



City of Greensboro

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

Meeting Minutes - Final Public Safety Committee

Monday, November 9, 2015

5:30 PM

Council Chamber

This Public Safety Committee meeting of the City of Greensboro was called to order at 5:30 p.m. on the above date in the Council Chamber of the Melvin Municipal Office Building with the following members present:

Call to Order

Present: 4 - Chairperson Marikay Abuzuaiter, Vice Chair Tony Wilkins, Councilmember Mike Barber and Mayor Pro-Tem Yvonne J. Johnson

Also present were Assistant City Manager Wesley Reid, City Attorney Tom Carruthers, and City Clerk Elizabeth H. Richardson.

Council Procedure for Conduct of the Meeting

Councilmember Abuzuaiter explained the Committee procedure for conduct of the meeting.

I. CONSENT AGENDA (One Vote)

Councilmember Abuzuaiter asked if anyone wished to remove any items from the Consent Agenda.

Moved by Councilmember Wilkins, seconded by Councilmember Barber to refer the Consent Agenda to Council. The motion carried by voice vote.

1. [ID 15-0928](#) Resolution Authorizing Grant Application for Governor's Crime Commission Grant FY 2015-17 for the Child Response Initiative Program
2. [ID 15-0818](#) Resolution Authorizing Amendment #9 to Guilford County Contract No. 36460-04/95-211 for 800 MHz Radio System
3. [ID 15-0886](#) Resolution Adopting the 2015 Guilford County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan
4. [ID 15-0927](#) Ordinance in the Amount of \$100,000 Amending State, Federal and Other Grants Fund Budget for a Federal Forfeiture Grant for Greensboro Police Department
5. [ID 15-0921](#) Motion to approve the minutes of the Public Safety Committee meeting of October 12, 2015.

Motion to approve the minutes of the Committee meeting of October 12, 2015 was adopted.

II. GENERAL BUSINESS AGENDA

6. [ID 15-0957](#) Joint Council-Human Relations Commission Resolution Adopting Changes to the Complaint Review Committee As Recommended By the CRC Enhancement Committee

Assistant City Manager Reid outlined the resolution; referenced the direction of the Complaint Review Committee (CRC); verified the item had not been adopted by the Legislature; provided an overview of what the CRC and Council had requested; stated the resolution would need to go through the Human Relations Commission (HRC); and spoke to the appointment process.

Councilmember Barber stated he did not like the name Police Review Committee; voiced concerns with some of the items in the resolution; stated he could not support the resolution as it was written; referenced changes to the guidelines for boards and commissions of Council; and stated he would like to see the appointment process consistent with the Council boards and commissions.

Councilmember Abuzuaiter spoke to the State requirements.

City Attorney Carruthers verified what the 2001 local legislation allowed with regard to the CRC being a sub-committee of the HRC; spoke to the need for local legislation to amend the current appointment process; verified the HRC was aware of Council's desire for a demographically balanced representation; stated Council could change the name of the CRC; and reminded the committee they could hold the item in committee or move the item forward with a favorable or unfavorable recommendation.

Councilmember Wilkins verified the resolution had not gone through the CRC Enhancement Committee; asked how it got to this committee; asked that a copy of the revised bill be forwarded to the entire Council; and for clarification on what this committee was being requested to vote on.

Attorney Carruthers spoke to the process for vetting the resolution; stated this would alter the committee structure until the bill could be adopted; and spoke to the diversity of the sub-committee.

Councilmember Wilkins voiced concern with some of the language in the resolution; with the meetings being closed; and changing the times and locations of the meetings.

City Attorney Carruthers outlined the procedure for going into closed session to review personnel issues; spoke to the thought process of the CRC Enhancement Committee; and stated the different locations would encourage and increase citizen participation as allow the meetings to be more visible.

Councilmember Wilkins stated he disagreed with some of the language of the item; referenced the sections of the resolution he was in agreement with; and stated he would not support the resolution this evening due to the change in locations language.

Councilmember Fox reminded the committee that the changes had been discussed; forwarded to Council; asked about the expungement piece; and stated he hoped the committee would refer the resolution to Council.

City Attorney Carruthers spoke to what could be mandated by the City; and what was mandated by a judge with regard to expungement.

Councilmember Fox asked that 'community' be put back into the name of the committee.

