

**FAYETTEVILLE CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
LAFAYETTE ROOM, CITY HALL
MAY 24, 2007
5:00 P.M.**

Present: Mayor Anthony G. Chavonne

Council Members Keith A. Bates, Sr. (District 1); Charles E. Evans (District 2); Robert A. Massey, Jr. (District 3); Darrell J. Haire (District 4); Lois A. Kirby (District 5)(left at 5.55 p.m.); Paul Williams (District 6); Curtis Worthy (District 7); Juanita Gonzalez (District 8); Wesley A. Meredith (District 9)

Others Present: Dale E. Iman, City Manager
Stanley Victrum, Assistant City Manager
Kyle Sonnenberg, Assistant City Manager
Doug Hewett, Assistant City Manager
Karen M. McDonald, City Attorney
Lisa Smith, Chief Financial Officer
Tracey Broyles, Budget and Evaluation Manager

William A. Martin, Cumberland County Business Council President

Kirk deViere, Cumberland County Business Council Board of Directors Chair

Gordon Rose, Cumberland County Business Council Board of Directors Incoming Chair

Candice H. White, City Clerk

Press

Mayor Chavonne called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.

Mr. Dale E. Iman, City Manager, began a review of staff responses to questions and requests for information developed by Council Members.

Will the County be required to pay the City-only stormwater fee for their properties located in the City limits? Is Cape Fear Valley Medical Center required to pay the fee?

Mr. Iman stated County properties located within the city limits would be subject to the City-only stormwater fee and Cape Fear Valley Medical Center was required to pay an annual stormwater fee, which was currently \$14,040.

What constitutes an “impervious area” for the calculation of the stormwater fee?

Mr. Iman stated an impervious area generally means those areas within developed land that prevent or significantly impede the infiltration of stormwater into the soil and create additional run-off. Mr. Iman spoke to property attributes not contained in the County Tax Administration database for billing purposes.

What is the required process/timeline for implementation of the city-only stormwater fee?

Mrs. Karen M. McDonald, City Attorney, stated the County has proposed to amend the interlocal agreement and the current stormwater ordinance to allow the City to impose a fee greater than the base fee for city residents. Mrs. McDonald stated the County Board of Commissioners would consider this at their June 4, 2007 meeting. Mrs. McDonald further stated if approved, the City Council would conduct a public hearing on the additional stormwater fee on June 7, 2007 and at the June 11, 2007 meeting, approve the amendment to the interlocal agreement and adopt the additional stormwater fee with the 2007-2008 Budget Ordinance.

MOTION: Motion was made by Council Member Kirby to set a public hearing for the additional stormwater fee on June 7, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

SECOND: Council Member Gonzalez

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (10-0)

Council Member Worthy asked if revenue generated from the additional stormwater fee would be used exclusively for stormwater control and stormwater quantity mitigation measures within the city. Mrs. McDonald stated the ordinance amendment would designate uses for the additional stormwater fees.

Provide a map of the proposed route to Wal-Mart on Raeford Road.

Mr. Iman called attention to a map and stated the proposed route required no increase in the budget. Council Member Worthy asked for an evaluation after the route was implemented. Mr. Iman stated the proposed route would operate on a six-month trial basis and ridership would be reported to Council.

What is the per household equivalent of the transfer from the general fund for the transit system?

Mr. Iman stated the recommended budget includes a transfer of \$1.8 million from the general fund to the transit fund to subsidize operations, which is 3.5% of projected first-year receipts of ad valorem tax revenues or 1.87 cents of the 53-cent tax rate per household. Council Members offered comments regarding the increase in transit fares. A brief discussion ensued regarding improvements and increased services for the transit system.

What is the required process/timeline for public comment on the proposed transit fare increase?

Mr. Iman stated the City Council has held public hearings on transit fare increases in the past and staff recommends that the public hearing be held on June 7, 2007 along with the public hearing on the additional stormwater fee. Consensus of Council was to support an increase from 75 cents to \$1.50 for the adult bus fare and support the proposed fare structure.

MOTION: Motion was made by Council Member Massey to set a public hearing on June 7, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. for the proposed transit fare structure.

SECOND: Council Member Meredith

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (10-0)

Council Member Gonzalez spoke to funding for the Cumberland County Business Council and their role in the community as a non-governmental agency.

