



# City of Greensboro

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

## Meeting Minutes - Final City Council

Tuesday, April 3, 2018

5:30 PM

Council Chamber

### **Call to Order**

This City Council meeting of the City of Greensboro was called to order at 5:45 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 J. Johnson, Councilmember Marikay Abuzuaiter, 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.

### **Moment of Silence**

The meeting opened with a moment of silence.

### **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

Mayor Vaughan recognized Councilmember Hoffmann to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

### **Recognition of Courier**

City Manager Jim Westmoreland recognized Charles McLaughlin of the Engineering and Inspections 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 18-0006](#) Resolution Honoring the Memory of the Late Jack D. Zimmerman

Mayor Vaughan stated Council had been requested to postpone the item to the May 1st meeting of Council.

**Moved by Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson, seconded by Councilmember Abuzuaiter to postpone the item to the May 1st meeting of Council. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

2. [ID 18-0135](#) Resolution Recognizing April 28, 2018 as Martin "Marty" David Sheets Day

Councilmember Outling stated he was excited about the item; read the resolution into the record; and presented the resolution to David Sheets.

Mr. Sheets thanked Council for the resolution; spoke to the character of his son Marty; referenced the Parks and Recreation Department programs that had been instrumental to Marty; thanked Marty's co-workers; spoke to Marty's love of volunteering; expressed thanks to those in the audience that had a presence in his son's life; to his friends and neighbors; stated Marty would have turned 55 last week; spoke to Marty's accomplishments; and to the

dedication of his wife Iris.

**Moved by Councilmember Abuzuaiter, 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

**61-18 RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING APRIL 28, 2018 AS MARTIN "MARTY" DAVID SHEETS DAY**

WHEREAS, Martin "Marty" David Sheets was a longtime resident of the City of Greensboro; graduated from Ben L. Smith High School in 1972; and had a 38 year career at Macy's Department Store;

WHEREAS, Marty began his participation in the sports arena in 1968 at the inaugural Special Olympics World Games held in Chicago where he was presented with a Gold Medal by Eunice Kennedy Shriver;

WHEREAS, during his 42 year participation in the Special Olympics as well as other sporting events, Marty was the recipient of an excess of 250 medals;

WHEREAS, in 1999, Marty was presented the Order of the Long Leaf Pine by Governor Hunt for being a good representative of the state of North Carolina;

WHEREAS, Marty was inducted into the Guilford County Sports Hall of Fame in 2012, and into the North Carolina Sports Hall of Fame in 2013;

WHEREAS; for sixteen years Marty volunteered at the Wyndham Championship Golf Tournament, was named PGA Tour Volunteer of the year in 2006, and had the volunteer pavilion used for the Wyndham named in honor of him in 2014;

WHEREAS, Marty was an ordained honorary Elder at Presbyterian Church of the Covenant where a room was dedicated and renamed in his honor, and participated in many church activities;

WHEREAS, additional awards received by Marty include, but are not limited to, the Citizenship Award given by the Greensboro Association for Retarded Citizens; Winning Attitude Award from Macy's, recipient of a plaque from Governor Hunt for representing Greensboro in sports for 25 years; sat with President Clinton during the Opening Ceremonies of the Special Olympics World Games, featured torch bearer in Greensboro for the Olympic Torch Run when the Olympics were held in Atlanta, awarded a plaque from Greensboro Mayor Allen regarding people with disabilities; recipient of the "Distinguished Citizen Award" from the North Carolina Employment Network of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services for "Outstanding Achievements in the World of Work and Public Awareness of People with Disabilities", and recipient of the EP Maxwell Award in recognition of his competitive spirit and efforts on behalf of the disability community;

WHEREAS, Marty also appeared in television commercials and on advertisements promoting the Special Olympic Games;

WHEREAS, the City Council, on behalf of the citizens of Greensboro wishes to commend and recognize the dedication, participation, and volunteerism throughout the sports community of Martin "Marty" David Sheets.

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

That it hereby recognizes April 28th, 2018 as Marty Sheets Day in honor of his dedication, participation, and volunteerism throughout the sports community.

(Signed) Marikay Abuzuaiter

3. [ID 18-0154](#) Resolution Recognizing the Month of April as National Autism Month and April 2, 2018 as World Autism Awareness Day

Councilmember Thurm read the resolution into the record; spoke to a connection she had with someone on the autism spectrum; and presented the resolution to Chris Hocker.

