



City of Greensboro

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

Meeting Minutes - Final City Council Work Session

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

3:00 PM

Plaza Level Conference Room

1. Call To Order

This City Council work session of the City of Greensboro was called to order at 3 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, Councilmembers Marikay Abuzuaite, Jamal Fox, Sharon Hightower, Nancy Hoffmann, Yvonne J. Johnson, Zack Matheny and Tony Wilkins.

Absent: Councilmember Mike Barber.

Also present were City Manager Jim Westmoreland, City Attorney Tom Carruthers and Deputy City Clerk Angela R. Lord.

Moved by Councilmember Hoffmann, seconded by Councilmember Abuzuaite to go into closed session to preserve the attorney-client privilege between Council and its attorney pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11 (a) (3). The motion carried by voice vote.

Council recessed to closed session at 3:05 p.m. and reconvened at 4:20 p.m. with all members in attendance.

Moved by Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson, seconded by Councilmember Hoffmann to return to open session. The motion carried by voice vote.

2. Presentations

1. [ID 15-0652](#) Say YES Update

City Manager Westmoreland introduced the item; spoke to the meaning of the Say Yes to Education (Say Yes) initiative; benefits of building relationships; and recognized Assistant City Manager Mary Vigue to speak to the item.

Assistant City Manager Vigue stated Greensboro was a finalist for the next Say Yes community; spoke to various meetings held between the City, County, High Point and the school system; highlighted what Say Yes meant for Guilford County; stated the item would be on the next Council agenda; and recognized Say Yes National Chief Operating Officer, Gene Chasin to present the item.

Mr. Chasin provided the history for the Say Yes to Education initiative; spoke to the search for a new community; the lengthy process; the number and stability of candidates; stakeholders working together; made a PowerPoint Presentation (PPP); spoke to the history of founder George Weiss; to high graduation rates; adjustments made throughout the stages of the initiative; and to recent successes.

Mayor Vaughan inquired about the size of the school systems the organization had worked with.

Mr. Chasin provided class sizes; continued the PPP; spoke to the expansion of the program; economic impact; the reduction of students being placed in foster care; the involvement of family support workers; outlined the key driver for Say Yes; the tuition scholarship; spoke to the personal investment of the students; participation of private and public colleges and universities; the use of resources; integration of the City, County and the school system; and supporting families.

Councilmember Hightower asked about tutoring and after-school support for families.

Mr. Chasin spoke to support triggers; a Parent University class; the provision of pro-bono clinics; outlined the secondary planning system; recommended interventions; mentoring programs; spoke to the reduction of dropout rates; ownership being widespread; transparency; task forces; benchmarks; highlighted the current process; spoke to laying the foundation; the adoption of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreement; continued commitment to facilitate initiative; securing pledges; and highlighted the progress being made with fundraising efforts.

Discussion took place regarding current funding status; total funding costs; projection of implementation of the initiative; staff partnering with Say Yes for implementation; utilizing current programming; and Guilford County's timeline for approval.

Assistant City Manager Vigue spoke to the next steps; and stated the item would be on the August 3 agenda.

Mayor Vaughan spoke to Say Yes as a game changer for Guilford County; corporations relocating to Guilford County; stated Guilford County would have something other counties would not; the program would be transformational; and that it was a great opportunity for the children.

Council discussed appreciation to staff and Say Yes; to current educational ratings for North Carolina; and inquired about additional fundraising efforts.

Walker Sanders of the Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro spoke to private and anonymous donations; voiced confidence in attaining fundraising goals; and spoke to great partnerships.

5. [ID 15-0656](#) LeBauer Park Update

Taking the prerogative of the Chair Mayor Vaughan stated Items #2/ID 15-0653 (Future Skate Park Update) and #4/ID15-0655 (Neighborhood Oriented Policing) would be discussed at a later work session.

Parks and Recreation Director Wade Walcutt referenced previous discussions on LeBauer Park; made a PowerPoint Presentation; spoke to the donation by Mrs. LeBauer; the construction lease agreement; public/private model for sustainability; stated construction had begun; spoke to the oversight committee for park operations; and to a vision for Downtown Greensboro.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson asked if the sculpture would be in the air.

Mayor Vaughan inquired about the projected timeline.

Mr. Walcutt confirmed it would be suspended in the air; spoke to a unique sculpture; and stated the project would be complete by late spring or early summer.

3. [ID 15-0654](#) Council Committee Structure Update

Assistant City Manager Mary Vigue spoke to a meeting with City Clerk Betsey Richardson to review the proposed Committee schedule and meeting dates; and outlined when Committees would meet.

Councilmember Fox inquired as to why the item would not be presented to Council before the second meeting in August.

Assistant City Manager Vigue spoke to the deadline for the next Council meeting agenda; verifying the accuracy of the schedule; adjustments for the Land Development Ordinance; a change in the Zoning and Housing Commission meeting dates; moving forward in September; stated Committee agendas would be similar to Council agendas; provided an estimated time frame for Committee meetings; and verified changes would not be effective until September.

Councilmember Hightower inquired about changes to the Boards and Commissions; and voiced concerns regarding citizen's willingness to serve.

City Manager Westmoreland stated staff was aware there would be changes; and spoke to a new experience for everyone.

(A copy of the PowerPoint Presentation is filed in Exhibit Drawer X, Exhibit No. 21 which is hereby referred to and made a part of these minutes)

3. Adjournment

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

THE CITY COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 4:49 P.M.

ANGELA R. LORD
DEPUTY CITY CLERK

NANCY VAUGHAN
MAYOR