

**FAYETTEVILLE CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MINUTES
FAST CONFERENCE ROOM, 505 WINSLOW STREET
DECEMBER 6, 2021
5:00 P.M.**

Present: Mayor Mitch Colvin

Council Members Shakeyla Ingram (District 2) (via zoom); D. J. Haire (District 4); Johnny Dawkins (District 5); Chris Davis (District 6) (via zoom); Larry O. Wright, Sr. (District 7); Courtney Banks-McLaughlin (District 8) (arrived at 7:37 p.m.) (via zoom); Yvonne Kinston (District 9)

Others Present: Douglas Hewett, City Manager
Karen McDonald, City Attorney
Telly Whitfield, Assistant City Manager
Jay Toland, Assistant City Manager
Adam Lindsay, Assistant City Manager
Rebecca Jackson, Chief of Staff
Sheila Thomas-Ambat, Public Services Director
Gerald Newton, Development Services Director
Michael Gibson, Parks, Recreation, & Maintenance
Director
Byron Reeves, Interim Public Services Director
Craig Harmon, Planner II
Alicia Lanier Stormwater Project Manager
Jennifer Ayre, Deputy City Clerk
Members of the Press

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Colvin called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

2.0 INVOCATION

The invocation was not offered.

3.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Council Member Dawkins moved to approve the agenda.

SECOND: Council Member Wright

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (8-0)

4.0 OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS

4.01 Community Police Advisory Board - Review of Applications

MOTION: Council Member Dawkins moved to appoint the top 9 vote-getters from Council votes and at a subsequent meeting choose the alternate from the following individuals: Mr. Walker Broadhurst, Mr. Tony Haire, Mr. Clabon Lowe, and Ms. Arry McNeil.

SECOND: Council Member Haire

Council Member Dawkins withdrew his motion.

Discussion ensued regarding the make-up of the board and the lack of incomplete votes from the full Council.

MOTION: Council Member Wright moved to table this item until December 14, 2021, in order to clarify the numbers.

SECOND: Council Member Dawkins

VOTE: PASSED by a vote of 7 in favor to 1 in opposition (Council Member Banks-McLaughlin)

4.02 Watershed Master Plan Program – Status Update and 1st Tranche of Projects

Mr. Douglas Hewett, City Manager, stated one of the big priorities for this Council was advancing infrastructure needs across the City, to include a comprehensive look on Stormwater. Council has made an ambitious plan for staff to complete a Stormwater master plan in three years. This item is part of that plan and presents the first tranche of projects.

This item was presented by Ms. Sheila Thomas-Ambat, Public Services Director, and Byron Reeves, Interim Public Services Director, with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation. Ms. Thomas-Ambat stated in 2019 City Council authorized a fee increase and directed staff to accelerate its watershed study program and related capital project program to help control Stormwater runoff, reduce localized minor flooding and improve resiliency to major flooding.

In 2020, City Council allocated almost \$13,500,000.00 to study the entire City's watershed. However, that is not enough to study the entire City, therefore, a high-level analysis was completed to determine what can be completed with the allocated funds. Those areas include Beaver Creek 3, Little Cross Creek, Cape Fear 2 East, Cape Fear 2 West, and Rockfish Creek. A fifth watershed will be brought to Council in March of 2022. Ms. Thomas-Ambat presented maps of sample model outputs.

Ms. Thomas-Ambat stated the current total cost to address the areas are as follows:

Beaver Creek	\$40,014,200.00
Cross Creek West	\$28,056,900.00
Cape Fear East	\$26,481,800.00
Rockfish Creek	\$0.00 due to no developed proposed solutions

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Reeves provided information on how Public Services prioritized the proposed solutions. The projects were ranked based off of the "Concern Area Score", Efficacy, Equitable Distribution Between Watersheds, Strategic Selections, and a target of \$20 million in the total project cost. Within the areas reviewed there are nine proposed projects for review, eight of them with high ranking on the Concern Area Score and one with medium ranking. Mr. Reeves presented information on each project with the aid of a PowerPoint.

Discussion ensued.

Ms. Thomas-Ambat stated there are two requests before City Council. The first is to approve the additional funding for the watershed studies. The original budget for the studies was \$13,500,000.00 to study 294 square miles. After review, only 213 square miles would be able to be studied with the original budget. Staff requests an additional \$1,000,000.00 from Fiscal Year 2022 Stormwater fund balance and an additional \$1,500,000.00 through the regular CIP process in Fiscal Year 2023. The additional funding will allow the City to meet the original scope. The second is for Council to provide consensus on the projects.

Council Member Davis asked what needs to be done in order to accelerate the timeline.

MOTION: Council Member Wright moved to approve the 1st tranche watershed projects as presented with the expectation with staff to come up with an accelerated timeline and an additional \$1,000,000.00 from fund balance and \$1,500,000.00 in the CIP.