Mr. Hocker expressed appreciation for the resolution.

**Moved by Councilmember Outling, seconded by Councilmember Abuzuaiter, 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

62-18 RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF APRIL AS WORLD AUTISM MONTH AND APRIL 2, 2018 AS WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY

WHEREAS, autism spectrum disorders are a broad range of conditions characterized by challenges with social skills, repetitive behaviors, speech, and nonverbal communication;

WHEREAS, autism spectrum disorders affect at least one in sixty-eight children and an unknown number of adults in the United State of all genders, races, ethnicities, and socioeconomic backgrounds;

WHEREAS, early, accurate diagnosis and appropriate education, intervention, and supports are vital to the well-being of those with autism spectrum disorders;

WHEREAS, persons with an autism spectrum disorder should have access to the care, services, and opportunities they need to be happy and to achieve their greatest potential;

WHEREAS, the City Council, on behalf of the citizens of Greensboro wishes to take part in the annual observance of World Autism Month and World Autism Awareness Day in the hope that it will lead to additional research, a better understanding, and acceptance of autism spectrum disorder.

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

That it hereby takes part in the annual observance of World Autism Month and recognizes April 2, 2018 as World Autism Awareness Day to raise public understanding of autism spectrum disorder.

(Signed) Justin Outling

Councilmember Hightower left the meeting at 6:03 p.m. and returned at 6:05 p.m.

## **II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Mayor Vaughan stated that those wishing to speak on gun violence would be heard first; reminded those present that the speakers would be grouped together by topic; stated some sheets did not have a topic; and recognized Representative Amos Quick and candidate Adam Colvert in the audience.

Anne Joy Cahill Swenson, 2809 Sherwood Street outlined the goals and mission of March for Our Lives Greensboro; referenced the requirements of the ATF (Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives); requested universal background checks; a ban on high capacity magazines; semi-automatic weapons; referenced the Second Amendment; voiced concern with military grade weapon availability; and emphasized the need to prevent shootings from taking place.

Mustafa Parks, 1601 East Market Street voiced concern for Greensboro hosting a gun show; spoke to violence and ownership of guns; government spending on the military; provided a quote from Abraham Lincoln; voiced the need to

eliminate food deserts and ABC stores in communities; referenced the perception of East Greensboro; requested job fairs instead of a gun show; spoke to recent actions of President Trump; and emphasized the need to lead by example.

Mitchell Fryer, 12460 East Old US. Highway 64 spoke to the root of violence in Greensboro; voiced the need for improved focus on poverty and other areas; the need to address the culture that advocated for violence against certain people; the history of gun control measures; institutional slavery of particular groups; events that had taken place in the City; and requested that something be done regarding how firearms impacted the community.

Dominic Potafie, 5051 Friendly Avenue provided a quote from the March of Arms last week; referenced the role and opinions of the National Rifle Association; spoke to the requirements of private gun sellers; actions of Congress after the Columbine incident; emphasized that gun violence impacted everyone; asked that the community take a stand; and added that they would not stop until every child could go to school without the fear of gun violence.

Erica Payton, 4441 Baylor Street provided facts from the health care approach regarding gun violence; stated gun violence was the leading cause of premature deaths in the United States; emphasized gun violence was a public health issue; spoke to the impact on persons as a result of gun violence; emphasized the need for comprehensive solutions for gun prevention and safety; to create a culture that ensured the well being and safety for all; requested Council support comprehensive public health laws; and provided a handout to Council.

Andrew Stevens, 157 Old Garner Drive spoke to constitutional rights and freedoms for all; expressed that he held a valid concealed weapons permit; referenced Council discussion around firearms being prohibited in parks; preemptive laws; voiced concern with trying to extinguish the freedoms of citizens; illegal overreach of elected officials; added that he looked forward to attending the gun show this year; and spoke to the number of seated Councilmembers who held concealed weapon permits.

Dortch Mann, 2622 Beechwood Street stated that research had not been done regarding a correlation between mental illness and gun violence; referenced the Dickey Amendment adopted 22 years ago; spoke to why mental health in the City had improved with each generation; to the lack of control of people; why people got emotionally hijacked; how he dealt with patients in his practice; voiced the need for persons to get support in changing their strategies and behaviors; and requested that Council support measures to learn more about mental health issues.

