

City of Greensboro

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council Special Meeting

Tuesday, March 17, 2020 3:00 PM Council Chamber

I. Call To Order

This City Council meeting of the City of Greensboro was called to order at 3:00 p.m. on the above date in the Council Chamber of the Melvin Municipal Office Building with the following members present:

Present 9 - Mayor Nancy Vaughan, Mayor Pro-Tem Yvonne Johnson, Councilmember Marikay Abuzuaiter, Councilmember Nancy Hoffmann, Councilmember Sharon Hightower, Councilmember Justin Outling, Councilmember Michelle Kennedy, Councilmember Tammi Thurm, and Councilmember Goldie Wells

Also present were City Manager David Parrish, City Attorney Chuck Watts, and City Clerk Angela Lord.

II. Presentations

ID 20-0278 Council Discussions Regarding COVID-19

City Manager David Parrish spoke to concerns with the COVID-19 virus; to the reduction of operational hours; to additional restrictions and closings to be announced at a 3:30 p.m. press conference; stated staff had been in continued communications with the Emergency Management team; encouraged residents to follow guidelines provided by the Center for Disease Control (CDC); spoke to code enforcement reductions; to health inspections; to staff telecommuniting; and to notification of a positive test in Guilford County.

Assistant City Manager Chris Wilson reiterated the detailed operational changes to be shared with the press; emphasized the CDC recommendations; spoke to daily updates; and to providing support and hope to the community.

Assistant City Manager Trey Davis provided an overview on protocol changes for public safety; spoke to coordinated efforts; to proper adjustments for the Greensboro Police Department; and to precautions for first responders.

Councilmember Thurm requested staff implement a Task Force with community partners.

Mayor Vaughan spoke to volunteer opportunities with non-profit organizations; to donations for the United Way of Greater Greensboro; and encouraged residents to utilize non-profit organizations for contributions.

Discussion took place regarding assistance in east Greensboro; leadership efforts; additional food support for residents; the use of recreational facilities for food drop sites; use of bus drivers for deliveries; concerns for small businesses and families; and sites identified by the school system for food drop-offs.

Councilmember Outling spoke to unexpected household expenses; to financial disasters; to state and federal support; voiced the need to analyze circumstances thoroughly; spoke to the role of Council; and voiced support for the creation of a Task Force.

Councilmember Kennedy requested information to be posted to the city website.

City Manager Parrish confirmed there would be daily updates provided; spoke to staffing levels; to childcare concerns for staff; and to personal sick leave.

Discussion continued regarding innovative and creative programs implemented; the need to debunk rumors; and the closures of facilities with continued services.

III. Adjournment

Moved by Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson, seconded by Councilmember Abuzuaiter, to adjourn the Emergency meeting. The motion carried by voice vote.

THE CITY COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 3:24 P.M.

ANGELA R. LORD CITY CLERK

NANCY VAUGHAN MAYOR