



City of Greensboro

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

Meeting Minutes - Final City Council

Tuesday, January 9, 2018

5:30 PM

Council Chamber

This City Council meeting of the City of Greensboro was called to order at 4:45 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: 9 - Mayor Nancy Vaughan, Mayor Pro-Tem Yvonne J. Johnson, Councilmember Marikay Abuzuaite, Councilmember Sharon M. Hightower, Councilmember Nancy Hoffmann, Councilmember Michelle Kennedy, Councilmember Justin Outling, Councilmember Tammi Thurm and Councilmember Goldie F. Wells

Also present were City Manager Jim Westmoreland, City Attorney Tom Carruthers, and City Clerk Elizabeth H. Richardson.

Moved by Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson, seconded by Councilmember Abuzuaite to go into closed session to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the City Attorney and Council; to consult with the City Attorney and to give instructions to legal counsel concerning the handling of a claim or judicial procedure pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11 (a) (3) and to discuss matters relating to the relocation or expansion of industries or other businesses, including potential economic development incentives that may be offered in negotiations, pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11 (a)(4). The motion carried by voice vote.

Council recessed to closed session at 4:48 p.m.

Council reconvened into open session at 5:38 p.m. with all members in attendance except Councilmember Hightower.

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

Councilmember Hightower entered the meeting at 5:40 p.m.

Moment of Silence

The meeting opened with a moment of silence.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Mayor Vaughan recognized Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Recognition of Courier

City Manager Jim Westmoreland recognized Kym Smith of the Transportation 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.

I. CEREMONIAL AND/OR PRESENTATION ITEMS

1. [ID 17-0800](#)**Resolution Adopting the 2018 Heritage Calendar**

Councilmember Abuzuaiter read the resolution into the record.

Moved by Councilmember Wells, seconded by Councilmember Thurm, to adopt the resolution. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes, 9 - Nancy Vaughan, Yvonne J. Johnson, Marikay Abuzuaiter, Sharon M. Hightower, Nancy Hoffmann, Michelle Kennedy, Justin Outling, Tammi Thurm and Goldie F. Wells

1-18 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREENSBORO ADOPTING THE 2018 HERITAGE CALENDAR

WHEREAS, National Heritage Month observances are an integral part of the National Equal Employment Opportunity and Civil Rights Program;

WHEREAS, the purpose of these programs is to ensure that agencies take affirmative steps to provide equal opportunity to minorities, women and people with disabilities in all areas of employment and provide cultural awareness to everyone;

WHEREAS, the City of Greensboro continues to not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity on the basis of an applicant's suitability for the job and award them, with respect to compensation and opportunity for training and advancement, including upgrading and promotion; and

WHEREAS, The City of Greensboro wants to make official its annual recognition of Nationally Recognized Heritage Months such as:

February**African American/Black History Month**

African American/Black History Month was established to recognize the contributions of African Americans and foster a better understanding of the African American experience.

March**National Women's History Month**

Women's History Month started as Women's History Week in 1978. In 1987, Congress was petitioned to expand the week to an entire month. The month recognizes the important contributions made by women through programs in school, workplaces and communities.

May**Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month**

Asian/Pacific American Heritage observation originally began as Asian/Pacific Heritage week on July 10, 1978. In 1992, President Bush signed legislation designating May as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month. The term Asian/Pacific American includes many ethnic groups with diverse cultures. The month celebrates the collective achievements of the many different communities of Asian/Pacific descent.

Jewish American Heritage Month

Jewish American Heritage Month is a month to celebrate the contributions Jewish Americans have made to America since they first arrived in New Amsterdam in 1654.

Older Americans Month

Older Americans Month was established by presidential proclamation to honor the contributions of older Americans to society. Older Americans Month is a time to celebrate and reflect on the unique contributions of older Americans in our society.

June**Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Month**

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Americans have made important and lasting contributions to our nation in every field of endeavor. President Barack Obama declared June Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Month on June 1, 2009.

Caribbean American Heritage Month

On June 5, 2006, President George W. Bush signed a proclamation making June officially Caribbean American Heritage Month. This month has been established to recognize the historic relationship between the people of the Caribbean and the people of the United States as well as to recognize the many contributions Caribbean immigrants and their descendants have made to the well-being of America.

September/October**Hispanic Heritage Month**

The first Hispanic Heritage Week was approved on September 15, 1968. The month gives people the opportunity to plan and participate in ceremonies and activities that recognize the contributions of the many diverse cultures within the Hispanic community. In 1988, the celebration was expanded to a month and goes from September 15 to October 15.