Jonathan Halas, 5805 Methodist Road questioned why the gun discussion was not an agenda item; voiced the need for additional conversation on the topic; need to find additional regulations; referenced the students who spoke this evening; and emphasized that doing nothing was not acceptable.

Christopher Oates, Walnut Cove stated he was a Winston-Salem gun show representative; provided the history of the training he had received; voiced that spree killers planned their events; spoke to when staff was not armed in particular venues; and referenced quotes of Mayor Vaughan.

A representative speaking on behalf of Kani Bynum, 104 Grovecrest Way read a statement with regard to gun violence; emphasized that guns were killing the future; the need to enforce change; spoke to the lack of legislation and other factors; to the need to cancel the gun show; and expressed that the country could not afford to lose any more young people.

Portia Shipman, 3814 Brandt Lake Court referenced the correlation between domestic violence and guns; encouraged the community to attend a free Citywide Rally and Resource Fair that would take place at Center City Park on April 7th from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.; and outlined the mission of and requested Council support for Choose Peace Greensboro.

Councilmember Kennedy left the meeting at 6:46 p.m. and returned at 6:49 p.m.

Terence Muhammad, 915 Dunbar Street stated for the record that he did not own, carry or have a weapon in his home; spoke to black persons dying on the streets and dealing with gun violence on a daily basis; voiced concern

that the issue of black communities had not been discussed; stated he helped organize the March for Our Lives event in Washington, DC; spoke to those who participated in the event; voiced the need for better education; the need to change legislation; to close the achievement gap; and spoke to disparities in the health care system. Mr. Muhammed referenced the mission of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; spoke to how guns got into the communities; the need for communities to help themselves to stop the violence within their communities; provided the history of events that had taken place in black communities; and asked for a moment of silence during his last 15 seconds to reflect on all those that had died at the hand of gun violence.

Mark Robinson, 4015 Sassafras Court stated he did not prepare a fancy speech; heard a lot of people talking about different groups and subjects; asked when Council would stand up for the majority; emphasized he was the majority; was a law abiding citizen; spoke to placing blame where it belonged; restricting his constitutional rights; spoke to the items that were sold at gun shows; referenced military combat; stated that the majority of people in the City were law abiding citizens; and emphasized that the Second Amendment was written for everyone.

Mayor Vaughan provided a history of the topic; reaffirmed that Council was not trying to take anyone's rights away; stated Council was aware that there were firearms dealers in the City; voiced concern with the gun show taking place at a City facility; and stated that the booking of the event was the responsibility of the Coliseum Director.

Moved by Mayor Vaughan, seconded by Councilmember Hightower that the proceeds from the gun show be donated to the GunStoppers Program.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson confirmed that Council could make that decision. City Attorney Carruthers responded in the affirmative.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote of Council.

Mayor Vaughan confirmed that the program helped get illegal guns off the street; stated she held a concealed weapons permit; that she had been transparent about her gun ownership as well as other topics; that she was proud of the discussion this evening; spoke to the opinions of the community; stated she hoped Coliseum Director Matt Brown watched the video of tonight's comments; and spoke to work on the Cure the Violence Program.

Councilmember Hightower voiced appreciation and support for comments made this evening; emphasized this was just one step in helping the community heal; spoke to the rights of persons under the Second Amendment; and voiced her support of Mayor Vaughan.

Councilmember Kennedy provided history from her childhood regarding guns; stated people had the right to own guns; emphasized that there was not a place in society for mass murder weapons; that those types of weapons should not be sold in a City owned facility; reiterated Council was not trying to take away people's rights; stated she did not own a gun; voiced support of the Second Amendment; and added that she stood in solidarity with the young people raising their voices.

Mayor Vaughan stated Council would hear from speakers regarding panhandling,

George Achini, 305 East West Gate City Boulevard provided his history since relocating to Greensboro from Africa in 2007; stated he was undocumented; had worked with the Interactive Resource Center regarding long term care; spoke to the perception of panhandlers; to the constitution; and to recent events regarding homelessness.

Suzanne Marshall, 407 East Washington Street referenced the challenges of being homeless over the past six years; voiced concern that the homeless were unprotected; with the actions of politicians; with the panhandling ordinances; emphasized that Amy Murphy did not speak for the homeless; and asked that Council hear their requests.

