

FAYETTEVILLE CITY COUNCIL
TOWN HALL MEETING
CLIFFDALE RECREATION CENTER
6404 CLIFFDALE ROAD
July 30, 2007
6:30 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); Curtis Worthy (District 7); Juanita Gonzalez (District 8); Wesley A. Meredith (District 9)

Absent: Council Members Lois A. Kirby (District 5); Paul Williams (District 6);

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

Tom Bergamine, Chief of Police

Benny Nichols, Fire/Emergency Management Chief

John Harold, Administration Assistant Fire Chief

Jerry Dietzen, Solid Waster Director

Bobby Teague, Engineering and Infrastructure Director

Kyle Garner, Planner

Jessica Covaleski, Customer Service Representative

Shawnell Jones, Customer Service Representative

Deborah Daniels, Management Services

Frank Simpson, Inspections Director

Victor Sharpe, Community Development Director

Adolph Thomas, Community Relations Specialist

Brad Whited, Fayetteville Regional Airport Director

Theresa Chance, Human Resource Development Department

Luis Collazo, Human Relations Specialist

Francis Jackson, Transit Department Analyst

Joe Glass, PWC Engineering Manager – Water Resources

Michael Reeves, Management Analyst

Nathan Walls, Public Information Specialist

Candice H. White, City Clerk

Members of the Press

1. Call meeting to order and welcome.

Mayor Chavonne called the meeting to order and extended a welcome to those in attendance.

2. Invocation

The invocation was offered by Mayor Pro Tem Massey.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Chavonne led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

4. Presentations

Fayetteville Police Department

Chief Bergamine presented this item and reviewed traffic initiatives undertaken to reduce speeding and reckless driving. Chief Bergamine reported vehicular accidents had been reduced by 15%, fatalities had been reduced by 45% and speeding citations had increased 40% during the first six months of the year.

Dale E. Iman, City Manager, provided a brief report of new programs and a citizen's action group organized to develop creative ideas to slow traffic. Mr. Iman announced plans for Public Safety Day on Saturday, September 29, 2007.

Chief Bergamine spoke to the importance of active community participation and provided information regarding community watch programs, Citizen's On Patrol (COPS) and the Citizen's Police Academy. Chief Bergamine commented on the open recruitment of police officers. Council Member Gonzalez drew four names for recipients of brown roll out carts.

5. Public Forum

Cheri Crouchmendez, 428 Andros Drive, Fayetteville, NC 28314 asked where she could get information regarding the paving of McFayden Road, recycling, the COPS program, the 301 corridor and plans for the Murchison Road area.

Mayor Chavonne responded with information regarding the curbside-recycling program approved by Council. Mr. Iman provided an update on the Murchison Road Corridor Study and noted its distinction from the transportation study currently underway. Council Member Bates stated citizens participating in the COPS program had to be graduates of the Citizen's Policy Academy.

Ron Harrison, 1575 Mintz Avenue, Fayetteville, NC 28303 posed a series of questions regarding the impact of Base Realignment and Closing (BRAC) on the local community and plans to deal with the same.

Council Member Haire briefly addressed the involvement of elected officials, staff, community leaders and surrounding communities with preparations for BRAC.

Council Member Bates relayed information regarding \$28 million earmarked for expansion of the Fayetteville Regional Airport and the involvement of airport staff in BRAC meetings. Council Member Bates also reported on a \$1.2 federal grant for an inventory study of the eleven county region and six committees comprised of 187 volunteers. Council Member Bates stated the Cumberland County Business Council (CCBC) is tasked with attracting businesses to the area and contractors have already moved into the area with more anticipated in the future.

Mayor Chavonne provided information on the BRAC Regional Taskforce, a non-profit comprised of county and city governments surrounding Ft. Bragg and Pope Air Force Base, and Council's representation on the local BRAC committee. Mayor Chavonne stated BRAC Regional Taskforce recently received a \$5 million grant for a workforce development program and a national award for innovative planning.

Joseph S. Fudala, 1422 Granada Drive, Fayetteville, NC 28314 expressed concern for road conditions on Russell Street, from Gillespie Street to Winslow Street, and a rumor that the City would pay for septic tank repairs in annexed areas prior to the installation of sewer services. Mr. Iman stated total reconstruction of Russell Street, from Gillespie Street to Robeson Street, was scheduled for November of 2007. Mr. Iman briefly reviewed state law pertinent to sewer installation following annexation and stated the city had fully met its legal obligations in terms of annexation requirements.

Karen V. Williams, 8618 King Road, Fayetteville, NC 28306 expressed concern about being annexed and paying for city services because her family would lose their home to construction of the outer loop before receiving any city services for which they are now paying.

Thomas H. McKinney, 2617 North Edgewater Drive, Fayetteville, NC 28303 relayed his experience with parking tickets he received on Old Street, efforts to resolve the same and a collection letter he recently received.

Clinton Harris, 4713 Watauga Road, Fayetteville, NC 28304 suggested ways to meet minimum public safety standards that included a new notification process for streetlights that go out, use of marked police vehicles rather than unmarked, reduction of cell phone usage and installation of larger speed limit signs.

Erec V. Hendreck, 2123 Rim Road, Fayetteville, NC 28314 expressed concern for Benzene contaminated well water on Rim Road and its carcinogenic effect on residents. Mr. Hendreck asked for assistance with finding a way to bring clean water to the residents.

Bobby J. Ewell, 846 Abilene Road, Fayetteville, NC 28303 spoke about a twenty-ton truck located in a yard for over a year and a city ordinance that would not permit removal of the truck until the owner acknowledged receipt of notification to remove the truck.

Richard L. Frandenburgh, 7081 Kings Lynn Loop, Fayetteville, NC 28304 asked how much growth and expansion would be allowed in the annexed area near the Hoke County line, when the area would receive bus service and why he could not receive water from the city rather than the company under contract.

Geri Spangler, 206 Tiverton Street, Fayetteville, NC 28314, a new resident to Fayetteville, asked that Council Members and the City Manager introduce themselves.

6. Adjourn

There being no one further to speak, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.