

FAYETTEVILLE CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
APRIL 6, 2009
5:00 P.M.
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Present: Mayor Anthony G. Chavonne

Council Members Keith A. Bates, Sr. (District 1); Charles E. Evans (District 2); Robert A. Massey, Jr. (District 3); Darrell J. Haire (District 4); Bobby Hurst (District 5); Valencia A. Applewhite (District 7); Theodore W. Mohn (District 8); Wesley A. Meredith (District 9)

Absent: Council Member William J. L. Crisp (District 6)

Others Present: Dale E. Iman, City Manager

Doug Hewett, Assistant City Manager

Jeffrey Powell, Assistant City Manager

Karen M. McDonald, City Attorney

Tom Bergamine, Chief of Police

Victor Sharpe, Community Development Director

Rob Anderson, Chief Development Officer

Jackie Tuckey, Communications Manager/Public Information Officer

Ed Grannis, District Attorney

Earl "Moose" Butler, Cumberland County Sheriff

Press

CALL TO ORDER

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

INVOCATION

Council Member Haire provided the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Council Member Evans requested the agenda be amended to include discussion regarding the Museum of Art.

MOTION: Council Member Evans moved to approve the agenda with the addition of discussion regarding the Museum of Art.

SECOND: Council Member Massey

Council Member Mohn suggested that the matter be referred to a future work session as a regular agenda item. Discussion ensued.

VOTE: FAILED by a vote of 2 in favor (Council Members Evans and Massey) to 7 in opposition.

MOTION: Council Member Bates moved to approve the agenda.

SECOND: Council Member Meredith

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (9-0)

2. Discussion of the draft 2009-2010 Community Development Annual Action Plan

Victor Sharpe, Community Development Director, provided information regarding National Community Development Week, a celebration of the 35th anniversary of the Community Development Block Grant, and local activities beginning the week of Monday, April 13, 2009.

Mr. Sharpe provided background information regarding the draft 2009-2010 Community Development Annual Action Plan and stated the action plan was based on the goals set forth in the 2005-2010 Consolidated Plan. Mr. Sharpe reviewed highlights of the draft action plan to include activities to be funded or implemented during the program year. Mr. Sharpe responded to questions.

Council consensus was for the action plan to be forwarded to the April 27, 2009 meeting for further consideration of approval.

3.CRIME STRATEGY REPORT

Tom Bergamine, Chief of Police, recognized Ed Grannis, District Attorney; Earl "Moose" Butler, Cumberland County Sheriff; and community partners. Chief Bergamine introduced the 2009

Fayetteville Police Department's Community Wellness Plan and stated the plan was based on the guiding principles of: intelligence led policing; operational efficiency; community partnerships; and crime prevention. Chief Bergamine provided an overview of the guiding principles and new crime strategy initiatives contained therein. Chief Bergamine closed his presentation by speaking to measures communities could implement to be successful and ways in which to measure success. Chief Bergamine responded to questions and stated the Community Wellness Plan had been posted to the Fayetteville Police Department's website. Mr. Grannis responded to questions related to the Cumberland County jail facility. Following a brief discussion regarding police recruitment and retention efforts, consensus of Council was for staff to provide Council with possible solutions during their budget deliberations.

4. EVALUATION OF CITY'S LEASED PROPERTIES

Dale E. Iman, City Manager, reviewed staff recommendations for changes to the City's lease policy, to include lease rates and lease terms, for city-owned commercial properties in the downtown area. Mr. Iman then reviewed month-to-month leases with non-profit and for-profit organizations. Mr. Iman responded to questions that followed. Consensus of Council was to forward to the April 13, 2009 meeting for further consideration of approval.

5. UPDATE ON GOVERNMENT ACCESS CHANNEL CONCEPT, COUNCIL CHAMBER IMPROVEMENTS AND TELEVISIONING CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSIONS

Doug Hewett, Assistant City Manager, reviewed issues associated with and the results of staff investigation of televising City Council work sessions. Mr. Hewett responded to questions regarding streaming video for City Council meetings. Following discussion, consensus of Council was to televise City Council work sessions and for staff to research streaming video for City Council and City Council work session meetings.

Mr. Hewett provided an update on considerations involved with the development of a City operated Government Access Channel on the local Time-Warner Cable System to include recurring operational and additional capital costs and sustainability of a government access channel.

Consensus of Council was for staff to continue their research and provide additional information.

6. CHANGES TO THE CITY'S PROPERTY TAX GRANTBACK PROGRAM FOR THE CITY'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ZONE

Rob Anderson, Chief Development Officer, covered background information associated with the City's Property Tax Grantback Program and stated there were areas outside of the current Economic Development Zone in need of economic stimulation. Mr. Anderson reviewed highlights of proposed text and map amendments to the current Property Tax Grantback Program designed to promote development along the Bragg Boulevard corridor. Mr. Anderson responded to questions and discussion followed.

Consensus of Council was to forward to a future meeting for further consideration and action.

7. COUNCIL MEMBER REQUESTS

A. 2009-2010 CITY COUNCIL BUDGET GUIDANCE TO THE CITY MANAGER AND STAFF

Council Member Mohn requested Council consideration for staff to provide a revenue neutral budget. Mr. Iman provided information regarding formulas as spelled out in the North Carolina General Statutes and the budget message to include a revenue neutral tax rate. Following a brief discussion, consensus did not support Council Member Mohn's request.

B. CITY COUNCIL PAY RAISE

Council Member Bates requested Council consideration to direct City staff to formulate a budget for FY 2009-2010 without pay raises for the Mayor and City Council members. Mr. Iman responded to questions regarding cost of living increases and the upcoming budget. Following a brief discussion, consensus did not support Council Member Bates' request.

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