October**National Disability Employment Awareness Month**

In 2003, previously known as National Employ the Handicapped Week, President George W. Bush proclaimed October as National Disability Employment Awareness Month. During this month, we recognize the many contributions citizens with disabilities make to our society, and we reaffirm our commitment to helping them achieve their full inclusion in our workforce.

November**National American Indian Heritage Month**

National American Indian (or Native American) Month was enacted with a presidential proclamation in 1990. During the month, all Americans are encouraged to participate in programs ceremonies and activities that celebrate American Indian and Alaskan Native peoples' important contribution to the United States.

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

That we observe the preceding nationally recognized Heritage Months throughout 2018.

(Signed) Goldie Wells

2. [ID 18-0010](#)

Community Safety Update - Police Chief Wayne Scott

City Manager Westmoreland spoke to the placement of the item on the agenda; stated he would provide an award to the City and the Police Department; and recognized Police Chief Wayne Scott for a presentation.

Police Chief Scott provided an overview of the Community Safety Update PowerPoint Presentation (PPP); the history of the Safer City Initiative; confirmed that violent crime was on the rise nationally; explained that five working groups had been created and had met collaboratively over twenty meetings in 2017; and recognized the Safer City Summit members in the audience. Police Chief Scott outlined the work that had been accomplished; 2018 goals; outlined the combination of the 2017 groups and creation of new groups for 2018; emphasized that there was a common theme throughout the groups; explained what had brought the groups together; and added that Dr. Wells had been instrumental in the discussion regarding gangs. Police Chief Scott spoke to why traditional gang enforcement might not be the best method; confirmed that the process could create biased base policing; that the department would continue to do law enforcement the same way; highlighted successes in the community; and voiced the importance of community involvement to assist with incentivizing youth to not become part of a gang. Police Chief Scott emphasized the need for the community to come together for discussions of programs to replace gangs; provided an overview of what had taken place in 2017; outlined the Law Enforcement Explorers and Save our Students programs that would be brought back this year in the elementary schools; spoke to the timing and number of students that would be involved in the programs; the hope that the programs would create ambassadors within the community; and outlined the business community partners that would assist with employment and job placement for persons with prior records. Police Chief Scott provided an overview of the work the Housing group had accomplished; explained the Gun Stoppers program; National Night Out activities and other community programs the department had in place. Police Chief Scott explained the process for evaluating the number of homicides in the City; addressed the comparison between Greensboro and sister cities; confirmed and spoke to why homicides had increased; verified that there was a nexus between the drug trade and violent crime; referenced partnering with neighboring departments; spoke to the challenges of law enforcement agencies; and referenced the recent drug bust that had taken place. Police Chief Scott expressed that he hoped to have conversations with the business community; the need for neighborhood watch programs; emphasized that the City could improve the connection of police and community services; spoke to how people connected through social media; added that staff would continue to host job fairs with non-profits and local business to get past offenders jobs; referenced the creation of venues persons could go to for assistance; emphasized the need for mentors and partners for youth; verified staff would like to be the bridge to connect services; and stated that a community initiative was needed.

Councilmember Kennedy asked where the Child Response Initiative (CRI) fit into the plan.

Police Chief Scott responded that the Kellin Foundation would partner with the City; confirmed the City supported CRI; provided an overview of the program; the grant process; spoke to the need for additional advocates; stated there was a strong presence at the Family Justice Center; and encouraged persons to attend the monthly meetings.

Councilmember Abuzuaiter voiced that an ideal scenario would be to have a full time person connected to each sub-station.

Councilmember Hightower inquired about the age for the Explorer Program; and if participants could matriculate into the officer program.

Community Engagement Supervisor Jenny Caviness stated that the age ranged from 14 to 20; explained that the program went to age 20 to allow a participant to remain until they were eligible to enter the officer program; verified that the age groups were separated during the program; and that the minimum age for a police officer was 21.

Police Chief Scott stated the program was modeled after scouting; that the participants were required to wear uniforms; confirmed the participants were tracked; and stated he would like to see all of them enter the officer program.

Councilmember Hightower asked for an explanation on the number of homicides; and inquired about the number of shootings in the last year.

