

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
OF MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
DECEMBER 15, 2016**

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Goldsboro, North Carolina, called a Special Meeting to discuss the former WA Foster Center building and approval of the vegetative debris reduction and removal contract at the Former WA Foster Building, 516 S. Leslie Street, Goldsboro, NC at 5:30 p.m. on December 15, 2016 with attendance as follows:

Present: Mayor Chuck Allen, Presiding
Mayor Pro Tem Gene Aycock
Councilmember Bill Broadaway
Councilmember Mark Stevens (arrived at 5:36 p.m.)
Councilmember Bevan Foster (arrived at 5:36 p.m.)
Councilmember David Ham
Jim Womble, City Attorney
Scott Stevens, City Manager
Melissa Corser, City Clerk
Randy Guthrie, Assistant City Manager
Scott Barnard, Parks & Recreation Director
Kaye Scott, Finance Director
Shycole Simpson-Carter, Community Relations Director
Mike Wagner, Interim Public Utilities Director
Tracie Davis, Communications and Marketing Director
Rochelle Moore, News Argus
Anthony Goodson, Goldsboro Housing Authority
Vernon Harvey, Citizen
James Exum, Citizen
John Barnes, Citizen
Don Holliday, Citizen
Willie Battle, Citizen
Jessie Battle, Citizen
Cheryl Alston, Citizen
Myrtle Vaughn, Citizen
Elizabeth Arrington, Citizen
Steve Ashford, Citizen
Sylvia Barnes, Citizen
Matthew Melvin, Jr., Citizen
DJ Coles, Citizen

Call to Order. Mayor Allen called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

Invocation. Councilmember Broadaway provided the invocation. Pledge to the Flag followed.

Informal Bid Request #20106-007 – Vegetative Debris Reduction and Removal.
Resolution Adopted. On November 28, 2016, the City of Goldsboro re-advertised for a unit price contractor to assist with the reduction and removal of the vegetative debris that is located at the temporary dump site. Due to a misinterpretation by the bidders of the measurement related to payment by the cubic yard after it had been ground, the bid had to be re-advertised.

On December 8, 2016, the bids were opened with 8 responsive bidders for the vegetative debris reduction and removal. The bids were reviewed by the Public Works Department, checked for accuracy and dependability and found to be in order. American Property Experts was the low bid of \$4.66 per cubic yard.

A bid tabulation is available for additional information.

Upon motion of Mayor Pro Tem Aycock, seconded by Councilmember Broadaway and unanimously carried, Council accepted the low bid of \$4.66 cubic yard from American Property Experts and adopt the following entitled resolution authorizing the City Manager and City Clerk to sign the contract.

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-98 “RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A DEBRIS REDUCTION AND REMOVAL CONTRACT”

Former WA Foster Building. Mr. Scott Barnard stated what began our transition to the new WA Foster was two-fold; there were problems with the building and not feeling like the space met the current needs of the public. Mr. Barnard shared information regarding the known needs of the building which included asbestos removal, repair of the HVAC and roof related known issues with cost estimates for repairs totaling approximately \$132,000. This does not include any cosmetic repairs or address ADA accessibility issues.

Mr. Scott Stevens shared information regarding operational costs.

Mayor Allen shared information regarding the reasoning behind building the new WA Foster Center. Over the past year we have discussed this building with a lot of various groups. There is a huge demand for space that is safe and convenient. We do not want to have to manage the building. We are looking for a group with a capacity to manage the building and provide upkeep.

Mr. Taj Pollack stated he has been working with other groups to form a conglomerate. He stated he and many of his brothers are her tonight and have a vested interest in the building as it was named after one of their chartered members of the Masonic Lodge. So moving forward, if we had a criteria to look at and what we need to have in place so that we could obtain this building.

Mayor Allen stated criteria could include how many people are you going to help, what you are, what you can do, manpower, will you be using volunteers or will you be hiring someone; like a business plan including hours of operation, etc. Mr. Scott Stevens added it would also be good to include how you plan to financially support this endeavor.

Mayor Pro Tem Aycock stated we want to give every chance to give this back to the community.

Ms. Cheryl Alston shared they are ready to move forward with the STEM concept. She shared information regarding the YES Program and stated they are all for partnering with others.

Councilmember Aycock asked if grants were available for these types of programs. Ms. Shycole Simpson-Carter stated there are several federal and state grants but a major hurdle could be proof of financial stability for newer agencies but we can provide information on available grants.

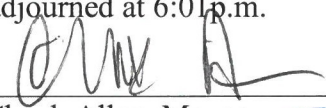
Mr. Anthony Goodson of the Housing Authority stated we would like to take a look at this facility, possible rehab and turn it back over to the community. We have no interest in making money in the center, just keeping it in this community. We are a high performing agency and have the capacity and dollars to take care of the facility. He stated they are interested in partnering with groups and associations with the understanding the facility needs to be programmed.

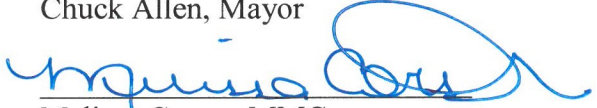
Council asked for proposals for the use of the building by the end of February focusing on partnerships and sustainability. Council also indicated a willingness to donate the building if permissible by law and to abate the asbestos, repair HVAC and roof related known issues.

Mr. Stevens asked if everyone would please sign the sign in sheet and leave contact information so that we can get the criteria out to interested parties sometime in early January. In talking with our City Attorney he believes we can donate the property to a non-profit or governmental entity for a public purpose. The facility must be used for a public purpose.

Mayor Allen thanked everyone for coming out.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:01p.m.


Chuck Allen, Mayor


Melissa Corser, MMC
City Clerk