City of Fayetteville
Mayor and City Council
Quarterly Meeting
Minutes
April 21, 2026

Call to Order

The Mayor and City Council of Fayetteville met for a Quarterly Meeting on April 21, 2026, in the Training Room at City Hall. Mayor Edward Johnson and Council Members Darryl Langford, Joe Clark, Niyah Glover, Shannon Moultrie, and Emmett Spurlock were in attendance. Also present was City Attorney Patrick Jaugstetter, Assistant City Manager Chris Hindman, and City Clerk Chelsea Siemen.

Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Discussion Items:

Projects and Operation Updates:

Lester House Demolition:

Council discussed the Lester House, which is included on the City's list of structures scheduled for demolition. A member of the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) has advocated for preserving the structure. Following discussion, the consensus of Council was to proceed with the demolition.

Annexation Strategy:

An overview was provided of the City's priority initiatives for developing an annexation strategy to identify areas that would best support future growth. Key considerations included water and sewer connectivity, potential impacts on public safety services, and traffic conditions.

Code Enforcement:

Council discussed moving Code Enforcement from the Planning and Zoning Department to the Police Department due to the current workload within Planning and Zoning. The goal of the change is to improve the effectiveness of violation enforcement and the collection of fines, and to better coordinate with the Municipal Court on repeat offenders.

Council discussed the advantages and disadvantages of the move, including whether placing Code Enforcement under the Police Department might be perceived as intimidating to residents rather than encouraging compliance, whether code enforcement citations would affect police reporting, and whether the change could impact reporting for public safety grants.

Police and Municipal Court Building:

Council discussed the timeline for the Police and Municipal Court building. Staff noted that finalizing the plans has taken longer than anticipated and that funding for the project will require a bond issuance, which is expected at the beginning of 2027.

Fire Station 93:

Staff reported that the City is moving forward with the QTS parcel as the site location for Fire Station 93.

Staff noted that Trilith still owes the City a parcel of land, which may be considered as a future location for a remote police office.

Litter Control:

Staff presented three options for litter control:

1. Keep Fayetteville Beautiful Initiative, based on the Peachtree City program outline. Staff noted that the program outline is cumbersome and that an internal program coordinated with the Municipal Court may be more timely and effective.
2. Contract with Keep Peachtree City Beautiful (KPTCB) to provide litter control services in the City two to three days per week.
3. Hire part-time employees dedicated to litter control, relieving Public Works of this responsibility.

Council expressed hesitation regarding the Keep Fayetteville Beautiful Initiative due to the intensity and lengthy timeline of the program. Council agreed to explore holding a Community Cleanup Day, potentially on a monthly basis.

Artificial Intelligence (AI):

Staff provided an overview of the goals and initiatives of the City's internal AI committee regarding AI software and integration.

Council Member Moultrie presented a proposal to establish an external AI Committee. She explained that the committee would help residents understand how AI may affect employment and what changes AI is expected to bring, ensure that an appropriate framework for AI is in place, and support staff training in AI. She proposed forming the committee in partnership with educational institutions to engage with residents and provide resources to them.

New Positions:

Council discussed the following proposed positions:

- Tourism Manager: This position would serve as a liaison between City staff and community stakeholders, including TrilithLIVE and U.S. Soccer. The position could also support future tourism initiatives, particularly if the City moves forward with establishing a Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB).

- Water and Sewer Director: This position was previously discussed during the Council Retreat and would support bringing water and sewer plant operations back in-house, replacing the services currently provided by Clearwater Solutions.

Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Discussion:

Building Permits and Fees:

Staff noted pending legislation that would allow third-party plan reviewers to retain plan review fees. Although the bill has not been signed, it could affect the budget, as the City would still be required to review plans internally without receiving the associated fees, resulting in a loss of revenue.

Public Safety Personnel and Legal Support:

Council discussed retaining an attorney for lawsuits specific to public safety. Council also discussed designating a Public Safety Human Resources representative as a consideration for the future of the department.

Tuition Reimbursement:

Staff noted that tuition reimbursement is currently available to Police Department employees through the department's budget but is not offered in other departments. Council noted that a citywide program may be explored in the future with specific parameters.

Fire Department Promotion Process:

Council discussed the advantages and disadvantages of utilizing an outside consultant versus conducting the Fire Department's promotional evaluation process in-house. Opinions varied, with key considerations including maintaining appropriate checks and balances and following established standards and recommended practices.

Fire Department Schedule:

Discussion was held on a proposed change to the Fire Department work schedule from 24 hours on and 48 hours off (24/48) to 24 hours on and 72 hours off (24/72).

Cost-of-Living Adjustment:

Council discussed cost-of-living adjustments (COLA) and their impact on the City's pay scales, including variations in salaries across departments.

Highway 85 Corridor:

Council discussed the future development and revitalization of the Highway 85 corridor. Council Member Spurlock suggested utilizing excess funds to acquire properties along the corridor, allowing the City to have greater involvement in guiding future improvements. Council Member

Langford expressed support for the initiative and proposed an approach in which the City would purchase properties, establish development plans and designs, and then sell the properties to developers to complete the improvements. Council expressed a desire to shift the City's economic development focus toward revitalization of the Highway 85 corridor.

Reports and Comments:

Upcoming Meetings:

Tentative scheduling for the Budget meeting will be planned for May or June.

Date for the next Quarterly Meeting will be planned for the fall.

Adjourn:

Langford moved to adjourn the meeting. Spurlock seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Chelsea Siemen, City Clerk