Police Chief Scott provided a breakdown of the 42 homicides reported for 2017; an overview of the clearance rate

locally and nationally; and stated that the City had one homicide in 2018. Police Chief Scott explained the process for determining the numbers by different law enforcement agencies; the logic for determining said numbers; confirmed that some agencies characterized incidents different from homicides; and that he was comfortable with the numbers he had provided. Police Chief Scott spoke to the information collected through the Crimestoppers program; explained the intention of and how shootings were classified; spoke to a trend where houses were being shot at; stated that over 500 guns had been taken off the streets last year, most of which were illegal; and confirmed that law enforcement was seeing an increase in different types of guns.

Councilmember Hightower asked if the department was working with Neighborhood Oriented Policing (NOP).

Police Chief Scott responded that NOP was fully implemented; confirmed that community policing was part of that; outlined the process for placing officers in the communities; verified that there was room for improvement; referenced contacts in the community; and spoke to ongoing conversations about how the City could do better throughout the community.

Police Chief Scott recognized CALEA (Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies) Program Coordinator Sheila Santor to come forward; and spoke to the work she did.

City Manager Westmoreland provided an overview of the CALEA certification for public safety departments; confirmed that the City's three public safety departments were accredited; that the Police Department was the first in the state to be certified; had been certified for 31 years; was the recipient of the Gold Standard of Excellence Award; stated that the City could be proud of the Police Department; spoke to their efforts to solve crime and protect citizens; and presented the award to Mayor Vaughan and Police Chief Scott.

Councilmember Abuzuaiter congratulated Police Chief Scott; spoke to the CALEA inspections; and stated today was National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day.

Mayor Vaughan thanked Police Chief Scott and the staff for the hard work they did; and spoke to the City placement of public safety at the top of its list.

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

II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mayor Vaughan stated that speakers would be grouped together by topic; would be allowed up to five minutes per speaker; and spoke to the process for the meeting.

Julie Peeples, 2201 Villa Drive thanked Council for taking courageous stands on the side of justice; asked that Council adopt a resolution in support of a clean Dream Act; referenced the vote to take place on January 19; the value, employment and work of the dreamers; emphasized this was a local issue; spoke to who was impacted by the act, voiced concern with DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) recipients losing jobs and receiving the message that they were not wanted; and reiterated the need for Council to adopt a resolution.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson requested that a resolution be prepared for Council to consider at the next meeting.

Councilmember Abuzuaiter asked that Council hear from all the speakers; reminded Council she was the Human Relations Commission liaison; had attended the meeting; and requested the prepared resolution be placed on the next Council agenda.

Saul Rodriguez, 2800 Forbes Drive requested Council consider adoption of a resolution for a clean Dream Act; provided his story of coming to the United States from Mexico at the age of five; his experience once DACA was in place; highlighted his status as a student at Guilford College; emphasized he wanted to give back to his community; spoke to the clean Dream Act; and stated he wanted the opportunity to fulfill the American dream.

Tracy Nash, 4500 Forest Glen Road stated she was speaking on behalf of the League of Women Voters of the Piedmont Triad, read a statement from and referenced the League's national position; referenced persons who qualified for DACA; and urged Council to support the resolution that welcomed dreamers.

Lewis Alfonso Olvera, 3604 Nelson Creek Lane told his story of being a DACA recipient; highlighted his accomplishments since graduating high school in 2011; stated he was a member of the Fire Department in Winston-Salem; was a volunteer firefighter; expressed that he enjoyed his job; wanted to make a difference by giving back to the community and helping people; and asked for Council support for the resolution.

Franca Jalloh, 3231 Cypress Park Road provided an overview of her organization; stated she was an immigrant; expressed why the City needed the clean Dream Act; urged Council to show protection and support for immigrants in the community; spoke to the impact of DACA on the City; and asked for Council support.

Hector Sanchez, 2616 Stratford Drive stated he was a member of the Greensboro business community headquartered in Downtown; referenced the number of talented employees the company had; spoke to the success of a DACA student sponsorship program within the company; voiced concern with the impact to families that had employees they were dependant upon; requested Council consider the endorsement and support of a clean Dream Act; and emphasized the importance of family.

Yubi Aranda Sandoval, 1202 Quail Drive spoke to the impact on families since September, 2017; stated she was a legal resident; had received her employment authorization card through DACA; spoke to the experience of her brother and niece; to the impact on the family should her brother lose his job and insurance; referenced tearing families apart; and requested Council support a resolution.

Addie Jeffrey, 3715 Hazel Lane voiced that she had been a member of the Latino Community Coalition Board of Directors; shared a May 2017 video of a DACA beneficiary who could not be here tonight; stated the gentlemen's father had been a highly skilled airline mechanic prior to being deported shortly after the video was made; urged Council to support the resolution; and reminded Council of the economic impact to the City should a resolution not be adopted.

