Greensboro

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

## Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council Work Session

Tuesday, April 24, 2018

3:00 PM

Plaza Level Conference Room

### ITEMS THAT WERE SCHEDULED FOR THE APRIL 17, 2018 WORK SESSION HAVE BEEN MOVED TO THIS AGENDA

#### I. Call To Order

This Work Session of the City of Greensboro was called to order at 3:00 p.m. 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, Sharon Hightower, Nancy Hoffmann, Michelle Kennedy, Justin Outling, Tammi Thurm, and Goldie Wells.

Also present were Interim City Manager David Parrish, City Attorney Tom Carruthers, and Assistant City Clerk, Mary S. Brooks.

#### II. Presentations

1. [ID 18-0227](#) Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Budget Update
  - Water Resources
  - Participatory Budgeting - next steps
  - Other - fees, etc.

Interim City Manager David Parrish provided a history for the item; spoke to dates for budget approvals; budget development goals; affordable housing and M/WBE economic opportunities; increasing the minimum wage; gave breakdown of tax rates; spoke to maintaining AAA Bond rating; bond projects and housing programs; Participatory Budgeting (PB); staff preliminary recommendations; and what was best for the City of Greensboro.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson requested that reminders to vote for Participatory Budgeting Representatives (from all districts) be broadcasted on public channels.

Interim City Manager Parrish stated that PB reminders would be discussed closer to the voting period; continued discussion on high level revenue; electric sales, property and telecommunication tax; spoke to the preliminary general and capital reserve funds; funding the step program; provided the proposed timeline for the budget adoption; and requested Council reach out to him with any questions or concerns.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson inquired on the time and place for future work sessions.

Interim City Manager Parrish spoke to designated nights for meeting on the budget; and stated this was the year of Greensboro Strong and the communities' choice.

Field Operations Manager, Dale Wyrick made a Power Point Presentation (PPP) on the Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Program; gave an overview of the program; spoke to the funding and funding recommendations; the City's and County's cost share; Patterson Avenue collection center's new operation hours; and to the growth rate of the HHW drop off.

Interim City Manager Parrish inquired if the growth of the program was included in the budget; and spoke to the

benefit of the program for residents.

Mr. Wyrick stated that it was included.

Mayor Vaughan inquired about Guilford County's percentage paid for the program; and thanked Mr. Wyrick and his staff for their hard work during the tornado recovery.

Mr. Wyrick provided the percentage paid by the County.

Interim City Manager Parrish recognized Steve Drew, director of the Water Resources Department.

Mr. Drew made a PPP on the system development fee; water and sewer fund budget; spoke to the General Assembly requirements; to the enterprise fund; system development fees; proposal rate comparisons; keeping revenue neutral; funding over next five years; and rates in the County and City.

Councilmember Hightower inquired about the City's price increase from last year.

Mr. Drew spoke to comparison of rates with other cities; CIP management; how money was spent; infrastructure rehabilitation and replacement; and to salaries.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson inquired about the quality of the water.

Mr. Drew assured the water quality was good; spoke to the metrics of sewer overflows; and to the infrastructure regulatory drivers.

Councilmember Hightower inquired about the repair cost of the pipe breaks during the winter season.

Interim City Manager Parrish spoke to the energy and work of staff.

Mr. Drew spoke to future goals; replacement process for sewer and water lines; average usage and cost of water; the future of waste water and water treatment; sewer rehab; the TZO plant upgrades; and stated he would provide the costs for repairs.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson inquired about the budget including solar panels.

Mr. Drew stated solar credits were no longer available; and that staff was researching public and private agreements.

Budget Director, Larry Davis gave a PPP; spoke to a recap on the Participatory Budgeting (PB) update and recommendations; PB Cycles; staff and steering committee recommendations; incorporating existing neighborhood plans in the PB process; being a formal commission; committee size; establishment of a City Council liaison; and suggested it would be a two-year process.

Discussion took place on the active steering committee members; cost of meetings; PB representatives; establishing representation from all districts; advertising; improving budget meetings; support from all Councilmembers; having a resolution at an upcoming Council meeting; and getting feedback from the committee on their goals that were met.

(Copies of the PowerPoint Presentations are filed in Exhibit Drawer A Exhibit No. 9 which are hereby referred to and made a part of these minutes)

2. [ID 18-0226](#) Ordinance Amending Chapter 13 with Respect to Business Permits and Miscellaneous Business Regulations and Repealing and Reenacting Chapter 20 of the Greensboro Code of Ordinances with Respect to

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### Panhandling, Soliciting, etc.

City Attorney Tom Carruthers made a PPP on regulations of solicitation in public places; gave a recap on freedom of speech; spoke to signage; the repeal of Chapter 20 with respect to Peddlers, Solicitors etc.; gave the definition of solicitation; examples of types of soliciting; spoke to regulations by the City based on messages on signage; challenges in court; to the regulation of aggressive behavior while soliciting; and to public safety.

Discussion took place on different types of communications while soliciting; legal restrictions on body contact; overlap of laws; having laws for public safety issues rather than panhandling; regulating City property; difference between private and public property; unevenly enforced fairness of not targeting the poor; and vocal appeal. Discussion continued regarding the distance from ATM machines for solicitors; role of police officers; specific types of behavior for solicitation; using discretion; difference in poverty and non-poverty soliciting; having workshops on panhandling; public awareness of being respectful; repealing the ordinance; usage of signs; and the status of a poverty commission.

Councilmember Thurm spoke to the work of the committee.

City Attorney Carruthers spoke to continuing legal study; confirmed permits and background checks had been eliminated; looking at police data with complaints and arrests; and to a clean repeal of Chapter 20.

It was the consensus of Council to consider the items this evening.

(A copy of the PowerPoint Presentation is filed in Exhibit Drawer A Exhibit No. 9 which is hereby referred to and made a part of these minutes)

### 3. [ID 18-0232](#) Recess to Closed Session

**Moved by Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson, seconded by Councilmember Abuzuaiter to go into closed session to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the City Attorney and Council; to consult with the City Attorney and to give instructions to legal counsel concerning the handling of a claim or judicial procedure pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3) and to discuss matters relating to the relocation or expansion of industries or other businesses, including potential economic development incentives that may be offered in negotiations, pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11 (a)(4). The motion carried by voice vote.**

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson stated Council would return to open session in the Council chamber.

Council recessed to closed session at 4:43 p.m. Council reconvened into open session at 5:38 p.m. with all members in attendance.

Moved by Councilmember Thurm, seconded by Councilmember Wells to return to open session. The motion carried by voice vote.

### **III. Adjournment**

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

THE CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION ADJOURNED AT 5:39 P.M.

MARY S. BROOKS  
ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

NANCY VAUGHAN  
MAYOR