

City of High Point

*Municipal Office Building
211 S. Hamilton Street
High Point, NC 27260*



Minutes - Final

Wednesday, December 7, 2022

9:00 AM

Council Chambers

Prosperity and Livability Committee

*Wesley Hudson - Chair
Michael Holmes
Cyril Jefferson
Monica Peters
Jay Wagner, Mayor (Alternate)*

Prosperity and Livability Committee - Council Member Wesley Hudson, Chair

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Hudson called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. At the time of the call to order, Chair Hudson was the only Prosperity and Livability Committee member present. Other Committee Members arrived as listed below.

Chair Hudson recognized Megan Maguire, Deputy City Attorney, to provide a staff report regarding the amendment to the City of High Point's Social District Ordinance.

Present 4 - Council Member Cyril Jefferson, Council Member Michael Holmes, Chair Wesley Hudson, and Council Member Monica Peters

PRESENTATION OF ITEMS

[2022-581](#)

Approval of an Ordinance Amending Section 11-11-1 Social Districts of the High Point City Code of Ordinances

Staff is requesting approval on an amendment to the High Point social district ordinance.

Attachments: [Ordinance - Social District 2nd Amendment](#)
[Catalyst Map - Social District](#)
[Signed and Attested Social District Ordinance](#)

Ms. Maguire stated that her and Greg Furguson, Deputy City Manager, would be reviewing the catalyst social districts.

Council Member Monica Peters arrived at 9:03 p.m.

Ms. Maguire explained that in September of 2021 the North Carolina General Assembly and Governor Cooper created House Bill 890 (An Act To Make Various Changes To The Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission Laws) which allows cities to create and designate social districts. She stated in July 2022 the General Assembly and Governor Cooper signed House Bill 211 (Social District/Common Area Clarification), which provided clarity to some areas of House Bill 890. She stated on March 21, 2022, the City of High Point adopted an Ordinance designating the Catalyst Social District and on July 6, 2021 the City amended its ordinance to expand boundaries of the Catalyst Social District.

Council Member Michael Holmes arrived at 9:06 a.m.

Ms. Maguire explained since the last amendment of the Ordinance, the City has received feedback from various business owners and have reviewed House Bill 211 to see what changes need to be made. She stated the City has made some changes to the

Social District which includes language changes and the expansion of the social district. She stated in the new law reads that a social district may include privately owned property including permittees and non-permittee businesses, multi-tenant establishments, public streets, crosswalks, and parking areas, regardless if the street parking areas are closed to vehicle traffic. She said in House Bill 211 the Legislators allowed for an ABC permittee or a non-permittee business to allow customers to possess and consume, on its premises, alcoholic beverages that were purchased from any ABC permittee located in or is continuages to the social district if permitted by the local government. She noted theCity has received request from businesses to allow this. She said these changes have been included in the amended ordinance being considered today.

Mr. Ferguson explained the new map noting it covers the catalyst district north of the railroad track and noted the borders have been expanded as request have been received by businesses. He stated the current map would be edited to note boundaries on all sides and make the area clearer. Mr. Ferguson stated this map has been shared with Visit High Point and Forward High Point and they had some suggestions such as extending it to the back of the establishments. He explained that business would be responsible for their signage regarding if they will be participating with the social district. He stated implementation time has not been established would hopes to have a time line to present at full Council.

In response to Council Member Holmes, Mr. Ferguson explained how the determination of popular areas would be and how signage and receptacles would be handled. He noted this would be an ongoing effort.

Ms. Maguire stated currently there are six businesses that have registered to participate in the social districts and noted a possible seventh.

Council Member Peters stated once approved, she would like this information distributed to the business owners.

Council Member Jefferson arrived at 9:17 p.m.

In response to Council Member Peters, Mr. Ferguson stated businesses should contact city staff regarding the map and the ordinance, but should contact their attorney and insurance companies for their specific legal matters pertaining to their business.

Ms. Maguire noted the main role of the city is to establish the social district and branding. She stated if the business has questions regarding their ABC permit they would need to contact the ABC Board.

A motion was made by Chair Hudson, seconded by Council Member Jefferson, to move this item forward to Council with a favorable recommendation

In response to Council Member Jefferson, Mr. Ferguson answered questions regarding

the Hamilton Street boundaries.

Motion carried unanimously.

Aye: 4 - Council Member Jefferson, Council Member Holmes, Chair Hudson, and Peters

ADJOURNMENT

There being nothing further to come before the Prosperity & Livability Committee, there were no objections to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 a.m.