

**FAYETTEVILLE CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL JOINT MEETING WITH
NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY STATE LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION
LAFAYETTE CONFERENCE ROOM
JANUARY 13, 2017
8:30 A.M.**

Present: Mayor Nat Robertson

Council Members Kirk deViere (District 2); H. Mitchell Colvin, Jr. (District 3); Chalmers McDougald (District 4); Robert T. Hurst, Jr. (District 5); William J. L. Crisp (District 6); Larry O. Wright, Sr. (District 7) (arrived at 9:22 a.m.); Theodore Mohn (District 8); James W. Arp, Jr. (District 9)

Absent: Council Member Kathy Jensen (District 1)

Delegation Present: State Senators: Wesley Meredith (19th District); Ben Clark (21st District)

Representatives: Billy Richardson (44th District); Elmer Floyd (43rd District); Marvin W. Lucas (42nd District); John Szoka (45th District)

Others Present: Douglas Hewett, City Manager
Karen McDonald, City Attorney
Kristoff Bauer, Deputy City Manager
Jay Reinstein, Assistant City Manager
Ben Major, Fire Chief
Anthony Kelly, Interim Police Chief
Brad Whited, Airport Director
Rob Stone, Engineering and Infrastructure Director
Tracey Broyles, Budget and Evaluation Director
Jim Palenick, Economic and Business Development Director
Nathan Walls, Public Information Officer
Tracey Jackson, Cumberland County Assistant Manager
Paul Meyer, NCLM, Executive Director
Robert Van Geons, FCEDC, President and CEO
Pamela Megill, City Clerk
Members of the Press

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Robertson called the meeting to order at 8:37 a.m. and welcomed the Legislative Delegation.

2.0 INVOCATION

Council Member McDougald offered the invocation.

3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was led by Mayor Robertson.

4.0 INTRODUCTIONS

4.1 Introductions - Mayor, Nat Robertson, Chairman Senator, Wesley Meredith

Introduction of all elected officials in attendance was made.

5.0 DISCUSSION TOPICS

5.1 Shaw Heights

Representative Floyd introduced this item and stated he plans to introduce a local bill in the legislature's long session this year to allow for the City's annexation of Shaw Heights. This is an item that has been debated for more than a decade. Shaw Heights is a donut hole surrounded by the City of Fayetteville, and annexation will be a golden opportunity for economic development in this area; with its close proximity to I295. We will need for the City to present an economic development plan. Representative Floyd further stated his bill would make the annexation effective in 2018; therefore giving the City time to complete the economic development plan.

Mr. Douglas Hewett, City Manager, stated the City has provided the metes and bounds to legally describe the area. There is a cost associated with servicing the area, but annexation will provide unique planning opportunities.

Senator Meredith stated the area is more of a mixed use than residential, there is a lot of work to be done and the delegation will need a resolution of support from both the City Council and the Cumberland County Commissioners.

Mayor Pro Tem Colvin asked if the annexation bill would be solely for Shaw Heights. Representative Floyd confirmed the bill will only address Shaw Heights.

Council Member Crisp stated this is an area of 630 acres and we need to have a phased in approach to economic development.

Council Member Arp stated we need to establish a mixed use zoning with the County.

Representative Floyd stated we are ready to get the process moving.

5.2 Long Term Leasing Authority

Ms. Karen McDonald, City Attorney, introduced this item and stated currently the City has a cap of ten years for long-term leasing, it would be beneficial to be permitted to enter into longer leases especially so for the proposed leasing with the NC Wildlife Resources for the Parks and Recreation Bond Package item relating to building a Senior Center at Lake Rim.

Representative Richardson stated he would support this type of legislation.

Representative Szoka stated there is no end date on the proposal; the legislation would need a sunset date on it.

Representative Lucas stated this is an item we need to pursue.

Council Member Arp stated the Parks and Recreation Bond Committee have discussed the potential of a 50-year lease. This will be a multi-million dollar facility.

Ms. Karen McDonald, City Attorney, stated this legislation would also be beneficial for the proposed baseball stadium.

Representative Floyd asked if this would be all inclusive legislation for various projects. Ms. McDonald replied it would.

Senator Meredith stated there would need to be a specific request for each project (not all inclusive of all projects).

5.3 Local Small Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (LSDBE)

Ms. Karen McDonald, City Attorney, introduced this item and stated the City is requesting contract award and vendor preference from the General Assembly that would give local bidders or proposers an advantage in the award of public contracts. An example would be bid price matching, where the City of Fayetteville will be required to give local bidders the opportunity to match the lowest bid if the lowest bidder is a non-local bidder. The City of Fayetteville unanimously adopted Resolution No. R2016-019 expressing commitment to creating opportunities for local and local disadvantaged business enterprises and minority businesses. We would like to enhance our abilities to conduct business with local businesses similar to the programs utilized by Durham, Charlotte, and Winston-Salem.

