

**HIGH POINT CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING  
NOVEMBER 2, 2020 – 4:00 P.M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**MINUTES**

*Note: In order to maintain the health, safety, and well-being of our residents, staff, and the City Council, this meeting was conducted electronically. As part of the City of High Point's COVID-19 mitigation efforts, in-person public attendance was not allowed at this meeting. Instead, the open session portion of the meeting was live-streamed and the public was provided a link to listen to the open session portion of the meeting as it was being live-streamed.*

[www.HighPointNC.gov/VirtualPublicMeeting](http://www.HighPointNC.gov/VirtualPublicMeeting)

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

Following a roll call vote by Mayor Wagner for attendance, the following council members were identified as being present:

Mayor Jay W. Wagner (physically present)  
Mayor Pro Tem Christopher Williams- Ward 2 (physically present)  
Council Member Tyrone Johnson- At Large (physically present)  
Council Member Cyril Jefferson- Ward 1 (physically present)  
Council Member Monica Peters- Ward 3 (physically present)  
Council Member Wesley Hudson- Ward 4 (physically present)  
Council Member Victor Jones- Ward 5 (physically present)  
Council Member Michael Holmes- Ward 6 (remote participation)

Absent:

Council Member Britt Moore-At Large

The following staff members were physically present:

Randy McCaslin, Interim City Manager; Eric Olmedo, Assistant City Manager; Greg Ferguson, Assistant City Manager; JoAnne Carlyle, City Attorney; Meghan Maguire, Assistant City Attorney; Loren Hill, President, High Point Economic Development Corporation; Sandy Dunbeck, Executive Vice President, High Point Economic Development Corporation; Angela Wynes, Transportation Manager; Mark McDonald, Director of Transportation; Mary Brooks, Deputy City Clerk; and Lisa Vierling, City Clerk

**PRESENTATION OF ITEMS**

**2020-433      Presentation- Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Safety Plan**

Staff will provide a presentation on the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Safety Plan.

Angela Wynes, Transit Manager made a PowerPoint Presentation (PPP) on Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) Briefing #2; spoke to the impact COVID-19 had on availability of bus drivers; said there were drivers who had contracted COVID-19 which led to limited staff; modified bus routes that also resulted in no services to the Guilford Technical Community College (GTCC) located in Jamestown.

Mayor Wagner inquired on the timeframe for the modified bus routes. Ms. Wynes replied that the timeframe would depend on COVID-19 test results for staff.

Mayor Pro Tem Williams commended the transportation staff on making citizens aware of the changes and modifications that were out of their control; to concerns with complaints from citizens; to the challenges from the impacts of COVID-19; to the need of obtaining CDL drivers; and spoke to educating and connecting with bus riders.

Council Member Jones inquired on how many bus drivers tested positive for COVID-19. Ms. Wynes replied that to date, 7 out of 27 drivers had tested positive.

Council Member Peters commended Ms. Wynes on a job well done; and inquired on providing bus riders (who depended on public transportation to their places of employment) with documentation to give to their employers explaining the modified bus schedules that may lead to their lateness. Ms. Wynes replied that her staff could provide that documentation; and spoke to the challenges bus riders faced that were dependent on public transportation.

Ms. Wynes continued discussion regarding the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) safety plan; explained what the PTASP was; said it was an action plan using the Safety Management System (SMS) compliant with 49 CFR PART 673; public transportation was one of the safest ways to travel in the United States (U.S.); but had more chances of catastrophic events with mentioned statistics provided; spoke to the general requirements for the plan; the plan would not be enforced until December 31, 2020 due to the pandemic; spoke to the safety performance measures and reporting from staff; said reporting was anonymous, voluntary, and provided whistle blower protection; showed a video that was provided to staff on the Employee Safety Reporting Program; gave an overview of where they were with the SMS assessment; and said that the final PTSP would come before council for approval at a future meeting.

**2020-434      Presentation- High Point University's Initiative to Support Minority Businesses**

Council will hear a presentation from Council Member Cyril Jefferson regarding High Point University's Initiative to support minority businesses.

Council Member Jefferson made a PPP on High Point University's Initiative to Support Minority Businesses; said the initiative was to support the development growth of minority owned businesses in High Point; spoke to moving forward on addressing diversity and

inclusion; said this proposal was for council's consideration; and to allow the appropriate staff to look at efforts and to provide support; spoke to the challenges; to the inequality effect of policies and practices toward minorities; to the relationship between poverty and crime; gave an overview of the economic impact of the racial wealth gap; to addressing challenges and bringing about significant & sustainable changes and solutions to include education and training; spoke strategic marketing, workforce development with city of high point. Council Member Jefferson continued discussion regarding the HP Community Investment Campaign; said Dr. Nido Qubein of HPU would be investing a challenge gift to the campaign; spoke to potential stakeholders; to next steps that would create an implementation plan; to equity and opportunity; to having a momentum; and to considering staff attend meeting to assist with ideas.

Mayor Wagner inquired on the deadline to match money for the campaign. Council Member Jefferson replied that there was no deadline at this time; spoke to other inquiries made for donations; and that he would provide council with a copy of his presentation.

Council Member Peters commended Council Member Jefferson for his efforts.

#### **2020-435      Closed Session- Economic Development**

Council is requested to go into Closed Session pursuant to N.C. General Statute 143-318.11(a)(4) for economic development.

**A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Williams, seconded by Council Member Jefferson, to go into Closed Session pursuant to N.C. General Statute 143-318.11(a)(4) for economic development. Following a roll call vote by the Mayor, the motion to go into Closed Session carried by the following unanimous 8-0 vote.**

Aye (8): Mayor Wagner, Council Member Johnson, Mayor Pro Tem Williams, Council Member Jefferson, Council Member Peters, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Jones, and Council Member Holmes.

Absent (1): Council Member Moore

Upon reconvening into Open Session at 4:56 p.m., Mayor Wagner announced there would be no action taken at this time as a result of the Closed Session.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being nothing further to discuss, no objections were voiced to adjourn the meeting at 4:57 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Jay W. Wagner, Mayor

Attest:

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Mary S. Brooks, Deputy City Clerk

DRAFT