

**FAYETTEVILLE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL
OCTOBER 27, 2025
6:30 P.M.**

Present: Mayor Mitch Colvin;

Council Members Katherine K. Jensen (District 1); Malik Davis (District 2); Mario Benavente (District 3); D. J. Haire (District 4); Lynne Greene (District 5); Derrick Thompson (District 6); Brenda McNair (District 7); Courtney Banks-McLaughlin (District 8) (TEAMS); Deno Hondros (District 9)

Others Present: Lachelle Pulliam, City Attorney
Kelly Strickland, Assistant City Manager
Jodi Phelps, Assistant City Manager
Adam Lindsay, Assistant City Manager
Roberto Bryan, Police Chief
Kevin Dove, Fire Chief
Willie Henry, Chief Information Officer
Gerald Newton, Development Services Director
Loren Bymer, Marketing and Communications Director
Byron Reeves, Deputy Public Services Director
Jessica Leggett, Parks and Recreation Assistant Director
Dereke Planter, Code Enforcement Administrative Supervisor
Craig Harmon, Senior Planner
Kimberly Toon, Purchasing Manager
Brook Redding, Senior Assistant to the City Manager
Jennifer Ayre, City Clerk
Members of the Press

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Colvin called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

2.0 INVOCATION

The invocation was offered by Assistant Pastor Debra Kinzer of First Pentecostal Power Fellowship.

3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Colvin and City Council.

4.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RECOGNITIONS

Mr. Brook Redding, Senior Assistant to the City Manager, introduced the newly appointed Junior Mayor, Ms. Rylen Mack.

Council Member Benavente announced on Saturday, November 1, 2025, the Veterans Council of Cumberland County is holding their annual Veterans Day Parade downtown.

5.0 CITY MANAGER REPORT

Ms. Kelly Strickland, Assistant City Manager stated the City of Fayetteville earned double recognition from the National Association of Government Web Professionals. Our team was awarded with both the Pinnacle Award and Members Choice Award in the City/County Medium Population Group category which is comprised of populations 50,001-225,000. The city's website impressed judges with its excellence in content, organization, design, performance, and accessibility, while also resonating with NAGW members who selected it as their top choice. This dual honor reflects Fayetteville's commitment to creating an exceptional digital experience that serves its community while setting a high standard for government web design. Receiving the award was Mr. Marcus Townsend, Mr. Ulrich Johannes, Mr. John Clements, Mr. Willie Henry, and Mr. Loren Bymer.

6.0 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Council Member Davis moved to approve the agenda and move the public hearings before the staff reports.
SECOND: Council Member Haire
VOTE: UNANIMOUS (10-0) (Council Member McNair's unexcused absence counting as an affirmative vote)

7.0A CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Council Member Thompson moved to approve the consent agenda.
SECOND: Council Member Haire
VOTE: UNANIMOUS (10-0) (Council Member McNair's unexcused absence counting as an affirmative vote)

7.0A1 Approval of Meeting Minutes:
October 6, 2025 – Work Session
October 13, 2025 – Discussion of Agenda Items
October 13, 2025 – Regular

7.0A2 Adopt Resolution for Proposed 2026 City Council Meeting Dates Calendar

City Council adopted the resolution confirming the 2026 City Council Meeting dates.

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA TO ADOPT THE 2026 CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATES CALENDAR TO CLARIFY THE TIME AND LOCATION OF THE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETINGS. RESOLUTION NO. R2025-038

7.0A3 Approve Bid Recommendation for a Site Plan Review Process Improvement Study and Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract

City Council approved the award of and authorized the City Manager to execute a contract with Berry, Dunn, McNeil & Parker, LLC for consulting services to assess, align, and improve the City's multi-agency sit plan review and development permitting process.

7.0A4 Approve P25-45: Request to Initially rezone 2.55 acres (PIN 0425754360000) from county M(P) to LI, owned by CRA Commercial Development, represented by Lori Epler of Larry King & Assoc.

City Council approved the rezoning of approximately 2.55 acres on Black and Decker Road from Cumberland County M(P) to City of Fayetteville LI (Light Industrial) to align the site with the established industrial pattern near Fayetteville Regional Airport. The request is substantially consistent with the Future Land Use Plan text and intent, but inconsistent with the current Future Land Use Map. The Zoning Commission conducted a public hearing on September 9, 2025, and the Commission voted unanimously to recommend approval.

