



City of Greensboro

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council

Monday, July 8, 2019

5:30 PM

Ruth Wicker Event Center

Call to Order

This City Council meeting of the City of Greensboro was called to order at 5:30 p.m. on the above date at the Ruth Wicker Event Center of Barber Park with the following members present:

Present: 9 - Mayor Nancy Vaughan, Mayor Pro-Tem Yvonne J. Johnson, Councilmember Marikay Abuzuaiter, Councilmember Sharon M. Hightower, Councilmember Michelle Kennedy, Councilmember Justin Outling, and Councilmember Goldie F. Wells

Absent 2 - Councilmember Nancy Hoffmann and Councilmember Tammi Thurm

Also present were City Manager David Parrish, City Attorney Chuck Watts, and Deputy City Clerk Tebony Rosa.

Moment of Silence

The meeting opened with a moment of silence; and condolences for Councilmember Thurm and her family.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Mayor Vaughan recognized Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Recognition of Courier

City Manager David Parrish recognized Cora Cunningham of the Human Resources Department who served as Courier for the meeting.

Council Procedure for Conduct of the Meeting

Mayor Vaughan explained the Council procedure for conduct of the meeting.

Mayor Vaughan requested a motion to excuse Councilmembers Hoffmann, Outling, and Thurm from the meeting.

Moved by Councilmember Abuzuaiter, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson to excuse Councilmembers Hoffmann, Outling, and Thurm from the meeting. The motion carried by voice vote.

I. CEREMONIAL AND/OR PRESENTATION ITEMS

1. [ID 19-0300](#) Resolution Honoring the Memory of the Late J. Douglas Galyon, Sr.

Mayor Vaughan stated Council had been requested to postpone Item #1/ID 19-0300.

Moved by Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson, seconded by Councilmember Abuzuaiter to postpone the item to a future meeting of Council. The motion carried by voice vote.

2. [ID 19-0380](#) Resolution Recognizing and Celebrating July as Parks and Recreation Month

Mayor Vaughan read the resolution into the record; and presented the resolution to Nasha McCray, Parks and Recreation (P&R) Department Director.

Ms. McCray voiced appreciation for the resolution and staff; spoke to accreditation status; to upcoming events; and to this year's theme: "Game On".

Councilmember Hightower thanked Ms. McCray; spoke to various P&R programs; highlighted the Ruth Wicker Center; and future Barber Park developments.

Mayor Vaughan encouraged attendance at P&R events; and referenced an upcoming announcement in September.

Moved by Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson, seconded by Councilmember Abuzuaiteer to adopt the resolution. The motion carried by voice vote.

19-0380 RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND CELEBRATING JULY AS PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH

WHEREAS, the National Recreation and Park Association has celebrated the month of July as National Parks and Recreation Month since 1985; and our own Parks and Recreation Department has served Greensboro since 1933;

WHEREAS, during this time, the Parks and Recreation Department has established itself as both an integral, trusted part of the Greensboro community, and as an industry leader in being innovative, collaborative, and efficient towards meeting community needs;

WHEREAS, parks and recreational programs and amenities are vitally important to establishing and maintaining the quality of life in Greensboro, ensures the health of all citizens, and contributes to the economic and environmental well-being of the community and region;

WHEREAS, through the support of the City Council, Parks and Recreation Commission, community partners and dedicated professionals, the Parks and Recreation Department provides progressive leadership, and develops strong partnerships with public and private organizations to literally and figuratively change the landscape of Greensboro;

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Department has been recognized nationally for best practice in terms of business operations and programming, and many of their team members are considered subject matter experts in the field, presenting at state and national conferences;

WHEREAS, through its recently adopted 20-year comprehensive master plan, Plan2Play, the Parks and Recreation Department has committed to a vision that will enhance and expand parks, facilities, and programs; and through its services further connect all generations and neighborhoods within Greensboro; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreational programs and amenities are vitally important to establishing and maintaining the quality of life in Greensboro, ensuring the health of all residents, and contributing to the economic and environmental well-being of the community and region.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREENSBORO:

1. That it recognizes each and every July as Parks and Recreation Month in the City of Greensboro.
2. That it expresses its support for the Greensboro Parks and Recreation Department, its staff, and their vision and role for creating transformational recreation experiences that improve the quality of life and contribute to the economic viability of Greensboro.

