

**HIGH POINT CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 16, 2019 – 3:30 P.M.  
3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR LOBBY CONFERENCE ROOM**

**MINUTES**

**Present:**

Mayor Jay Wagner, Mayor Pro Tem Jason Ewing (Ward 6), Council Member Don Scarborough (At Large); Council Member Britt Moore (At Large) and Council Member Wesley Hudson (Ward 4); Council Member Jeffrey Golden (Ward 1); Council Member Chris Williams (Ward 2); Council Member Monica Peters (Ward 3); and Council Member Victor Jones (Ward 5) [Arrived at 3:45 p.m.]

**Staff Present:**

Randy Hemann, Assistant City Manager, Eric Olmedo, Managing Director; Laura Altizer, Budget and Performance Manager; Loren Hill, Economic Development Director; Tammy Nagem, Chief Operating Officer for the High Point Marketing Authority; Perry Hall, High Point Fire Emergency Manager; Mark Lane, Police Commander II; David Dulin, Police Officer, Master III; Thomas Reid, Fire Chief; Kenneth Shultz, Chief of Police; Dan Griffiths, Police Supervisor I; Patrick Welch, Police Officer, Master III; Michael McNair, Community Development Director; Lisa Vierling, City Clerk; Mary S. Brooks, Deputy City Clerk

**Others Present:**

Tammy Nagem, Chief Operating Officer for the High Point Marketing Authority; Nick Pungwa, Student; and Yina Morales, Student

**News Media Present:**

Abby Zeugner, *High Point Enterprise*; and WXII, *News 12*

Mayor Wagner called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m.

**2019-420      Presentation-Furniture Market Emergency Preparations**

Staff will present a presentation on the Furniture Market Emergency Preparations

Tammy Nagem, Chief Operating Officer for the High Point Marketing Authority, extended greetings; spoke to the 2019 Fall Furniture Market beginning in 32 days; to working year around to assure safety for visitors during the event; to an opportunity with Forsyth County who received a federal grant to coordinate emergency preparedness in a tabletop exercise; and recognized the following who were a part of the exercise: Kenneth Shultz, Chief of Police; Thomas Reid, Fire Chief; Officer David Dulin, Captain Mark Wayne, and Perry Hall, Emergency Manager with High Point Fire Department; noted the Mayor was also in attendance; and said The Olson Group, Ltd. was hired by Forsyth County to conduct the emergency response exercise.

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Perry Hall, High Point Fire Emergency Manager, explained the grant; said it was for a program to prepare communities for Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attacks (CCTA); explained the details of the training exercise which included two attackers that resulted in a major financial impact; which would also be taken to another level; and stated the Grant Committee along with the Olson Group were responsible for coming up with this scenario exercise.

Ms. Nagem mentioned the “9/11 Attacks” and how things have changed for the Market in regard to safety preparedness; provided details of how the scenario played out; said the table top exercise consisted of 125 first responders, hospital staff; and over 30 attendees from the market buildings; said an after action plan was in draft; spoke to feedback as well as information given during the exercise; to being prepared; and mentioned three major needs as follows:

1. Mass communication system (Everbridge system, a mass notification system used in emergencies).
2. Emergency operation center (A location established for first responders).
3. Information dissemination to the public.

Officer David Dulin voiced the need of being proactive in preparedness for all city events.

Council Member Scarborough inquired on any known incidents. Chief Shultz referenced the “9/11 Attacks”, as being a big wake up call; spoke to the changes made since then; to becoming more structured; and to keeping the community safe.

Mr. Hall said the grant to coordinate the CCTA was for \$1.8 million; spoke to having a wonderful experience at the exercise; and having an experienced consultant group which included retired emergency experts.

Council Member Moore inquired on air space safety with the use of drones during the Market. Officer Dulin replied the city did not have an ordinance for drones; and was in the process of developing one.

Chief Shultz spoke to a briefing he attended, discussing drones, in Washington D. C.; said they were a national issue because it was illegal to take an aircraft out of the sky; and to working with the Department of Justice (DOJ).

Ms. Nagem spoke to working with the showrooms during the Market in giving at least a two-week notice if they chose to fly any aircrafts; to the feedback received during the table top exercise; and to questions asked of what they were able or allowed to do during Market.

Mayor Wagner said he was fascinated by the table top exercise; and very pleased with the number in attendance.

