

FAYETTEVILLE-CUMBERLAND JOINT COMMITTEE
HILLTOP HOUSE RESTAURANT - 1240 FT. BRAGG ROAD
May 24, 2016 - 12:00 PM
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

FAYETTEVILLE

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Nat Robertson
Mayor Pro Tem Mitch Colvin, City Council
Council Member Jim Arp

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioner, Kenneth Edge
Commissioner, Glenn Adams
Commissioner, Marshall Faircloth

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ted Mohn, Council Member
Kristoff Bauer, Deputy City Manager
Jimmy Keefe, County Commissioner
James Lawson, Deputy County Manager
Tracey Jackson, Assistant County Manager
Rochelle Small-Toney, Deputy City Manager
Doug Hewett, Interim City Manager
Candice White, Clerk to the Board
Pamela Megill, City Clerk
Jennifer Ayre, City Senior Administrative
Assistant
Members of the Press

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Mitch Colvin called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance.

2.0 INVOCATION

Council Member Jim Arp offered a prayer of thanks.

3.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Mayor Robertson
SECOND: Commissioner Adams
VOTE: UNANIMOUS (6-0)

4.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 25, 2016

MOTION: Commissioner Edge
SECOND: Commissioner Faircloth
VOTE: UNANIMOUS (6-0)

5.1 Discussion and Consideration Consolidation of 911 Services

Commissioner Edge stated the County Commissioners have instructed County staff to coordinate with City staff and move forward with the colocation of 911 Services. He stated that this is in the best interest of the residents of the county and city. He also brought up the idea of inviting Fort Bragg to be included in this consolidation. He is unsure if Fort Bragg would be willing, but stated they should. During a district commissioners meeting, the commissioners learned of many counties that have consolidated their 911 services. He understands that there may be issues that must be addressed such as:

- Salary Logistics
- Locating money from both the county and city to complete the project
- Location of center

Commissioner Keefe agreed with Commissioner Edge and also brought up the need for new technology saying the county currently used "archaic systems" and having everyone on the same system would be beneficial for the residents as well as aid in response times and assistance.

Mayor Robertson recommended a subcommittee to drive the project and help staff complete. Commissioner Edge agreed. Commissioner Adams then asked that since there had been no movement at the last meeting when briefed if the City was now in agreement. Mayor Pro Tem Colvin explained that that briefing was the first they had had and now after hearing the information would like to move forward with the project.

MOTION: Commissioner Edge moved that the City/County Liaison Committee recommend a subcommittee and proceed with the project.

SECOND: Mayor Robertson

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (6-0)

5.2 Discussion of Shaw Heights

Mayor Pro Tem Colvin began by explaining that the issues with Shaw Heights have been discussed for a number of years in the City. He then invited Council Member Mohn to speak further on the item.

Council Member Mohn stated that the Shaw Heights area and its development issues such as watershed and sewer have been spoken about for over a decade with two different studies, one in 2005 by the NC School of Government and GIS and one in 2008 by the County. The 2008 plan gives a whole list of issues and concern and is the only existing plan he could locate. The area is a small pocket that is County ran surrounded by the City of Fayetteville. It has over 1,000 property owners. He hopes that bringing up the area would open up discussion to work at raising the quality of life for the residents. He further stated that the City is not looking to annex the area looking more towards an intergovernmental agreement.

Mayor Robertson asked what exactly Council Member Mohn wanted to focus on, be it, traffic, bus services, Police and Fire presence, esthetics, streetlights, etc. Council Member Mohn responded that all of those things are part of what needs to be addressed.

Mayor Pro Tem Colvin expressed the opinion that it is a pivotal time with the growth of Fort Bragg as well as 295 and both the City and County would be at a loss if no action is taken. He recommended the committee discuss putting together a subcommittee to work on a plan to address the area. Council Member Mohn stated this should be 16-18 month process due to restrictive issues such as watershed.

Council Member Arp also agreed that Shaw Heights is a "lost community" and is in everyone's best interest to have a plan for government and citizens. The opportunity is now to have a real impact on that area of the community. With Fort Bragg Road closing there will be interest on Shaw and Murchison.

