

**FAYETTEVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL  
JANUARY 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) (via TEAMS); Lynne Greene (District 5); Derrick Thompson (District 6); Brenda McNair (District 7) (Departed at 6:27 p.m.); Courtney Banks-McLaughlin (District 8); Deno Hondros (District 9)

Others Present: Douglas Hewett, City Manager  
Lachelle Pulliam, City Attorney  
Kelly Olivera, Assistant City Manager  
Jeffrey Yates, Assistant City Manager  
Jodi Phelps, Assistant City Manager  
Kemberle Braden, Police Chief  
Kevin Dove, Fire Chief  
Lisa Harper, Senior Assistant City Attorney  
Sonye' Randolph, Assistant City Attorney  
Will Deaton, Planning and Zoning Division Manager  
Loren Bymer, Market and Communications Director  
Dereke Planter, Code Enforcement Supervisor  
Craig Harmon, Senior Planner  
Kim Toon, Purchasing Manager  
Pamela Megill, City Clerk  
Members of the Press

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Colvin called the meeting to order.

**2.0 INVOCATION**

The invocation was offered by Pastor Christopher Covington, Country Club Drive Church of Christ.

**3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**4.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RECOGNITIONS**

Mayor Colvin presented the Key to the City to Ms. Pamela Megill, in recognition of her 13 years of devoted interest and untiring commitment to the citizens of Fayetteville as the City Clerk.

**5.0 CITY MANAGER REPORT**

Mr. Douglas Hewett, City Manager, announced that Ms. Jennifer Ayre, Deputy City Clerk, has been selected as the next City of Fayetteville, City Clerk.

Mr. Kemberle Braden, Police Chief, provided an update on the eight homicides that have taken place in Fayetteville during January of this year. Chief Braden stated despite a dramatic reduction in homicides in 2024, eight homicides occurred in the first 24 days of the new year in the City of Fayetteville. The crimes were not "random acts of violence". The violent start to the year, does not mean that violent crime in the city – which was expected to be lowest in the decade by the end of last year – is increasing again. Like anything else, there is going to be the ebbs and flows of what happens within our community, Braden said. We just must be ready and prepared to adjust the way we handle those things. Chief Braden stated that police

have already solved seven of the eight murders, while detectives are still working on investigating the latest homicide, which occurred during the snowstorm on January 22nd. In each of the cases, the suspect and victims were known to one another Chief Braden said of the solved cases. No juveniles have been involved in the crimes.

City council members congratulated Braden for maintaining the high clearance rates that have characterized his tenure as Police Chief with recent cases.

## 6.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Council Member Benavente moved to approve the agenda.  
SECOND: Council Member Hondros  
VOTE: UNANIMOUS (10-0)

MOTION: Council Member Hondros moved to excuse Council Member McNair from the remainder of the meeting.  
SECOND: Council Member Thompson  
VOTE: UNANIMOUS (10-0)

## 7.0A CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Jensen moved to approve the consent agenda with the exception of Items 7.0A4 and 7.0A9.  
SECOND: Council Member Banks McLaughlin  
VOTE: UNANIMOUS (9-0)

MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Jensen moved to table Item 7.0A4 - Adoption of Historic District Design Standards and Associated Text Amendments to the Unified Development Ordinance to the February 3, 2025, Work Session.  
SECOND: Council Member Thompson  
VOTE: UNANIMOUS (9-0)

MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Jensen moved to table Item 7.0A9 the PWC - Phase 5 Annexation Area 32 East Section I - Resolution Confirming Assessment Roll and Levying Assessments to the February 3, 2025, Work Session.  
SECOND: Council Member Thompson  
VOTE: PASSED by a vote of 7 in favor to 2 in opposition (Council Members Benavente and Hondros)

## 7.0A CONSENT AGENDA

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

7.0A2 SUP24-06. Order of Denial - Findings of Fact: Special Use Permit (SUP) to allow a reduction of the separation requirement for a Small Group Home located at 6302 Cool Shade Drive (REID # 0409411717000) and being the property of James L. Conyers Jr Trustee & Kendra Conyers.

7.0A3 SUP24-07. Order of Denial - Findings of Fact: Special Use Permit (SUP) to allow a Large Group Home and the reduction of the separation requirement located at 709 Hay Street (REID #0437259126000) and being the property of J & D Managements LLC.

7.0A4 Adoption of Historic District Design Standards and Associated Text Amendments to the Unified Development Ordinance - tabled to February 3, 2025, Work Session

7.0A5 Uninhabitable Structures: Demolition Recommendations  
308 Currie Street District 2

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, 308 CURRIE STREET, PIN 0437-23-4562. ORDINANCE NO. NS2025-001

822 Varsity Drive District 3

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, 822 VARSITY DRIVE, PIN 0428-97-5847. ORDINANCE NO. NS2025-002

5202 Gavins Street 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, 822 GAVINS STREET, PIN 0418-39-9707 ORDINANCE NO. NS2025-003

**7.0A6 Adoption of Budget Ordinance Amendment and Authorization to Accept Grant Funding from North Carolina Amateur Sports**

The City has been awarded the North Carolina Amateur Sports (NCAS) Youth Sports Grant for Youth Football Safety Equipment in the amount of \$20,000.00. This grant will benefit the youth of Fayetteville and Cumberland County. Staff are seeking authorization to accept the grant award and adoption of Budget Ordinance Amendment (BOA) 2025-11 to appropriate the grant funding.

**7.0A7 Adoption of Special Revenue Fund Project Ordinance to Appropriate the FY24 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Award**

The City has been awarded grant funding for the FY24 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program. Council is asked to adopt Special Revenue Fund Project Ordinance 2025-16 to accept the grant funding and appropriate \$102,387.00 needed to increase operational efficiency, improve officer safety, and upgrade safety equipment. This grant will be used for safety equipment to include: long-range acoustic device (LRAD), LRAD wireless kit, suppressors for sniper rifles and other firearms, rifle kits, laser aiming modules, spring wound 40mm multi-launchers, free standing 100" breaching frame, barricade bags, digital camera, high-powered concrete saw kits, and a cordless tool combo kit.

**7.0A8 Residential Traffic Management Program - Community Engagement Revisions**

The City's Residential Traffic Management Program (RTMP) signature collection process was requested by Council to be revised. Based on information provided by staff, Council instructed staff to revise the RTMP to adopt a process to collect signatures through mailed ballots which include a QR code providing more information. With approval of this item, staff will begin to progressively send ballots to the currently open petitions.

**7.0A9 PWC - Phase 5 Annexation Area 32 East Section I - Resolution Confirming Assessment Roll and Levying Assessments - tabled to February 3, 2025, Work Session**

**7.0B ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT**

**8.0 REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

**8.01 Fayetteville-Cumberland Human Relations Department and Commission Annual Report**

Dr. Donna Pelham, Fayetteville-Cumberland Human Relations Commission Chair, presented this item with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation. Dr. Pelham provided an overview of the following: Partnering with Businesses, Equal Opportunity Transit Oversight, Investigations, Project Management Support, Complaint Resolutions, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Training, Community Engagement and Creating and Implementing DEI training modules.

Discussion ensued.

**MOTION:** Council Member Benavente moved to accept the Fayetteville-Cumberland Human Relations Commission Annual Report

**SECOND:** Council Member Banks-McLaughlin

**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS (9-0)

**9.0 ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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PAMELA J. MEGILL  
City Clerk  
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MITCH COLVIN  
Mayor