

HIGH POINT PROSPERITY, LIVABILITY, & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, March 6, 2025 - 9:00 AM
Municipal Office Building
211 S. Hamilton Street
High Point, NC 27260

Prosperity and Livability Committee - Council Member Monica Peters, Chair

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Peters called the Prosperity Livability & Safety Committee to order at 9:00 a.m. and stated all members were present.

Present: Chair Monica Peters, Council Member Patrick Harman, Council Member Tyrone Johnson, and Council Member Vickie McKiver

PRESENTATION OF ITEMS

2025-073 **City Sponsored Special Events**
City Council is requested to approve the 2025 Sponsored Events List.

Lee Tillery, Parks and Recreation Director, presented the staff report for this item. He noted that the list of city-sponsored events remains largely unchanged from the previous year and includes details regarding time, location, and affected departments. However, he highlighted three key differences for 2025: Art in the Park has been renamed Day in the Park; the Main in Color Arts Festival will not be included in 2025; and the International Food Festival from 2024 has been rebranded as Savor High Point for 2025.

Council Member Harman expressed his conflicts of interest and offered to recuse himself. He explained that the John Coltrane Festival is organized by the Friends of Coltrane, where he serves on the Board, and the Unity Festival is sponsored by D-UP, where he is part of the planning committee. Additionally, he pointed out that the agenda item lists incorrect sponsors for these events.

In response to Council Member Johnson, Mr. Tillery noted that the Carl Chavis YMCA Juneteenth Festival would be added to the list.

Damon Dequenne, Assistant City Manager, noted the adjustments would be made, and the committee could move the item forward to include the Carl Chavis YMCA Juneteenth Festival.

Chair Peters made a motion, seconded by Council Member Harman, to move forward with the noted adjustments.

Meghan Maguire, City Attorney, reminded Chair Peters of Council Member Harman's'

recusal.

Chair Peters made a motion, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to move the John Coltrane Festival and the Unity Festival items forward to Council.

The motion carried with the following vote:

Aye: Chair Peters, Council Member Johnson, and Council Member McKiver

Recused: Council Member Harman

Council Member Peters made a motion, seconded by Council Member McKiver, to approve the remaining events.

The motion carried with the following vote:

Aye: Chair Peters, Council Member Johnson, Council Member McKiver, and Council Member Harman

2025-081 **RAISE Grant - High Point on the Rise Presentation**

Staff will provide a presentation on the RAISE Grant-funded Elm Street and Southwest Heritage Greenway Project.

Greg Venable, Transportation Director, reviewed the Elm Street project progress, provided photos of Elm and Church Avenue improvements, and shared images of walkways and landscaping.

In response to Council Member Harman, Mr. Venable stated the hospital has no concerns about reducing to one lane but would discuss this at future meetings.

Mr. Venable reviewed the Southwest Heritage Greenway improvements as well as the remaining milestone dates.

Damon Dequenne, Assistant City Manager, discussed Norfolk Railroad involvement and property ownership complexities, noting that the process is slow due to multiple stakeholders.

Council Member Harman emphasized the importance of community activities along the High Point Greenway.

Chair Peters discussed urban greenway initiatives highlighting public art opportunities and potential partnerships for funding and directed staff to explore the process for incorporating public art into the greenway project.

Mr. Venable noted a project website will be available to provide updates in the future.

2025-082 **Feather Flag Presentation**

The Prosperity, Livability & Safety Committee is requested to advise staff if a text amendment is needed.

Heidi Galanti, Project Manager, provided the staff report. She stated it appears that at the last meeting the Committee favored the City of Wilmington's regulations. She explained that in Wilmington Limited Duration Signs are permitted in nonresidential districts for nonresidential uses and in residential districts for outdoor seasonal sales. They include inflatable signs, pennants, and temporary banners. Usage is limited to twice per year for 30 days, with specific standards for placement, height, and size. She stated the proposed amendments would include allowing feather flags as Limited Duration Signs by making exceptions in the regulations. Section 5.7.3, which lists prohibited signs, will be amended to permit feather flags under specific conditions. Section 5.7.12 will be updated to include feather flags, allowing one flag per 50 feet of lot frontage, with a maximum of three flags. The flags will have a height limit of 10 feet and may be displayed for up to 30 days, twice per year. Additionally, Section 10.4 will be revised to incorporate feather flags into the definition of Limited Duration Signs.

Chair Peters made a motion, seconded by Council Member Johnson, for staff to proceed with the text amendment to allow feather flags.

The motion carried with the following vote:

Aye: Chair Peters, Council Member Johnson, Council Member McKiver, and Council Member Harman

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Prosperity, Livability, and Safety Committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:29 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Monica Peters, Chair

Attest:

Sandra Keeney, City Clerk