

**FAYETTEVILLE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL
DECEMBER 9, 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 TEAMS); 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
Byron Reeves, Assistant Public Services Director
Will Deaton, Planning & Zoning Manager
Craig Harmon, Senior Planner
Christopher Biggerstaff, Police Officer
Robert Van Geons, FCEDC President/CEO
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 Renee Elder, Covenant Love Church.

3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

4.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RECOGNITIONS

A video presentation was shown entitled 'Light Up Navajo', an initiative of the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority, in coordination with the American Public Power Association.

Council Member Haire presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Ms. Erica Baldwin for her significant contributions to the community.

Council Member Benavente acknowledged Mr. William Grace, Kornbow, Community Watch President for his contributions to the community.

Mayor Colvin presented a proclamation to Ms. Carolyn Justice-Hinson in honor of the Fayetteville Rotary Club 25th Annual Christmas Parade.

Council Member Thompson announced the 25th Annual Rotary Club Christmas Parade is scheduled for Saturday, December 14, 2024, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Mayor Colvin presented the President's Lifetime Achievement Award, Medals, and Flag that flew over the Federal Capitol Building to Drs. Antonio and Amichia Jones for their volunteerism in human services.

Mayor Colvin presented the Key to the City to Mr. Mick Noland in recognition of his 31 years of devoted interest and untiring commitment to the citizens of Fayetteville.

Council Member Davis announced Fayetteville NEXT Advisory Commission will host their 2nd Annual Ugly Sweater Social at Segra Stadium, 460 Hay St., on December 21, 2024, 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Jensen announced the Seventy-First High School Falcons made it to the NCHSAA Football Playoffs.

Council Member Haire announced Kingdom Impact Global Ministries, 2503 Murchison Road, is hosting their Annual Bread of Life food giveaway on December 20, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

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.

Mr. Hewett invited citizens and community members to attend the Fayetteville Pedestrian Plan to be held at FAST Transit Center, 505 Franklin Street, Thursday December 12, 2024. Residents can stop by anytime between 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. or between 4:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

6.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Council Member Haire moved to approve the agenda.

SECOND: Council Member Hondros

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (10-0)

7.0 PUBLIC FORUM

Ms. Kathy Greggs, 4607 Woodline Drive, Fayetteville, NC, expressed concerns regarding driving while black plan of action.

Ms. Angela Holden, 3007 Enterprise Avenue, expressed concerns regarding Fayetteville Metropolitan Housing Authority mold issues.

Ms. Peggy Thompson, 516 Bravery Lane, Apt. D, Fayetteville, NC, expressed concerns regarding homelessness.

Ms. Angela Tatum, 404 Pilot Avenue, Fayetteville, NC, expressed concerns regarding OCS hiring, independent oversight, and a baby friendly city.

Ms. Lisette Rodriguez, 1701 Cherokee Drive, Fayetteville, NC, expressed concerns regarding Mr. Lawrence Artis.

Mr. Jose Cardona, 223 Addison Street, Fayetteville, NC, expressed concerns regarding White and Red Flags.

8.0A CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Council Member Benavente moved to approve the consent agenda, with the exception of Item 8.04; pulled for discussion and separate vote.

SECOND: Council Member

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (10-0)

8.0A1 Approval of Meeting Minutes:

November 18, 2024 - Discussion of Agenda Items

November 18, 2024 - Regular

November 20, 2024 - Agenda Briefing

November 25, 2024 - Discussion of Agenda Items

8.0A2 Adoption of a Policy Establishing the City's Participation in the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Section 108 Loan Guarantee Program

The City of Fayetteville is committed to encouraging redevelopment by establishing a strong set of development incentives to engage with neighborhoods, community partners, and the private sector to build a strong economy and community for all residents. The City has contracted with the Bank's Law Firm to ensure judicious and professional application of public private partnerships to achieve enhanced redevelopment goals in areas identified by City Council.

