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**FAYETTEVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
WORK SESSION SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL  
FEBRUARY 6, 2026  
2:00 P.M.**

Present: Mayor Mitch Colvin (via TEAMS, arrived at 2:05, departed at 2:36 pm, arrived at 3:43 p.m.);

Council Members Stephon Ferguson (District 1); Malik Davis (District 2); Antonio Jones (District 3); D.J. Haire (District 4); Lynne Greene (District 5); Derrick Thompson (District 6); Brenda McNair (District 7); Shaun McMillan (District 8); Deno Hondros (District 9)

Others Present: Douglas Hewett, City Manager  
Lachelle Pulliam, City Attorney  
Kelly Strickland, Assistant City Manager  
Jodi Phelps, Assistant City Manager  
Jeffery Yates, Assistant City Manager  
Kevin Dove, Fire Chief  
Roberto Bryan, Police Chief  
Willie Henry, Chief Information Officer  
Rose Rasmussen, Internal Audit Director  
Sheila Thomas-Ambat, Public Services Director  
Byron Reeves, Assistant Public Services Director  
Michael Gibson, Parks, Recreation, & Maintenance Director  
Christopher Cauley, Economic & Community Development Director  
John Jones, Office of Community Safety Director  
Adam DiGaudio, Intergovernmental Military Manager  
Lisa Reid, Public Safety Communications Manager  
Jerry Clipp, Human Resources and Development Director  
Alicia Wright-Lanier, Stormwater Projects Manager  
Andrew Mansell, City Manager's Office Intern  
Kimberly Toon, Purchasing Manager  
Jennifer Ayre, City Clerk  
Members of the Press

## 1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Thompson called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

## 2.0 INVOCATION

The invocation was offered by Council Member Davis.

## 3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the City Council.

## 4.0 CITY MANAGER REPORT

Ms. Jodi Phelps, Assistant City Manager introduced Mr. Adam DiGaudio as the new Intergovernmental Military Manager, and Dr. Andrew Mansell, City Manager Office Intern.

## 5.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**MOTION: Council Member Haire moved to approve the agenda.**

**SECOND: Council Member Jones**

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

## 6.0 OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS

### 6.01 Watershed Master Plan - Beaver Creek 1 and Buckhead Creek Top Proposed Solutions

Ms. Alicia Lanier, Stormwater Projects Manager, presented this item with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation and stated the watershed studies take between 18-30 months to complete and explained the background on how the studies and projects are determined. Ten

## DRAFT

out of fifteen watersheds have been completed. Currently, there are fourteen projects in design and two in construction. The City has received both federal and state funding for the watershed projects. High priority study areas included areas that have flooded roads, emergency facilities, disconnected structures such as single access neighborhoods, and areas of impacted structures.

City Council has approved two sets of proposed solutions to date for Beaver Creek 2 and 3, Bones Creek, Little Rockfish Creek 1, Little Cross Creek, Cross Creek, Rockfish Creek, and Cape Fear 2, for a total of 364 proposed solutions, resolving 127 miles of impacted lane length, 445 traverse road crossings, and 1,802 disconnected structures for an estimated total of \$1.2 billion. The newly proposed solutions cover Buckhead Creek and Beaver Creek 1 bringing the total proposed solutions to 419, resolving 137 miles of impacted lane length, 513 traverse road crossings, and 2,082 disconnected structures for an estimated total of \$1.5 billion.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Sujit Ekka, Gradient, PLLC.'s Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, presented the Buckhead Creek watershed proposed solutions. The watershed includes Cross Creek Mall at the top end and the bottom is near Cumberland Road. There were 16 priority sub-basins covering a total of 8.61 square miles, that includes council districts 2, 5, and 9. The Buckhead Creek watershed study identified 64 concern areas with 33 receiving proposed solutions to resolve 2.6 miles of impacted lane length, 45 traversed roads, and 237 disconnected structures for an estimated \$155 million.

Discussion ensued regarding a sidewalk project that included drainage improvements on Helen Street.

The top proposed solutions for the Buckhead Creek Watershed include Ireland Drive, Village Drive, and the Cape Fear Valley Medical Center/Village Drive.

Ireland Drive has a 75% efficacy with an estimated cost of \$3.6 million and has the highest priority due to having the most impact overall. It reduces 1,250 feet of impacted lane length and impact to one structure.

Village Drive has 74% efficacy with an estimated cost of \$14.7 million and reduces impact to one structure and the Cape Fear Valley Medical Center buildings.

