

**FAYETTEVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL  
MAY 13, 2024  
6:30 P.M.**

Present: Mayor Mitch Colvin

Council Members Katherine K. Jensen (District 1); Malik Davis (District 2); Mario Benavente (District 3); D. J. Haire (District 4); Lynne Greene (District 5); Derrick Thompson (District 6); Brenda McNair (District 7) (via zoom); Courtney Banks-McLaughlin (District 8); Deno Hondros (District 9)

Others Present: Douglas Hewett, City Manager  
Lachelle Pulliam, City Attorney  
Adam Lindsay, Assistant City Manager  
Kelly Olivera, Assistant City Manager  
Jeffrey Yates, Assistant City Manager  
Jodi Phelps, Assistant City Manager  
Kemberle Braden, Police Chief  
Kevin Dove, Fire Chief  
Loren Bymer, Marketing & Communications Director  
Paul Allen, Assistant City Attorney  
Kecia Parker, Real Estate Manager  
Jody Picarella, Chief Financial Officer  
Kimberly Leonard, Budget and Evaluation Director  
Rob Stone, Construction Management Director  
Pamela Megill, 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 Pastor Glen Meadows with Cedar Falls Baptist Church.

**3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Colvin and City Council.

**4.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RECOGNITIONS**

Mayor Colvin presented a proclamation to Chief Kemberle Braden, Daniel Terracciano, Fayetteville Police Foundation President, and Melissa Reid, Incoming Fayetteville Police Foundation Executive Director, proclaiming May 12-18, 2024, as The City of Fayetteville Police Week in recognition of National Police Week.

Mayor Colvin presented a proclamation to Ms. Sel Mpang, Program Director for North Carolina Asian Americans Together, proclaiming May 2024 to be Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

Mayor Colvin presented a Certificate of Achievement to Mr. Kenneth Williams for demonstrating excellent leadership skills throughout his high school career.

**5.0 CITY MANAGER REPORT**

Mr. Douglas Hewett, City Manager, stated residents may sign up to receive the City Manager newsletter via the City's website at [www.fayettevillenc.gov](http://www.fayettevillenc.gov).

## **6.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Council Member Thompson moved to approve the agenda.  
**SECOND:** Council Member Haire  
**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS (10-0)

## **7.0 PUBLIC FORUM**

Ms. Lisette Rodriguez, 1701 Cherokee Drive, Fayetteville, NC, expressed support for an Office of Community Safety.

Mr. Cheliko Hurst, 1485 Wayside Drive, Hoke County, expressed concerns for the morality of the community.

Mr. Gerard Falls, 266 Judd Street, Fayetteville, NC, expressed support for an Office of Community Safety and sited concerns regarding mental health access for the homeless.

Ms. Barbara Gather, 7912 Gaelic Drive, Fayetteville, NC, expressed the need for lights on Stoney Point Road.

Mr. Michael Pennink, 222 Hay Street, Fayetteville, NC, expressed support for changing the paid parking times to end at 5:00 p.m.

Ms. Elaine Kelley, 242A Hay Street, Fayetteville, NC, expressed support for changing the paid parking times to end at 5:00 p.m.

Ms. Molly Arnold, 1908 Queen Street, Fayetteville, NC, expressed support for changing the paid parking times to end at 5:00 p.m.

Ms. Nancy Ramos, 108 Hay Street, Fayetteville, NC, expressed support for changing the paid parking times to end at 5:00 p.m.

Ms. Bobbie Burgess, 2108 Constitution Drive, Fayetteville, NC, expressed support for an Office of Community Safety.

Ms. Diane Parfitt, 112 Hay Street, Fayetteville, NC, expressed support for changing the paid parking times to end at 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Shaun McMillan, 6024 Goldenrain Drive, Fayetteville, NC, expressed support for an Office of Community Safety.

## **8.0 CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Council Member Benavente moved to approve the consent agenda.  
**SECOND:** Council Member Haire  
**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS (10-0)

### **8.0A1 Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

April 1, 2024 - Work Session  
April 8, 2024 - Discussion of Agenda Items  
April 8, 2024 - Regular  
April 17, 2024 - Agenda Briefing  
April 22, 2024 - Discussion of Agenda Items  
April 22, 2024 - Regular  
April 26, 2024 - Special - State Delegation

### **8.0A2 Approval of the Amended Independent Auditor Contract for the Year Ended June 30, 2023**

Approval of the audit contract as presented.

