

# City of Morgantown

## *MINUTES* COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING February 23, 2021

To protect public health during the COVID-19 pandemic, personal attendance at the meeting was not permitted. This meeting took place via WebEx at <https://cityofmorgantown.my.webex.com/meet/cityofmorgantown> using the meeting number 793 734 477. The meeting was broadcasted live on Morgantown 15 and live streamed via the City of Morgantown website at <https://morgantownwv.viebit.com/>. The public could also listen live by calling 415-655-0001 and using the access code 793 734 477. If members of the public wished to comment on a particular issue or public hearing, they should fill out the public comment sign-up form on our website, prior to the start of the meeting, which could be found at: <http://bit.ly/MCC022321>. Additionally, the public could submit written comments via email to the City Clerk at [cwade@morgantownwv.gov](mailto:cwade@morgantownwv.gov).

The Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Morgantown was held by via Webex on Tuesday, February 23, 2021, at 7:12 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Via Webex City Manager Kim Haws, Assistant City Manager Emily Muzzarelli, City Attorney Ryan Simonton, Mayor Ron Dulaney, Jr., Deputy Mayor Rachel Fetty, and Council Members Bill Kawecki, Jenny Selin, Dave Harshbarger, and Barry Wendell. Zack Cruze was absent.

The meeting was called to order by Deputy Mayor Fetty.

### **PRESENTATIONS:**

#### **1. Morgantown Sister Cities Commission Budget Report – George Lies – Chair**

Morgantown Sister Cities Commission Chair George Lies presented council with the Commission's annual report on upcoming projects for the upcoming budget year 2021-2011.

#### **2. Resolution for support of "CROWN" (Create a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair) Non-Discrimination in the City and in the State of West Virginia – Ash Orr – Human Rights Commission Chair; Don Spencer and Jena Martin Human Rights Commissioners.**

Human Rights Commission Chair Ash Orr gave a brief overview of the CROWN Resolution. Human Rights Commissioner Jena Martin presented to council a presentation of the Resolution that will show support for the adoption of (CROWN) Creating a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair standards. This would specifically link discrimination on hair texture and protective hair styles which include braids, locks, twists as well as dreadlocks and afros to non-discrimination provisions to section 153 of the city code.

### **PUBLIC PORTION:**

Deputy Mayor Fetty opened the public portion and asked if there was anyone wishing to speak.

Spencer Darden was not able to speak.

Mollie Kennedy stated that she appreciates what the Human Rights Commission is doing with the "CROWN" (Create a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair) Resolution. She thanked the Morgantown City Council for considering the "CROWN" Resolution.

Michael Attfield was not able to speak.

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Susan Riddle wanted to speak on the International Street Fair but was not able to connect.

Richard McEwuen spoke in support of the new Cultural Arts Commission and mentioned that he is currently a member of the Metropolitan Theatre and Museum Commission.

Joshua Williamson spoke in favor of the new Cultural Arts Commission and mentioned that he is a current member of the Metropolitan Commission

There being no others wishing to speak, Deputy Mayor Fetty closed the Public Portion.

## ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

### **3. Resolution for support of "CROWN" (Create a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair) Non-Discrimination in the City and in the State of West Virginia**

After discussion, this item was moved to the March 2, 2021, Regular Meeting Agenda.

### **4. An Ordinance establishing a Cultural Arts Commission and dissolving the Metropolitan Theatre Commission and the Museum Commission**

After discussion, this item was moved to the March 2, 2021, Regular Meeting Agenda.

### **5. An Ordinance amending section 917.03 of the City Code establishing the membership of the City Tree Board**

After discussion, this item was moved to the March 2, 2021, Regular Meeting Agenda.

### **6. Ordinance Amending Section article 160 establishing the Housing Advisory Commission**


After discussion, this item was moved to the March 2, 2021, Regular Meeting Agenda.

### **7. Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Overview of Proposed Budget**

After discussion, this item was moved to the March 2, 2021, Regular Meeting Agenda.

## ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, motion by Mayor Dulaney, second by Councilor Wendell, to adjourn the meeting.  
Time: 9:13 p.m.

  
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City Clerk

  
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Mayor