

**FAYETTEVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MINUTES  
COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL  
NOVEMBER 13, 2025  
2:00 P.M.**

City Present: Mayor Mitch Colvin

Council Members Katherine K. Jensen (District 1); Malik Davis (District 2); Mario Benavente (District 3) (via TEAMS); D. J. Haire (District 4); Lynne Greene (District 5); Courtney Banks-McLaughlin (District 8); Deno Hondros (District 9)

City Absent: Council Members Derrick Thompson (District 6); Brenda McNair (District 7)

County Present: Chairman Kirk deViere

Commissioners Veronica B. Jones (At-Large); W. Marshall Faircloth (At-Large); Glenn Adams (District 1); Pavan Patel (District 2); Henry Tyson (District 2)

County Absent: Commissioner Jeannette M. Council (District 1)

Others Present: Douglas Hewett, City Manager  
Clarence Grier, County Manager  
Lachelle Pulliam, City Attorney  
Rick Morefield, County Attorney  
Adam Lindsay, Assistant City Manager  
Jeff Yates, Assistant City Manager  
Jodi Phelps, Assistant City Manager  
Heather Skeins, Assistant County Manager  
Kevin Dove, Fayetteville Fire Chief  
Roberto Bryan, Fayetteville Police Chief  
Freddie Johnson, Cumberland County Fire Chiefs' Association  
President  
Loren Bymer, Marketing & Communications Director  
Yamile Nazar, Human Relations Manager  
Willie Henry, Chief Information Officer  
John Jones, Office of Community Safety Director  
Nichelle Gaines, Community Safety Manager  
Erin Swinney, Police Attorney  
Laura Smith, Emergency Management Coordinator  
Gary Crumpler, Cumberland County Emergency Services Director  
Lisa Reid, Public Safety Communications Manager  
Kimberly Toon, Purchasing Manager  
Brook Redding, Senior Assistant to the City Council  
Jennifer Ayre, City Clerk  
Andrea Tebbe, Clerk to the Board  
Members of the Press

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Colvin called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

**2.0 INVOCATION**

The invocation was offered by Council Member Haire.

**3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Faircloth.

**4.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION: Council Member Haire moved to approve the agenda**  
**SECOND: Council Member Banks-McLaughlin**  
**VOTE: UNANIMOUS (8-0)**

## 5.0 OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS

### 5.01 Welcome and Introductions

Mayor Colvin welcomed everyone in attendance and requested all of the elected officials introduce themselves.

### 5.02 Discussion on Proposed Joint 911 Center

Cumberland County Chairman Kirk deViere provided a history of the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP). The working group recommendations include full consolidation, enhanced governance structure, mental health capabilities, facility use, and continuity. In previous iterations, the discussion would always end due to disagreements on the governance.

There are two proposed governance structures.

One option is to create a Joint 911 Communications Board with a six-member board made up of two from Cumberland County, three from the City, and one from the Cumberland County Fire Chief Association. The joint board would set strategic priorities, operational policies, maintain budgetary oversight, costs, and ensure performance accountability. Mayor Colvin stated one of the best examples of a joint board is the Fayetteville-Cumberland Economic Development Corporation.

The second option is to create a single entity model there would be one entity with either the county or city to run it.

An advisory board would be created that would include the public safety agency heads from the municipalities, volunteer fire representatives, Sheriff, and EMS representatives to ensure protocols are in place and the day-to-day operations would be overseen by a consolidated center director. The working group recommended Ms. Lisa Reid, the current City 911 Director to serve as the consolidated center director. Council Member Haire asked if there would be any members of the public that serve on the board.

Discussion ensued.

**MOTION:** Council Member Haire moved to explore consolidation  
**SECOND:** Council Member Hondros  
**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS (8-0)

**MOTION:** Commissioner Tyson moved to vote in favor of the consolidation of the PSAP with the City of Fayetteville  
**SECOND:** Vice Chairwoman Jones  
**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS (6-0)

Dr. Douglas Hewett, City Manager stated Council was briefed on the Cost of Gun Violence and backfilled the Council on the Joint 911 issue. There was consensus of the working group, which include all of the public safety group, that agreed a merged group in some form or fashion would work.