Discussion took place regarding the impacts of different scenarios; to discussion topics at the table top exercise; such as having a plan of action put in place; being prepared; safety concerns for Market; and the learning experience that could be applied throughout the city.

Chief Shultz spoke to meeting with churches and organizations; to an upcoming community forum geared toward an “Active Shooter”; voiced appreciation for the cooperation from Guilford County Schools, and High Point University (HPU); and spoke to the incident that happened at HPU and how it was handled and reported by students.

Mayor Wagner spoke to how the incident that happened at HPU was a great example of a positive outcome of working together; and voiced appreciation to how the High Point Police Department (HPPD) handled the incident.

**2019-419      Presentation by the High Point Police Department on the SRO (School Resource Officer) Program and Youth Activities**

The High Point Police Department will present a presentation on the SRO Program and Youth Activities

Kenneth Shultz, Chief of Police, voiced concerns of 14 and 15 year-old kids involved in homicides; spoke to an event he will be attending through United Way called the African American Initiative discussing the impacts of violence in the community; to having a positive influence on the community; highlighted programs they do at the police department such as the Community Day event held on Saturday; spoke to the attendance of over 400 kids; said they had a partnership with the Boys and Girls club; and the program Police Assisting Little Schools (PALS); said two schools were adopted which involved forming positive relationships with the students; and to “Operation Freeze” where they handed out freeze pops to kids to establish a positive relationship; spoke to the Youth Leadership Programs; and a program with the Housing Authority; and recognized Officer Patrick Welch to speak on the School Resource Officer (SRO) Program and Youth Activities.

Officer Welch spoke to his six years of experience as an SRO; to supporting the program; to the benefits of positive interaction with kids; to the History of the Youth Leadership Academy; said the first class was funded through a small grant through the High Point Community Foundation; after the first year HPU awarded a \$100,000 grant to fund the Academy for five years; spoke to the selection process for the Academy; said the program first aimed at kids who were at risk, then switched to selecting higher achieving students; and introduced the officers who were a part of the SRO unit. Officer Welch continued his discussion regarding what the Academy entails; said the Academy gave the students a broad view of the community through volunteering, and going on educational field trip; the Academy accepted rising 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 10<sup>th</sup> graders; stated the students also earned service learning credits hours for school; spoke to having a graduation ceremony when the after completion; and also having a fun day event. Officer Welch said the kids were encouraged to volunteer for the Community Day to encourage and network with students and the community; and introduced two students who have went through the Academy to give their perspective, Nick Pungwa (Award winner for People’s Choice Award), and Yina Morales (Youth Academy 2017 Class).

Nick Pungwa (Student); extended greetings; thanked everyone; spoke to his experience; to the interaction with the other students he met; said he wanted to become a lawyer; spoke to making connections and building relationships with the community; to his volunteer experience in bettering the community; and to making a difference.

Yina Morales, (Student), thanked the SROs for the opportunity to be a part of an amazing program; to positive exposure to the community; spoke to earning service hours for school; to giving back to the community, and being more involved; said she wanted to study Biomedical Engineering in the Air Force after visiting Fort Bragg; and to encouraging other kids to be a part of the program.

Chief Shultz noted the Youth Leadership Academy as being prestigious.

Council Member Williams spoke to the being a guest speaker at an event at the Academy; to it being worthwhile cause; and spoke to how inspiring the kids were.

Mayor Pro Tem Ewing inquired about running second Academy in the course of the summer. Chief Shultz replied they do not have the funding or capacity to do that at this time; spoke to the Housing Authority Youth Development Camp with the Housing Authority Officers; said they focused on exposing the youth to positive career opportunities; to continuing to build positive relationships with kids; to improving the school systems; and to starting the Student Advisory Board where he will meet with students on a quarterly basis discussing concerns in schools, and neighborhoods where the students are able to provide feedback and suggestions.

### **Closed Session**

**Council Member Williams moved to go into Closed Session at 4:27 p.m. pursuant to N.C. General Statute 143-318.11(a)(4) Economic Development, and for N.C. General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3) Attorney-Client Privilege. Mayor Pro Tem Ewing made a second to the motion, which carried by a 9-0 unanimous vote.**

Upon reconvening into Open Session at 5:16 p.m., Mayor Wagner announced there would be no action or announcements made as a result of the Closed Session.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:16 p.m. upon motion duly made by Council Member Hudson and second by Council Member Moore.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Jay W. Wagner, Mayor

Attest:

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Mary S. Brooks, Deputy City Clerk