

City of High Point

*Municipal Office Building
211 S. Hamilton Street
High Point, NC 27260*



Minutes

Tuesday, January 19, 2021

4:00 PM

City Council Chambers

Special Called Meeting

Jay W. Wagner, Mayor

Britt W. Moore (At Large), Mayor Pro Tem

*Tyrone Johnson (At Large), Cyril Jefferson (Ward 1), Christopher Williams (Ward 2),
Monica L. Peters (Ward 3), S. Wesley Hudson (Ward 4), Victor Jones (Ward 5), and
Michael Holmes (Ward 6)*

As part of the city of High Point's on-going COVID-19 mitigation efforts, in-person attendance will not be allowed at this meeting. Instead, the meeting will be live-streamed and the public can listen to the meeting as it is being live-streamed by clicking on the following link www.HighPointNC.gov/VirtualPublicMeeting.

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mayor Wagner called the Special Meeting to order at 4:01 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 Britt Moore-At Large (physically present)
Council Member Tyrone Johnson- At Large (physically present)
Council Member Cyril Jefferson- Ward 1 (remote participation)
Council Member Christopher Williams- Ward 2 (physically present)
Council Member Monica Peters- Ward 3 (physically present)
Council Member Wesley Hudson- Ward 4 (physically present)
Council Member Victor Jones- Ward 5 (remote participation)
Council Member Michael Holmes- Ward 6 (remote participation)

The following staff members were physically present:

Randy McCaslin, Interim City Manager; Travis Stroud, Interim Chief of Police; Eric Olmedo, Assistant City Manager; Greg Ferguson, Assistant City Manager; JoAnne Carlyle, City Attorney; Meghan Maguire, Assistant City Attorney; Mary Brooks, Deputy City Clerk; and Lisa Vierling, City Clerk

Present 9 - Mayor Pro Tem Britt Moore, Council Member Cyril Jefferson, Mayor Jay Wagner, Council Member Michael Holmes, Council Member Monica Peters, Council Member Tyrone Johnson, Council Member Victor Jones, Council Member Wesley Hudson, and Council Member Christopher Williams

PRESENTATION OF ITEMS

[2021-31](#)

Year-End Crime Statistics

The High Point Police Department will provide a presentation regarding Year-End Crime Statistics.

Attachments: [City Council Mgr Briefing 1-19-21](#)

Travis Stroud, Interim Chief of Police, High Point Police Department (HPPD) made a PPP on the Year-End Crime Statistics; said the report would be available

to the public at a later date; highlighted the hurdles and impacts for 2020; discussed the aggressive strategy for violent crimes; the 2020 Impact Crime Numbers (persons, and property); voiced appreciation for support from the community; outlined the HPPD crime clock; said the 'calls for service' had six police BEATs; each beat averaged the same amount of calls with a total for all BEATs at 107,555; call sources included, with average: 911 emergency-20%, non-emergency-34%, radio-0%, self-initiated (officers)-44%, and other-2%. Interim Chief Stroud commended the officers on combating crime; provided an overview of the crime case assignments for detectives; assigned cases were for property, violent crimes, and special victims; spoke to having a simple but focused approach on low numbers for crimes that included:

- People-focused on impact players, 2020 total arrest and charges-4,758
- Cars-focused on reasonable suspicions and probable cause, poor driving, violent activity, and included statistics
- Guns-focused on illegal guns, total 188 charges

Council Member Jones inquired on repeat offender included in the 4,758 arrested and charged. Interim Chief Stroud replied that the total number did include offenders that were arrested more than once.

Interim Chief Stroud continued discussion regarding a new strategic plan for the HPPD; provided the new mission statement: "To make High Point a safe city by developing leaders and employees in crime fighting, community engagement, training, and professional policing"; gave an overview of the four pillars: crime fighting, community (engage), training, and policies; spoke to concerns moving forward that included: retention of employees, vacancies, social/racial issues, and violent crime.

Council Member Williams thanked and voiced appreciation to Interim Chief Stroud for his informative report, and efforts made in the city; and inquired if some of the homicide's numbers included domestic violence victims; and if so, how many. Interim Chief Stroud replied that domestic violence victims were included with the homicide numbers; will have more information on the numbers for the victims in the final report; and spoke to the Domestic Violence Initiative with the HPPD.