7.0A5 Approve Ordinances for Uninhabitable Structures: Demolition Recommendations
1912 Murchison Road District 4
2005 Murchison Road District 4

City Council adopted demolition ordinances for the two commercial buildings identified as blight. Staff will continue to engage with the property owners up to the scheduled demolition date, offering opportunities for voluntary compliance, self-demolition, or grant-supported abatement through Economic Community Development. Should a property come into compliance voluntarily, staff will present a demolition rescission ordinance to Council to formally remove the order from the property deed.

1912 Murchison Road District 4

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA REQUIRING THE CITY BUILDING INSPECTOR TO CORRECT CONDITIONS WITH RESPECT TO, OR TO DEMOLISH AND REMOVE A STRUCTURE PURSUANT TO THE DWELLINGS AND BUILDINGS MINIMUM STANDARDS CODE OF THE CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE, NC, 1912 MURCHISON ROAD, PIN 0428-94-1938. ORDINANCE NO. NS2025-033

2005 Murchison Road District 4

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA REQUIRING THE CITY BUILDING INSPECTOR TO CORRECT CONDITIONS WITH RESPECT TO, OR TO DEMOLISH AND REMOVE A STRUCTURE PURSUANT TO THE DWELLINGS AND BUILDINGS MINIMUM STANDARDS CODE OF THE CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE, NC, 2005 MURCHISON ROAD, PIN 0428-85-8063. ORDINANCE NO. NS2025-034

7.0A6 Adopt Capital Project Ordinance Amendment & Bid Recommendation – Ivy and Lyon Road Drainage Improvement Project

City Council approved the award and authorized execution of a contract in the amount of \$6,154,032.00 for the Ivy and Lyon Road Drainage Improvement Project, to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Roadworks Construction Company.

City Council adopted Capital Project Ordinance Amendment (CPOA) 2024-13 to appropriate an additional \$3,791,397.00 from the Public Works Commission (PWC) for utility improvements associated with the project.

The project aims to reduce the risk of flooding within the City's right of way as well as provide the co-benefit of protecting residential structures from flood damage and improve the overall functionality and stability of Eutaw Creek.

7.0A7 Authorization to Accept Grant Funding from Keep America Beautiful for Fayetteville Beautiful and Adoption of Budget Ordinance Amendment to Appropriate Funds

City Council authorized staff to accept the grant from Keep America Beautiful and adopt Budget Ordinance Amendment 2026-3 to appropriate the \$5,000.00 in funding. These funds will directly support our Fayetteville Beautiful program-an ongoing initiative dedicated to engaging the community in litter prevention, environmental education, and the beautification of public spaces across the City.

7.0A8 Approve Interlocal Agreement – Joint Use of Facilities with Cumberland County Board of Education

City Council approved the interlocal agreement with the Cumberland County Board of Education to allow the parks and recreation department to utilize both indoor and outdoor facilities at school properties for recreation programming. The City has had a joint-use agreement in place with the Board of Education since 1966 and this agreement will extend through 2028.

7.0A9 PWC – Approve Bid Recommendation – Powdered Activated Carbon Slurry

City Council approved the purchase award for the Powdered Activated Carbon Slurry to Brenntag Mid-South, Inc, Durham, NC, the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, and in the best interest of PWC, for the total amount of \$108,900.00, and authorize the CEO/General Manager of the Fayetteville Public Works Commission to execute for that purpose the contract for its purchase.

7.0B ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT

There were no items pulled from the consent agenda.

8.0 PUBLIC HEARINGS

8.01 P25-30: A request to rezone 2211 Rosehill Road (0438470005000), consisting of 21.27 acres and owned by Cross Creek Refuse LLC, from Single Family Residential 6 (SF-6) to Mixed Residential 5 (MR-5). (Tabled from August 25)

Discussion ensued regarding the applicants request to table the rezoning request.

MOTION: Council Member Davis moved to table Item 9.01 until the January 26, 2026, Regular Meeting.

SECOND: Council Member Hondros

VOTE: PASSED by a vote of 7 in favor to 3 in opposition. (Council Members Jensen, Benavente, and Banks-McLaughlin)

MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Jensen moved to direct staff to communicate to the applicant that another continuance will not be provided after the January 26, 2026, Regular Meeting.

