

City of High Point

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



Minutes

Monday, August 16, 2021

4:30 PM

3rd Floor Council Chambers

Manager's Briefing

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)*

NOTICE:

Face Coverings (Face Masks) are now required inside all public places/buildings in Guilford County.

The Guilford County Board of County Commissioners in their capacity as the Guilford County Board of Health Re-Instated a Mandatory Mask Policy which will be effective on Friday, August 13th at 5:00 p.m.

The mandate requires that:

(1) Individuals must wear Face Coverings when indoors in all businesses, establishments, and public places.

(2) All businesses, establishments, and public places must require that all persons wear Face Coverings when indoors on their premises.

For additional information on the Guilford County Mask Mandate, please visit:
www.guilfordcountync.gov

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum of city council was not present for this meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was informally called to order at 4:30 p.m.

Present:

Mayor Pro Tem Britt W. Moore, At Large; Council Member Christopher Williams, Ward 2; Council Member Wesley Hudson, Ward 4; and Council Member Victor Jones, Ward 5 [arrived at 4:47 p.m.]

Absent:

Mayor Jay W. Wagner; Council Member Tyrone Johnson, At Large; Council Member Cyril Jefferson, Ward 1; Council Member Monica Peters, Ward 3 and Council Member Michael Holmes, Ward 6

Staff Present:

Tasha Logan Ford, City Manager; Eric Olmedo, Assistant City Manager; Greg Ferguson, Assistant City Manager; JoAnne Carlyle, City Attorney; Meghan Maguire, Assistant City Attorney; Angela Kirkwood, Human Resources Director; Bobby Fitzjohn, Financial Services Director; Lisa Vierling, City Clerk; and Mary S. Brooks, Deputy City Clerk

Others Present:

Mark Browder, Mark III Employee Benefits

The following documents associated with the presentations, are hereby attached as a permanent part of these proceedings:

1. 2021-22 Annual Action Plan PowerPoint Presentation

PRESENTATION OF ITEMS

2021-377

Presentation-2022 Employee Health Insurance Program

Mark Browder-Mark III Employee Benefits will be giving a presentation on the 2022 Employee Health Insurance Program.

Attachments: [High Point Medical Update](#)

2021-377 Presentation-2022 Employee Health Insurance Program

Mark Browder-Mark III Employee Benefits will be giving a presentation on the 2022 Employee Health Insurance Program.

Tasha Long Ford, City Manager recognized Angela Kirkwood, Human Resources Director to speak on the presentation for the 2022 Employee Health Insurance Program.

Ms. Kirkwood extended greetings; and recognized Mark Browder, from Mark III Employee Benefits, to make a PowerPoint Presentation (PPP) on the recommendations for the 2022 Employee Health Insurance Program for the city.

Mr. Browder extended greetings; provided an overview of the city's Medical Plan (Plan) renewals over the past several years; in 2018, the Plan was bid, with no competitors improving the CIGNA renewal of 7.85%; in 2019 the renewal was a 1.58% increase; in 2020, the Plan increase was a 5.72% increase, and the city added an HSA option; the increase for 2021 was a net 6.04% increase-the renewal was reduced from 9% to a 6% increase, saving the Plan over \$480,000; and said that there was an increase in claims in 2020 that exceeded \$50,000. Mr. Browder continued providing an overview of the Plan's performance, and a summary of the renewal calculation for 2022; spoke to the history of the challenges the city faced when it was self-funded; and said that the city would need \$3.7 million in reserve funds to be self-funded. In summary, a recommendation was made that the city move forward with the CIGNA fully insured offer with a 5% increase; and entertained questions. This is a extremely competitive renewal; and claims went up dramatically due to high claims for employees and retirees.

Mayor Pro Tem Moore inquired on the advantages for the city being self-funded; and on

amount of funds in the city's reserve. Mr. Browder replied that one advantage of being self-funded was the flexibility; and spoke to the challenges of managing the funds. Greg Ferguson, Assistant City Manager replied that the city has \$3.3 million in reserve.

Council Member Williams asked if routine physicals were a part of the claims filed; and if preventative care helps to detect illnesses. Mr. Browder replied "yes" that routine physicals are a part of the claims filed; and yes, that preventative care does detect illnesses as well.

Ms. Kirkwood advised council that in order to assure a full opportunity to review this matter; the request would be delayed until the next regular council meeting.

2021-378

Policy considerations included as part of State Budget Negotiations

Staff will be discussing a policy consideration included as part of State budget negotiations.

Attachments: [NCLM Action Alert \(opposition to pending legislation\).pdf](#)

Tasha Logan Ford, City Manager advised council that the policy decisions were being discussed at the state level; and recognized Greg Ferguson, Assistant City Manager to discuss the policy considerations included as part of the state budget negotiations.

Mr. Ferguson provided the list of the budget policy provisions as followed:

- Billboards: A measure removing local authority to determine the location of relocated billboards required by new road construction. (No committee hearing in House or Senate.)
- Stormwater: A proposal that would eliminate local stormwater rules that prevent flooding. (No committee hearings in House or Senate.)
- School Zoning Preemption: A proposal allowing the siting of schools in any residential or commercially zoned area of a city, without consideration of appropriateness or infrastructure. (Approved in the House; not yet considered by and senate committee.)
- Trees: A measure eliminating local tree ordinances, only allowing local tree removal and protection rules by local legislative act. (Approved in the House; not yet considered by any senate committee.)
- Short-Term Rentals: A proposal that could harm the ability of local governments to regulate short-term rentals like AirBnB. (Approved in the House; not yet considered by any senate committee.)
- Small Cell Wireless: Measures that would limit fees on the placement of small cell wireless equipment on local taxpayer-owned poles, forcing taxpayer subsidization of telecommunications companies, and that could affect local oversight of the installation of wireless facilities in local rights-of-ways. (No committee hearings in House or senate.)

Mayor Pro Tem Moore requested that the voting history of the committee sessions be provided to council moving forward. Mr. Ferguson replied that he would provide that information.

Mr. Ferguson advised council that staff and council could look to the mayor to provide a voice to said issues so that the city would have a voice on these matters.

Council Member Moore inquired on the timeframe to act on any issues provided. Mr. Ferguson replied that once the bill is adopted it would go to the governor for veto; and that he did not have a definite timeframe at this time.

Council Member Moore inquired on the process to reaching out to the state representatives regarding concerns. Mr. Ferguson replied council would need to authorize staff to reach out, then the mayor could take charge and have city council adopt a resolution or write a letter regarding said concerns/issues.

JoAnne Carlyle advised council that the city's lobbyist in Raleigh, Legislative Counsel on the state level, Fred Baggett, and the State Representative John Faircloth communicates with the mayor and legal staff regarding any concerns.

City Manager Logan Ford advised that if the mayor determines any concerns would have a significant impact on the city, then a conversation with the representatives would take place.

Council Member Moore requested that the mayor present the concerns to the state representatives.

City Manager Ford replied that staff would further discuss this request.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 4:57 p.m. upon motion duly made and seconded.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary S. Brooks, CMC
Deputy City Clerk