Richard Vaught, 407 East Washington Street voiced appreciation for the meeting with Mayor Vaughan and Councilmember Outling; spoke to why he was unable to work; stated that he made a living by panhandling;

referenced an article written by Amy Murphy; the panhandling ordinances; emphasized that the homeless population was on the rise; requested a committee be formed to look at poverty and homelessness that included members of the homeless population; and stated he was participating in a new program at the Interactive Resource Center for continued education.

Carlos Gonzalez, 407 East Washington Street stated he had voted for several Councilmembers; that he had been homeless for about 2.5 years; spoke to panhandling being a means of survival; to the need for clothing, food and shelter; to the root causes of homelessness; and requested a committee be formed to look at the causes of poverty.

Robert Corriher, 1103 Lexington Avenue stated he had attended a meeting at the Interactive Resource Center regarding poverty; emphasized that Greensboro had an opportunity to lead the nation on the issue; stated he had provided a handout to Council; spoke to the unconstitutionality of the panhandling ordinance; to available services; and asked that Council work with persons meeting on poverty.

Isiahon Wardlow, no address provided stated he was a member of the Empowerment Center; requested that 50% of the members of a poverty commission come from low income families; read a statement to Council; spoke to the need for additional black owned businesses; provided figures and statistics for local businesses with and without paid employees; sales advantages for white owned businesses; and referenced the percentage of minorities in Greensboro.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson left the meeting at 7:33 p.m. and returned at 7:36 p.m.

Marcus Hyde, 211 South Mendenhall Street expressed the need for persons to be heard; referenced conversations with Mayor Vaughan and several Councilmembers; requested Council repeal the ordinances regarding panhandling and loitering; that Council establish a committee to research and advise them on the issue of poverty; emphasized the group wanted a seat at the table; that the ordinances were a violation of persons' constitutional rights; voiced the need to eliminate poverty; to focus on low income affordable permanent housing; added that most persons panhandled out of necessity, not choice; and added that the City could be a model for the nation.

Catherine Holcombe, 1911 Rosecrest Drive voiced her concern for poverty and homelessness; reminded Council the question of the legality of the panhandling ordinances came up at the last meeting; spoke to violence and division in the City; and asked that Council look at the issue.

Mayor Vaughan requested an update on the legality of panhandling ordinances from City Attorney Carruthers.

City Attorney Carruthers referenced his research and conversations with Council; confirmed that the laws had changed with regard to regulations that were previously considered to be content neutral; that the panhandling ordinances had started to be legally challenged; advised that staff would have recommendations for Council at the next meeting; would need to look at the licensing process for solicitors; peddlers and panhandlers; and added that public discussions would need to take place.

Councilmember Kennedy interjected that Council needed to take action on the issue; requested City Attorney Carruthers' recommendation on how the Council should respond; and asked if they should continue on the same course or if there was a legitimate reason to establish a temporary moratorium with regard to panhandling.

City Attorney Carruthers responded that he had provided a memo to Council; voiced the need to ensure the City took correct action and got the issue right; reiterated that staff would have specific recommendations at the meeting on April 17th; spoke to a moratorium; to the enforcement of laws by police officers; and verified that requesting a moratorium was not asking a police officer not to enforce a law.

Councilmember Kennedy advised of her expectations of what would take place on April 17th; spoke to ticketing panhandlers; and expressed the need for conversations to take place.

City Attorney Carruthers reminded Council they would need to consider what type of regulation, if any, was appropriate; referenced the Fourth Circuit opinion; voiced disagreement that all panhandling ordinances were unconstitutional; added that staff would craft an ordinance in guidance with the new law; and spoke to consequences when items were rushed through Council.

Moved by Councilmember Kennedy, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson that beginning tonight Council establish a moratorium on the panhandling license requirement.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson confirmed that City Attorney Carruthers had answered the questions she had at the last meeting.

Councilmember Outling expressed that he did not want his comments to be misconstrued; voiced his understanding of the process for the Community Forum meetings; that items should be presented at work sessions so that Council could have deliberative thought in order to make an informed decision; stated that he understood a vote might be required this evening; spoke to those who had followed the process to bring items before Council; added that an uninformed decision by Council could lead to bad results; asked City Attorney Carruthers the reason answers were delayed coming out of his office; and requested a work session and advice from the legal staff prior to voting on the motion.

