

HIGH POINT CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
(ELECTED OFFICIALS TRAINING)
JANUARY 30, 2015 – 8:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.
PARKS & RECREATION CONFERENCE ROOM

MINUTES

Present:

Mayor William S. Bencini, Jr.; Mayor Pro Tem James Davis (Ward 5); and Council Members Cynthia Y. Davis (At-Large), Latimer Alexander (At-Large), Chris Williams (Ward 2), Alyce Hill (Ward 3), Jay Wagner (Ward 4), and Jason Ewing (Ward 6)

Absent:

Council Member Jeff Golden (Ward 1)

Staff Present:

Greg Demko, City Manager; Randy McCaslin, Assistant City Manager; JoAnne Carlyle, City Attorney; Lisa Vierling, City Clerk

Elected Officials from the Town of Pilot Mountain also participated in the training session:

Amanda Reid, City Manager

Mayor Dwight Atkins

Mayor Pro Tem Linda Needham

Commissioner Kimberly Quinn

Commissioner Cordie Armstrong

Commissioner Gary Bell

Facilitators/Speakers:

Paul Meyer, Executive Director- NCLM

Rose Vaughn Williams, Director of Governmental Affairs- NCLM

Rob Shepherd, Manager of Member Relations & Education- NCLM

Kim Hibbard, General Counsel- NCLM

Melissa Smith, Member Relations Specialist- NCLM

Bill Rivenbark, Professor of Public Administration & Government and MPA Program Director, UNC School of Government

Greg Allison, Senior Lecturer in Public Finance & Government, UNC School of Government

Rob Shepherd, Manager of Member Relations & Education with NCLM shared that the League would be conducting a more in-depth two-day training across the state in January/February 2016 and would be providing the Ethics Training at that time. He noted other options available would be through training facilitated by the School of Government, who will host a live webinar in May (with a recorded version available in mid-June which can be purchased with unlimited viewing options, or training any city/town attorney could also facilitate the Ethics training. He

pointed out the Ethics training is mandatory for all elected officials and must be done within one-year after the date of the elections.

Paul Meyer, Executive Director with the North Carolina League of Municipalities provided an overview of the programs, services, and advocacy offered by NCLM. Two key events coming up: the NLC Congressional Conference in Washington, D.C. (March 7-11, 2015 and NCLM Town Hall Day in Raleigh (March 18, 2015).

Rose Vaughn Williams, Director of Governmental Affairs, provided some oversight regarding some critical legislation and interaction with legislators. She shared that NCLM has been talking with the Governor's Office regarding the loss of the privilege license tax and noted he would have a short period of time to come up with an alternative solution. Council Member Alexander noted the cities need to be able to charge a nominal fee just to maintain the database for the businesses, etc... Mr. Meyer noted he had this exact conversation with Governor McCrory and he realizes the need for some type of registration method. Bottom line, they conveyed that elected officials should plan for the revenue not to be there.

Ms. Williams also reported on tax reform, historic rehabilitation tax credits, film tax credits, ETJ, municipal elections (making all municipal elections standard across the state), building inspections, eminent domain.

Bill Rivenbark and Greg Allison with the School of Government facilitated discussion and provided information on Financial Management in Municipal Government: A Top 10 Primer and covered topics such as The Local Government Budget & Fiscal Control Act; Budget Preparation and Enactment; Revenues; Property and Sales Tax; fund balance; role of the Local Government Commission; Appropriations; Capital Planning; Capital Financing; Fund Accounting; Financial Reporting and Annual Audit.

[Lunch served]

Kim Hibbard, General Counsel with NCLM, followed up the previous discussion and provided information on What Cities Do and How they Do it.

Rob Shepherd with NCLM, concluded the training session and facilitated a discussion regarding Council-Manager Form of Government, Roles and Responsibilities.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m. upon motion duly made and seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

William S. Bencini, Jr., Mayor

Attest:

Lisa B. Vierling, MMC
City Clerk