Commissioner Keefe asked what Council Member Mohn considers the boundaries. Council Member Mohn responded Fort Bragg to the North, the Gravel Plant to the to the East, and East of Shaw Road is the neighborhood of Julie Heights, Shaw Heights and the watershed area and City-owned property. He also wanted it known that he does not believe it is cost effective to add sewer to the area due to PWC stubs needing to be added at each property.

Commissioner Faircloth asked what are the barriers of annexation? Council Member Mohn stated that the current annexation law requires property owners to vote and annexation must add sewer within two years according to General Statute. Due to the sewer deadline it makes no economic sense to annex nor can PWC meet the

timeline. Commissioner Faircloth asked if the sewer requirement could be removed as special legislation since water and electricity are already there. Council Member Mohn added that the General Assembly could add that area without going to referendum.

Mayor Robertson wanted to discuss the assessed value of the properties in the area; it would not be a sound decision to annex the area if it lowers the property value of the City. Council Member Mohn agreed that because Shaw Heights would have lowered property value it was left out during the "Big Bang" annexation. Commissioner Adams expressed that we need to take into account that property values change and with the closing of Bragg Blvd and Murchison Road being the only access to the area that the values should go up. He stated that the City and County could be the catalyst by making it look nice enough that companies would see a profit when looking at potential locations. Commissioner Adams stated the committee cannot look at a finished product until the front end of the project looks sound.

Commissioner Faircloth stated he stated there could be direct benefits of annexation and that the issues discussed look mostly to be in services provided. City services will make the difference and the County is open to suggestions on how they can be involved.

Commissioner Edge stated when Shaw Heights heads towards Fayetteville State University, there are many areas that need to be cleaned up and addressed as well, so where does the boundary lie and how is it determined. He stated it needs to be a main point of discussion.

Commissioner Keefe brought up the idea of an overlay. Council Member Arp liked the idea of an overlay and also recommended it contain Pamalee Drive and include nodes of commerce that start at the overlay then move on to future endeavors.

MOTION: Council Member Arp moved that the City Council and County Commissioners will go back to each of their boards and request a co-dependent sub-board to work on the issues surrounding Shaw Heights

SECOND: Commissioner Adams

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (6-0)

5.3 Discussion of Holding a Joint City-County Meeting

Mayor Robertson explained that the request of holding a Joint meeting is ceremonial and recommended the first meeting after the July break.

Mayor Pro Tem Colvin recommended the committee think about getting into the habit of meeting and those benefits.

Commissioner Edge stated it is the opinion of many that the City and County have the inability to get along. Historically small groups of Council Members and Commissioners would meet to circumvent the perception of not getting along and that communication has always been open and healthy. He also stated that it is always difficult to put seventeen people into a room and hope for a healthy discussion. Commissioner Edge stated that the lines of communications are always open and he as well as many others are comfortable speaking with others. He stated it is necessary to change the perception. He stated it would be productive to bring everyone together in an informal setting like the committee does and work through with conversation instead of actual agenda items to discuss.

Mayor Robertson tasked Mayor Pro Tem Colvin with organizing a meeting in a casual setting.

Commissioner Faircloth stated he doesn't believe the City and County disagree on much, except money, like the sales tax where

each entity believed holding on to their opinions was better. He stated that 911 consolidation, Shaw Heights, homelessness and community development consolidation should be discussed at the meeting as agenda items. He stated there is a lot to talk about together.

Council Member Arp recommended not only meeting, but have teambuilding exercises and food. Success breeds success.

5.4 Roadside Clean - Up Gateways Initiative

Mayor Pro Tem Colvin stated that he requested this item be added for the meeting. He explained that the City litter crews are usually within feet of the city/county line and that the City would like to look at assistance with costs as well as clean up from the County. Specifically the area of 301 as a higher traffic area. He is requesting each group go back to their respective boards and come up with ideas to address roadside clean up.

6.0 OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS

None

7.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JENNIFER L. AYRE
Senior Administrative Assistant

MITCH COLVIN
Mayor Pro Tem

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