Councilmember Kennedy referenced an opinion from the School of Government; and stated it was her understanding that Council was standing on the right side of the legal issue in asking for the moratorium.

City Attorney Carruthers confirmed Councilmember Kennedy's understanding.

Councilmember Abuzuaiter emphasized that she wanted the opportunity to sit down with those who would be impacted by a decision of Council prior to voting on an item; that she was an at-large member who represented all of Greensboro; that she was not aware of meetings that had taken place; referenced the memo from City Attorney Carruthers; voiced that she could not make an informed decision this evening; that it was incumbent upon her to learn about an issue prior to voting; and spoke to the reason for the Community Forum/Town Hall style for the meetings.

Councilmember Wells spoke to the format of the Town Hall style meetings being a time for Council to listen to constituents' concerns; voiced that Councilmembers all had topics they were passionate about; reminded Council the item would come before them in two weeks; emphasized the need for an answer from City Attorney Carruthers so Council had clarity as to what was legal; stated she went to the Interactive Resource Center; knew the homeless had needs; and reiterated the need for Council to listen to concerns at the first meeting of the month and vote at the second meeting of the month.

Councilmember Kennedy interjected that Council had voted on another item this evening.

Councilmember Hoffmann voiced concern with only hearing from one group this evening; that persons who felt threatened and unsafe needed to be heard; spoke in defense of Amy Murphy's comments; and voiced that this was a big picture item.

Councilmember Hightower voiced support of comments made; referenced when she had requested a moratorium with regard to the M/WBE Study; understood that Council needed to take time to research and have discussions on an item prior to taking action; voiced the need to hear from City Attorney Carruthers for clarification on the direction going forward; that she had concerns with persons receiving tickets for panhandling; stated she would like to have discussions and had some ideas with regard to a poverty commission; and spoke to the focus and ability of the Community Forum/Town Hall style of meetings to hear constituent concerns.

Councilmember Kennedy voiced appreciation for Council's comments; stated that she would respect the process of the Town Hall meetings; that staff had a good starting point; and that she would ask for the vote on April 17th rather than this evening.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson requested an update at a work session prior to Council taking a vote on the issue.

Councilmember Kennedy added that she spent everyday with the people living in homelessness; and spoke to the strength it took, and the respect she had, for the persons who came before Council this evening.

Mayor Vaughan requested that staff have documentation at the upcoming work session; requested Mr. Hyde reach out to the remaining Councilmembers; and spoke to the upcoming boards and commissions meeting.

Hester Petty, 3402 Canterbury Street requested that Council remove the panhandling ordinances in two weeks as they were unconstitutional; voiced concern with the homeless being run out of Downtown; referenced Greensboro being the 'Gate City'; harassment of persons of color; the need for a zero tolerance of police misconduct; requested Council watch and speak publicly on the previously discussed body worn camera video; stated Council should allow the judge to charge them with contempt of court; and referenced the proposed appeal of the gag order placed on Council.

At the request of Councilmember Hightower, City Attorney Carruthers provided the reason why Council voted not to view the video Ms. Petty was referring to.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson left the meeting at 8:20 p.m. and returned at 8:22 p.m.

Councilmember Kennedy left the meeting at 8:21 p.m. and returned at 8:24 p.m.

Tom Taylor, 409-D Parkway Street voiced his support for the proposed parking decks; encouraged Council to continue to support the projects; stated he was a real estate appraiser; spoke to the growth impact to the City that the additional parking decks would have; the attraction of new businesses and industry Downtown; the repurposing of older buildings; and added that the decks would be a catalyst for additional Downtown development.

Terry Sprinkle, no address provided an overview of a handout to Council with regard to safe city initiatives; spoke to the change in technology; addressed communication challenges; and stated he would welcome the opportunity to discuss the matter with Council.

Kay Hutchins-Self, 5300 Fieldbrook Drive requested assistance with dealing with Duke Energy remaining on her property.

City Attorney Carruthers confirmed that Support Services Analyst, John Gribble had met with Ms. Hutchins-Self since she had come before Council; and communicated that the City had no further involvement in the issue.

