



# City of Greensboro

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

## Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council

Wednesday, October 2, 2019

5:30 PM

Greensboro Regional Realtors Association Bldg

### **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 in the Greensboro Regional Realtors Association Building with the following members present:

Present: 8 - Mayor Nancy Vaughan, Mayor Pro-Tem Yvonne J. Johnson, Councilmember Marikay Abuzuaiter, Councilmember Sharon M. Hightower, Councilmember Nancy Hoffmann, Councilmember Justin Outling, Councilmember Tammi Thurm and Councilmember Goldie F. Wells

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Michelle Kennedy

Also present were City Manager David Parrish, Deputy City Attorney Terri Jones, and Deputy City Clerk Tebony Rosa.

Moved by Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson, seconded by Councilmember Wells, to excuse Councilmember Kennedy from attendance at the meeting. The motion carried by voice vote.

### **Moment of Silence**

The meeting opened with a moment of silence.

### **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

Mayor Vaughan recognized Councilmember Wells to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

### **Recognition of Courier**

City Manager David Parrish recognized Charles McLaughlin of the Engineering 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, and introduced new policies for the speakers' code of conduct regarding personnel matters and litigation.

## **I. CEREMONIAL AND/OR PRESENTATION ITEMS**

### **1. [ID 19-0631](#) Staff Update**

City Manager David Parrish extended greetings to the District Four meeting attendees; highlighted the Parks & Recreation facilities; street widening and bridge improvement projects; affordable housing; and future economic development plans.

### **2. [ID 19-0171](#) Piedmont Triad Partnership (PTP) Carolina Core Presentation**

Mayor Vaughan recognized Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and President of the Piedmont Triad Partnership (PTP) Stan Kelly to provide a NC Carolina Core presentation.

Mr. Kelly made a PowerPoint Presentation (PPP); provided a long-term economic development strategic initiative; spoke to megasite investments; to the impact of higher education; to transformational opportunities; to an industry focused on aerospace, automobiles, professional services and logistics; to recruiting efforts and job growth; to marketing and branding campaigns; to interstate signage; and to a 20-year future plan outlook.

Mayor Vaughan commended Mr. Kelly; spoke to the NC Carolina Core advertising campaign; to the economic development impact; to the interstate corridor; and to the megasite.

(A copy of the PowerPoint Presentation is filed in Exhibit Drawer B, Exhibit No. 20, which is hereby referred to and made a part of these minutes.)

**3. [ID 19-0633](#) Resolution Recognizing the Month of October 2019 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month**

Councilmember Abuzuaiter read the resolution into the record; and presented the resolution to Family Justice Center (FJC) Director Catherine Johnson.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson spoke to the efforts of the FJC; and to a decrease in domestic violence incidents.

Ms. Johnson accepted the resolution; voiced appreciation; recognized community partners; spoke to statistics; to working with survivors; and to success stories.

**Moved by Councilmember Hightower, seconded by Councilmember Wells, to adopt the resolution. The motion carried by a voice vote.**

**276-19 RESOLUTION DECLARING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2019 AS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

During National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we reaffirm our dedication to creating a culture of safety and hope in our community where no one suffers the hurt and hardship caused by domestic violence. We recommit to doing everything in our power to uphold the basic human right to live free from violence and abuse and recognize our shared responsibility in ending this pervasive problem.

WHEREAS, domestic violence impacts women, men, and children of every age, background, and belief; and is rooted in a pattern of control in an intimate relationship where one person uses coercion and violence to gain power over his or her partner;

WHEREAS, physical marks and scars are often the most obvious signs of harm caused by domestic violence, however the extent of the pain goes much deeper and can impact one's mental, physical, emotional, and financial health;

WHEREAS, the national average shows that more than three individuals are murdered every day by an intimate partner, and in 2018, the North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence reported that 52 women, men, and children were murdered in domestic violence-related homicides in our state; with Greensboro reporting 0 domestic violence related deaths;

WHEREAS, locally, Family Service of the Piedmont responded to approximately 3,100 crisis line calls in the last fiscal year and the Greensboro Police Department reported over 13,000 calls for service involving domestic and/or sexual violence;

WHEREAS, children who witness domestic violence are more likely to transmit violent behavior from one generation to the next and are more likely to exhibit behavioral and physical health problems;

WHEREAS, in a community partnership, the Guilford County Family Justice Center (FJC) in Greensboro has successfully brought together 17 agencies in one place to provide victims with easier access to comprehensive

resources through a coordinated collaborative effort. This partnership provides hope and healing to victims of abuse and works diligently to hold offenders accountable;

WHEREAS, since the opening of the Guilford County Family Justice Center in mid-June of 2015, over 27,000 citizens in crisis have been served, and Greensboro has seen an 87% reduction in domestic violence related homicides over the past four years;

WHEREAS, by working together and promoting awareness in this community we can restore hope, stop the violence, and make our community safer for everyone; and

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

That it does hereby declare the month of October 2019, as "DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH" and urges citizens to increase their awareness and education of this destructive force, which deeply affects many families in our State and local community each year, and to become part of the efforts to stop violence in families.

(Signed) Sharon Hightower

4. [ID 19-0635](#) Resolution Recognizing October 14, 2019 as Indigenous People Day

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson read the resolution into the record; and presented the resolution to Executive Director Richard Oxendine and the Board of Directors of the Guilford Native American Association (GNAA) Inc.