Steve Summerford, 1315 Spry Street voiced appreciation for the Town Hall style meeting; spoke to his 30 year history of community involvement; to institutional racism and oppression; in favor of DACA; and requested Council to adopt a resolution and assist the community with advocating in Raleigh and Washington for a clean Dream Act.

Ann Marie Dooley, 3401 Forest Vale Court stated she was an immigration attorney; referenced the number of DACA cases her firm had handled; outlined why DACA was created; the criteria participants needed to meet; spoke to the number of persons enrolled in the program; to the pursuit of their dreams; and asked Council to support a resolution for the clean Dream Act.

Irving Zavaleta, 5800 West Friendly Avenue urged Council to pass a resolution; provided his history of coming to the United States when he was 13 years old; expressed that his grandmother and mother were the real dreamers; outlined his employment history; voiced that he paid taxes and contributed to the City and to the State; voiced concern that he might not be able to stay here after 17 years; and added that he would fight for a positive change for community members.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson requested that a resolution be prepared for the January 16th meeting of Council.

Councilmember Kennedy voiced that Council agreed that they should provide their support; spoke to persons living in fear; emphasized Council should lend their voices; thanked those for coming tonight; and reminded them that Council saw them and honored them.

Councilmember Wells stated she was touched by the stories; spoke to change; and voiced concern that America wanted to tell people they were no longer accepted.

Councilmember Hightower thanked those in attendance; stated she supported them in their endeavors; voiced concern with persons being afraid; emphasized their value to the community; referenced the economic impact immigrants made to the City; voiced that she stood in solidarity with them; and asked about the long term effects of adopting a resolution.

Mayor Vaughan stated the request was to send the resolution to congress and the legislature; referenced a conversation with Representative Mark Walker regarding the issue; confirmed the government was trying to find a resolution; voiced the need for Council to take action; that it was incumbent upon Council to reach out to all of the legislators; referenced the need for a defined path to citizenship; and voiced concern with children who had no voice and being separated from their families.

Councilmember Abuzuaiter echoed agreement with Mayor Vaughan's comments; referenced that she had left clear messages with the Legislative Delegation members; emphasized that this was an example of the community coming together; commended those who had come out this evening to share their stories; spoke to the impact on DACA participants; emphasized that there was bipartisan support; and voiced the need to move forward.

Councilmember Thurm thanked those in attendance for sharing their stories; voiced the importance in taking the stories to share with people; emphasized the need for others to understand DACA recipients' concerns; and encouraged everyone to take the next step and reach out to members of the Delegation.

Hester Petty, 3402 Canterbury Street referenced comments made by Mayor Vaughan regarding parking in Downtown; reminded Council of their stated purpose for more Downtown parking spaces; voiced concern with the estimated parking deck construction costs; provided the approximate cost per parking space; voiced concerns of public cost for private benefit; with the retail space and design elements for the proposed decks; and suggested Mr. Carroll pay for the leased spaces immediately.

Lewis Pitts, 129 Tate Street urged Council to support DACA and a clean Dream Act resolution; stated he was a member of Democracy Greensboro; spoke to confusion for the security pledged for the Downtown parking decks; requested that detailed information be provided with regard to the proposed funding for the decks; voiced concern with monies being utilized from the General Fund to pay for the costs of the decks; provided information from the North Carolina General Statutes regarding use of Revenue Bond Funds; and reiterated the need for documentation regarding the security being pledged for the \$60 million cost.

Mayor Vaughan requested that that the timeframe for a repository to be placed on the City website be excellerated; and that detailed financing be included.

City Manager Westmoreland confirmed that the City currently had an active website; that he would request staff to prepare a response in layman's terms; and that staff would forward a link to the website to Council and the media.

Councilmember Hightower reiterated the need for the information to be understandable to the general public.

Dave Dalton, 203 Green Valley Road voiced concern with the construction of the Downtown parking garages; made reference to campaign contributions and to the fundraiser attendees of several members of City Council; spoke to the property disclosure forms Councilmembers submit; voiced concern with Councilmember Outling's recent recusals from voting; and requested Council reconsider the parking garage items at an upcoming meeting.

Bulent Bediz, 808 Lexington Avenue provided the history and overview of coming to the United States at 16 years old; spoke to his education; to being on the deportation list for several years; asked Council to support the clean Dream Act; provided the history of his restoration efforts in the Glenwood neighborhood where he had resided since 1976; voiced concern with his properties that had been placed under demolition order; spoke to the costs for demolition; and to community injustice.

