

**HIGH POINT CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING  
May 6, 2024 – 4:00 P.M.  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room – Municipal Building**

**CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL**

*Mayor Jefferson called the Special Meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.*

**Present:** Mayor Cyril Jefferson; Mayor Pro Tem Michael Holmes, Ward 6 (arrived at 4:06 p.m.); Council Member Britt W. Moore, At Large (arrived at 4:20 p.m.); Council Member Amanda Cook, At Large; Council Member Vickie M. McKiver, Ward 1; Council Member Tyrone E. Johnson, Ward 2 (arrived at 4:03 p.m.); Council Member Monica L. Peters, Ward 3; Council Member Patrick H. Harman, Ward 4; and Council Member Tim Andrew, Ward 5

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**A motion was made by Council Member Harman, seconded by Council Member Cook, to adopt the agenda.**

**Motion carried with the following vote:**

**Aye:** Mayor Jefferson, Council Member Cook, Council Member McKiver, Council Member Peters, Council Member Harman, and Council Member Andrew

**Absent:** Council Member Holmes, Council Member Moore, and Council Member Johnson

**PRESENTATION OF ITEMS**

**2024-175      Presentation of the Proposed City of High Point Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget**

Staff will present the Proposed City of High Point Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget.

*Stephen Hawryluk, Budget and Performance Director, presented the FY 2024-25 Proposed Budget. He stated the budget is balanced in accordance with the North Carolina General Statutes and filed with the City Clerk, is available on the City's website, and a copy will be provided at the High Point Public Library.*

*Mr. Hawryluk provided an overview of the budget noting the total budget is \$518.7 million dollars. He spoke to challenges and realities of the budget, noting rising prices and salaries. He reviewed the City's revenue sources and noted the proposed budget raises the property tax rate by 3¢ to 64.75¢ per \$100 of the valuation and noted the budget has increased just over 8.4%. There is no proposed increase for solid waste fees or stormwater fees, but the proposed budget does include a proposed 5% increase in water/sewer rates. He explained there will not be an increase to electric rates but there are changes such as the base facilities charge is revenue neutral as well as the Consolidate of Time of Use, Coincident Peak, and Commercial Non-demand. There is also a renewal energy portfolio standard which is a charge that is required by statute that*

*is passed on to the power agency and there is a new fee for electrical vehicle charging. Other fee schedule changes include: Parks & Recreation fees, Theatre auditorium rates, and others such as hydrant meter deposits, non-leased parking spaces (decks), and reduction of minimum deposit on transit user cards.*

*Mr. Hawryluk spoke to revenues regarding property tax and sales tax and explained that 91% of the tax base is Guilford County and noted how those revenues are divided between the General Fund and Debt Service. He spoke to the sales tax noting the current year end is above FY 2022-23 and grew about 9%. He provided information regarding how other government entities handle their taxes affect the revenues for the city.*

*In response to Council Member Harman, Mr. Hawryluk noted the county decides how the tax distribution is made.*

*Tasha Logan Ford, City Manager, provided a history of the tax rates of other jurisdictions in comparison with the City of High Point and how those rates affect the budget.*

*A discussion took place regarding past tax rates for different jurisdictions.*

*Mr. Hawryluk explained expenditures noting personnel services is about 33% of the budget; operating cost is 36% which includes wholesale power cost, he reviewed personnel services, proposed salary changes, new position costs, operating cost, capital & capital outlay as well as capital projects.*

*He spoke to the general fund revenues such as property tax, sales and use tax, license and permits, and charges for services, as well as explained expenditures such as salary increases, health care cost and three new full-time positions. He reviewed debt services, enterprise funds, and capital improvements.*

*Mayor Jefferson thanked Mr. Hawryluk for the presentation.*

#### **2024-174 Water Quality and Environmental Protection Agency Update**

Staff will provide information on a recent announcement by the Environmental Protection Agency regarding water quality limits and contaminants

*Damon Dequenne, Assistant City Manager, provided a presentation regarding the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). He explained that the SDWA defines what water contaminants are such as physical particles, biological, radiological and chemical. He noted that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sets limits on contaminants. In 2021 the EPA started a process for regulating two contaminants which are perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) and in April of 2024 the EPA issued new standards which include proposed maximum contaminant levels of these chemicals. Because of the new standards the city will continue to sample raw and finished water by evaluating how and where these chemicals enter our source water; adjust the city's primary source of water to Oak Hollow Lake, continue to seek*

*compensation from manufactures of these chemicals and continue to identify most appropriate treatment technologies.*

*A discussion took place regarding cost, changing water sources, timelines, and 1.4 dioxane.*

*Mayor Jefferson thanked Mr. Dequenne for the presentation.*

**2024-173 Transportation Departmental Overview**

Staff will provide an overview of the Transportation Department.

*Greg Venable, Transportation Director, provided a departmental overview for the Transportation Department. He provided the mission statement and priorities and explained the roles within the different divisions, parking fees, and transit.*

*A discussion took place regarding parking fees compared to other cities, micro hub, and micro transit.*

**2024-176 Closed Session-Economic Development**

Council is requested to go into Closed Session pursuant to N.C.G.S. §143-318.11(a)(4) for Economic Development.

**Mayor Pro Tempore Holmes made a motion, seconded by Council Member Andrew, to go into closed session pursuant to N.C.G.S. §143-318.11(a)(4) for Economic Development.**

**Motion carried with the following vote:**

**Aye:** Mayor Jefferson, Council Member Holmes, Council Member Moore, Council Member Cook, Council Member McKiver, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Peters, Council Member Harman, and Council Member Andrew

**Closed Session began at 5:18 p.m.**

**A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tempore Holmes, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to end Closed Session and return to Regular Session.**

**Motion carried with the following vote:**

**Aye:** Mayor Jefferson, Council Member Holmes, Council Member Moore, Council Member Cook, Council Member McKiver, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Peters, Council Member Harman, and Council Member Andrew

**Regular Session resumed at 5:24 p.m.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

*There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.*

Respectfully Submitted,

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Cyril Jefferson, Mayor

Attest:

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Sandra Keeney, City Clerk

DRAFT