

**DURHAM CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2023 @ 10 AM
IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL MEETING**

The Durham City Council held an in-person and virtual Special Meeting for the purpose of reviewing City Council Budget Requests on the above date and time in the City Hall Committee Room, 101 City Hall Plaza, Second Floor, Durham, North Carolina with the following members present: Mayor Elaine O'Neal, Mayor Pro Tempore Mark-Anthony Middleton and Council Members Javiera Caballero, DeDreana Freeman, Monique Holsey-Hyman, Jillian Johnson and Leonardo Williams. Absent: None.

Also present: City Manager Wanda Page, City Attorney Kim Rehberg and City Clerk Diana Schreiber.

[CALL TO ORDER]

Mayor O'Neal called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. and welcomed all to the meeting.

Mayor Pro Tempore Middleton and Council Members Caballero and Johnson arrived at the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION OF CITY COUNCIL BUDGET REQUESTS

Budget and Management Director John Allore introduced the follow-up items from the March 2, 2023 Budget Retreat.

Lyndsay Gavin, Strategy Innovation Manager, facilitated the meeting and explained the process which would address the projects voted on as 'yellow'/pending discussion as determined at the March 2nd Budget Retreat (red-green cards only); eleven items remained as pending (yellow).

**SUBJECT: MENTORING ALLIANCE COLLABORATIVE PILOT PROGRAM
(ITEM 3/ HOLSEY-HYMAN) (GREEN)**

City Manager Page indicated that County currently had resources in the area and kept a list of the County's non-profit organization listing- updating the list was the issue. Budget admitted that the estimate of \$230,000 was devised by Budget staff, including a FTE (full time employee).

It was the consensus of Council to modify the request to remove the FTE request and re-set the allocation of up to \$50,000 from the City while advocating for matching funds from Durham County and Durham Public Schools.

**SUBJECT: COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS RE-BOOT
(ITEM 4/ JOHNSON) (RECURRING) (GREEN)**

Council Member Johnson proposed to do this in the FY23-24 cycle as tri-government process with City-County-DPS with the expense of \$163,000 to include facilitation, stipends, food, transportation, childcare, interpretation services and evaluation with non-city staff. The program would be entirely contractor organized and led.

It was the consensus of Council to activate the Community Conversation Re-boot in FY23-24.

**SUBJECT: COMMUNITY DESIGN LAB PILOT
(ITEM 5/ WILLIAMS) (ONE-TIME) (PULLED)**

There was consensus to include the areas of inquiry into the Community Conversation topics. See Item #4.

**SUBJECT: DURHAM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
(ITEM 6/ WILLIAMS) (RECURRING) (GREEN)**

The funds were intended to be directed to musician salaries and concert expenses. It was the consensus to consider \$100,000 but allow staff to determine the allocation.

Discussion ensued regarding funding cultural events through an established funding allocation process that utilized annual applications. It was estimated that the current funds available in the Cultural Arts Fund was in the \$200,000 range, managed in the General Services Department.

**SUBJECT: EMPLOYEE OWNERSHIP TECHNICAL SUPPORT PILOT PROGRAM
(ITEM 9/ JOHNSON) (TWO YEARS) (RED)**

Discussed topic as associated with initiatives within the Office of Equity & Inclusion and Office of Economic and Workforce Development. Some supported the idea but urged more analysis.

**SUBJECT: GRASSROOTS VIOLENCE PREVENTION EFFORTS
(ITEM 13/ HOLSEY-HYMAN) (THREE YEARS) (PULLED)**

It was noted that services already exist in the community and that there was overlap with funding being in the budget for violence prevention.

**SUBJECT: HOMEOWNERSHIP EDUCATION PILOT
(ITEM 15/ HOLSEY-HYMAN) (RECURRING) (PULLED)**

Forever Home Durham included \$600,000 in consulting service for homeownership support.

SUBJECT: CIP FAYETTEVILLE STREET PLANNING GROUP REQUEST (ITEM 21/ FREEMAN); HAYTI REBORN JUSTICE MOVEMENT (ITEM 22/ FREEMAN); ULI FAYETTEVILLE STREET CORRIDOR (ITEM 24/ FREEMAN) (YELLOW)

Director Allore stated that Council would be receiving a CIP recommendation this spring and that Fayetteville items would be flagged.

Council Member Freeman advocated for city funding of renovations along the Fayetteville Street corridor.

There was consensus to assess where financing was housed, which projects were funded, moving forward, planned, dollars committed and how did the city meet the community's needs and where were the gaps.

City Manager Page addressed multiple funding sources, anticipated surplus, ARPA funds, capital planning and governmental needs. City Manager Page had the objective to find as much information as possible for Council regarding financial resources (including CIP, ARPA, budget surplus, fund balance, etc.), shovel ready, proposed and potential projects in the corridor.

Mayor O'Neal emphasized accessing resources at local, state and federal levels for renovating the Fayetteville Street corridor; and emphasized the need to communicate with the city's partners prior to committing to projects and was a conversation outside of this budget process.

There was consensus to combine Items 21, 22 and 24 with yellow designation, to allow for another funding discussion about how much was currently being spent in the corridor, how much was needed and what were the gaps.

City Manager Page summarized the discussion stating that the process was to look at what was designated as green, as Council's approved projects (with their dollar amounts) were intended to be incorporated into the budget; and emphasized that some of the requests were one-time while others were recurring investments.

Assistant Budget Director Riordan summarized that there was a one-time investment request in the amount of \$10.9 million; two years, \$1.5 million; three years, \$750,000; and recurring, \$2.8 million for a total of \$15 million; of which, \$10 million reflected the Marshall Plan request.

Mayor O'Neal summarized direction was to allow staff to come back and bring a balanced picture, during that time, Council could reconvene to explore the idea of a committee.

Budget Director Allore stated that staff would work out a best possible use whether it was Fund Balance, General Fund and ARPA funds.

**SUBJECT: HOMELESS SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(ITEM 25/ FREEMAN) (YELLOW)**

Additional follow up was requested.

Being no additional business to transact, Mayor O'Neal adjourned the regular meeting at 11:58 a.m.

Diana Schreiber, MPA, CMC
City Clerk