



BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN AND BOARD OF EDUCATION JOINT SESSION MINUTES

**Monday, April 24, 2023 at 4:30 PM
City Hall, 415 Broad Street, Boardroom**

Board of Mayor and Aldermen

Mayor Patrick W. Shull
Vice Mayor Colette George
Alderman Betsy Cooper
Alderman Darrell Duncan
Alderman Paul Montgomery
Alderman Tommy Olterman
Alderman James Phillips

Board of Education

Melissa Woods
Todd Golden
Julie Byers
Dr. Brandon Fletcher
Jim Welch

- I. CALL TO ORDER** 4:30 p.m. by Mayor Shull.
- II. ROLL CALL** by City Recorder/Treasurer Lisa Winkle. All Present.
- III. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

1. Kingsport City Schools Facility and Capital Planning - Dr. Chris Hampton

School Superintendent Hampton gave a presentation regarding the Kingsport City Schools Facilities Master Plan. He gave a history touching on the previous study and provided statistics on current as well as projected attendance at each school. He then discussed the four main goals after the new study was completed which include renovating the Tribe Athletic Complex as an elementary school, build a new elementary school in the Lynn Garden community, relocate Cora Cox to increase the number of students and open a Middle School Excel facility. There was considerable discussion throughout the presentation as Dr. Hampton answered questions from the BMA members.

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City Manager McCartt presented information a funding strategy regarding school capital expenses and outlined a recommended path moving forward. He pointed out issues that can affect actions taken to fund these school projects include future debt roll off and the Sullivan County property reassessment in FY26. Mr. McCartt provided details on how to achieve and maintain balance between the needs of the city and the schools. Lastly he presented the next steps to be taken by the BOE and the BMA, pointing out a strong communication plan was essential. Discussion followed.

At the conclusion of the presentation, Mayor Shull asked the members of each board for comments. Melissa Woods pointed out it was great that everyone was able to clear their calendars and get together. She affirmed her passion for education as the future of Kingsport and the importance of working together to make a difference. Alderman Montgomery for all the work that went into today and the atmosphere between the boards. Todd Golden stated his appreciation for everyone present as well as the community, noting it is our duty to ensure what goes to the next generation. Jim Welch thanked the City Manager and the Superintendent as well as the staff who invested in preparing for today. He stated he is thrilled for the vision and the potential for the community in the long term. Alderman Cooper remarked collaboration has not always existed to this degree and it is refreshing. She also mentioned as a former schoolteacher that a good facility makes a huge difference. Brandon Fletcher stated his appreciation for Dr. Hampton and the work he has done, noting he is proud to be a part of this effort. Alderman Olterman thanked the City Manager for the informative presentation. Alderman Duncan echoed many of the comments made and pointed out these meetings were productive for sharing ideas. He stated the city manager has shown a path forward and how to get there. Julie Byers commented that it took a lot of work to put these numbers together. She also discussed issues regarding Roosevelt and Kennedy elementary schools. Alderman Phillips expressed his appreciation for Mr. McCartt as well as Dr. Hampton. He noted the presentation was well done and there was excitement around having some answers. Vice-Mayor George stated she appreciated the data and the input, noting the benefits to the community and budget planning. She remarked that communication between the boards and the community regarding what is being done and the timeline is critical. Mayor Shull pointed out citizens would be thrilled the middle schools would eventually be on different ends of town. He pointed out the uncertainty of how to estimate growth within the schools as many factors contribute. Lastly, he thanked Mr. McCartt and Dr. Hampton and the help they received from a staff of dedicated professionals.

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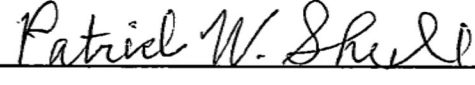
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IV. ADJOURN

Seeing no other matters presented for discussion, Mayor Shull adjourned the meeting at 6:33 p.m.


ANGELA MARSHALL
Deputy City Recorder




PATRICK W. SHULL
Mayor