SECOND: Council Member Haire

VOTE: PASSED by a vote of 8 in favor to 2 in opposition. (Council Members Greene and Hondros)

8.02 AX25-02: CRA Commercial Development LLC is petitioning to annex a parcel of approximately 2.55 acres at 3456 BLACK & DECKER RD (PIN 0425754360000) into the corporate limits of the City of Fayetteville. This parcel is situated on the south side of Black & Decker Road, west of Gillespie Street, near the intersection of Dedication Drive and Black & Decker Road.

Mr. Craig Harmon, Senior Planner, presented this item with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation and stated all the surrounding properties are either City or County industrial properties and the current property is zoned as manufacturing, M(P) which is the County's version of City industrial. There is a housing development to the east and south. The site is currently vacant and falls within an area designated as an Employment Center on the City's Future Land Use (FLU) Map. This land-use designation supports industrial and employment-center activities in the airport area and aligns the City's jurisdiction with expected service delivery.

All future structures and uses on this site will be subject to the Airport Overlay standards and FAA Part 77 airspace review, with restrictions on high-occupancy assembly or bird-attracting uses. Although the parcel is situated within the Employment Center area, parts of the immediate edge are classified as Low-Density Residential on the adopted FLU Map. Staff recommends adoption of the proposed ordinance annexing the property with an effective date of October 27, 2025.

This is the advertised public hearing set for this date and time, the public hearing was opened.

Ms. Lori Eppler, 1333 Morganton Road, Fayetteville, NC, spoke in favor of this item.

There being no further speakers, the public hearing was closed.

AN ORDINANCE TO EXTEND THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA. LOT 2 CRA Black and Decker Commercial, on the southern side of Black and Decker Road, known as PIN 0425-75-4360. Annexation No. 2025-10-601

MOTION: Council Member Davis moved to adopt the annexation with an effective date of October 27, 2025.

SECOND: Council Member Thompson

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (10-0)

9.0 STAFF REPORTS

9.01 Receive the Fayetteville Fire Department 2025 3rd Quarter Review

Mr. Kevin Dove, Fire Chief presented this item with the aid of a PowerPoint Presentation and shared third quarter highlights that include, 245 applicants for the 2026 hiring process, 25 recruits graduated the fire academy, and the Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) team trained on the new "House Under Water" prop at the Fayetteville Tech Regional Training Center which is the first of its kind in the world.

Chief Dove stated there were 7,593 calls in the third quarter, with the bulk of calls being for rescue/EMS. Response times remain consistent and under the 8:00 minute response. The Department responded to 206 fires, there were no civilian fire fatalities, but 8 civilian injuries and 3 firefighter injuries. The top three fire losses included an apartment complex, a single-family structure, and a commercial structure. The number of medical responses and hazardous materials responses were presented.

There were 6 firefighter and 1 fire inspector vacancies at the end of the quarter, however, after graduating the most recent academy there are no longer any firefighter vacancies, but still and 1 inspector vacancy. The department is 25% underrepresented population and is the highest it has been during Chief Dove's tenure.

There has been a significant makeover of the Fire Marshal's Office with the overarching goal to have everyone doing business in the City safely while meeting the state fire code. There were 881 new plan reviews, 2541 fire inspections/maintenance and 6301 fire code violations recovered; however, 47% of the violations are identified and corrected at the same time and does not require reinspection. Further education for the business owners will be provided by the Fire Marshal's Office and Community Risk Reduction to help set businesses up for success. Top five violations are electrical hazards, fire extinguishers, general, emergency and standby power systems, and fire protection and utility equipment identification and access.

Community risk reduction engaged 6,655 residents through 164 community events. 343 smoke alarms and 84 Carbon Monoxide alarms were installed.

If you need a smoke alarm installed or checked, call 910-433-1116, and it will be provided and installed at no cost.

Discussion ensued regarding how the Fire Department manages mental health.