Mayor Vaughan conveyed to Ms. Hutchins-Self that the City Attorney confirmed the City could not do anything.

Ms. Hutchins-Self provided the history of her efforts to repair a sewer line; spoke to the costs to repair said line; contractors estimates; flooding on her property; her back steps settling; and stated she would not leave until she had a resolution for the issue.

Mayor Vaughan confirmed that there was nothing the City could assist Ms. Hutchins-Self with.

City Attorney Carruthers confirmed that the City did not have a role in the issue; and spoke to Mr. Gribble's assistance with regard to the storm drain.

Ms. Hutchins-Self informed Council she would not leave.

Tony Hayes, 2108 Rosetta Road informed Council of issues he had trying to reclaim equipment he owned that was left in a facility owned by his previous employer; spoke to court orders he had obtained; assistance from the police department; and requested assistance from the City.



Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson recognized Police Attorney Polly Sizemore.

Police Attorney Sizemore provided the history of Mr. Haye's situation dating back to 2016; clarified the peace keeping role of the Police Department; stated that a new business was now in the facility; confirmed it was an issue between Mr. Hayes and the new owner; stated she had obtained a copy of the court Order; and verified that the City did not have a role in the matter.

Mr. Hayes voiced concern with an Order he received in January; with getting the run around; and emphasized he needed to get his equipment back.

Councilmember Wells asked for clarification regarding the timeframe of communication; and advised that Mr. Hayes needed to get someone to assist him with mediation in the issue.

Councilmember Outling voiced concern with staff counseling private citizens on issues that did not involve the City; the need for City staff to perform their jobs; and emphasized that issues like this were not a good use of staff time.

Councilmember Hightower requested Mr. Hayes' contact information; emphasized Council needed to hear peoples' concerns; and that Mr. Hayes was a citizen of the City.

Mayor Vaughan reminded Council that they could not legislate these type of issues which were beyond the realm of the duties of City staff; and advised that Mr. Hayes may need to retain a private attorney.

Michael Pippin, 1907 Gracewood Drive stated he had an issue with public/private partnerships; spoke to the partnership of the Gateway University Research Park; University of North Carolina at Greensboro and North Carolina A&T State University (NCA&T); use of a portion of the the NCA&T farm; documentation on the public records; actions by former legislators; expressed concern with the impact on students; and provided a slide for Council.

Councilmember Hightower thanked Mr. Pippin; stated she was familiar with the Memorandum of Understanding as well as the documentation he was referring to; and referenced the zoning of the property.

### **III. ITEMS CALLING PUBLIC HEARINGS (One vote)**

There were no items calling public hearings on this agenda.

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

Councilmember Hightower inquired about the authority of the Coliseum Director to decide on shows booked at the coliseum; if the policy could be changed; and when the policy was created.

City Attorney Carruthers responded that the initial authority was given in 1994, renewed in 2013; spoke to the difference between a gun show and other trade shows; confirmed that the legislature mandated certain events; added that the policy allowed the Coliseum Director the needed flexibility due to the nature of shows; and advised that it would not be in the interest of the City to disturb Mr. Brown's sole discretion of bookings.

Councilmember Thurm requested City Manager Westmoreland initiate a strategic planning study for the New Garden Road corridor; and encouraged persons to attend the event on April 11 at the Greensboro Historical Museum for the Planet Greensboro series on the topic of walkability.

Councilmember Abuzuaiter congratulated Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson for receiving the North Carolina A&T State University Alumni Award; and stated she attended the grand opening of the Greensboro Housing Hub on March 22nd.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson expressed that she had represented the City of Greensboro in Scotland; stated that Greensboro would host the Irish Dancing Championship in 2019; explained that the economic impact was estimated

to be approximately \$25 million; and commended the Convention and Visitors Bureau for their work while in Scotland.

Councilmember Wells spoke to the event that was held on Saturday at the Renaissance COOP; stated that Mt. Zion Baptist Church hosted a community outreach day at Peeler Recreation Center; reminded people that tomorrow marked the commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the assassination of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; expressed that her father worked for Dr. King; and invited the community to a candlelight vigil at Dorothy Brown Park at 6:00 p.m. tomorrow evening followed by a march at dusk to the International Civil Rights Museum.