Cape Fear Valley Medical Center/Village Drive has a 65% efficacy with an estimated cost of \$6.6 million and reduces 230 feet of impacted lane length and impact to two structures and the Cape Fear Valley Medical Center buildings. Discussion ensued.

**Consensus of Council was to approve the 33 proposed solutions for them Buckhead Creek watershed Study and enable staff to program into the annual CIP and prioritize grants.**

Mr. Gordon Rose, Gradient, PLLC.'s Senior Principal, presented the Beaver Creek 1 proposed solutions and stated Beaver Creek 1 watershed included a study area of 22.6 square miles with 22 proposed solutions. The proposed solutions will resolve 7.6 of impacted lane length, 23 traverse road crossings, and 43 disconnected structures for an estimated \$63.4 million. The top five proposed solutions included Cottonade Creek Culvert, Freeport Road Culvert, Yadkin Road between Donray Drive and Horseshoe Road, Hallmark Road, and Fleishman Street/Clover Street.

The Cottonade Creek Culvert has a 100% efficacy with an estimated cost of \$820,920.00 and eliminates 260 feet of impacted lane length, eliminates impact to 36 disconnected structures from a 50-year storm event, and eliminates impact of one traverse road crossing in a 25-year storm event.

Freeport Road Culvert has a 100% efficacy with an estimated cost of \$2.4 million and eliminates 250 feet of impacted lane length, eliminates impacts to one structure from a 25-year and 50-year storm event and one traverse road crossing from a 25-year storm event.

Hallmark Road has a 100% efficacy with an estimated cost of \$8.5 million, and eliminates 1,100 feet of impacted lane length, and eliminates impact to five structures from a 10-year, 25-year, and 50-year storm event and three road crossings from a 25-year storm event.

Yadkin Road between Donray Drive and Horseshoe Road has an efficacy of 97% with an estimated cost of \$4.7 million, and eliminates 2,500 feet of impacted lane length, eliminates impact to two structures in a 25-year and 50-year storm event and one traverse road crossing in a 50-year storm event. The Hallmark Road and Yadkin Road between Donray Drive and Horseshoe Road projects should be completed in tandem.

# DRAFT

Fleishman Street/Clover Street has a 93% efficacy with an estimated cost of \$3.9 million and will eliminate 685 feet of impacted lane length and eliminate impacts to fifteen structures in a 10-year, 25-year, and 50-year storm event and one road crossing in a 25-year storm event.

**Consensus of Council was to approve the 22 proposed solutions from the Beaver Creek 1 Watershed study to enable staff to program them into the annual CIP prioritization process and pursue grants as applicable.**

## 6.02 City of Fayetteville Conflict of Interest Questionnaire

Ms. Rose Rasmussen, Internal Audit Director, presented this item with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation and stated this item was requested through a City Council Agenda Item Request in November 2025, and the action was to have staff come back with best practices for a consistent, unified form, making it available and easily accessible, similar to the State forms. The current City questionnaire complies with City ordinance. The most common disclosure format among peers is a written form with a wet signature submitted to the Clerk and made available to the public via public information requests. There were no internal audit peers that obtain annual conflict of interest forms like the City of Fayetteville does. The State form cannot be substituted for the current City's questionnaire.

Ms. Rasmussen stated staff recommend Council continue use of the current fillable PDF version that can be printed with a wet ink signature. No change for the senior leadership team or city employees is recommended. Internal Audit completed a peer review in 2022 and 2025 to update the questionnaire.

The State Ethics Commission form is only required by members that sit on certain State boards which can be done electronically or manually. The main difference between the State and City forms is that the State form talks about conflicts with the State and the City form focuses on City conflicts. Home addresses are not available to the public on the State form and limits disclosers to household members, but the City does not limit to household members. State law does not mandate a form or process and the template recommended by the UNC School Of Government closely mirrors the City's questionnaire.

**Consensus of Council was to continue with the current process.**

**There was no consensus to place the Conflict of Interest forms on the City's website.**

## 6.03 Receive an Update for the Reuse and Renovation of Former Blue Street Senior Center Building for OCS

Mr. Jeffery Yates, Assistant City Manager, presented an update on the Blue Street Senior Center renovations. Renovating the Center is one of the most economical options to maximize existing resources and to get out of rental spaces. The Center is about 6,000 square feet in the upper building and 3,000 square feet in the lower building with an estimated cost of \$800,000.00. Staff are currently contracting for the design work, which is almost complete, and once construction drawings are received, they will be placed out to bid.

Mr. John Jones, Office of Community Safety (OCS) Director, stated OCS has been working hard in the last seven months and have created foundations and programs that require space to host the residents participating in those programs and events. The space is essential to OCS and the community.