MOTION: Council Member Thompson moved to accept the Fayetteville Fire Department 2025 3rd Quarter Review
SECOND: Council Member Davis
VOTE: UNANIMOUS (10-0)

9.02 Receive the Fayetteville Police Department 3rd Quarter Review

Mr. Roberto Bryan, Chief of Police, presented this item with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation and stated the third quarter report will cover January through September 2025 and discuss crime statistics, trends, strategies, and community engagement. Total crime is down by 10 percent (%) and arrests are down by just over 1%. There was a large number of homicides at the beginning of the year but have been trending down over the rest of the year. The homicide unit is maintaining a clearance rate of 87.5% while the national average is 58%. The number of overdoses and suicides were also presented. Domestic aggravated assault is trending down for misdemeanors and simple assaults, but felony aggravated assault is up by 1.3%.

ShotSpotter had 334 alerts; with 126 alerts, 2 guns recovered and 3 resulting in arrest in the Campbellton district; 90 alerts, 1 gun recovered, and 2 resulting in arrests in the Central district; and 124 alerts, 14 guns recovered, and 9 resulting in arrests in the Cross Creek district. The ShotSpotter dashboard was reviewed and stated IT and members of the City Manager's team are working on coming up with a set of categories instead of the "blank" category. A video of a ShotSpotter report was presented, which was categorized as a blank because it did not have a 911 call or witnesses, and until the found shell casings can be linked to a case or crime. Chief Bryan stated an analyst listens to every single alert.

Discussion ensued. Ms. Kelly Strickland, Assistant City Manager, stated staff have created a working group that includes the Police Department, Office of Community Safety (OCS), the City Manager's Office, and the Strategic Planning & Analytics Department to close the gaps in the data and identify a better and more consistent way of managing the data.

Chief Bryan presented information on the federal and state task force partnerships; property crimes such as burglary, larceny, motor vehicle, and other property crimes are down with the exception of robbery which is up by 1.2%.

Juvenile crimes are up by 17%, with the most pressing issue being robbery, which has almost doubled in a year. The curfew from 11 p.m.- 6 a.m. has resulted in a total of 31 incident charges. Council Member Benavente asked if the curfew was the impetus for officers approaching a young person. Chief Bryan explained the approaches were because of other identifying crimes; it will take time to determine the impact the curfew has on juvenile crime.

The Police Department is collaborating with the OCS. They hold weekly meetings to align priorities, and OCS has directly responded to 32 unhoused community related calls. Furthermore, OCS has integrated 2 Police Department staff into their department to enhance cross-departmental collaboration.

There have been a total of 267 calls for service responded to through the School Resource Officer (SRO) Program with 95 incident reports. Currently, there are 14 certified SRO's and it is expected to increase to 18 in January, 2026.

The number of narcotics seized, and the 911 telecommunications calls for service were reviewed.

Traffic enforcement has seen 19 fatal crashes resulting in 21 deaths and the only way to address those is with enforcement. There have been 40,342 traffic stops, with a breakdown of 13,626 white drivers, 25,156 black drivers, and 1,718 other drivers. Out of the 873 of black drivers searched, 537 drugs and 231 weapons were seized; out of the 215 white drivers searched, 131 drugs and 27 weapons were seized; and out of the 37 other drivers searched, 28 drugs and 8 weapons were seized. Discussion ensued on traffic enforcement.

The Internal Affairs Unit has reviewed 50 use of force, completed 49 internal investigations, received 28 citizen complaints and 32 positive compliments, 31 vehicle pursuits, and 48 crashes. Based on the investigations, disciplinary actions can include coaching and training action, policy warning, oral counseling, written reprimand, suspension, demotion, or dismissal/termination. Chief Bryan reviewed the current departmental staffing and stated there are 60 vacancies, which do not reflect the 65 frozen positions. Discussion ensued regarding applicants.

Chief Bryan presented photos from the National Night Out, Coffee with a Cop, Special Olympics Events, First Responders Night at Segra Stadium, and the Promotion and Graduation Ceremony.

Council Member Haire requested an update on speed centuries and new camera technology. Chief Bryan stated it is a phased approach, starting with updating the server room and have now deployed several speed centuries with more on order to include the school zones.

MOTION: Council Member McNair moved to accept the Fayetteville Fire Department 2025 3rd Quarter Review

SECOND: Council Member Benavente

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (10-0)

10.0 ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

10.01 Administrative Report Concerning Massey Hill Recreation Afterschool Programming

This item was for information purposes only and not presented.

11.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.