8.0A3 Adoption of Budget Ordinance Amendment and Special Revenue Ordinance to Appropriate Funds for an Air Service Development Incentive Program

In the December 4, 2024 Council work session, the Council directed staff to prepare an appropriation ordinance for \$400,000.00 for an Air Service Development Incentive Program. The funding source for this appropriation is a transfer of accumulated interest income from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding in the Federal and State Assistance Fund. Accordingly, Council is asked to adopt Special Revenue Ordinance (SRO) 2025-14 to transfer \$400,000.00 of ARPA interest funds to the General Fund and Budget Ordinance Amendment (BOA) 2025-10 allowing the General Fund to receive and appropriate the \$400,000.00 for an air service development incentive program at the Fayetteville Regional Airport (FAY).

8.0A4 Pulled for separate vote.

8.0A5 Adoption of Budget Ordinance Amendment and Special Revenue Fund Ordinance Amendment to Appropriate American Rescue Plan Act funds for Safety Salaries, and to Appropriate General Fund Funds for Capital Projects

The City of Fayetteville has the opportunity to allocate the remaining \$1,811,096.00 of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds in a manner that maximizes their strategic impact while ensuring full compliance with federal regulations, by reimbursing eligible public safety salaries with the remaining ARPA funds. Therefore, Special Revenue Ordinance Amendment (SROA) 2025-2 transfers the remaining \$1,811,096.00 from the ARPA fund to the General Revenue Fund and Budget Ordinance Amendment (BOA) 2025-9 appropriates these funds for public safety salaries.

The General Ledger Revenues originally appropriated \$1,811,096.00 for safety salaries which can now be utilized for other projects. Accordingly, the following Capital Project Ordinances (CPO) appropriate the General Fund revenues: CPO 2025-36 appropriates \$200,000.00 for American Disability Act (ADA) Compliance, CPO 2025-37 appropriates \$600,000.00 for the Day Resource Center operations, CPO 2025-38 appropriates \$110,000.00 for the Impact Reduction Program, and CPO 2025-39 appropriates \$901,096.00 for the creation of a Capital Improvement Plan Contingency Project account, which will allow the City Council flexibility to prioritize spending in the next budget cycle. Council is asked to approve the adoption of Special Revenue Ordinance Amendment 2025-2, Budget Ordinance Amendment 2025-9 and Capital Project Ordinances 2025-36, 2025-37, 2025-38 and 2025-39 to facilitate these appropriations and ensure proper alignment with federal guidelines and City goals.

8.0A6 Adoption of Special Revenue Fund Project Ordinance to Appropriate \$287,130 for the FY 2024 Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Site-Based Program Grant Award

The City has been awarded grant funding for the FY24 Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Site-Based Program (COSSUP) Grant. Council is asked to adopt Special Revenue Fund Project Ordinance (SRO) 2025-14 to accept the grant funding and appropriate \$287,130.00 needed to increase operational efficiency, improve officer safety and hire a full time Crime Analyst.

The Crime Analyst/Lead Liaison will dedicate their time to the project by reviewing all referrals for eligibility, overdose data and reports, and other eligible offenses. They will also prepare documents and attend bi-weekly meetings to coordinate with law enforcement and other members of the support team.

Funding will also provide overtime funding for three staff within the LEAD outreach team and assist patrol officers with on scene referrals and community event attendance throughout the Fayetteville/Cumberland County area. Overtime will consist of five hours per week, per officer. The City will be working in partnership with the County on this grant.

8.0A7 Graham Road Speed Limit Reduction from 45 mph to 35 mph

CERTIFICATION OF MUNICIPAL DECLARATION TO REPEAL SPEED LIMITS AND REQUEST CONCURRENCE. From SR 1104 to US 401. ORDINANCE NO. NS2024-010

8.0A8 Addition of Certain Streets to the City of Fayetteville System

The Fayetteville street system includes 753.50 center line miles and is one of the City's largest assets impacting every citizen, employee, emergency service personnel, commuter, and visitor. As new development progresses, new streets are built in accordance with the City's standards and can be designated for private or public ownership and maintenance. When streets are constructed to City standards it requires a Council action to add the streets to the City's system. Streets added to our system qualify for Powell Bill Program allocations, which is a North Carolina funding program for the building and maintenance of major city streets.

