

# City of High Point

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



## Minutes

**Monday, August 2, 2021**

**3:00 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)*

**CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL**

Mayor Wagner called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

He then called the roll for attendance. The following council members were present:

Mayor Jay W. Wagner; Mayor Pro Tem Britt W. Moore, At Large; Council Member Cyril Jefferson, Ward 1; Council Member Christopher Williams, Ward 2; Council Member Monica L. Peters, Ward 3; and Council Member S. Wesley Hudson, Ward 4

Absent:

Council Member Tyrone Johnson, At Large; Council Member Victor Jones, Ward 5; and Council Member Michael Holmes, Ward 6

Staff present:

Tasha Long Ford, City Manager; Randy McCaslin, Deputy City Manager; Greg Ferguson, Assistant City Manager; Eric Olmedo, Assistant City Manager; Jeron Hollis, Managing Director; JoAnne Carlyle, City Attorney; Meghan Maguire, Assistant City Attorney; Travis Stroud, Chief of Police, HPPD; Sandy Dunbeck, Economic Development Director; Heidi Galanti, Planning Administrator, Planning and Development Department; Christina Adams, Librarian 1, High Point Library; Lisa Vierling, City Clerk; and Mary S. Brooks, Deputy City Clerk

Others present:

Ilana Preuss

**PRESENTATION OF ITEMS****[2021-328](#)****Recast City and Small Scale Manufacturing Update**

Staff will provide an update on Recast City and Small Scale Manufacturing.

**Attachments:** [SSM CC Briefing session August 2, 2021 \(2\)](#)

Sandy Dunbeck, Economic Development Director shared a PowerPoint Presentation on the High Point, NC Small Scale manufacturing and Place Based Development Review and Recast City Book Presentation; recognized the consultant, Ilana Preuss, author of the book "Recast Your City"; provided mayor and council with a copy of the book; spoke to the city's underinvestment areas located in the Southwest area; spoke to receiving a Small Scale Manufacturing grant for a Technical Assistant (TA); said that the TA provided recommendations as follows:

- Southwest Downtown Area Plan
- Target properties in the area to work on

- Training and programming
- To Evaluate a commercial shared use kitchen

Heidi Galanti, spoke to the Southwest Downtown Area Plan recommended by the TA; the area was 217 acres close to underutilized industrial buildings, close to the stadium, and Southwest downtown Heritage Greenway; said that the city was in cooperation with the NC Department of Transportation (NCDOT) regarding a grant application for the downtown Greenway to fund 3 of the 5 phases; spoke to the committee established for the Plan; and to the steps that would be taken before the implementation of the Plan.

Ms. Dunbeck spoke to acquiring properties located in the target areas that would be used by neighborhood residents for entrepreneurship; mentioned a property purchased on 504 Amos Street; said it was currently occupied by Lee and Margaret Broadway and was used for furniture refinishing; they maintain the property, and pay the utilities; said that the location of the property was a great resource for the area; spoke to another property located at 713 W. Grimes; to currently evaluating said property; spoke to the recommendation for training and programming; to the High Point Employment and Training Resources; said that the key goal was connecting citizens to employment opportunities; information for the resources could be found on the Economic Development website [www.highpointedc.com](http://www.highpointedc.com) <<http://www.highpointedc.com>>; spoke to a job fair that would be held on August 26th; to working with GuilfordWorks in assisting the underserved areas; to outreaching; and recognized Christina Adams to speak.

Christina Adams, Librarian spoke to the recommendation for a commercial shared-use kitchen; said the committee members for this opportunity were still able to have virtual bi-weekly meetings; spoke to the challenges of outreaching to citizens during the pandemic-COVID-19; spoke to developing a good business survey to post with community partners; to visiting The Enterprise Center Shared-Use Kitchen in Winston-Salem, and that the Director, Telissa Ward would be joining the team; to a list of potential space/buildings for the kitchen; and spoke to currently working on an outline to be developed into a full business plan to seek funding.

Ms. Galanti noted that Ms. Preuss was a part of the TA team; and said that she was looking forward to future projects.

Council Member Peters inquired on proposed locations for the shared-use kitchen. Ms. Adams replied that properties are currently being looked at; and that staff was assisting with the process.

Council Member Jefferson voiced appreciation for everyone's hard work and efforts regarding the downtown area; and voiced concerns on the transportation challenges/barriers to the WorkForce Development location on Idol Street; and

voiced the need for expanding transportation routes.

## 2021-315

### Policy for Streaming Meetings

Consideration and discussion on a Policy drafted by staff for Live Streaming City Council Meetings.

**Attachments:** [Streaming Policy Forwarding Memo 30 July 2021 - Updated revision \(8.2.21\)](#)

Jeron Hollis, Managing Director recap on last year's response to COVID-19 where a State of Emergency Order declared allowed all City of High Point public meetings to be conducted remotely and livestreamed via social media. When the State of Emergency was lifted, the demand and need for livestreaming meetings would remain. Council requested a policy be drafted by staff outlining the procedures and expectations of this process in its July 19, 2021 meeting. Communications and Public Engagement Marketing Division staff are normally in attendance at City Council meetings/committees for various support functions, therefore implementation of the policy would not result in additional staff costs. Over the past months, equipment has been purchased to fully support audio streaming in the City Council Chamber. However, livestreaming in different locations beyond the Council Chamber brings about the need for additional equipment and technology. This may result in the use of other streaming platforms and an increase in staff hours required to support the meeting.