SECOND: Council Member Ingram

VOTE: PASSED by a vote of 7 in favor to 1 in opposition (Council Member Davis)

4.03 Phase I, Downtown Urban Design Plan Implementation

Dr. Gerald Newton, Development Services Director, provided an overview of this item on Phase 1 Implementation of the Downtown Urban Design Plan. This will prepare the areas for administrative rezonings. Mr. Hewett informed the Council there is also a secondary plan for the Universities.

Consensus of City Council was to proceed with the implementation of the Downtown Urban Design Plan, including holding a community meeting and drafting some or all of the proposed zoning amendments for the required public hearings. Council Member Haire was opposed to the consensus vote.

4.04 Parks and Recreation Bond Project - Cape Fear River Park

Mr. Douglas Hewett, City Manager, stated all of the Parks and Recreation Bond Projects are underway with the exception of the Cape Fear River Park. Mr. Michael Gibson, Parks, Recreation, and Maintenance Director, stated the request is to take funds from the current budget of \$2,380,815.00 for an architectural design plan.

Consensus of Council was to accept the Cape Fear River Park concept and proceed to the design phase. Council Member Davis was opposed to the consensus vote.

4.05 Revision of City Ordinance of Weapons (Sec 17-4)

Mr. Rob Robeson, Security Coordinator, provided a summary on the proposed revisions to the City Weapons Ordinance. The revisions will widen the scope of the ordinance and how it is applied throughout all City properties. The ordinance will also allow the City Manager to grant permission to carry a weapon on City property on a case-by-case basis.

Consensus of Council was to place this item on the December 13, 2021, regular meeting consent agenda.

4.06 City Council Agenda Item Request - Refurbish City Bus for Mobile Shower

Council Member Kinston asked for the creation of a partnership with Fayetteville Technical Community College's plumbing and electrical departments, and possibly Manna Church or the Dream Center, to convert old City buses into mobile showers for the homeless and during emergencies.

Consensus of Council was to have staff review the refurbishment of older City buses and come back with options.

4.07 City Council Agenda Item Request - Audit Committee Request for Council Discussion on if an Investigation is Warranted

Council Member Dawkins stated the Audit Committee made a request for a discussion on an investigation regarding allegations in the resignation letter from former Council Member Waddell. The City Attorney stated she had asked the School of Government and was told it was not in their purview nor is it within the purview of the Audit Committee Charter. Council Member Dawkins stated since the School of Government has reviewed it and cannot provide comment upon the investigation, he does not believe this item needs to move forward. Council Member Kinston asked if this should be presented to the Ethics Commission.

4.08 City Council Agenda Item Request - Policy on the Attendance of Elected Officials at Meetings

Council Member Davis asked for Council's input on creating a policy regarding attending meetings and if unable to attend, to provide valid reasoning in order for Council members to be held accountable to their responsibilities as officials to be in a place of business.

Consensus of Council was to have staff provide options on meeting attendance policies. Council Member Ingram was in opposition to the consensus vote.

4.09 City Council Agenda Item Request - Camera Corridor - Budget - Mayor Colvin

Mayor Colvin stated this is an item that Council has spoken about before and stated he is requesting support for cameras to be put in the rights-of-way. Mayor Colvin recommended providing policy direction to the City Manager to accelerate a neighborhood camera plan.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Hewett stated there are 117 cameras up and is working to add an additional 20 cameras. Mr. Hewett will request Chief Hawkins provide a presentation detailing the locations of the cameras and if additional funding is needed.

4.010 City Council Agenda Item Request - Global Spectrum - Mayor Colvin

Mayor Colvin stated amphitheatres in other cities are economic drivers through entertainment. There have been conversations with Global Spectrum to assess Festival Park for thoughts and ideas to manage Festival Park.

Consensus of Council was to grant the City Manager permission to get more information and bring it back to Council.

4.011 City Council Agenda Item Request - Community Watches - Council Member Ingram

Council Member Ingram stated as there are heavy discussions on public safety, she is interested in how the City can work to help Community Watch groups re-establish or establish their programs city-wide. This could be done through running social media campaigns, grassroots campaigns, or providing incentives for their involvement in their community watches.

Consensus of Council was to receive further information for Community Watches.

Council Member Ingram stated she is interested in creating a mini-grant program that will support grassroots non-profits that host mentoring programs and on the ground efforts to work with youth and families that are crime-prevention related. Council Member Ingram requested staff come back and provide options on what this program would look like.

Council Members Kinston and Ingram were in consensus to direct staff to come back and provide options on what this program would look like. Council Members Colvin, Haire, Dawkins, Davis, Wright, and Banks-McLaughlin were in opposition of the consensus vote.

5.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:23 p.m.