

**CITY OF NORTHWEST
CONTINUED SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2022
6:00 PM**

ASSEMBLY

The Northwest City Council held their continued special meeting on Tuesday, April 28, 2022, at 6:00 PM, at Northwest City Hall, 4889 Vernon Road.

Present: James Knox, Mayor; Councilmen: Charles Carroll, Michael Troy, Sylvester Ballard, and Councilwomen Sheila Grady and Alexis Clemmons

Also present: Donna Strickland, City Clerk and City Attorney, Santana Mullins (Miller)

CALL TO ORDER & INVOCATION

Mayor Knox called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Councilman Michael Troy gave the invocation.

DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEM

- Cemeteries

Mayor Knox stated that the City has had a previous meeting on April 5th as petitioned by citizen and previous Councilman Foster McKoy to create an ordinance preventing individuals from gathering in the cemeteries from dusk to dawn. Mayor Knox stated that the City Attorney is here tonight to assist the City and Churches in this matter.

Mayor Knox asked the City Attorney to begin with what she has brought to the table.

Santana Mullins, City Attorney, stated that she has passed out a generic agreement between the Churches and the City. This agreement will let each that sign it know that they will be agreeing to testify in court as needed. Mrs. Mullins stated that she would not recommend the City pay to purchase the signs and not post the signs due to this setting a precedence. She informed Council that the agreement will give the Northwest Police Department the ability to direct visitors who are engaged in inappropriate and/or unlawful behavior or disobeying the posted rules/regulations to leave the premises and it also will allow the Police Department to charge trespassers.

After discussion,

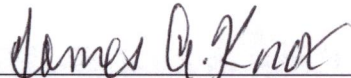
It was the **CONSENSUS** of Council that

- The City Attorney will add the following statement to the agreement that was presented; engaged in inappropriate and/or unlawful behavior and those who disobey the posted guidelines for the cemetery
- Churches or owner(s) of Cemeteries that want to participate will meet and try to come to one accord on what the posted signs will have on them
- Churches or owner(s) will have the signs placed on the property at each entrance/exit


- Church authorized personnel and owner(s) will return the agreements to the City Clerk as soon as possible
- An Ordinance concerning Cemeteries will not be drafted immediately, as the City does not own a Cemetery, and there is a G.S. 14-159.13 that will cover trespassers.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Charles Carroll **MOVED, SECONDED** by Councilwoman Alexis Clemmons to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 PM. The **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**



James A. Knox, Mayor



Donna Strickland, City Clerk/Finance Officer