Staff recommended City Council approve and adopt this policy and accept the following staff recommendations:

- 1) Staff recommends livestreaming only official City Council meetings and council committee meetings. To stream all meetings, including commissions, staff hours would increase considerably.
- 2) Staff recommends that all participants identify themselves by name before speaking for clarity, accessibility and ADA compliance purposes.
- 3) Staff would like to note, livestreaming in different locations brings about the need for additional equipment and technology. This may result in the use of other streaming platforms and an increase in staff hours required to support the meeting. Only in council chambers constricted.

Council Member Williams inquired on scheduling conflicts with other staff/event meetings. Tasha Long Ford, City Manager replied that staff would effectively communicate to assure that there would not be any scheduling conflicts.

Mayor Wagner spoke to the need for round the table discussions for council; and inquired on the process to include the 3rd Floor Lobby Conference in live streaming meetings. Mr. Hollis replied and explained the connection process that

would require additional equipment and upgrades to accommodate streaming in the conference room; and that staff would research the cost for this request and report back.

JoAnne Carlyle, City Attorney, advised the mayor and city council to include new language into the policy to include the 3rd Floor Lobby Conference and/or other locations to live stream meetings; and reminded them that action could be taken today during the special meeting.

**Council Member Jefferson made a motion to table the proposed policy for further discussion at today's council meeting at 5:30 p.m.** [Note: no second to this motion was made].

Mayor Wagner asked if the proposed policy needed to be approved in order to live stream today's council meeting at 5:30 p.m. Ms. Carlyle replied no; and that a consensus from council to acknowledge the live streaming would suffice.

Ms. Logan Ford asked if tonight's council meeting at 5:30 p.m. would be live streamed; and if live-streaming would continue until the proposed policy was brought back to council for consideration. Mayor Wanger replied yes.

**A substitute motion was then made by Mayor Wagner, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Moore, to table the proposed streaming policy for further discussion and consideration at the September 20, 2021 council meeting. The motion carried by the following 6-0 unanimous vote:**

Aye (6): Mayor Wagner, Mayor Pro Tem Moore, Council Member Jefferson, Council Member Williams, Council Member Peters, and Council Member Hudson

Absent (3): Council Member Johnson, Council Member Jones, and Council Member Holmes

## [2021-339](#)

### **Update- Crime Statistics**

Police Chief Travis Stroud will provide an update on the crime statistics.

**Attachments:** [HPPD Crime Statistic Update PPP](#)

Travis Stroud, Chief of Police, High Point Police Department shared a PPP on the HPPD 2021 Statistical Review (YTD); recognized staff in the audience available to answer questions; gave an overview of the 2021 Calls for Service through 911 or non-emergency phone numbers as followed: total calls for service=62,280, total arrests=3,944, and total community related events=998; explained the Data Driven Weekly Report; said that the 2021 impact crimes YTD that included

persons and property the YTD was down -7%; to 2021 homicides YTD 12 homicides; said that 11 of 12 homicides were closed; gave an overview of the violent crime focus that included people, cars, and guns; discussed drug activity which included seizures since January 1, 2021 that included methamphetamine, heroin, fentanyl, marijuana, and cocaine; spoke to the heroin overdoses that included total of overdoses, deaths, and PD Narcan. Chief Stroud continued discussion regarding traffic enforcement; outlined the number of traffic crashes and traffic stops; included total crashes for fatalities, and hit and run, and traffic stops for the total for citations, written and verbal warnings; spoke to the HPPD staffing; said that there were 262 sworn officers, and 46 non-sworn officers; down 27 sworn officers, down 44 non-sworn officers from August 1, 2020 to August 1, 2021 hired 14 sworn positions, and lost 21 people for various reasons; to recruiting efforts; to monitoring the mental health of officers.

Council Member Peters inquired on the motel hot spots regarding illegal activities; discussing said issues in the Public Safety Committee; and voiced concerns on the negative impact the hotels have on surrounding businesses. Chief Stroud replied the HPPD was putting concentrated efforts in the hot spot hotels and was currently looking into resolutions.

Mayor Wagner inquired on competitive salaries offered during recruitment for police officers; and on the reasonings for the decrease in the number of officers. Chief Stroud replied that the salary benefits were very competitive; and that officers left for various reasons, such as retirement.

Mayor Pro Tem Moore inquired on the percentage of repeat offenders in regard to the average arrests made. Chief Stroud replied that he did not have these numbers but could get them.

Council Member Jefferson thanked the Chief and the HPPD for their efforts; said that he looked forward to receiving updates regarding mental health issues; inquired if guns that were seized were connected to unsolved crimes; and if the HPPD was able to source where the gun came from. Chief Stroud replied that guns were tested to get projectiles, and would sometimes match crime scenes in other jurisdictions as well; and that the source of where the gun originated or came from.

#### [2021-340](#)

#### **Closed Session- Economic Development and Personnel**

Staff has expressed a need for closed sessions pursuant to N.C.General Statute §143-318.11(a)(4) for economic development purposes and to hold a closed session pursuant to N.C.General Statute §143-318.11(a)(6) for personnel.

**At 4:25 p.m., Council Member Jefferson moved to go into Closed Session for the purpose of economic development and personnel. Mayor Pro Tem**

**Moore made a second to the motion which carried by the following 6-0 unanimous vote.**

Aye (6): Mayor Wagner, Mayor Pro Tem Moore, Council Member Jefferson, Council Member Williams, Council Member Peters, and Council Member Hudson

Absent (3): Council Member Johnson, Council Member Jones, and Council Member Holmes

Upon reconvening into Open Session at 5:00 p.m., Mayor Wagner announced that there would be no action taken as a result of the Closed Session.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully  
Submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jay W. Wagner,  
Mayor

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary S. Brooks, CMC  
City Clerk