### **8.0A3 Adoption of Budget Ordinance Amendment 2024-14 to Appropriate Funds to Mayor, Council, and City Clerk for Council Member Travel**

Adoption of Budget Ordinance Amendment 2024-14 to make a Fund Balance Appropriation of \$8,814.00 from the General Fund to

appropriate funding for the increased cost of City Council travel for the Mayor, Council, and City Clerk.

This BOA will appropriate an additional \$968.00 for Council members to attend the NCLM CityVision Conference and \$7,846.00 for travel expenses to St. Avoird, France.

**8.0A4 Adoption of Budget Ordinance Amendment 2024-13 to appropriate the 2024 Summer Fire Camp Grant**

Adoption of Budget Ordinance Amendment 2024-13 to appropriate \$6,000.00 of the 2024 Summer Fire Camp Grant. This grant opportunity aims to financially support existing summer camp programs offered by fire departments across North Carolina as they develop the next generation of firefighters and enhance community engagement and safety. This grant will develop and implement programs aimed at engaging youth in general life skills, public safety education, and emergency response training, while fostering their interest in firefighting or other public safety careers to help recruit the next generation of first responders.

**8.0A5 Adoption of Capital Project Ordinance 2024-12 to Appropriate Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Grant NC-2024-011-00 and Required Local Match for the Purchase of a Battery Electric Bus to replace a Fixed Route Diesel Bus.**

Adoption of Capital Project Ordinance (CPO) 2024-12 to appropriate \$466,875.00 for the purchase of a Battery Electric Bus (BEB) to replace a fixed route diesel bus that has reached or exceeded its useful life. The funding sources for this appropriation are \$373,501.00 of federal grant funding and \$93,374.00 of local funding provided by the Transit Operating Fund.

**8.0A6 Bid Recommendation and Resolution of Tentative Award - Sunbury Drive Drainage Improvement Project**

Approval of the award of and authorize the execution of a contract for the Sunbury Drive Drainage Improvement project. The lowest responsive, responsible bidder, TA Loving Company dba Pipeline Utilities, Inc. The contract will primarily be funded by American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding from the State Fiscal Recovery Fund established in S.L. 2021-180.

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA FOR TENTATIVE AWARD OF THE SUNBURY DRIVE DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT. RESOLUTION NO. R2024-014**

**8.0A7 PWC - Bid Recommendation - Readvertisement of Miscellaneous Electric Substation On-Call Construction**

Approval of the bid recommendation for the Readvertisement of Miscellaneous Electric Substation On-Call Construction to Carolina Power & Signalization, LLC, Fayetteville, NC, the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, in the total amount of \$22,179.39, and authorize the CEO and General Manager of the Fayetteville Public Works Commission to execute for that purpose the contract for its construction.

**8.0B ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT - None.**

**9.0 STAFF REPORTS**

**9.01 Report by PBMAres of the Audit and Financial Results for the Year Ended June 30, 2023**

Ms. Jody Picarella, Chief Financial Officer, introduced Mr. Robbie Bittner, CPA, MBA, partner in PBMAres, the City Council's audit firm. Mr. Bittner stated PBMAres has completed their audit for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. Mr. Bittner presented the auditor's

report and financial results. A copy of the audited financial report was provided to the Council.

**MOTION:** Council Member Haire moved to accept the report.  
**SECOND:** Council Member Benavente  
**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS (10-0)

## **10.0 PUBLIC HEARINGS (Public & Legislative Hearings)**

### **10.01 Public Hearing to Consider Closing Carthage Drive**

Ms. Kecia Parker, Real Estate Manager, presented this item and stated the City is requesting the closure of a street known as Carthage Drive. Closing the street will not deny access to any property owner as the City owns one side known as Senior Center East and the other adjacent property owner has indicated he has no issue with the closing. The first step in the process dictated by N.C.G.S. § 160A-299 is to have a resolution signed granting the public hearing to consider the closing and as such, City Council set the public hearing for May 13, 2024, at the Council meeting held on March 25, 2024. Staff has followed all of the statutory procedures to include posting the property and mailing out certified notice letters to adjacent property owners. The property has also been posted on both ends with notice and the notice of this hearing was published for four consecutive weeks in the local newspaper. Staff also consulted with the public utility companies to ensure any needed easements would be reserved. The Traffic Engineer researched the property and determined no Traffic Analysis study of the area was needed due to the fact the proposed closure is a partially unopened street and even if opened there would be no significant impact to traffic flow by the closure. Fire and EMS were also contacted and relayed no impacts to their response times. The closing of Carthage Drive will enhance the development of the Senior Center East property.

This is the advertised public hearing set for this date and time. There being no one to speak, the public hearing was opened and closed.

