

**FAYETTEVILLE CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MINUTES
COUNCIL CHAMBER
VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL
SEPTEMBER 8, 2020
5:00 P.M.**

Present: Mayor Mitch Colvin

Council Members Katherine K. Jensen (District 1); Shakeyla Ingram (District 2); Tisha S. Waddell (District 3) (via zoom); D. J. Haire (District 4); Johnny Dawkins (District 5); Chris Davis (District 6); Larry O. Wright, Sr. (District 7); Courtney Banks-McLaughlin (District 8) (via zoom); Yvonne Kinston (District 9) (departed at 5:31 p.m. and returned at 5:45 p.m.)

Others Present: Douglas Hewett, City Manager
Karen McDonald, City Attorney
Angel Wright-Lanier, Assistant City Manager
Gina Hawkins, Police Chief
Jay Toland, Chief Financial Officer
Kevin Arata, Corporate Communications Director
Taurus Freeman, Planning and Zoning Manager
Christopher Cauley, Economic and Community
Development Assistant Director
Michael Gibson, Fayetteville-Cumberland Parks and
Recreation Director
Kecia Parker, Real Estate Manager
Pamela Megill, City Clerk
Members of the Press

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Colvin called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2.0 INVOCATION

The invocation was offered by Council Member Ingram.

3.0 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Council Member Wright moved to approve the agenda with the addition of Item 4.001, closed session for economic development and real estate acquisition.

SECOND: Council Member Dawkins

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (10-0)

4.001 Closed Session

MOTION: Council Member Haire moved to go into closed session for economic development and real estate acquisition matters.

SECOND: Council Member Dawkins

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (10-0)

The regular session recessed at 5:14 p.m. The regular session reconvened at 6:11 p.m.

MOTION: Council Member Davis moved to go into open session.

SECOND: Council Member Dawkins

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (10-0)

4.0 OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS

4.01 Parks and Recreation 2020 Master Plan Adoption

Mr. Michael Gibson, Fayetteville-Cumberland Parks and Recreation Director, stated the City awarded a contract to the McAdams firm of Durham, NC, for the updating of the Parks & Recreation Master Plan.

McAdams worked with City staff to develop a plan for gathering both information and input from all necessary shareholders. The consultants met with local government officials, elected officials, and residents in order to determine the strength and weaknesses of current operations and facilities. A statistically valid survey was also completed to gain additional insight. The Master Plan developed for Fayetteville-Cumberland Parks and Recreation (FCPR) includes details regarding areas for future improvement in programming, staffing, and facilities. Included in the development of the Master Plan was asset mapping, level of service recommendations, park classifications, and equity assessments. Utilizing information received from shareholders as well as current industry trends, the Master Plan developed identifies the path forward to success for FCPR.

Ms. Rachel McAdams, ETC Institute, presented the Fayetteville-Cumberland Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan with the aid of a Powerpoint presentation. Ms. McAdams presented on the planning process, community engagement, themes, recommendations for parkland, programming, operations, and equity.

Discussion ensued.

Consensus of Council was to direct staff to have the 2020 Master Plan available in the City Clerk's office for a period of 30 days, and to schedule a public hearing for the first regular meeting in October.

4.02 Request to light Market House pink the month of October for breast cancer awareness month

Mr. Douglas Hewett, City Manager, presented this item and stated the Light-Up-Fayetteville-In-Pink-Program is requesting the Market House be lighted in pink to raise awareness for breast cancer research and fundraising. In past years the Market House has been lighted pink in October. This has been at the request of an organization or person involved with breast cancer fundraising or research. Other groups or organizations have occasionally requested lighting. There has been no defined policy requests. The Market House currently has a system for allowing lighting in a variety of colors; the lighting system enhancements were purchased through Five Star Entertainment and will be installed in the near future.

Mayor Pro Tem Jensen stated she does not recommend using the Market House for any programs as it is under construction. Mr. Hewett recommended lighting up City Hall.

Discussion ensued.

Consensus of Council was to light City Hall pink and return to Council with the details. Future requests are to be submitted to the City Manager, and the City Manager will notify Council of any future lightings; for nationally known events only.

4.03 Flooding Investigation and Moratorium Request for Locks Creek

Mr. Kent Jackson, Engineering Division Manager, presented this item with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation and stated City Council directed staff to research flooding issues in the Locks Creek Subdivision and surrounding areas, including the consideration of a development moratorium, and to report back with findings and recommendations. The discussion highlighted the flooding related to Hurricanes Matthew and Florence as well as more recent flooding due to seasonal heavy downpours. Council's request included an investigation of flooding issues in Locks Creek and surrounding areas and how to manage future development to prevent further exacerbation of flooding.

Mr. Jackson provided findings and recommendations including options and discussion of next steps.

Mr. Jackson stated staff recommends to not move forward with a moratorium due to its wide-ranging implications including restrictions on repair and renovation of existing structures and the incumbent requirement to develop specific improvement plans within specific timeframes for resolving the conditions that are contributing to the flooding. Further, staff recommends continuing current actions as described in item 1 including evaluation of practicable future stream and culvert mitigation efforts and determining the requirements to establish base level engineering for potential future local ordinance amendments. Staff will continue pursuing options beyond those noted in the mitigation in case new opportunities for flood mitigation are made available to the City and Cumberland County. The outcome of the funded NC Emergency Management modeling and mapping project as well as the City modelling effort will provide valuable additional information to guide future strategies and actions.