Staff has identified three (3) recently constructed streets for subdivisions throughout the City that are now acceptable for addition to the City of Fayetteville system of streets. These streets and drainage systems within the street rights-of-way have been inspected by staff and are now acceptable for addition to the City of Fayetteville system of streets. The 0.28 mile addition will bring the City's street system total to 753.78 miles.

8.0A9 Project Rankin - North Carolina Railroad Company "Invests" Project Investment Letter Authorization

The Fayetteville-Cumberland Economic Development Corporation (FCEDC) has been working with a property owner at 658 Southern Avenue to redevelop a commercial building for the purposes of expanding the City's tax base and retaining jobs. City Council are asked to authorize a letter of support stating the City's willingness to accept and administer a grant from the North Carolina Railroad Company.

8.0A10 NC History Center on the Civil War, Emancipation & Reconstruction Deed Reversion Amendment

Authorize the City Manager to amend the deed and rescind the reversionary clause in accordance with the State's expectations and in concurrence with City legal guidance.

8.0A11 PWC - Phase 5 Annexation Area 32 East Section I Resolution Declaring Cost, Ordering Preparation of Preliminary Assessment Roll, and Setting Time and Place for Public Hearing on Preliminary Assessment Roll

RESOLUTION DECLARING COST AND ORDERING PREPARATION OF PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT ROLL AND SETTING TIME AND PLACE FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT ROLL. RESOLUTION NO. R2024-042

8.0B ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT

8.01B Adoption of Budget Ordinance Amendment to Transfer Office of Community Safety Funding to the City Manager's Office, Formally Establishing the Office of Community Safety

Mr. Douglas Hewett, City Manager, presented this item and stated with the adoption of the FY25 budget, the Council appropriated \$2,300,000.00 directly for the Office of Community Safety (OCS). Of this funding, \$204,000.00 was existing funding set aside for the OCS Director position within the City Manager's Office budget. The remaining \$2,096,000.00 was new funding, initially earmarked for OCS and budgeted in Other Appropriations.

After adopting the FY 2025 budget, a new accounting code was made specifically for the OCS program. The initial \$204,000.00 has already been moved into this new account, and this Budget Ordinance Amendment will transfer the remaining funds to the City Manager's Department.

This action operationalizes the funding for OCS, as City moves forward to build the Council's direction, including hiring staff, additional studies, and other priority activities.

MOTION: Council Member Benavente moved to approve
SECOND: Council Member Haire
VOTE: UNANIMOUS (10-0)

9.0 REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

9.01 Historic Resources Commission - 2024 Annual Report

Mr. Will Deaton, Planning and Zoning Manager, presented the Historic Resources Commission 2024 Annual Report, and stated the Fayetteville Historic Resources Commission (HRC), a quasi-judicial body, was established by City Council in accordance with North Carolina General Statutes. On November 9, 1999, the City of Fayetteville's HRC was approved as a Certified Local Government (CLG) by the National Park Service upon the recommendation of the State Historic Preservation Officer.

As a Certified Local Government, the City of Fayetteville is required to file an annual report on the activities of the HRC to ensure that the standards required are being met. Each year the HRC has received a favorable review from the State Historic Preservation Office. The Commission works closely with project proponents of historic landmarks or properties in the historic districts to ensure compliance with the *Design Guidelines for Fayetteville's Historic Districts and Local Landmarks* while meeting the needs of the citizens.

One of the requirements of a CLG is mandated annual historic preservation training. In order to meet that standard, two commissioners and one City staff member have the option to attend the annual statewide historic preservation conference, which covers topics ranging from the legal process to design review. Another program requirement for a CLG is an active public education program. Every year students ranging from elementary school to college engage in special tours of Fayetteville's historic districts to learn about

local history and architecture. Many other local groups receive the same type of guided tours.

