



City of Greensboro

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

Meeting Minutes - Final City Council Work Session

Monday, November 2, 2020

3:00 PM

VIRTUAL

I. Call To Order

This virtual City Council work session of the City of Greensboro was called to order at 3:00 p.m. on the above date.

Mayor Vaughan took a roll call to confirm Councilmembers in attendance. The following members were present:

Mayor Nancy Vaughan, Councilmembers Marikay Abuzaiter, Sharon Hightower, Nancy Hoffmann, Yvonne J. Johnson, Michelle Kennedy, Justin Outling, Tammi Thurm, and Goldie Wells.

Also present were City Manager David Parrish, City Attorney Chuck Watts and Assistant City Clerk, Victoria L. Howell.

II. Presentations

1. [ID 20-0766](#) Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) Update

City Manager David Parrish spoke to a heavy agenda; recommended item #4/ID 20-0748 be postponed; and recognized Henri Fourier from the Greensboro Tourism Development Authority (GTDA).

Mr. Fourier made a presentation; spoke to COVID-19 impacts on events; to future events; to revenues; to state grants; highlighted a Staycation program; grant funds for the airport; spoke to productivity; to soccer, swimming, and diving events; and outlined the convention calendar.

Mayor Vaughan voiced concern regarding event safety.

City Manager Parrish recognized Coliseum Director, Matt Brown.

Mr. Brown commended the leadership of Council; spoke to the Greensboro Aquatic Center (GAC); to youth events; to hotel bookings; to the approximately 875 events lost due to COVID-19; to upcoming live events; to the Greensboro Steven Tanger Center for the Performing Arts bookings; and to a Global Positioning System (GPS) to help prevent COVID-19 spread at events.

(A copy of the spread sheet is filed in Exhibit Drawer C, Exhibit No.26, which is hereby referred to and made a part of these minutes.)

2. [ID 20-0563](#) M/WBE Update

Assistant City Manager Kim Sowell made a PowerPoint presentation (PPP) for the Minority/ Women Owned Business Enterprise (M/WBE); outlined changes following the implementation; spoke to the expansion to 27 counties; to ethic minority groups; to professional services; to good faith efforts; to recommendations by Griffin and Strong P.C. Attorneys and Public Policy Consultants; to program growth since 2019; and to construction, professional services, and other service comparison.

Discussion took place regarding percentage increases and criteria; previous disparity studies; 10 counties versus 27 counties; sub-contracting; maximizing M/WBE utilization; vendor rotation; comparison of goods; and disparity study recommendations.

Assistant City Manager Sowell recognized Assistant City Manager Larry Davis.

Assistant City Manager Davis continued the PPP; outlined a financial update; provided an annual external audit overview; spoke to investment banking; to bonds; to minority-owned bank deposits; to the National Association of Black Accountants; to annual lien advertising; and to information not listed on M/WBE reports.

Assistant City Manager Sowell continued the PPP; spoke to disparity study recommendations; to training; to operational changes; to pre-bid meetings; to engagement from the M/WBE community; to networking; outlined the creation of positions in the M/WBE office; project requests; monthly departmental reporting; the qualification process; contract language; spoke to bonding and insurance issues; to B2GNow; to the goal setting committee; and to an online M/WBE directory.

Discussion ensued regarding P-card transactions; monthly monitoring; appreciation for staff; and to data access.

Councilmember Outling requested staff to provide comparative data on previous studies; utilization of M/WBE percentages converted to dollars; and on debundling of contracts organizationally.

(A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is filed in Exhibit Drawer C, Exhibit No.26, which is hereby referred to and made a part of these minutes.)

3. [ID 20-0724](#) Economic Development Update (PBC/Downtown Greensboro, Inc.)

City Manager Parrish recognized President of Downtown Greensboro Incorporated (DGI), Zack Matheny and Piedmont Business Capital's (PBC) Executive Director, Wilson Lester.

Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson entered the meeting at 4:05.

Mr.Lester made a PPP; spoke to technical assistance; to lending; to advocacy; to COVID-19 impacts; highlighted the small business continuity fund; the North Carolina Rapid Recovery Loan program; the Guilford Merchants Association Loan program; Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro; Philips Foundation; spoke to district, gender, ethnicity, and portfolio distribution; to delinquent accounts and grants; and to community impact.

Mr. Matheny made a PPP; spoke to usage of M/WBE participation; to the DGI mission; to 2020 focus areas; to downtown residents; to COVID-19 impacts; to the 2030 Strategic Plan; highlighted small businesses; tax revenue; property value; potential development sites; a Streetscapes Program; spoke to self driving shuttles; to Feeding the Front Lines Program; to a retail revitalization grants program; to the Greensboro Black Entrepreneurs Program; to Downtown in December events; and to the Washington Street Alley Project.

Mayor Vaughan left the meeting at 4:49.

(A copy of the PowerPoint presentations are filed in Exhibit Drawer C, Exhibit No.26, which is hereby referred to and made a part of these minutes.)

Moved by Councilmember Abuzuaiter, seconded by Councilmember Hightower, to adjourn to closed session to preserve the attorney-client privilege to consult with the attorneys regarding litigation involving: pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes Chapter 143, Section 318. (a)(6)1 and NCGS 143-318.11 (a)(4) in order to: Prevent the disclosure of information that is confidential pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes Chapter 160A, Section 168; establish the amount of compensation and other material terms of an employment contract; consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, and conditions of employment of a public employee; and to discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the Greensboro area, including agreement on a tentative list of economic development incentives that may be offered. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mayor Pro-Tem Yvonne J. Johnson, Councilmembers Marikay Abuzuaiter, Sharon Hightower, Nancy

Hoffmann, Michelle Kennedy, Justin Outling, Tammi Thurm, and Goldie Wells.

Absent: Mayor Nancy Vaughan.

Council recessed to closed session at 5 p.m.

Mayor Vaughan re-entered the meeting during closed session.

Council reconvened into open session at 5:47 p.m. with all members in attendance.

Moved by Councilmember Hightower, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson to return to open session. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mayor Nancy Vaughan, Councilmembers Marikay Abuzuaite, Sharon Hightower, Nancy Hoffmann, Yvonne J. Johnson, Michelle Kennedy, Justin Outling, Tammi Thurm, and Goldie Wells.

4. [ID 20-0748](#) Behavioral Health Update

This item was postponed to the November 17, 2020 Work Session.

III. Adjournment

Moved by Councilmember Hightower, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mayor Nancy Vaughan, Mayor Pro-Tem Yvonne J. Johnson, Councilmembers Marikay Abuzuaite, Sharon Hightower, Nancy Hoffmann, Michelle Kennedy, Justin Outling, Tammi Thurm, and Goldie Wells.

THE CITY COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 5:49 P.M.

NANCY VAUGHAN
MAYOR

VICTORIA L. HOWELL
ASSISTANT CITY CLERK