Discussion ensued.

Consensus of Council was to accept the report and not move forward with the proposed moratorium at Locks Creek.

4.04 Removal of Market House Image from Solid Waste Rollout Carts

Mr. Douglas Hewett, City Manager, presented this item and stated per Council's direction on removing the Market House logo from City property, staff has begun the process of analyzing the cost of removing the Market House from Solid Waste rollout carts and recycling bins. Because the brown yard waste carts are owned by citizens, Council can decide to make vinyl stickers available for any citizens that wish to cover the Market House on their brown cart. Stickers for the brown cart cost \$3.50. Staff will present recommendations on replacing the blue recycling bins at a later date. For the green carts, staff recommends that the City continue its normal replacement strategy given that new green carts do not have the Market House on them and that accelerating this process would adversely impact the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund.

All new City carts do not have the Market House logo on them. These new carts with the "Fayetteville" script logo have been in place since 2015. There are 62,000 single-family households in the City. The City replaces approximately 4,000 green carts a year. This means that since 2015, 20,000 green carts without the Market House logo on them have been distributed by the City. It would theoretically take the City approximately ten more years to replace green carts for the remaining 42,000 single-family households. However, because some carts go lost or missing, not all carts that are replaced have the old Market House logo on them. Taking this into account, it would take approximately 15 to 20 years for all 62,000 households to have their green carts replaced with the new "Fayetteville" script logo.

Discussion ensued.

Consensus of Council was to direct staff to maintain the current green cart replacement timetable without offering vinyl stickers to citizens who want to cover up the Market House logo on their brown carts. This item to be updated and placed on an October agenda under Administrative Reports.

4.05 City Council Agenda Item Request - Research Posting Council Meetings to Social Media - Council Member Wright

Council Member Wright presented this item and stated he is requesting Council to direct staff to research the pros and cons of how to be more transparent using social media. Council Member Wright asked Council to direct any questions or concerns they may have to Ms. Angel Wright-Lanier, Assistant City Manager, and Mr. Kevin Arata, Corporate Communications Director.

Consensus of Council was to direct staff to conduct research and bring back additional information.

4.06 City Council Member Agenda Item Request - Red Light Cameras - Council Member Kinston

Council Member Kinston stated in 2015 the City implemented a Red-Light Safety Program. The purpose of the program was to increase traffic safety by reducing red-light running violations, collisions and injuries. The request is to ask for Council consensus to direct staff to provide an update on the program.

Discussion ensued.

Consensus of Council was to direct staff to provide an update on the Red-Light Camera program.

4.07 City Council Member Agenda Item Request - Closure of Lowell Harris Dump Site - Council Member Banks-McLaughlin

Council Member Banks-McLaughlin stated the Lowell Harris Container/Dump site will close on October 1, 2020; citizens will no longer have access to a close location to dispose of unwanted items; this could potentially increase illegal dumping. Council Member Banks-McLaughlin asked for Council support to direct staff to research the impacts on the community and Solid Waste staff with the closure of the Lowell Harris facility.

Discussion ensued.

Consensus of Council was to direct staff to research the potential impacts from the closure of the Lowell Harris dump site facility. Council Member Dawkins was opposed to the consensus vote.

4.08 City Council Member Agenda Item Request - Richard Street Closure - Council Member Waddell

Council Member Waddell stated due to multiple illegal dumping complaints and other reports of illegal and nefarious activities, she is asking for Council's support to direct staff to gain information on closing Richard Street. N.C.G.S. § 160A-299 gives authority and procedures for the City to be able to close a street or alley.

Discussion ensued.

Consensus of Council was to direct staff to move this item forward and bring back a definitive answer regarding if it is permissible to close Richard Street.

4.09 City Council Member Agenda Item Request - Property Owners City Fines - Council Member Haire

Council Member Haire stated he had engaged in several conversations with property owners/landlords that had received fines from Code Enforcement for property maintenance violations. Many of these property owners/landlords are not receiving rent payments from their tenants due to COVID-19, and as a result cannot afford to pay the fines and repair the property. Council Member Haire stated he is asking for Council support to direct staff to stop issuing fines and forgiveness for those fines that have been issued during this pandemic.

Council Member Ingram asked if Council Member Haire was looking for an extension for the fines to be paid. Council Member Haire responded he is asking to have the fines waived.

Discussion ensued.

Consensus of Council was to direct staff to research what fines had been issued and the cause of those citations. Council Members Ingram, Waddell, Banks-McLaughlin, and Kinston were in opposition to the consensus vote.

4.10 City Council Agenda Item Request - Donation Clothes Boxes - Council Member Haire

Council Member Haire stated he has seen many donation clothes boxes all over the City in a state of disrepair. Sometimes they are turned over, unkempt and have debris lying beside them. Council Member Haire stated he is seeking Council support to direct staff to research the Donation Clothes Boxes, with the possibility of having them removed and banned from the City.

Discussion ensued.

Council consensus was to direct staff to conduct research on the Donation Clothes Boxes and research if the City can possibly ban them.

5.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