(Signed) Yvonne Johnson

3. [ID 19-0461](#) Staff Update

City Manager David Parrish extended greetings to the District One meeting attendees; highlighted significant

advancements in the East Greensboro corridor; provided an overview of facilities and infrastructure; and spoke to future community events.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Scott Jones referenced handouts provided to Council; spoke to Tiny House projects; to affordable housing; voiced concern with Eastside Park development; and the need for Council support for public-private investments in East Greensboro.

Councilmember Kennedy echoed the need for affordable housing; referenced a collaborative effort for affordable housing; and spoke to an increase in rental and home-ownership opportunities.

Councilmember Wells spoke to identifying property in District Two for Tiny Houses.

Councilmember Hightower spoke to communicating neighborhood plans for community growth.

Justin Washington, P&R Commission Chair, spoke to the JustOne Foundation's inaugural golf tournament on July 20th at Gillespie Golf Course; and to an August 3rd community event at Brown Recreation Center highlighting community businesses and nonprofits.

Councilmember Outling entered the meeting via telephone at 6:07 p.m.

Hester Petty voiced concerns with the budget; and the Greensboro Police Department (GPD).

Tamsin Ettefagh voiced concerns with crime, graffiti and gangs.

Maurice Warren voiced concerns with law enforcement; and penalizing violators.

Mary Wakeman voiced concerns with the Marcus Smith incident.

Brian Watkins voiced concerns with gangs; the GPD; and the Rhino Times.

Lewis Pitts voiced concerns with the Marcus Smith incident; and the litigation expenses.

Ryan Tardiff voiced concerns with the Marcus Smith incident.

Mayor Vaughan and Councilmember Hightower requested staff to research Dudley Heights neighborhood enforcement; to provide information for collection of fines and penalties; and a GPD Gang Unit.

Spoma Jovanovic commended speakers from the floor; and spoke to building a home in the College Hill district.

Eddie Brewer spoke to homelessness; and to affordable housing.

Tawana Rowland, Guilford Child Development, provided an overview of a youth empowerment program; spoke to poverty; and to community outreach.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson and Councilmembers Wells and Kennedy provided contact information to Ms. Rowland.

Catherine Holcombe, Democracy Greensboro, requested Council provide monthly progress reports.

Zalonda Woods, a housing and family advocate, spoke to law enforcement training; the homeless population; and voiced concerns regarding government transparency.

Marion Hill, Dorcas House, Inc., spoke to helping indigent women; and voiced concerns regarding exploitation of the disadvantaged.

Councilmember Kennedy explained the demographic breakdown of the homeless population in Greensboro.

Michael Stimpson voiced concerns regarding illegal parking; dumpsters blocking street access; vegetation overgrowth; traffic violations; and with city services.

Councilmember Hightower spoke to addressing concerns with code enforcement.

Matters to be discussed by the Mayor and Members of the Council

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson spoke to the community town hall meetings.

Moved by Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson, seconded by Councilmember Kennedy to reappoint Deborah Bowers to the Board of Adjustment Commission. The motion carried by voice vote.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson placed the name of Stacey Greene into the databank for future service on a board or commission.

Moved by Councilmember Kennedy, seconded by Councilmember Hightower, to appoint Jeffrey Surgeon to the Greensboro Transit Advisory Commission. The motion carried by voice vote.

Councilmember Kennedy spoke to the new town hall format.

Councilmember Wells expressed her commitment to making Greensboro a better city.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson spoke to the need for monthly reporting for Council; and requested staff to research the compiling of a monthly success report for community distribution.

Councilmember Abuzuaiter highlighted events attended; and spoke to a grant from the Community Sustainability Council.

Moved by Councilmember Hightower, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson, to appoint C'mille Best to the Commission on the Status of Women. The motion carried by voice vote.

Councilmember Hightower voiced concerns regarding the Cure Violence program status; and with the number of 2019 homicides.

Mayor Vaughan spoke to working together to develop community solutions to violence.

Councilmember Hightower highlighted events attended; and spoke to community concerns.

Matters to be presented by the City Manager

There were no items for discussion by the City Manager.

Matters to be presented by the City Attorney

There were no items for discussion by the City Attorney.

Adjournment

Moved by Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson, seconded by Councilmember Kennedy, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by voice vote. THE CITY COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 7:40 P.M.

TEBONY C. ROSA, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

NANCY VAUGHAN, MAYOR