Ron Tuck, 1500 West Vandalia Road spoke to basketball goal vandalism that had taken place in Hampton Park; stated the goals had been placed there by a private citizen to promote activity for youth; voiced concerns with

DACA; emphasized the importance of family; treatment of African Americans; provided the history of the Buffalo Soldiers; referenced the lack of events for Black History Month; and asked that Council consider the contributions of African Americans to the community.

Councilmember Hightower explained that the basketball goals had been donated by a private citizen; spoke to the status of his insurance company to cover the replacement costs; added that the donor had requested cameras and lights; and confirmed the goals were a professional type basketball goal.

City Manager Westmoreland was requested to research the replacement of the basketball goals and installation of lights at Hampton Park.

Mr. Tuck spoke to the quality of tournament style goals.

Joshua Garrett, 800 Greenhaven Drive, Apt. 5C referenced listening to persons for DACA; stated he had opened up a gym on Phillips Avenue; highlighted his plans and visions for the venue; emphasized he wished to give back to the community; and requested assistance for opportunities and resources for the area.

Kay Bishop, 5401 Greenough Way, stated she represented Toward Healing Greensboro; invited those present to attend Healing Tuesdays for Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation on the Governmental Plaza; provided a flyer to Council; spoke to what the goal of the group was; to the spiritual leaders involved in the event; and invited Council to attend as individuals on any Tuesday.

Mayor Vaughan stated Council had heard 17 speakers; and expressed that the meeting had gone well.

III. ITEMS CALLING PUBLIC HEARINGS (One Vote)

There were no items calling public hearings on the agenda.

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

Councilmember Hightower stated that she had intended to place the name of Tyheem Cooper into the databank and not on the Human Relations Commission at the December 19 meeting of Council. Moved by Councilmember Hightower to appoint Fanta Dorley to the Human Relations Commission. Discussion took place regarding Ms. Dorley currently serving on a board.

Councilmember Hightower requested City Clerk Betsey Richardson research the membership status of Ms. Dorley.

City Clerk Richardson confirmed she would get the information to Councilmember Hightower.

Councilmember Hightower invited the public to attend the Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade on Monday at 11:00 a.m.; stated the the North Carolina A&T State University football team would be a Grand Marshall; and thanked City staff for working on the broken water mains and lines throughout the City during the cold weather.

Assistant City Manager David Parrish confirmed that twelve lines had been repaired over the past few days; spoke to the record breaking low temperatures that staff was working in; emphasized that staff was doing their jobs proudly; and thanked Council for the recognition.

Councilmember Thurm expressed appreciation to Councilmember Kennedy and the work of the Interactive Resource Center during the cold weather; and thanked the community, various volunteers and organizations for stepping up.

Councilmember Abuzuaiter reiterated thanks to the Public Safety personnel, Water Department staff, and the area shelters for their work; thanked Mayor Vaughan for the Community Forum style meeting this evening; emphasized that Council had the opportunity to concentrate and focus on the speakers; and voiced this was a good step forward.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson stated that she attended the Las Amigas 50 Year Celebration on Saturday; provided an overview of the mission of the group; wished all a Happy New Year; thanked staff for their work; and reminded Council of the Temple Emanuel Martin Luther King, Jr. Service at 7:30 p.m. on January 12th.

Councilmember Wells reminded everyone of Martin Luther King, Jr. day on January 15th; highlighted community events that would take place; invited the community to the Renaissance Community COOP for a special day on the 15th; and reminded Council it would be a Day on and not a Day off.

Councilmember Kennedy expressed gratitude to the people of Greensboro; emphasized the collaborative effort between several venues to keep shelters open during the recent cold weather; reminded Council that they had not lost anyone to hypothermia in three years; and confirmed that they had just finished a 14 day stretch which was one of the longest.

Mayor Vaughan thanked Councilmember Kennedy; and reminded persons that in times of crisis, Greensboro showed its best.

Councilmember Hoffmann expressed thanks to the community during the recent cold weather crisis.

Mayor Vaughan asked for a replacement for former Councilmember Wilkins on the Audit Committee; and spoke to the meetings.

Councilmember Thurm stated she would be willing to serve.

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

THE CITY COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 8:05 P.M.

ELIZABETH H. RICHARDSON
CITY CLERK

NANCY VAUGHAN
MAYOR