Discussion took place regarding changing the name of the committee; the length of time the item had been before and discussed by Council; staff's work on the item; and the possibility of amending the item once the Legislature adopted the proposed bill in its next session.

Councilmember Barber asked if this committee could modify the content before the resolution went to Council.

City Attorney Carruthers responded that this was a working committee designed to fine tune matters; and spoke to what they could do by motion.

Councilmember Abuzuaiter asked if any other types of cases would be brought before this committee.

City Attorney Carruthers stated that the Legislative Agenda would be vetted through Council.

Human Relations Director, Dr. Love Crossling responded that the CRC currently heard Fair Housing complaints; spoke to the challenge in making a distinction between the two; emphasized that there needed to be a body to hear Fair Housing complaints; and spoke to the limited scope of the committee.

Councilmember Barber requested the committee be allowed to modify the language in the resolution; place it on the next committee meeting and then expedite the item to the following Council meeting; and emphasized he was not trying to delay the item.

Councilmember Abuzuaiter voiced concern that Council would not be allowed to make the appointments; and referenced restrictions by the State.

City Attorney Carruthers verified that the CRC members had always been appointed by the Chairman of the HRC; was defined as a subcommittee of the HRC; explained that the Legislature was the proper venue to amend the appointment process and to remove the CRC from a subcommittee of the Human Relations Commission in order for clarity that Council had the authority to appoint members; voiced concern with the City being in a grey position; and spoke to sanctions of the state with regard to personnel issues.

Councilmember Hightower stated that the people submitted interest forms to be on the Police Review Board to specifically address police issues; spoke to the need for Fair Housing complaints to be separate; and voiced the need to know what the community wanted.

City Attorney Carruthers stated the committee could postpone the item for a month to allow staff to bring back revised proposals and options as indicated by the discussions; and stated that with the guidance of Dr. Crossling, staff could bring the item back to Council for review.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson suggested Councilmembers review the item; and provide changes to staff.

Assistant City Manager Reid stated staff would provide the revisions to Council.

Dr. Crossling verified that the CRC had seven members; five of which were appointed and two at large by the HRC Chair.

Councilmember Wilkins voiced appreciation for Councilmember Barber bringing the item up.

It was the consensus of the Committee to postpone the item to the next committee meeting; and to not forward the item to Council.

III. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

7. [ID 15-0917](#) Overview of Guilford Metro 911

Assistant City Manager Reid recognized Guilford Metro 911 Director Melanie Neal for an update on Guilford Metro 911.

Ms. Neal made a PowerPoint Presentation which provided an overview and description of responsibilities of the Administrative Division, Emergency Communication Division (911 Center); Technical Services Division and Support Services Division; provided a list of agencies Guilford Metro supported and partnered with; highlights of the department; and plans for the department going forward.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson asked for clarification on what were considered non-emergency 911 calls.

Ms. Neal explained that the department fielded calls for other departments after hours; spoke to the number of radio transmissions Guilford Metro handled; added that Guilford Metro could be up and running at the alternative site in approximately fifteen minutes; and that both sites could be utilized in the case of an emergency. Ms. Neal informed the committee that on October 23rd five members of the department were recognized by the State Board in Raleigh for their participation in resolving a kidnapping case of a fifteen year old girl; and verified that the average time for dispatched calls was 56 seconds.

Councilmember Abuzuaiter thanked Ms. Neal for the update.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson commended the department for the good training; stated she had heard nothing but good things; and thanked Ms. Neal.

Councilmember Wilkins asked if presentations would move to Council meetings.

Assistant City Manager Reid responded that presentations were for the committee and to inform the public about the department.

(A copy of the PowerPoint Presentation is filed in Exhibit Drawer X, Exhibit No. 31 which is hereby referred to and made a part of these minutes.)

Matters to be discussed by the Committee Members

Councilmember Wilkins stated Guilford County had recently authorized the purchase of approximately 200 body worn cameras; and asked Assistant City Manager Reid how many the City used.

Police Chief Scott responded that the City currently had approximately 375 cameras.

Councilmember Wilkins referenced the difference between the Guilford County and the City regarding storage costs; and asked for information regarding the difference in order to make a comparison.

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 Wilkins, seconded by Councilmember Barber, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by voice vote.

THE CITY COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 6:14 P.M.

ELIZABETH H. RICHARDSON
CITY CLERK

MARIKAY ABUZUAITER
CHAIR