The HRC is also involved in the review and recommendation of new properties for the National Register of Historic Places and the Fayetteville Historic Districts and Local Landmarks program. With jurisdiction on all exterior features in the historic districts and on local landmarks, the Commission is responsible for the review of new construction, demolition, and changes to existing structures, sites, and streetscapes.

MOTION: Council Member Haire moved to accept the report

SECOND: Council Member Hondros

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (10-0)

9.02 UDO/Housing Committee Update

Council Member Hondros presented the UDO/Housing Committee Update and stated the Committee meets monthly, the Committee consists of Council Member Hondros (Chair), Mayor Pro Tem Jensen, and Council Member Greene. The Committee established three goals:

1. Understand and continuously improve customer experience and process of development and construction from beginning to end.
2. Work on issues and current practices; primarily that affect housing (but also development), effectuate change that furthers attainable housing.
3. As a committee, inform the City Council and public.

Council Member Hondros provided an overview of the reports and presentations they have covered during meetings, issues they are currently working on, and resolved and emerging issues.

MOTION: Council Member Greene moved to receive the report.

SECOND: Mayor Pro Tem Jensen

VOTE: PASSED by a vote of 9 in favor to 1 in opposition (Council Member Haire)

9.03 Fayetteville Cumberland Economic Development Corporation 2024 Annual Report

Mr. Robert Van Geons, FCEDC President/CEO, presented the annual report and stated the following: The main goals and objectives for the Committee are, members of the Committee govern the activities of the Fayetteville Cumberland County Economic Development Corporation (FCEDC) and support the organization in reaching its annual goals, which include: Attracting new business projects that will increase investment in the community and expand the local tax base, creating jobs through projects with new and existing industry, identifying sites and buildings for expedited development, and supporting existing companies by facilitating expansions and connecting them with resources for their business operations.

Charges or tasks of the Committee (Action items for the reporting year): Secure jobs and investment in the community. Since 2017, FCEDC projects have supported more than 5,000 jobs in Fayetteville and Cumberland County, announcing over \$1.37 billion in capital investment.,

Market the community to business decision-makers. By delivering value-added messaging to corporate leaders, site-selection consultants, and industrial real estate brokers, FCEDC generates interest from companies that may consider moving to the area or expanded business operations. This year, we have engaged targeted audiences at 50 regional, national, and international events, resulting in 112 projects, with 27 company visits. Combined, our active project pipeline includes more than 16,000 potential jobs and more than \$7 billion of possible investment.

Connect with our community's vibrant base of existing industry partners. FCEDC recognizes how important it is that local businesses have the tools they need for success. Each year, FCEDC visits approximately 100 local employers, representing our manufacturing, logistics, technology, and defense sectors. To support their operations, FCEDC connects employers with resources including customized training programs, talent attraction, regulatory/permitting assistance, public relations, financial assistance (for qualifying expansion projects), and forums for collaboration including the Transportation & Logistics Committee and Plant Manager's Association.

Provide support for grants and incentives. FCEDC works with City, County, and State partners to secure incentives for qualifying projects that bring jobs and investment to our community. Additionally, we work with utility partners, grantmaking agencies, and nonprofit organizations to secure grants that provide funding for infrastructure extensions, transportation improvements, and customized training.

Identify, make ready, and promote buildable sites. FCEDC works to identify suitable sites for development and partners with property owners and developers to market them. FCEDC maintains a comprehensive and searchable database of industrial and commercial properties available for sale or lease in the Fayetteville/Cumberland County area. FCEDC connects with brokers and site selectors to attract developers who may choose our area for their spec buildings and build-to-suit options.

