



City of Greensboro

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

Meeting Minutes - Final City Council

Monday, August 5, 2019

5:30 PM

Union Square Campus

Call to Order

This City Council meeting of the City of Greensboro was called to order at 5:30 p.m. on the above date at the Union Square Campus, 124 East Gate City Boulevard with the following members present:

Present: 7 - Mayor Nancy Vaughan, Councilmember Marikay Abuzuaiter, Councilmember Nancy Hoffmann, Councilmember Michelle Kennedy, Councilmember Justin Outling, Councilmember Tammi Thurm and Councilmember Goldie F. Wells

Absent: 2 - Mayor Pro-Tem Yvonne J. Johnson and Councilmember Sharon M. Hightower

Councilmember Abuzuaiter, serving as Chair for the meeting, confirmed that Mayor Vaughan was participating in the meeting via telephone.

Councilmember Abuzuaiter asked for a motion to excuse Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson and Councilmember Hightower from the meeting.

Moved by Councilmember Wells, seconded by Councilmember Outling, to excuse Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson and Councilmember Hightower from the meeting. The motion carried by voice vote.

Also present were City Manager David Parrish, Assistant City Attorney Terri Jones, and City Clerk Angela Lord.

Moment of Silence

The meeting opened with a moment of silence.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Councilmember Abuzuaiter recognized Councilmember Wells to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Recognition of Courier

City Manager David Parrish recognized Ricardo Reyes of the Fire Department who served as Courier for the meeting.

Council Procedure for Conduct of the Meeting

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

I. CEREMONIAL AND/OR PRESENTATION ITEMS

[ID 19-0516](#) Staff Update

City Manager David Parrish extended greetings to the District Two meeting attendees; highlighted significant advancements in the district; provided an overview of facilities and infrastructure; and spoke to future community events.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Dr. Anjail Ahmad, a sixteen year Specialized Community Area Transportation (SCAT) rider and Greensboro Transit Advisory Commission (GTAC) member, spoke to advocating for disability rights; voiced concerns with fares; premium services; spoke to quality of life; the need for solutions to measure success; and voiced concerns with sidewalks.

Jamie Gaddy, President of Action Club of Greensboro voiced concerns with SCAT wait times and fares; and spoke to the need for service improvements.

Vickie Motley voiced concerns with SCAT; fares; highlighted a recent incident; and voiced the need for service improvements.

Wendy Stafford a 41-year SCAT rider, commended SCAT services and employees; requested Council to not increase the fares; and echoed comments by Ms. Gaddy regarding pick up times.

Nancy Overby, representing Arch of Greensboro, spoke to parents of children with special needs; voiced her reliance on SCAT; spoke to funding of persons living in group homes; and to advocating for persons with disabilities.

Councilmember Abuzuaiter confirmed that Council and staff were listening to the speakers' concerns.

Hester Petty spoke to the Marcus Smith incident; and voiced concerns with the Greensboro Police Department (GPD).

Luis Medina representing the Workers and Homeless Alliance group spoke to the Marcus Smith incident; quoted a statement in relation to homelessness; and voiced concerns regarding the GPD.

Billy Belcher representing the Workers and Homeless Alliance spoke to the Marcus Smith incident; highlighted various incidents involving the GPD; spoke to racism; to Federal guidelines; to police accountability; and to the Ferguson riots.

Lewis Pitts spoke to accountability; to Council authority; to the Marcus Smith incident; and to the subpoena power of Council.

Maurice Warren echoed concerns with SCAT; spoke to upcoming elections; voiced concerns with the GPD; spoke to a divided city; and stated intentions to run for Council.

Councilmember Kennedy left the meeting at 6:23 p.m. and returned at 6:24 p.m.

Brian Watkins voiced concerns with GPD; referenced a case involving Zared Jones; spoke to the Marcus Smith incident; and to the Rodney King video.

Latoya Alston spoke to the need to move forward; stated she represented Ray of Sun Incorporation; spoke to the need for funding; to community needs; to the program; recognized Directors Katrina Bass and Shaundra Roach in attendance; and presented a poster outlining the Soul City project.

III. PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA

There were no items calling for a public hearing for this agenda.

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

Councilmember Thurm highlighted the upcoming National Night Out (NNO) event on Tuesday; the Women's Equality Breakfast; the Participatory Budgeting voting process; spoke to Honda Jet; and requested staff schedule a work session with Steve Friedland.

Councilmember Outling spoke to NNO; to the Honda Jet expansion; to Invest in Greensboro; and highlighted the

next Java with Justin on August 16th.

Mayor Vaughan highlighted the Wyndham event this week; spoke to first responders; and to storm drain issues.

Councilmember Kennedy echoed Mayor Vaughan's comments regarding staff working with the recent rain issues; highlighted an upcoming district meeting on August 7th at Elizabeth's Pizza; commended Ms. Alston for her passion; and requested staff provide clarity on Council authority to conduct investigations.

Councilmember Wells extended greetings to District Two residents in attendance; confirmed that Council heard speaker comments; spoke to misguided perceptions; to SCAT concerns; to consideration for all of Greensboro; to an upcoming town hall meeting for District Two on September 26th; and to a meeting for Kings Forest residents at Peeler Center on August 13th.

Due to disruptions, Councilmember Abuzuaiter requested security escort Mr. Medina and Mr. Watkins out of the meeting.

Councilmember Abuzuaiter voiced appreciation to staff for flood assistance; spoke to the Honda Jet expansion; explained school donations would be accepted in lieu of payment for parking citations during August; spoke to NNO; and to the Women's Equality Breakfast.

Councilmember Hoffmann referenced an article ranking North Carolina 7th for the aerospace industry.

Councilmember Wells referenced an article highlighting the Triad and Greensboro in the American Airlines magazine.

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

THE CITY COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 6:57 P.M.

ANGELA R. LORD
CITY CLERK

NANCY VAUGHAN
MAYOR