



City of Greensboro

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

Meeting Minutes - Final Public Safety Committee

Monday, January 11, 2016

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 Abuzuaite, Vice Chair Tony Wilkins, Councilmember Mike Barber and Councilmember Yvonne J. Johnson

Also present were Assistant City Manager Wesley Reid, Police Attorney Jim Clark, and City Clerk Elizabeth H. Richardson.

Council Procedure for Conduct of the Meeting

Councilmember Abuzuaite explained the Council procedure for conduct of the meeting.

I. CONSENT AGENDA (One Vote)

Councilmember Abuzuaite asked for an explanation of item number 1.

Assistant City Manager Wesley Reid recognized Guilford Metro 911 Director Melanie Neal to speak to the item.

Ms. Neal explained that the enterprise licensing agreement would allow use of cell phones, tablets and other similar personal devices by field users.

Moved by Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson, seconded by Councilmember Wilkins to refer the Consent Agenda to Council.

Ayes, 4 - Marikay Abuzuaite, Tony Wilkins, Mike Barber and Yvonne J. Johnson

1. [ID 16-0005](#) Resolution Authorizing Interlocal Agreement for End Users of SunGard Enterprise Wide Software System
2. [ID 16-0016](#) Ordinance in the Amount of \$1,000 Amending State, Federal And Other Grants Fund Budget for the Appropriation of Wal-Mart Police Community Engagement Program FY 15
3. [ID 16-0014](#) Motion to Approve the Minutes of the Public Safety Committee meeting of December 7, 2015

Motion to approve the minutes of the Public Safety Committee meeting of December 7, 2015 was adopted.

II. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

4. [ID 16-0047](#) Winter Sheltering Update - Jim Robinson

Assistant City Manager Reid recognized Battalion Chief Jim Robinson for an update.

Chief Robinson referenced items in the news; and commended former Fire Chief Grayson for the development of a tier system.

Councilmember Wilkins inquired if anyone came directly to the fire stations for shelter.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson interjected that many people utilized the Interactive Resource Center (IRC), which remained open during extreme temperatures.

Mr. Robinson made a PowerPoint Presentation on the Warming Center and White Flag Emergency Plan; outlined the partners involved; spoke to the role and services provided by the IRC; explained that the IRC rolled into night service which assisted residents in locating agencies; provided the definition of white flag in which agencies would surrender rules and regulations triggered when the wind chill was 25 degrees for a two hour period; and outlined the process used during that time period. Mr. Robinson provided a breakdown of the five tier system that had been utilized for two years; spoke to utilization of centers during natural disasters; outlined the support from the community; financial needs and donations; and provided a two night snap shot of facility usage from January 4th and 5th of this year.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson spoke to the need for snacks to be donated to the various centers.

Councilmember Abuzuaiter stated that the IRC was taking applications for volunteers to assist when the Center remained open overnight; thanked Mr. Robinson and the staff for their work on the issue; and emphasized the City did not want any unfortunate deaths.

Mr. Robinson recognized City departments involved in the program which included Fire, Police and Parks and Recreation; and thanked Neighborhood Development Director Barbara Harris for getting everyone together.

(A copy of the PowerPoint Presentation is filed in Exhibit Drawer Y, Exhibit No. 1 which is hereby referred to and made a part of these minutes)

5. [ID 16-0048](#) Police Community Engagement Update - Trey Davis and Jenny Caviness

Assistant City Manager Reid referenced a previous update regarding the Community Engagement Office of the Police Department; and recognized Captain Trey Davis and Community Engagement Supervisor Jenny Caviness for an update.

Captain Davis confirmed that the series of six meetings to introduce the Community Engagement Office to the community had been completed; verified that the meetings had provided an opportunity for the department to grasp the concerns of the community; spoke to what had been discussed in the meetings; information that had been collected; and stated the five categories were communication, training and recruitment, education, youth and college outreach, and role of community in policing. Captain Davis emphasized that after the series of meetings, the office had seen volunteers who wanted to partner with them to help within their communities.

Councilmember Wilkins inquired about the District 5 meeting at Griffin Park that took place the same night as a Council meeting.

Captain Davis responded that there was a good turnout.

Ms. Caviness ensured that going forward the meetings would not conflict with Council meetings; voiced that she was new to the Police Department; was formerly in the Parks and Recreation Department; spoke to the educational benefits gained from listening to different perspectives; emphasized that staff had seen things through a different lens; referenced a citizen's concerns regarding an officer's response to an alarm call; explained the process used for educating said citizen on departmental procedure; and stated that the citizen was now an advocate for the community who wanted to assist the office as a result of receiving a better understanding of the procedure through the engagement meetings. Ms. Caviness added that the staff had been invited to other communities; that the meetings would continue to take place; that the office wanted to continue to learn and hear the citizens concerns; and that they hoped to build a bridge with the community moving forward.

Councilmember Abuzuaiter stated she had attended several community meetings, commended staff for the job they had done; and spoke to staff listening to and hearing the people's concerns.

Ms.Caviness thanked Council and the Police Chief for their attendance at the meetings; and emphasized that people wanted to partner with the department to help their communities..

Matters to be discussed by the Committee members

There were no items for discussion by the Committee members.

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

THE CITY COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 5:51 P.M.

ELIZABETH H. RICHARDSON
CITY CLERK

MARIKAY ABUZUAITER
CHAIRPERSON