Assist with initiatives and special projects as requested by City and County leadership. FCEDC is frequently called upon to lead strategic projects that benefit the community. While not typical "economic development" projects, these efforts address gaps in our local economy and increase our competitiveness. Past work includes the Fayetteville Airport Development Strategy, the "Can Do Carolina" community-wide branding initiative, the Dogwood Festival Feasibility study, and the DCI Public Relations project.

FCEDC has announced the following projects. In July, Project Aero chose Fayetteville and Cumberland County for its aerospace-grade titanium mill, which will create over 300 jobs and invest more than \$867 million in buildings and equipment. Project Aero has been approved for performance-based incentives and infrastructure support by the City, County, and State of North Carolina. The project site will be annexed into the City of Fayetteville. Booz Allen announced its new Joint Technology Acceleration Facility in January. This project expands the engineering ecosystem in Fayetteville and directly serves Fort Liberty. Today, Booz Allen has over 600 employees in the greater Fayetteville. Strategic Transload Services (STS) opened a new subsidiary in Cumberland County, repurposing an idle landfill off Murchison Road. STS operates on the CSX Class 1 Rail line, providing direct rail from ethanol plants in the Midwest to the local fuel depot. The project displaces more than 250 area fuel trucks per month and strengthens the rail business.

Discussion ensued.

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

9.04 Wrecker Review Board Presentation

Police Officer Christopher Biggerstaff, Wrecker Inspector, presented the Wrecker Review Board presentation and stated Pursuant to Chapter 24 of the City Code the Wrecker Review Board is responsible for hearing evidence presented by the Wrecker Inspector, appellant, and others regarding the suspension or revocation of wrecker service's permit or license. After hearing evidence from all parties, a decision

is made concerning the action to be taken in the case. The board is composed of a Committee Chair who is select by the city council, wrecker owner or operator or city employee. Two members are selected by the Licensees, and the Chief of Police selects two members from the Police Department in the rank of sergeant or above to be on the board. The wrecker inspector serves as a non-voting member. The goals and objectives for the Committee are to hold appeals and hearings in regard to wrecker permits, and violations involving Chapter 20 of the City Code. After the evidence, the board would decide on an action to take. There have been no wrecker companies suspended or had their license revoked in the past year. The accomplishments of the Board were they held three meetings during the year, and the wrecker inspector conducted inspections of all 22 wrecker companies on the wrecker rotation list with no failures.

Discussion ensued.

MOTION: Council Member Davis moved to accept the report
SECOND: Council Member Hondros
VOTE: UNANIMOUS (10-0)

10.0 PUBLIC HEARINGS (Public & Legislative Hearings)

10.01 Proposed Text Amendments to Chapter 30 - Unified Development Ordinance (UDO). Fall 2024

Mr. Craig Harmon, Senior Planner, presented this item with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation and stated generally, twice per year, the Development Services Department proposes a batch of text amendments to adjust the Unifed Development Ordinance (UDO) and other City Codes. The aim of these amendments is to ensure that the City's regulations reflect modern development standards and community preferences. These suggested amendments are the result of issues identified through ordinance cleanup, the development community's suggestions, and case law implications.

The first step in bringing a proposed amendment before City Council is to have it reviewed, modified, and recommended by the City's Planning Commission, following City policies and State Statutes as shown below. The Commission is an integral part of any text amendment process.

According to Section 160D-301 of the North Carolina General Statutes:

(a) Composition. - A local government may by ordinance provide for the appointment and compensation of a planning board or may designate one or more boards or commissions to perform the duties of a planning board. A planning board established pursuant to this section may include, but shall not be limited to, one or more of the following:

(b) Duties. - A planning board may be assigned the following powers and duties:

(3) To develop and recommend policies, ordinances, development regulations, administrative procedures, and other means for carrying out plans in a coordinated and efficient manner.

Development Services Staff proposes 5 code areas to be amended:

1. Amend Historic Resources Commission's requirements for a quorum to exclude vacant positions in the calculation. Currently the UDO requires that a quorum for this commission be four members. However, when a situation such as we currently have two of the seven appointments are vacant, meaning four of the five remaining must be present for a quorum. With this amendment only three of the five would be required.