Mr. Oxendine expressed appreciation; provided a historical perspective; spoke to discrimination and segregation; to annual cultural events; to Native American contributions; and extended an invitation to Council to attend the North Carolina Indian Heritage Celebration on November 23rd.

**Moved by Councilmember Abuzuaiter, seconded by Councilmember Hightower, to adopt the resolution. The motion carried by a voice vote.**

277-19 RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING OCTOBER 14, 2019 AS INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY

WHEREAS, throughout the centuries Native American Indians have shared their knowledge of land and resources while continuing to play a role in the development of the City of Greensboro, the State of North Carolina and the nation;

WHEREAS, North Carolina is home to more than 122,000 Native American Indians and has eight historic tribes legally recognized by the State of North Carolina: Coharie, Eastern Band of Cherokee, Haliwa-Saponi, Lumbee, Meherrin, Occaneechi Band of Saponi, Sappony, and Waccamaw-Siouan;

WHEREAS, the City of Greensboro enjoys a positive relationship with American Indian citizens; recognizes and encourages the acknowledgement of historic contributions and sacrifices of Indigenous People; and respects the cultural and economic contributions that Native American Indians have made;

WHEREAS, the City of Greensboro promotes the closing of the equity gap for Indigenous People to ensure greater access and opportunity, and honor the nation's indigenous roots, history and contributions;

WHEREAS, Indigenous Peoples' Day was proposed in 1977 by a delegation of Native Nations to the United Nations sponsored International Conference on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas;

WHEREAS, the City Council, on behalf of the citizens of Greensboro wishes to recognize October 14, 2019 as Indigenous Peoples' Day; and

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

That it hereby recognizes Monday, October 14, 2019 as Indigenous Peoples' Day.

(Signed) Marikay Abuzuaiter

## **II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Mayor Vaughan reiterated the new code of conduct for speakers.

Vickie Motley voiced appreciation with Specialized Community Area Transportation (SCAT) service.

Jamie Gaddy voiced concerns regarding SCAT date changes for Council meetings; spoke to Greensboro Transit Agency (GTA) staff; to fixed income; and to mobility constraints.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson explained the meeting date had been changed to observe a Jewish holiday.

Councilmember Hightower addressed Ms. Gaddy's concerns regarding the GTA complaint process.

Ben Holder voiced concerns regarding speaker conduct policies; and spoke to restrictions on open forum discussions.

Samuel Jenkins spoke to violence and drug addiction; to treating others with respect; and to teaching youth to pursue positive avenues.

Ekia Patel and A. Amrish Soni invited Council to celebrate the Indian New Year by attending a Diwali festival on October 26th; spoke to a handout presented to Council; and to teaching children about cultural traditions.

James Rosa Jr. invited Council to attend an awards ceremony and banquet honoring male role models on November 2nd.

Phillip Marsh voiced concerns with east Greensboro's projects; commended the support of CityArts and the Parks & Recreation Department; spoke to the mural timeline; to community conversation; and to respect of his artistry.

Discussion ensued regarding an east Greensboro mural.

Billy Belcher spoke to police accountability; and voiced concerns with the Marcus Smith and Zared Jones incidents.

Brian Watkins voiced concerns with the speaker code of conduct; affordable housing; disenfranchised citizens; and the Greensboro Police Department (GPD).

Luis Medina voiced concerns with the GPD; the homeless population; transportation fees; livable wages; and affordable healthcare.

Sean Brandt spoke to SCAT fares; to public transportation; and to the NC Carolina Core presentation.

Shonda Sutton voiced concerns regarding poverty and homelessness; spoke to modular shipping containers for affordable housing; and to social justice for displaced residents.

Mayor Vaughan addressed Ms. Sutton's concerns regarding livable wages; spoke to the NC Carolina Core and megasites; to the standard of living; to quality of life; and to the Welcome Home Project.

Discussion took place regarding alternative housing; solutions for homelessness; and researching properties through the Redevelopment Commission of Greensboro (RCG).

## **III. PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA**

There were no items calling for a public hearing on this agenda.

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

Councilmember Wells spoke to an upcoming town hall in District 2; to the Police Chief selection process; and to Participatory Budgeting (PB) voting.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson spoke to a Bennett College Founder's Day event.

Councilmember Abuzuaiter spoke to the Commission on the Status of Women's Purple Tree lighting ceremony.

Moved by Councilmember Outling, seconded by Councilmember Thurm, to appoint Emanuel Clark to the Planning Board to replace Mark Isaacson. The motion carried by voice vote.

Councilmember Thurm spoke to a District 5 town hall meeting on October 21st; to the Griffin Recreation Center's dog park grand opening; and commended PB voting staff.

Councilmember Thurm and Hightower requested a violent crime update to include 2019 homicides; and staff to schedule a work session for Neighborhood Oriented Policing (NOP) updates.

Councilmember Hightower requested a copy of the NC Carolina Core presentation; spoke to neighborhood rebuilds following the 2018 tornado; to the Police Chief search process; and to Cure Violence.

**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 Councilmember Hoffmann, seconded by Councilmember Abuzuaiter, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by voice vote.

THE CITY COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 7:50 P.M.

TEBONY C. ROSA  
DEPUTY CITY CLERK

NANCY VAUGHAN  
MAYOR