Council Member Williams asked was the Domestic Violence Initiative a separate program from the Family Justice Center. Interim Chief Stroud replied yet.

Mayor Wagner inquired on the heroin addiction/overdoses numbers; spoke to stolen vehicles used in crimes; referenced a company located in High Point that made license plate readers (LPR) that detected stolen vehicles; and asked if the HPPD would be interested obtaining more LPRs. Interim Chief Stroud replied that

the heroin overdoses were replicated this year; spoke to the attribute of Narcan used on the streets; replied yes to obtaining more LPRs to help combat crimes; and said that his biggest focus was getting body cams on the streets.

Council Member Hudson voiced appreciation for the focus on social and racial issues; and asked for an example. Interim Chief Stroud replied that the HPPD look at the in-house characters of their officers first; spoke to the vetting process during hiring; to training provided on social issues; and to detecting red flags.

Interim Chief Stroud voiced appreciation for council's support; and that a full report would be provided next week.

acknowledged receipt of report

[2021-32](#)

COVID-19 Impacts on City's Operations

Staff will provide a presentation on the impacts of COVID-19 on the city's operations.

Greg Ferguson, Assistant City Manager made a PPP on the City's Operational Impacts from COVID-19; provided an overview of the COVID-19 impacts for the following departments: Public Services-staffing, delayed collections, etc.; Fire Department-staffing levels maintained by overtimes; Police Department-staffing; Transit Department-two shutdowns, and numerous service reductions, customers not complying to the mask rule; continued providing an overview for the Parks and Recreation, Museum, Planning and Development, and Inspection Services Departments; and spoke to safety measures taken such as: social distancing, mask signage, hand sanitizing stations, proactive spraying, and mask mandated for employees.

Eric Olmedo, Assistant City Manager provided an overview of the Customer Service Department's COVID-19 payment plans for utilities; said out of the 2,455 payment plans, 1,407 were paid in full; 500 customers applied for the HOPE program funding, which would pay \$220,000; payment had not been received yet, but a commitment letter for payment was; spoke to the Families First Coronavirus Response Act; said it had extended 80 hours of leave for COVID-19; 16,570 hours had been used to date for employees; spoke to potential reimbursement for COVID related expenses; to the Transit Department's emergency funding; and to continuing to monitor for funding reimbursements.

For Information Only[2021-33](#)**Closed Session (Attorney-Client Privilege)**

Council is requested to go into Closed Session pursuant to N.C. General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3) to preserve the attorney-client privilege.

Note: The Clerks were not present for the personnel portion of the closed session.

A motion was made by Council Member Hudson, seconded by Council Member Williams, to go into Closed Session pursuant to N.C. General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3) for attorney-client privilege; and N.C. General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6) Personnel. Following a roll call vote by the Mayor, the motion to go into Closed Session carried by the following unanimous 9-0 vote.

Aye (9): Mayor Wagner, Mayor Pro Tem Moore, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Williams, Council Member Jefferson, Council Member Holmes, Council Member Peters, Council Member Hudson, and Council Member Jones

Upon reconvening into Open Session at 5:25 p.m., Mayor Wagner announced there would be action taken at this time as a result of the Closed Session.

A motion was made by Mayor Wagner, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Moore, to approve the Interim City Manager's compensation in the amount of \$17,631.11 for lost vacation time. Following a roll call vote by the Mayor, the motion by the following unanimous 9-0 vote.

Aye (9): Mayor Wagner, Mayor Pro Tem Moore, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Williams, Council Member Jefferson, Council Member Holmes, Council Member Peters, Council Member Hudson, and Council Member Jones

A motion was made by Mayor Wagner, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Moore, that this matter be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 9 - Mayor Pro Tem Moore, Council Member Jefferson, Mayor Wagner, Council Member Holmes, Council Member Peters, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Jones, Council Member Hudson, and Council Member Williams

ADJOURNMENT

There being nothing further to discuss, no objections were voiced to adjourn the meeting at 5:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jay W. Wagner, Mayor

Attest:

Mary S. Brooks, Deputy City Clerk