

**FAYETTEVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL  
November 18, 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); 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  
Sheila Thomas-Ambat, Public Services Director  
Willie Johnson, Chief Information Officer  
Byron Reeves, Assistant Public Services 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 Timothy Careather, Friendship Missionary 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 Pro Tem Jensen announced the Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church Annual Spaghetti Dinner on November 20, 2024.

Council Member Haire announced Omega Psi Phi Fraternity celebrated their Founder's Day on November 19, 2024.

Council Member Haire announced Kingdom Impact Global Ministries, 2503 Murchison Road, is hosting their Annual Bread of Life food giveaway on November 22, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

Council Member Thompson wished everyone a safe and happy Thanksgiving and announced Operation Turkey is now accepting requests for meal delivery on Thanksgiving Day. Residents can visit [www.operationturkey.com](http://www.operationturkey.com) to request a meal, also Harvest Family Church, 6575 Fisher Road will be serving meals on Thanksgiving.

Council Member Banks-McLaughlin invited youth ages 13-18 to attend the Youth Empowerment Program at First Baptist Church on November 21, 2024, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. and thanked the Fire Department for their service rescuing a resident in a wheelchair from a house fire that happened over the weekend.

Mayor Colvin presented a proclamation to the Information Technology Department in recognition of National GIS Day.

Mayor Colvin presented City Coins to members of the Public Services Department for their aid and assistance in Hurricane Helene recovery efforts.

## **5.0 CITY MANAGER REPORT**

Mr. Douglas Hewett, City Manager, stated the City Manager newsletter is published weekly and residents can sign up to receive it via the city's website. Loose Leaf season began on November 18, 2024, and will run through January 21, 2025. Crews will start in Zip Code 28306.

## **6.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

## **7.0 PUBLIC FORUM**

Mr. Charles Mathews, 3618 Tindall Court, Fayetteville, NC, thanked the Mayor and City Council for approving the Glenville Lake walking trail.

Mr. Michael Austin, Jr., 524 Yuma Court, Fayetteville, NC, expressed concerns regarding traffic safety.

## **8.0A CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Council Member Greene moved to approve the consent agenda, with the exception of Items 8.03, 8.04, 8.05, and 8.06; pulled for discussion and separate vote.  
**SECOND:** Council Member Hondros  
**VOTE:** PASSED by a vote of 9 in favor to 1 in opposition (Council Member Davis)

**8.0A1 Approval of Meeting Minutes:**  
October 14, 2024 - Regular  
November 4, 2024 - Work Session

**8.0A2 Approval of the Proposed 2025 City Council Meeting Dates Calendar**

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA TO ADOPT THE 2025 CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATES CALENDAR TO CLARIFY THE TIME AND LOCATION OF THE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETINGS. RESOLUTION NO. R2024-039**

**8.0A3 Pulled for discussion and separate vote**

**8.0A4 Pulled for discussion and separate vote**

**8.0A5 Pulled for discussion and separate vote**

**8.0A6 Pulled for discussion and separate vote**

**8.0A7 PWC - First and Second Stage Bucket Sets Bid Recommendation**

Approval of the approve the bid recommendation to award the contract for the purchase of First and Second Stage Bucket Sets to Turbine Services, Ltd., Saratoga, NY, the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, in the best interest of PWC, in the total amount of \$313,000.00 and authorize the CEO and General Manager of the Fayetteville Public Works Commission to execute for that purpose the contract for its purchase.

#### **8.0A8 PWC - Rockfish B4.9 Solar Utility Station Bid Recommendation**

Approval of the bid recommendation to award the contract for the construction of the Rockfish B4.9 Solar Utility Station to River City Construction Inc., Washington, NC, the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, in the best interest of PWC, in the total amount of \$6,485,706.00 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**

#### **8.0B3 Adoption of Capital Project Close Out Ordinance for completed projects and Capital Project Ordinance Amendment to appropriate a portion of the Parks and Recreation bond funds from the close outs**

**MOTION:** Council Member Greene moved to adopt the Capital Project Close Out Ordinance, and direct staff to provide more specific details of where the funds are going to be located  
**SECOND:** Council Member Haire  
**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS (10-0)

**MOTION:** Council Member Davis moved to appropriate \$100,000.00 to the Mable C. Smith Park  
**SECOND:** Mayor Pro Tem Jensen  
**VOTE:** PASSED by a vote of 6 in favor to 4 in opposition (Council Members Benavente, Greene, McNair, and Hondros)