**Consensus of Council was to receive the report.**

## 6.04 Glenville Lake Crossing and East Shore Trail Progress

Mr. Michael Gibson, Parks & Recreation Director, presented this item with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation and stated it was adopted about two years ago. There were extensive conversations with residents, staff, and Council. The trail will create a seamless and safe route for pedestrians and bicyclists to travel from neighborhoods located along the east side of Glenville Lake to Murchison Road, Fayetteville State University, several existing bus stops and sidewalks, and Mazarick Park. The trail will start in Mary McDonald Park and traverse the side of Glenville Lake and other trails. Discussion ensued regarding the path of the trail. The trail would be constructed from boardwalks and asphalt.

Challenges include a fencing environment that is protecting the waterways for PWC and addressing viability of the two environments of walkability and water quality. The way the

## DRAFT

fencing is set up is to protect the waterways, but a compromise is needed for walkability of the trail and to make the fencing and trail compatible with one another. Council Member Haire asked how long it will be until we begin construction. Mr. Gibson stated the architects have created the route but are currently work on identifying how to address the challenges, then construction drawings can begin.

Discussion ensued.

**Consensus of Council received the report.**

### 6.05 Overview of Proposed Arts Council Alleyway Improvements

Mr. Michael Gibson, Parks & Recreation Director, presented this item with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation and stated this was a Council request to add value to the downtown environment by beautifying the environment beside the Arts Council. There are some challenges with a drainage ditch and electrical boxes. Mr. Gibson provided preliminary designs that include brick pavers, foliage, and seating. The cost estimate would be about \$37,000.00 with \$33,000 for hardscaping and \$2,750 for landscaping. Discussion ensued.

Council Member Davis requested the preliminary design also be presented to the Arts Council.

Dr. Douglas Hewett, City Manager, requested staff be allowed another 30 days to speak with downtown partners.

**Consensus of Council was to have staff present the preliminary design to downtown partners and bring back an improved plan for the Arts Council open space.**

**Consensus of Council was to collaborate with downtown partners to update all downtown open areas that belong to the City.**

### 6.06 City Council Agenda Item Request - Gun Safety Billboards - Council Member McNair

Council Member McNair stated one of Council's top five priorities is community safety. and for the last three years she has pushed for gun safety. Council Member McNair proposed establishing a billboard campaign dedicated to gun safety awareness. The initiative aims to foster responsible firearm ownership and promote secure storage practices among residents while raising public awareness.

Mr. Roberto Bryan, Police Chief stated educating the public is an excellent idea. Police officers often come across weapons left in unsecured vehicles; 2024 identifying 468 weapons stolen and 809 recovered and in 2025, 507 weapons stolen and 785 recovered.

Discussion ensued.

**Consensus of Council was to direct staff to research costs and options for a firearm safety and responsible storage public awareness campaign. Council Member Greene was opposed to the consensus motion.**

### 6.07 City Council Agenda Item Request - Senior Technology Literacy Initiative - Mayor Colvin

Mayor Colvin stated he broached an idea with senior citizens on how they adapt to technology changes to ensure they are comfortable using technology since they are highly targeted for scams. Mayor Colvin recommended using senior centers and recreation centers to host the programs and use equipment from the Information Technology Department to teach the classes. It will also allow another means of social networking for senior citizens. Mayor Colvin recommended reaching out to the County and school system for volunteers and equipment.

Discussion ensued.

**Consensus of Council was to have staff research options to implement a Senior Technology Literacy Initiative.**

### 6.08 City Council Agenda Item Request - Expand Sewer Grant Program - Mayor Colvin

# DRAFT

Mayor Colvin stated the Phase V build-out's time of completion is now beyond 2028 and expected to take more than 7 years at a cost of \$200 billion. The cost continues to go up, however, many residents that were annexed in 2006 still do not have the promised sewer and water. Mayor Colvin recommended using the block grant and change the requirements from 60 percent (%) to 80-120% median income.

**Consensus of Council was to have staff research options to expand the sewer grant program.**

## **6.09 City Council Agenda Item Request - Expand Notifications - Council Member Jones**

Council Member Jones stated he would like to increase the visibility of public hearing signage for higher awareness and increased participation. Improve signage and online information to help keep the public informed.

**Consensus of Council was to direct staff bring back options to improve signage and digital accessibility for communications for public hearing notifications.**

## **7.0 ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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JENNIFER L. AYRE  
City Clerk  
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MITCH COLVIN  
Mayor