

**FAYETTEVILLE CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL
SEPTEMBER 18, 2023
7:00 P.M.**

Present: Mayor Mitch Colvin

Council Members Katherine K. Jensen (District 1); Shakeyla Ingram (District 2); Mario Benavente (District 3); D. J. Haire (District 4); Johnny Dawkins (District 5) (via Zoom); Derrick Thompson (District 6); Brenda McNair (District 7); Courtney Banks-McLaughlin (District 8); Deno Hondros (District 9)

Others Present: Douglas Hewett, City Manager
Lachelle Pulliam, Interim City Attorney
Adam Lindsay, Assistant City Manager
Kelly Olivera, Assistant City Manager
Jeff Yates, Assistant City Manager
Jodi Phelps, Chief of Staff
Kemberle Braden, Police Chief
Loren Bymer, Marketing & Communications Director
Paul Allen, Assistant City Attorney
Joshua Hall, Police Attorney
Jennifer Ayre, Deputy City Clerk
Members of the Press

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Colvin called the meeting to order.

2.0 INVOCATION

The invocation was offered by Council Member McNair.

3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was led by Mayor and City Council.

4.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Council Member Haire moved to approve the agenda.

SECOND: Council Member Thompson

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (10-0)

5.0 ITEMS OF BUSINESS

5.1 Youth Protection Ordinance

Mayor Colvin thanked the public for attending and explained the meeting is to work through the details of the ordinance. A public hearing will be called once or if the final version is prepared.

Mr. Kemberle Braden, Police Chief, presented this item with the assistance of a PowerPoint presentation and provided an overview of the proposed Youth Protection Ordinance. Chief Braden stated the ordinance was created to help address juvenile crime and safety and parental responsibility and would apply to individuals under the age of 18. The ordinance would be enforced within the incorporated city limits and include any associated penalties.

For juveniles between the ages of 16 and 17, the ordinance would be in effect Monday through Friday from 12:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m., Saturday through Sunday from 1:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m. and during truancy hours of 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For juveniles under the age of 16, the ordinance would be in effect Monday through Sunday from 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. and during truancy hours. Businesses could be held

accountable if they allow minors to enter or remain on the property during curfew hours.

Mayor Colvin asked if the Police Department has connected with other partnering agencies such as Department of Social Services to aid in assisting families. Chief Braden stated a youth crime summit was recently held that included individuals from Cumberland County Schools, Department of Social Services, Department of Corrections, and others to discuss different opportunities. There is a 60-day return meeting to finalize actionable items.

Discussion ensued regarding concerns and recommended changes to the proposed youth protection ordinance.

Mayor Colvin summarized the concerns for review are truancy hours and enforceability; age limit; work with Community partners such as Cumberland County Elected Officials, Department of Social Services, Cumberland County Schools, Cumberland County Sheriff's Office, District Attorney, Non-governmental partners, and Judges; fine implementation versus providing life skills classes parents and mentorship for the minor; and inclusion of data on murder and assault charges for the whole year.

MOTION: Council Member Banks-McLaughlin moved to reject the ordinance as presented, amend it as City Council discussed, and bring together Cumberland County, Cumberland County Schools, Cumberland County Sheriff, Judges, and non-profit organizations to create a Memorandum of Understanding stating the responsibilities of each partner.

SECOND: Council Member Ingram

VOTE: PASSED by a vote of 7 in favor to 3 in opposition (Council Members Benavente, Dawkins, and Hondros)

MOTION: Council Member Benavente moved to direct staff to request the ACLU provide a presentation on the ACLU Letter sent to the City Council.

SECOND: Council Member Hondros

VOTE: PASSED by a vote of 8 in favor to 2 in opposition (Council Members Haire and Dawkins)

6.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.