Mayor Pro Tem Colvin stated the Council has been very aggressive with this program but has been somewhat hamstrung by the statutes in place.

Senator Meredith stated he would like to see the proposed legislation for this item, and agreed we do need to help the community.

Representative Szoka cautioned that this type of legislation can sometimes open the doors for those that would use the advantage for subversive uses.

Council Member Crisp stated he would like to see the "damning of the tide" of monies leaving North Carolina, but an open-ended contract could be very dangerous.

5.4 Consolidated 911 Center Funding

Mr. Kristoff Bauer, Deputy City Manager, presented this item and stated Fayetteville and Cumberland County, like many other communities before us, will need state financial support to complete the consolidated 911 Emergency Operations Center. This can be accomplished through prioritizing remaining 911 Board funds for this purpose, revising the funding plan for NG9-1-1 to make more funding available, a separate grant base on Fayetteville's unique status as a military community, or a combination of these options. The City is asking the delegation to assist the City and County in securing funding to complete this important regional project.

5.5 Civil War History Center

Mr. Douglas Hewett, City Manager, presented this item and stated the City Council unanimously adopted a resolution in support of the proposed North Carolina Civil War History Center.

Council Member Arp stated this facility is another economic development opportunity, Fayetteville wants to be a leader, not a follower, and challenged the County to step up for our qualities of life.

Council Member Crisp stated this facility is not a museum, it is a historical center, we need to look at the past to build on our future, and it's an economic development opportunity. The City has pledged \$7,000,000.00.

Mayor Pro Tem Colvin stated he embraces this proposed project, and hopes that the center will concentrate a piece on the diversity of the community.

Senator Meredith stated there have been projects funded at this level, but the County needs to talk about this item, and decided what they are going to do; we would like the County to take a vote on this item. The community has to have buy-in.

Representative Lucas stated there have been ventures of this significance in the past that have received state funding.

Representative Floyd stated this project will take a collective effort, if there is any pull back from the County, there will be very little chance the State will participate. It needs to be in the Council budget.

Council Member McDougald stated he has received a lot of push-back from his constituents because the community has not been educated sufficiently on this project; it is an education resource center; it is for the whole community.

Council Member Hurst stated this is another opportunity for us to work together; it is all about economic development.

Council Member Wright stated this is building race relationships, we could be proud to have this facility on our ground, we really need this, let us get this thing done.

5.6 Hurricane Matthew Update

Mr. Rob Stone, Engineering and Infrastructure Director, presented this item with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation. The presentation included several photographs of damages around the City as a result of Hurricane Matthew. The City has formally requested state assistance for disaster relief funding. This request, if funded, would alleviate considerable concerns regarding our City budget and allow us to focus on community recovery and bridge the gap of recovery needs not considered for Federal or State aid.

Mayor Robertson asked the delegation to highly consider using Rainy Day funds to assist the City with our infrastructure costs associated with damages to streets, vehicles, debris collection and disposal, labor and equipment. Mayor Robertson thanked Mr. Paul Meyer, NCLM Executive Director for his leadership and looking out for the interests of our City.

6.0 POSITION PAPERS

- Mayor Pro Tem Colvin - Dam Safety and Inspections
- Council Member deViere - Broadband Innovation
- Council Member McDougald - 401 By-Pass Repairs
- Council Member Hurst - RAMP
- Council Member Crisp - Financial assistance for the damaged dams
- Council Member Wright - Financial assistance from the Rainy Day fund, and legislation to guide how red-light camera revenue is utilized by the School District
- Council Member Mohn -Today's agenda covered interests
- Council Member Arp - Financial assistance for the damaged dams
- Representative Lucas - Inter Basin Water Transfer
- Representative Floyd - Financial Assistance for the damaged dams
- Representative Richardson - Rainy Day funds for the damaged dams

- Senator Clark - Hurricane Matthew recovery
- Representative Szoka - Your patience as we work on these requests
- Senator Meredith - Focusing on our citizens.

7.0 CLOSING REMARKS

Senator Meredith thanked everyone for their participation and stated there will be more economic packages to speak to the Hurricane Mathew damages, there will be monies to address these concerns.

Mayor Robertson thanked all in attendance, and stated Council appreciates all the delegation does for our City.

8.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:06 a.m.

