City of Greensboro

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft
City Council Work Session

Wednesday, May 29, 2019 **2:00 PM** **Plaza Level Conference Room**

I. Call To Order

This City Council Work Session of the City of Greensboro was called to order at 2:00 p.m. on the above date in the Plaza Conference Room of the Melvin Municipal Office Building with the following members present:

Mayor Nancy Vaughan, Mayor Pro-Tem Yvonne J. Johnson, Councilmember Marikay Abuzuaiter, Councilmember Sharon M. Hightower, Councilmember Michelle Kennedy, Councilmember Justin Outling, and Councilmember Tammi Thurm.

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Goldie F. Wells

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson confirmed Councilmember Hoffman was participating in the meeting by phone.

Also present were City Manager David Parrish, Interim City Attorney Jim Hoffman, and Deputy City Clerk Tebony Rosa.

II. Presentations

1. ID 19-0398 Budget Review

City Manager David Parrish spoke to a review of the Recommended Fiscal Year 2019-2020 budget; and recognized Budget and Evaluation Director Larry Davis.

Mr. Davis made a PowerPoint Presentation; provided a recap of the previous City Council meeting; an overview of the FY 2019-20 Recommended Budget; and a comparison with other municipalities.

Discussion took place regarding cash flow; tax concerns; debt reserve; non-capital item expenditures; retirement fund contributions; building project bonds; increases to merit pay and minimum wage; additional staff; infrastructure improvements; merit increases; and workers' compensation.

Discussion continued regarding tax rate comparisons to other North Carolina municipalities; a focus on restructuring of property values as growth patterns change with sister-cities in Guilford, Wake and Forsyth counties; current expenditures and future capital needs to improve road conditions; electrical work; facility roofs; and relinquishing city ownership of certain properties.

Mr. Davis outlined transit routes; and spoke to fare rates.

Councilmember Kennedy voiced concerns with fare increases; citizen affordability; and transit ridership.

Councilmember Hightower echoed concerns regarding a fare increase; spoke to customer service; and to transportation alternatives.

Transportation Director Adam Fischer spoke to the 2040 Plan improvements; to paratransit concerns; to Greensboro Transit Authority (GTA) service overlaps; to the addition of bus routes; to federally funded capital improvements; and to national industry trends.

Mr. Davis spoke to revenue and ridership reduction; and to projected transit fund increases.

Coucilmembers Hightower, Thurm, and Kennedy requested staff to research GTA solvency; funding alternatives; and transit options.

Mayor Vaughan entered the meeting at 2:54 p.m.

Mayor Vaughan and Councilmember Hightower inquired about allocation options for potential state transportation funding.

Discussion took place regarding a mental health response team; availability of training resources; comparison of sister cities methodology; community engagement opportunities; and enhancement of customer service.

Councilmember Outling requested data to gauge best practices; clarification on subject-matter experts; a cost analysis; and staff to provide success criteria.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson left the meeting at 3:34 p.m.

Discussion continued regarding the Steven Tanger Performing Arts Center and Coliseum long-range revenue projections; private donor impact; ticket sale revenues; pre-sale packages; economic development; non-profit partnerships; and evaluation of grant opportunities to augment or subsidize non-profit programming.

Discussion ensued regarding extension of the "Parental" Leave to "Family" Leave; quality of life impacts; support caregivers; and the increase of employee retention.

Councilmember Hightower requested staff and merit increase data.

Councilmember Thurm asked for cost associated with an additional one-hour free deck parking data.

Mayor Vaughan requested staff provide data on Raleigh's parking budget.

(A copy of the PowerPoint Presentation is filed in Exhibit Drawer B, Exhibit No.13, which is hereby referred to and made a part of these minutes.)

III. Adjournment

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

THE CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION ADJOURNED AT 4:04 P.M.

TEBONY C. ROSA
DEPUTY CITY CLERK

NANCY VAUGHAN
MAYOR