

City of Greensboro

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council Work Session

Monday, August 6, 2018

4:30 PM

Plaza Level Conference Room

I. Call To Order

This Work Session of the City of Greensboro was called to order at 4:30 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 City Manager David Parrish, City Attorney Tom Carruthers, and Deputy City Clerk Angela R. Lord

II. Presentations

 ID 18-0460 Update on the Greensboro Criminal Justice Advisory Commission (GCJAC)

City Manager David Parrish outlined the updates to be provided; the history of the items; and recognized the Greensboro Criminal Justice Advisory Commission (GCJAC) Executive Committee David Sevier, Irving Allen, and Tom Phillips.

Mr. Sevier made a PowerPoint Presentation (PPP); provided a review of the item; spoke to a study completed regarding a review of the Human Relations Commission (HRC); outlined concerns with the Police Community Review Board (PCRB); the approval of the formation of the GCJAC in March 2018; spoke to confidential review of cases; and to a focus to build trust, promote accountability and create transparency.

Mr. Phillips distributed House Bill 1080 to Council; spoke to challenges with the bill; to conversations with Senator Trudy Wade; recommended language revisions; a unanimous approval of the legislation; potential future revisions; clarified the PCRB was no longer operational; stated GCJAC was ready to move forward; and outlined the structure of the Board members and a PCRB subcommittee.

Discussion took place regarding legislation feedback; bill amendment; approval of Council for a standalone commission; communications with the Human Relations Department; structure of other Boards and Commissions; and the intentions for relationships between GCJAC and the Human Relations Department.

City Manager Parrish outlined an additional staff position; and the support function of said position.

Mr. Allen distributed a potential GCJAC board member list for Council review; spoke to concerns for the reporting structure; District representation; the need for process improvements; highlighted the expanded capacity legislation; Council input in determining the organization and structure of GCJAC; spoke to the credibility of potential board members; reiterated Council would determine the function of the commission; and voiced the need for a two way conversation between the community and the police.

Mr. Sevier spoke to member recruitment; annual and quarterly reports to Council; outlined the terms and structure of the proposed board; clarified there had been no cases before PCRB over the last eight months; that the GCJAC was prepared in the event a case should arise; and spoke to educating citizens regarding their rights.

Discussion ensued regarding clarification on the provision for criminal justice experience; GCJAC bylaws; management of the GCJAC; the importance of participation by the Human Relations Department; the Executive Committee investment in the item; staff support; and the need for long term specific processes. Discussion continued regarding committed members; a non-sworn community outreach committee; alternate members for quorums; upcoming interactive sessions; support from the Police Department; diverse representation; the need for additional District 2 representation; and clarification of a board member from Elon School of Law.

Councilmember Outling voiced appreciation for the work on the item; spoke to advocating for the commission to be structured under Human Relations; referenced previous Council action; requested a breakdown of complaints by district; stated police districts were not consistent with Council districts; spoke to geographic information; a diverse Board; and racial categories.

Mr. Sevier and Mr. Phillips provided the history of complaints and the outcome for said complaints. Mr. Phillips continued by explaining the appeal process; and spoke to having one on one discussions with Council members regarding management and membership of the GCJAC.

Council discussed the charge and knowledge of the Executive Committee; Latino and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) representation; support staff; negative encounters with the Police in Districts 1 and 2; educating the community; and expectations for the GCJAC.

Mr. Allen reiterated the need for Council support; stated concerns with Human Relations had not been personnel related; the department had contributed to the new legislation; and voiced concerns with old processes.

Mr. Sevier spoke to the proposed staff reporting directly to Assistant City Manager Barbara Harris.

City Manager Parrish outlined to the next steps; Council appointments; training for GCJAC members; and an agenda item on the August 21st meeting of Council.

(A copy of the PowerPoint Presentation and Handouts are filed in Exhibit Drawer A, Exhibit No. 18 which are hereby referred to and made a part of these minutes)

2. ID 18-0512 Capital Improvements Projects (CIP) Update

Finance Director Rick Lusk made a PowerPoint Presentation (PPP); spoke to an update for bond projects; outlined the 2018 General Obligation (GO) bond issuance; spoke to covering financial obligations; highlighted remaining balances for the 2008 and 2009 voter approved bonds; provided a breakdown of allocation of funds requiring Council approval; and reviewed projected allocation of 2016 voter approved bonds.

Discussion took place regarding the volume of tourism to Greensboro sites.

Mr. Lusk provided an overview of the February One and Eugene Street parking garages; an update on the design phase of the projects; spoke to an increase in property taxes; funding for the projects; highlighted proposed coliseum improvements; reviewed funding through the Hotel/Motel Tax revenue; spoke to the funding, design and construction of the Tanger Center for the Performing Arts; and recognized Coliseum Deputy Director Scott Johnson to provide an overview of Coliseum projects.

Mr. Johnson made a PPP; referenced the success of the aquatic center; spoke to the need for an additional competitive pool for larger swim meets; outlined parking lot adjustments; stated the number of events continued to increase; and provided an image of the proposed revisions to the north entrance. Mr. Johnson highlighted the urgent need for east wing bleachers due to safety concerns; spoke to the replacement of 25 year old cooling towers and chillers; to funding by the Hotel/Motel tax; to grant requests; transportation assistance by the school system; stated the new pool had been ordered; and confirmed the bid process had not begun.

Mayor Vaughan commented on the influx of visitors to area hotels and restaurants.

Councilmember Hightower inquired about the use of Hotel/Motel Tax funds for projects.

Mr. Lusk outlined revenues from the Hotel/Motel tax; explained the request for funding for the Coliseum pool and the Tanger Center; confirmed the usage requirements of the tax; stated the Tanger project was on schedule with a completion date of 2020.

(A copy of the PowerPoint Presentations are filed in Exhibit Drawer A, Exhibit No. 18 which are hereby referred to and made a part of these minutes)

III. Adjournment

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

THE CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION ADJOURNED AT 5:35 P.M.

ANGELA R. LORD DEPUTY CITY CLERK

NANCY VAUGHAN MAYOR