

**CITY OF NORTHWEST
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2024
6:00 PM**

ASSEMBLY

The Northwest City Council held their regular council meeting on Tuesday, November 26, 2024, at 6:00 PM, at Northwest City Hall, 4889 Vernon Road.

Present: Sheila Grady, Mayor; Councilmen: Charles Carroll, Michael Troy, and Councilwomen Alexis Clemmons and LaKrystal Bowen

Also present: Donna Strickland, City Clerk

CALL TO ORDER & INVOCATION

Mayor Grady called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Councilman Sylvester Ballard gave the invocation.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Councilman Charles Carroll **MOVED, SECONDED** by Councilman Sylvester Ballard to adopt the agenda as presented. The **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilwoman Alexis Clemmons **MOVED, SECONDED** by Councilman Charles Carroll to adopt the consent agenda as presented. The **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

A. President of the African American Heritage Foundation of Southeastern NC – Joe Bryant

Mr. Bryant stated that he is working with different organizations to bring forward the African American Heritage Foundation of Southeastern N.C. Mr. Bryant stated that learning about the history of African Americans who served in the Civil War brings a lot of pride to descendants and to patriots in general. Mr. Bryant stated that a Juneteenth event in Navassa recognized the contributions of the 135th Infantry United States Colored Troop, a special African American unit in the Civil War. Mr. Bryant also stated that there is room for people to help and give monetarily. He also stated that it would be nice to put a section on our website during Black History Month.

B. Director of the Partnership & Community Engagement – J.R. Brown

Mr. Brown stated that he was with LGFCU but has switched to Director of Partnership & Community Engagement. He is here to let people know that he can assist with energy-efficient new-construction homes. Mr. Brown stated that homebuyers must have household incomes at or under 120% of AMI. Buyers with household incomes at or below 80% of AMI may be eligible to receive up to \$50,000 in down payment assistance. Mr. Brown stated that there are multiple ways he can help someone get into a home. He also stated that the first thing you must do, is contact him to see if you qualify for the program.

Mr. Brown thanked the City of Northwest for giving him the opportunity to speak at the Council meeting.

C. Police Protection in the City of Northwest – Mayor Pro-Tem Alexis Clemmons

Mayor Pro-Tem Alexis Clemmons stated that the City of Northwest is actively recruiting for its own Police Department. She stated that as of right now the Mayor and herself are talking to the Sheriff Department to assist us for a short period of time until we can actively recruit Officers. She also stated that the Deputies that will be working in Northwest will stay in Northwest unless there is an emergency. She also asked that everyone be vigilant in looking out for each other and know this is not a permanent situation.

D. Brunswick County Planner II-Jeff Walton

Brunswick County Planner II, Jeff Walton, stated that he had investigated the 1-million-gallon elevated composite water tank and found that it will provide water to the Mid-Atlantic Industrial Rail Park and serve as an emergency connection to the international Logistics Park. Mr. Walton stated as he learns more he will update the City.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

A. DEBRIS CONTRACTS

- Southern Disaster Recover, LLC
- Metric Consulting, LLC
- Tetra Tech, Inc.
- CTC Disaster Response, Inc.

Councilman Charles Carroll **MOVED, SECONDED** by Councilwoman Alexis Clemmons to adopt the Debris Contracts with Southern Disaster Recover, LLC, Metric Consulting, LLC, Tetra Tech, Inc. and CTC Disaster Response, Inc. The **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**.

LIAISON REPORTS

Annexation & Emergency Management

Councilman Charles Carroll

Nothing to report.

Park Equipment, Buildings & Grounds

Councilman Sylvester Ballard

Willie Goat (Park Equipment Company).

Councilman Sylvester Ballard stated that everyone has a copy of the playground and outdoor equipment that has been picked out. He stated that as soon as we can get the groundwork completed, we can order the playground and outdoor equipment. He also stated that we need to have a concrete slab poured before we can install the exercise equipment.

Councilman Sylvester Ballard **MOVED, SECONDED** by Councilman Michael Troy to approve a Budget Amendment in the amount of 15,300 dollars for the concrete slab. The **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**.

Police & Information Technology

Councilwoman Alexis Clemmons

Nothing additional to report.

Roads

Councilman Michael Troy

Councilman Michael Troy stated that some of the roads in Northwest have been painted with the reflective paint. He also wanted to let everyone know that the two companies we get the crushed asphalt from (for the roads) are out. He also stated that we are on a wait list for them to call the City Clerk as soon as they get any.

Marketing & Recreation

Councilwoman LaKrystal Bowen

Councilwoman LaKrystal Bowen invited everyone to the Christmas Festival. She stated there will be slides for the kids, free face painting and free pictures with Santa and his elves. All of this will be done immediately after the parade.

Administration, Human Resource, Finance and Grants

Mayor Sheila Grady

Councilwoman Alexis Clemmons **MOVED, SECONDED** by Councilman Charles Carroll to go into closed session at 7:31 P.M to discuss potential litigation and an employee situation. The **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Councilman Alexis Clemmons **MOVED, SECONDED** by Councilwoman LaKrystal Bowen to return to open session at 7:47 P.M.

Councilman Sylvester Ballard **MOVED, SECONDED** by Councilman Charles Carroll to increase Brian Schneck hours to 32 or less per week, unless there is a temporary project or event that requires more. The **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

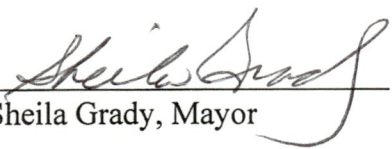
Mayor Grady pointed out the Quarterly report for the park project in the consent agenda.

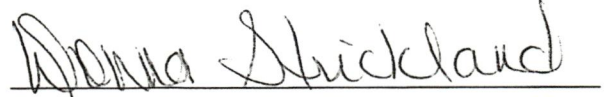
MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Grady stated that the Veterans Day event was a success and invites everyone to our Christmas Parade and Festival.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Charles Carroll **MOVED, SECONDED** by Councilman Sylvester Ballard to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 PM. The **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**


Sheila Grady, Mayor


Donna Strickland, City Clerk/Finance Officer