Mr. Kevin Dove, Fire Chief, stated consolidation is the right way to go, however, he is not the subject matter expert in 911 operations, he is the expert in 911 usage. Chief Dove stated he has used both the County and the City system for over 27 years and after using both systems through multiple emergencies and disasters, the City 911 center has a leg up on the County 911 center as far as size, operations, and management. Fire Chief Dove stated he likes option one and option two under City management and is not wanting to offer up his organization under sole County management. The joint system would bring everyone to the table. The City Fire Department works on both the City and county CAD.

Mr. Roberto Bryan, Police Chief concurred with Chief Dove. For operational efficiency, coordination and accountability is needed for a consolidated 911 center. There does need to be consolidation, but in order to maintain operational effectiveness the City would need to be the lead. Discussion ensued regarding how the Office of Community Safety (OCS), ShotSpotter, cameras, license plate readers, and drone as a first responder would be integrated.

Chairman deViere stated mental health and mobile crisis teams would be included through at 911 diversion program creating dispatchers that are behavioral health specialists and discussions have already started with Alliance Health, who is the County mental health partner. Discussion ensued.

Ms. Lisa Reid, Public Safety Communications Manager and Mr. Gary Crumpler, Cumberland County Emergency Services Director stated that the City and County have a shared phone system and CAD, and calls are not transferred. Both organizations are working on upgrading to next generation systems and are well educated on how to process calls.

Cumberland County Vice Chairwoman Jones stated one of the primary goals of consolidation is that if there is an emergency there will not be an overload of the separate systems and recognize the need for the mental health/rapid response team. Vice Chairwoman Jones stated she would like a mental health professional to be included in the joint board and increase the board from 6 to 8 members.

Commissioner Adam's recommended the joint board composition and allow the County and City Manager be ex-officio members of the board.

**MOTION: Commissioner Tyson moved to consolidate under the proposed joint 911 model, implement a 50-50 cost split between the City and the County, work towards standing up the joint governance board and have staff report back to the elected boards**  
**SECOND: Commissioner Patel**  
**VOTE: UNANIMOUS (6-0)**

Council Member Banks-McLaughlin stated the concern is who will take the lead on the facility. With the advisory board there would be time to determine details and create a memorandum of understanding (MOU) that will provide the identified details of the PSAP.

Discussion ensued.

**MOTION: Council Member Hondros moved to direct the City Manager to work with the County Manager to move towards a fully consolidated single entity control joint 911 model with Fayetteville leading operations and a joint community advisory board made up of professionals in the first responders' space from both bodies**  
**SECOND: Mayor Pro Tem Jensen**  
**VOTE: PASSED by a vote of 6 in favor to 2 in opposition (Mayor Colvin and Council Member Davis)**

Council Member Hondros asked for clarification on if the boards became joint and then later decided to separate what would be the issues. Dr. Hewett stated both boards are funded through General Fund and equipment and training from the State 911 board. If there is a merger the money will then go to one location. If there is a decision to separate the money received from the 911 board would stay with one entity and would not be split back up.

Chairman deViere stated based on the City's motion it would be prudent to have conversations with the municipalities the county already has MOU's with for 911 services as well as internally to look at other options or whether to continue to prioritize a joint 911.

Commissioner Adams stated he has had the joint 911 discussion multiple times and does not want anyone to leave here thinking nothing was accomplished as this is the first time that both boards agreed that a consolidated PSAP should be explored.

Commissioner Tyson highlighted that in the recommended joint model that Ms. Reid would run the day-to-day operations, there would be no job loss as well as a salary parity to ensure everyone was paid the same, program continuity, and technology modernization.

Council Member Benavente asked if there would be any impact on the motion passed at a previous meeting to approve an architect to build the City 911 PSAP. Dr. Hewett stated the preliminary work would not be impacted.

**MOTION: Council Member Haire moved to reconsider**  
**SECOND: Council Member Davis**  
**VOTE: FAILED by a vote of 4 in favor to 4 in opposition (Mayor Colvin, Council Members Jensen, Benavente, and Hondros)**

## **6.0 ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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JENNIFER L. AYRE  
City Clerk  
111325

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MITCH COLVIN  
Mayor