#### **A RESOLUTION AND ORDER CLOSING CARTHAGE DRIVE. RESOLUTION NO. R2024-015**

**MOTION:** Council Member Davis moved to approve the Closing Order and adopt the Resolution.  
**SECOND:** Council Member Haire  
**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS (10-0)

### **10.02 Public Hearing to Consider Closing Joseph Street**

Ms. Kecia Parker, Real Estate Manager, presented this item and stated the City received a petition requesting the closure of a street known as Joseph Street. Closing the street will not deny access to any property owner as the property has been recombined and will be purchased by one entity and recombined further once the street is closed to create one large parcel for development. The first step in the process dictated by N.C.G.S. § 160A-299 is to have a resolution signed granting the public hearing to consider the closing and as such, City Council set the public hearing for May 13, 2024, at the Council meeting held on March 25, 2024. Staff has followed all of the statutory procedures to include posting the property and mailing out certified notice letters to adjacent property owners. The property has also been posted on both ends with notice and the notice of this hearing was published for four consecutive weeks in the local newspaper. Staff also consulted with the public utility companies to ensure any needed easements would be reserved. The Traffic Engineer researched the property and determined no Traffic Analysis study of the area was needed due to the fact the proposed closure is a partially unopened street and even if opened there would be no significant impact to traffic flow by the closure. Fire and EMS were also contacted and relayed no impacts to their response times. The

closing of Joseph Street will enhance the development of the commercial development proposed.

This is the advertised public hearing set for this date and time. There being no one to speak, the public hearing was opened and closed.

**A RESOLUTION AND ORDER CLOSING JOSEPH STREET. RESOLUTION NO. R2024-015**

**MOTION:** Council Member Hondros moved to approve the Closing Order and adopt the Resolution.

**SECOND:** Council Member Benavente

**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS (10-0)

**11.0 OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

**11.01 Adoption of the Recommended FY 2025 Strategic Plan**

Mr. Chris Lowry, Strategic and Performance Analytics Manager, presented this item and stated the City Council has worked very diligently to commit this organization to high performance and to use data and stakeholder input to create a strategic plan for the City that is forward thinking, relevant, and outcome based.

The City Council and staff share a duty to ensure that the actions of public officials, employees, contractors, and volunteers of the City are carried out in the most responsible manner possible and that City policy, budgets, goals, and objectives are fully implemented.

In January 2024, the City Council met for a two-day strategic planning retreat to refine the City's strategic plan by reviewing goals, focusing on past accomplishments, and agreeing on five strategic priorities for FY 2025. The strategic planning consultant returned to the March 4, 2024, City Council work session and debriefed Council of the outcomes of the retreat as well as received consensus of the agreed upon priorities for FY 2025.

The City Manager's Office has directed the Office of Strategy and Performance Analytics (SPA) to meet regularly with teams to advance the Council's Priorities and to report progress to City Council on a quarterly basis during a City Council meeting. SPA will work closely with stakeholders to ensure that these priorities are tracked and report on any changes in timelines or performance measures.

Commitment to performance management and strategic planning strengthens the operations of the City of Fayetteville, ensuring excellent services and a high quality of life for residents. It allows for long-range planning at the organizational level with alignment to departmental operations and performance expectations. With this system in place, the City is able to allocate resources appropriately and build strategies for continuous improvement.

Discussion ensued.

**MOTION:** Council Member Benavente moved to accept and adopt the FY 25 Strategic Plan with the addition of the Office of Community Safety, included in the Organizational Chart.

**SECOND:** Council Member Banks-McLaughlin

**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS (10-0)

**11.02 Presentation of the Recommended Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Annual Operating Budget and Setting of the Budget Public Hearing**

Mr. Douglas Hewett, City Manager, presented this item with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation. Mr. Hewett provided a list of major accomplishments and gave credit to the Council and City employees. Mr. Hewett presented on the following items: Challenges and Opportunities, Tax Rate and Rate Increases, Key Highlights, General Fund Sources, General Fund Uses, Office of Community Safety, Public

Safety Market Adjustments, Stormwater Utility Fund, Environmental Services Funds, Transit Operating Fund, Other Funds, and the Budget Adoption Process.

Discussion ensued.

**MOTION:** Council Member Benavente moved to accept the presentation and set the budget public hearing for May 28, 2024.

**SECOND:** Council Member Thompson

**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS (10-0)

## **12.0 ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

### **12.01 FY 2024 3rd Quarter City Council Scorecard**

This item was for information only and was not presented.

## **13.0 ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.