2. Amend standards for Wireless Communications Towers to include new standards for Aviation Hazards.

3. Amend Use Table to clarify uses in the DT-2 zone that are only allowed on certain streets. These uses are listed as allowed in the Use Specific Standards of the UDO. This amendment will match the Use Table to Use Specific Standards.

4. Add specialty eating establishments to the list of uses allowed to have a drive-throughs in the DT-2. Specialty Eating Establishments, such as coffee shops and ice-cream parlors, are allowed to have drive-throughs in all other districts except for the DT-1 districts which doesn't allow any drive-throughs.

5. Amend the Clear-Cutting Permit standards to include an exception for sites of one acre or less to provide only a 20-foot buffer along property lines and rights-of-way. This is only for predevelopment and would still be subject to clear cutting permits and specimen tree requirements.

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

Discussion ensued.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE AMENDING ARTICLE 30-2.A., REVIEW AND DECISION-MAKING BODIES., OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA. ORDINANCE NO. S2024-018

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE AMENDING ARTICLE 30-4, USE STANDARDS, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA. ORDINANCE NO. S2024-019

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE AMENDING ARTICLE 30-4, USE STANDARDS, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA, ORDINANCE NO. 2024-020

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE AMENDING ARTICLE 30-4, USE STANDARDS, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA, ORDINANCE NO. 2024-021

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE AMENDING ARTICLE 30-2.C.9. CLEAR CUTTING PERMIT, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA, ORDINANCE NO. 2024-022

MOTION: Council Member Davis moved to adopt the proposed ordinances

SECOND: Council Member Hondros

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (10-0)

11.0 OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS

11.01 Review and Approval of the Can Do Grant Program with FCEDC

Mr. Robert Van Geons, FCEDC President/CEO, presented this item with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation and stated The Can Do Grant Program allocates \$2.5 million in ARPA funds to support local businesses and economic development in Fayetteville. This program, administered by the Fayetteville Cumberland Economic Development Corporation (FCEDC), will distribute grants to eligible businesses based on established milestones and deliverables.

The Can Do Grant Program is part of the City's ARPA-funded initiatives to address economic challenges caused by COVID-19 and aligns with Council's strategic goals of fostering economic vitality and workforce development. On December 12, 2022, Council held a public

hearing and unanimously authorized the City Manager to execute a contract with the Community Development Foundation (CDF), a local 501(c)(3), to support the Economic Equity Venture Capital Fund. This fund would address local economic disparities and was developed in collaboration with the FCEDC.

The Can Do Grant Program is an evolution of this initiative, designed to provide measurable and impactful economic development opportunities. This structure includes grant milestones, eligibility criteria, and reporting requirements, ensuring compliance with federal and state guidelines. .

This program is a critical component of the City's ARPA-funded economic development efforts, designed to provide targeted grant support to small businesses in Fayetteville. The framework ensures accountability and compliance by requiring FCEDC to implement milestone-based funding and deliverables, as well as regular reporting to City staff.

The program is designed to:

- Ensure targeted economic support for small businesses.
- Promote accountability through milestone-based funding and reporting.
- Leverage ARPA funds to strengthen Fayetteville's economic resilience.

The program utilizes \$2.5 million from ARPA funds, allocated for economic development initiatives. These funds have been approved as part of the ARPA portfolio and require no additional allocation from the General Fund.

Staff requests City Council's approval of the program framework with FCEDC to initiate funding disbursement to move the program forward as planned and review and approve the City Manager to finalize and execute the agreement with the FCEDC to implement the program.

Discussion ensued.

MOTION: Approval of the Can-Do Grant Program framework and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement with FCEDC, allowing the program to proceed as planned.

SECOND: Council Member Davis

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (10-0)

12.0 ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

12.01 Public Infrastructure GO Bond Project Update

This item was for information only and was not presented.

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.