Councilmember Kennedy requested City Manager Westmoreland research the status of the Greensboro Department of Transportation (GDOT) traffic review of the intersection at Spring Garden and Howard Streets; and stated she had spoke with constituents about the matter.

Councilmember Hoffmann spoke to working with the community on the Cultural Arts Master Plan; invited the community to public listening sessions April 25th through the 28th; and stated the locations for said meetings would be advertised over the next several days.

Mayor Vaughan reminded Council there had been discussion regarding the City boards and commissions; asked who was interested in serving on a review committee; asked City Clerk Betsey Richardson to notice a meeting for 4:00 p.m. on April 10th in the legislative conference room; and stated the meeting format would be similar to that of a work session. Councilmembers Hightower, Abuzuaiter, Thurm and Mayor Vaughan voiced interest in serving on the committee.

#### 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

#### [ID 18-0218](#) Resolution to Authorize the City Manager to Enter into an Agreement

City Attorney Carruthers spoke to the resolution to authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Peters Holdings, LLC to acquire a portion of its easement running over and across property located at 112 East Market Street, as more particularly described in the Guilford County Register of Deeds at Deed Book 1206, Page 436; and spoke to the status of the easement settlement.

Councilmember Outling reiterated his concern for the purpose of the Community Forum meetings; stated he would need to run a conflict of interest check; and asked for guidance on handling the vote.

City Attorney Carruthers confirmed that the resolution involved the February One Parking Deck.

Councilmember Thurm voiced that she would need to check on a conflict as well.

Discussion took place regarding potential conflicts of interest for the item; recusal of Councilmembers; recessing the meeting to allow time for a conflicts check; requirements of state law for a recusal; responsibility of Councilmembers to vote unless they had a conflict; definition of abstention; and a matter involving the same entity being voted on in December.

Councilmember Thurm stated she would be comfortable voting on the issue this evening.

Councilmember Outling voiced he would need to recuse himself from voting.

**Moved by Mayor Vaughan, seconded by Councilmember Kennedy to adopt the resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes,** 7 - Nancy Vaughan, Yvonne J. Johnson, Marikay Abuzuaiter, Nancy Hoffmann, Michelle Kennedy, Tammi Thurm and Goldie F. Wells

**Nays,** 1 - Sharon M. Hightower

**Excused,** 1 - Justin Outling

63-18 RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH PETERS HOLDINGS, LLC TO ACQUIRE A PORTION OF ITS EASEMENT RUNNNING OVER AND ACROSS PROPERTY LOCATED AT 112 EAST MARKET STREET, AS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED IN THE GUILFORD COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS AT DEED BOOK 1206, PAGE 436

WHEREAS, the City of Greensboro operates a Public Enterprise to provide off-street parking facilities pursuant to its authority under G.S. §§160A-301-302 and 311-312;

WHEREAS, the City of Greensboro has operated off-street parking for over 50 years pursuant to Sec. 16-156 of its Code of Ordinances and the City of Greensboro currently has nine off-street parking facilities as identified by Traffic Schedule No. 9;

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest for the City of Greensboro to operate said public enterprise;

WHEREAS, the real property located at 112 E. Market St. (Guilford County Parcel #0000004) was acquired by the City on June 28, 2017 and is an off-street surface parking lot and also the proposed sight of the 800 space off-street parking deck planned by the February One Downtown Development Project;

WHEREAS, acquisition of a portion of the aforementioned easement is necessary to operate an off-street parking facility;

WHEREAS, negotiations toward purchase of the portion of the easement necessary to operate said off-street parking facility have been successful;

WHEREAS, the City Manager is authorized to enter into an agreement with Peters Holdings, LLC to purchase said easement for the amount of One Hundred Thousand and no/Dollars (\$100,000.00) and to provide up to six assigned parking spaces in the February One Parking Deck on the first level of available parking to Peters Holdings, LLC for rent at market rate;

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

That, City Manager is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with Peters Holdings, LLC to acquire a portion of its easement running over and across property located at 112 E. Market St., as more particularly described in the Guilford County Register of Deeds at Deed Book 1206, Page 436, in substantial conformity with the authority granted herein.

(Signed) Nancy Vaughan

### **Adjournment**

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

THE CITY COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 9:30 P.M.

ELIZABETH H. RICHARDSON  
CITY CLERK

NANCY VAUGHAN  
MAYOR