#### **8.0A4 Approval of the Resolution Authorizing a Municipal Agreement with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) for Ownership of CSX bridge (250230)**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE FOR THE OWNERSHIP OF CSX BRIDGE (250230). RESOLUTION NO. R2024-040**

**MOTION:** Council Member Greene moved to table this item, and direct staff to provide the cost of maintenance  
**SECOND:** Council Member Benavente  
**VOTE:** FAILED by a vote of 4 in favor to 6 in opposition (Mayor Colvin, MPT Jensen, Council Members Haire, Thompson, McNair, and Banks-McLaughlin)

**MOTION:** Mayor Pro Tem Jensen moved to adopt the Resolution  
**SECOND:** Council Member Thompson  
**VOTE:** PASSED by a vote of 7 in favor to 3 in opposition (Council Members Benavente, Greene, and Hondros)

#### **8.0A5 Award Mable C Smith Park Bid to Alpha Builders for \$595,000.00**

**MOTION:** Council Member Greene move to table this item, and direct staff to provide additional information  
**SECOND:** Council Member Benavente  
**VOTE:** FAILED by a vote of 3 in favor to 7 in opposition (Mayor Colvin, MPT Jensen, Council Members Davis, Haire, Thompson, McNair, and Banks-McLaughlin)

**MOTION:** Council Member Davis moved to award the Mable C. Smith Park Bid to Alpha Builders for \$595,000.00.  
**SECOND:** Council Member Haire  
**VOTE:** PASSED by a vote of 8 in favor to 2 in opposition (Council Members Greene and Hondros)

#### **8.0A6 Award Mazarick Park Tennis Center Building Bid to M & E Construction for \$2,573,629.00**

**MOTION:** Council Member Greene moved to table this item and direct staff to provide additional information

**SECOND:** Council Member Benavente  
**VOTE:** FAILED by a vote of 7 in favor to 3 in opposition (Council Members Benavente, Greene, and Hondros)

**MOTION:** Council Member Haire moved to approve the contract for the construction of the Mazarick Tennis Center Building by authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with the apparently lowest responsive, responsible bidder, M&E Contracting, Inc., in the total amount of \$2,573,629.00

**SECOND:** Council Member Davis  
**VOTE:** PASSED by a vote of 7 in favor to 3 in opposition (Council Members Benavente, Greene, and Hondros)

## **9.0 REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

### **9.01 Receive Community Police Advisory Board Report**

Dr. Gregory Perkins, Community Police Advisory Board Chair, presented the report with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation and stated the Board's vision is improved quality of policing through a cooperative effort with the community. Dr. Perkins provided an overview of the Board's mission, goals, objectives, and provided a review of the Board's activities.

Discussion ensued.

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

## **10.0 STAFF REPORTS**

### **10.01 Receive FY 2025 First Quarter Financial Update**

Mr. Jeffery Yates, Assistant City Manager, presented the FY 2025 First Quarter Financial Update with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation and stated the City's financial health is strong. As of June 30, 2024, the fund balance analysis indicates that the City maintains a fund balance slightly below its 10 percent policy level at 9.3 percent or \$20.3 million. The policy goal is an unassigned fund balance of \$26.2 million, when adjusted for interfund loans and current year appropriations, the estimated unassigned fund balance is \$35 million or 16 percent. The General Fund is performing as anticipated. Through the first quarter, the revenues and expenditures are in alignment with historical trends. The three expenditure types that most reflect operations – personnel services, operating expenditures, and contract services – are aligned with historical trends. Vacancies continue to be both positive and risk. The positive trend is that, given our experience through September (6 pay periods), we estimate savings of at least \$5 million. At the September 30 reporting, the City had a total of 197 vacancies or about 11.5 percent. This is largely driven by 119 Police sworn vacancies (26.1 percent) and 17 911 Communications vacancies (27.9 percent). These three components represent significant takeaways from the information provided.

The close of September is an early look at the trends impacting the General Fund and other funds. It is significant to note that because of the year-end and the accrual processes for the audit, the first quarter does not provide significant insight into the year. With the close of the 2nd and 3rd quarters, we will have a much better picture of the anticipated results from FY 2025.

Discussion ensued.

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

## **11.0 ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

### **11.01 Quarterly Report of Downtown Municipal Service District from Cool Spring Downtown District, Inc.**

This item was for information only and was not presented.

## **12.0 ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m.