

**FAYETTEVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
WORK SESSION MINUTES  
LAFAYETTE ROOM  
APRIL 7, 2015  
5:00 P.M.**

Present: Mayor Nat Robertson

Council Members Kathy Jensen (District 1); Kady-Ann Davy (District 2); H. Mitchell Colvin, Jr. (District 3); Chalmers McDougald (District 4); William J. L. Crisp (District 6) (departed at 6:44 p.m.); Larry O. Wright, Sr. (District 7); Theodore Mohn (District 8); James W. Arp (District 9) (departed at 6:36 p.m.)

Absent: Council Member Robert T. Hurst, Jr. (District 5)

Others Present:

Rochelle Small-Toney, Deputy City Manager  
Brian Meyer, Assistant City Attorney  
Jay Reinstein, Assistant City Manager  
Michael Gibson, Parks, Recreation and Maintenance Director  
Scott Shuford, Development Services Director  
Randy Hume, Transit Director  
Barbara Hill, Human Resource Development Director  
Steven Blanchard, PWC General Manager/CEO  
Mick Noland, PWC Chief Water Resources Director  
Mike Lallier, PWC Chair  
Darsweil Rogers, PWC Member  
Lynne Greene, PWC Member  
Mark Brown, PWC Customer Relations Director  
Pamela Megill, City Clerk  
Members of the Press

#### **1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Robertson called the meeting to order.

#### **2.0 INVOCATION**

The invocation was offered by Council Member McDougald.

#### **3.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Council Member McDougald moved to approve the agenda.

**SECOND:** Council Member Wright

**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS (9-0)

#### **4.0 CLOSED SESSION**

**MOTION:** Council Member Mohn moved to go into closed session for consultation with the attorney for an attorney-client privileged matter and discussion of litigation in the matter of *Public Works Commission, et al. v. City of Fayetteville, et al.*

**SECOND:** Council Member McDougald

**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS (9-0)

The regular session recessed at 5:07 p.m. The regular session reconvened at 6:44 p.m.

**MOTION:** Council Member Crisp moved to go into open session.

**SECOND:** Council Member Wright

**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS (8-0)

#### **5.0 OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

##### **5.1 Downtown Alliance Report and Request for Assistance**

Former Mayor Anthony Chavonne presented this item with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation and stated maintaining and enhancing Downtown Fayetteville affects five of the six strategic goals that City Council has adopted. The Downtown Alliance Plan of Work addresses public safety, the enhanced potential for the Downtown to be an economic engine for the City, as well as one of Fayetteville's most beautiful and distinctive neighborhoods, and the potential for the Downtown to improve the quality of life for all Fayetteville residents and visitors. The

Downtown Alliance promotes a mutually-beneficial partnership with the City of Fayetteville. Mayor Chavonne stated goals and objectives were identified in four critical areas: economic development, marketing and promotion, member services and design and safety. The recommendations we bring today represent just some of the work that the Downtown Alliance has done to this point. Mayor Chavonne and Downtown Alliance Board Members addressed the following potential projects: vacant building ordinance, public safety, empty storefront policy, sign ordinance, design goals, beautification, green space activation, and landscape plan for historic cemeteries.

Consensus of Council was to direct staff to provide further information.

## **5.2 Transit Title VI Program Update**

Mr. Randy Hume, Transit Director, presented this item. Mayor Robertson asked if Council wished to hear the presentation, in light of receiving written materials.

Consensus of Council was to direct staff to move ahead with this item and place it on a regular meeting agenda for official action.

## **5.3 Board Consolidation**

Mr. Scott Shuford, Development Services Director, presented this item. Mayor Robertson asked if Council wished to hear the presentation, in light of receiving written materials.

Consensus of Council was to direct staff to move ahead with this item and place it on a regular meeting agenda for official action.

## **5.4 Consideration of City Sponsorship for Run for the Wall 2015**

Mr. Michael Gibson, Parks, Recreation and Maintenance Director, presented this item. Mayor Robertson asked if Council wished to hear the presentation, in light of receiving written materials.

Consensus of Council was to direct staff to move ahead with this item and place it on a regular meeting agenda for official action.

## **5.5 Building Inspections Report**

Mr. Scott Shuford, Development Services Director, presented this item and stated staff has prepared a detailed report on the current status of the building inspections program. Mr. Shuford stated the problems with inspector recruitment have stemmed from an uncompetitive pay plan, hiring decisions required accounting for salary equity and competition from peer regions. Mr. Shuford stated he has worked closely with the Human Resources Development Department to create a "Pay for Achievement" pay plan. Equity adjustments have been made to existing employee pay and developed a plan for future adjustments to Inspections Supervisors and Office Assistants. The new pay plan for new employees has a bottom pay range of \$36,209.00. Mr. Shuford provided an overview for the various tracks and levels of pay. Mr. Shuford stated an off-duty county inspector has been hired to work 16 hours per week, a code inspector has been reassigned to building inspections, and a plans examiner has been reassigned as a solution towards addressing the backlog of inspections. Mr. Shuford stated other inspection staffing issues are a vacant building inspector position since May 2014; this position has been temporarily filled by hiring a retired building inspector, and the department is now recruiting using the new pay plan. The new inspector positions authorized by Council to start at mid-year will begin next week. To avoid future inspection backlogs we have identified solutions to create programs with built-in resilience that include mutual aid agreements and temporary resources from off duty inspectors, code inspectors and plans examiners. Improved management will encompass GPS monitoring, dispatch records, Fayworx Online for inspection scheduling and permit application. Mr. Shuford stated the new building inspector started work on March 30, 2015. The new Four-Trade inspector starts work on April 13, 2015. The recruitment period is over for the Electrical Inspector position. Mr. Shuford provided an overview of the current status of the inspection backlogs for electrical, building, mechanical, and plumbing. He stated the Fayworx Phase II – Public Portal, Online Scheduling will take place in May 2015 and the Phase III – Online Application will take place in July 2015.

Discussion ensued.

Consensus of Council was for an expectation for the on-line payment program to be up and running within a 90-day time frame.

#### **5.6 Direction - Trailers and RVs**

Mr. Scott Shuford, Development Services Director, presented this item with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation and stated City Council recently amended the City Code to clarify the number and type of utility trailers allowed to be stored in front and corner side yards. Even more recently, Council asked for another amendment to be prepared addressing the parking of small boats. While starting to work on this amendment, we became concerned that we might not capture the full intent of Council so we are bringing this item for clarification and direction. Many types of vehicles are stored in the front and corner side yards of residential properties in Fayetteville, including trailers, boat trailers, and recreational vehicles.

Discussion ensued.

Consensus of City Council was to direct staff to bring back some options for the Council to consider.

#### **5.7 City Council Agenda Item Request - Audit of 3 Cent Ad Valorem Tax Increase for Police New Initiatives Funding**

Council Member Mohn presented this item and stated he is requesting a status update of the additional revenues realized and spent/obligated concerning the 3 cent ad valorem tax increase.

Discussion ensued.

Consensus of City Council was to direct staff to provide a status update for the new positions funded in the tax package (all departments, not just Police) and also the status of the procurement of other items funded, such as vehicles, equipment, etc.

#### **5.8 City Council Agenda Item Request - Purchasing Process**

Council Member Colvin presented this item and stated he is requesting Council take formal action to retrieve the purchasing process from the Public Works Commission.

Discussion ensued.

Consensus of Council was to direct staff to stand up the capability for the purchasing process to take place in-house.

#### **6.0 ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.