MOTION: Motion was made by Council Member Gonzalez to fund the Cumberland County Business Council \$82,000.

SECOND: Council Member Evans

Discussion ensued as to whether a more detailed scope of services should be developed for the Cumberland County Business Council, whether the Cumberland County Business Council should provide a periodic report card and whether the City Council should guide the direction of the Cumberland County Business Council. Mr. Gordon Rose, Cumberland County Business Council Board of Directors Incoming Chair, spoke on behalf of the Cumberland Council Business Council.

AMENDED MOTION: Motion was made by Council Member Gonzalez to fund the Cumberland County Business Council \$82,500.

SECOND: Council Member Worthy

VOTE: FAILED by a vote of 5 in favor (Council Members Gonzalez, Evans, Worthy, Kirby and Meredith) to 5 in opposition (Council Members Bates, Massey, Haire, Williams and Chavonne)

MOTION: Motion was made by Council Member Bates to fund the Cumberland County Business Council \$182,500 as requested in the proposed budget.

SECOND: Mayor Chavonne

Council Members Evans inquired as to how many citizens had received jobs as a result of the Cumberland Council Business Council.

VOTE: FAILED by a vote of 3 in favor (Council Members Chavonne, Kirby and Bates) to 7 in opposition (Council Members Gonzalez, Evans, Worthy, Meredith, Massey, Haire and Williams)

MOTION: Motion was made by Council Member Williams to apply \$182,500 to capital needs and not fund the Cumberland County Business Council.

Died due to lack of a second.

MOTION: Motion was made by Council Member Massey to fund the Cumberland County Business Council \$100,000.

SECOND: Council Member Worthy

VOTE: PASSED by a vote of 6 in favor (Council Members Massey, Kirby, Worthy, Evans, Meredith, Gonzalez) to 4 in opposition (Council Members Williams, Chavonne, Bates, Evans).

Council Member Gonzalez spoke in favor of keeping \$75,000 in the budget for the Festival Park gateway and working with the Arts Council on a piece of artwork for the park entrance. Mayor Chavonne stated interest had been expressed in having controlled access at Festival Park for ticketed events. Consensus of Council was to set aside the \$75,00, engage in further discussion regarding Festival Park and related areas and not expend the funds until approved by Council.

Mr. Iman stated there are two funding sources incorporated in the budget for the Military Business Center to include \$200,000 as a carry over from the existing budget for infrastructure development and a series of grants, which the City will administer. Mr. Iman responded to questions regarding the private and public partnership for the estimated 2,000 jobs that will be generated.

Mr. Iman stated a written request had been received to continue the local BRAC project for the upcoming fiscal year and \$50,000 had been incorporated in the FY07-08 budget for that purpose.

Mr. Iman stated \$60,000 had been incorporated into the budget for a combined land use and economic development study for Murchison Road and Ramsey Street.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the proposed illegal dumping fee of \$75 and raising it to \$500 for the first offense and \$1,000 for offenses thereafter. Council Member Gonzalez suggested raising the fee for parking in front of a fire hydrant from \$25 to \$100. Mr. Iman stated staff had been asked to review an extensive list of fees for Council approval and Mrs. McDonald had a proposal to take all fees out of the City Code so Council could adopt a separate fee schedule.

Council Member Gonzalez proposed an \$8 increase for the delivery of brown carts so the total cost to include the cart and the fee would be \$60. There was no consensus regarding the proposal.

Council Member Gonzalez made a request for ten traffic cops due to problems with speeding throughout the City and asked if the City Council could partner with Ft. to reduce speeding. A brief discussion ensued and there was no consensus regarding the request.

Council Member Evans inquired about the number of city vehicles taken home by city employees. Mayor Chavonne stated the information would be forthcoming.

Council Member Bates proposed that \$1.8 million be budgeted for recycling at a rate of \$30 per household. Council Member Worthy requested information on the process. Mayor Chavonne provided an update on the recycling Taskforce. Council Member Gonzalez suggested recycling be initiated as a joint effort with the County.

MOTION: Motion was made by Council Member Bates to set a public hearing on June 7, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. for the proposed \$30 fee for recycling.

SECOND: Council Member Meredith

VOTE: PASSED by a vote of 7 in favor (Council Members Chavonne, Bates, Meredith, Kirby, Massey, Gonzalez and Evans) to 3 in opposition (Council Members Williams, Worthy and Haire).

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.