

**City Council Special Meeting  
December 20, 2024**

The City Council of the City of Elizabeth City met in Special Session on Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024 in Council Chambers, located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Municipal Administration Building, 306 E. Colonial Avenue, Elizabeth City, NC.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Kirk Rivers  
Mayor Pro Tem Kem Spence  
Councilman Johnson Biggs  
Councilman Javis Gibbs  
Councilwoman Katherine Felton  
Councilman Ronnie Morris  
Councilman Johnnie Walton

MEMBERS ABSENT: Councilwoman Joseph Peel  
Councilwoman Rose Whitehurst

OTHERS PRESENT: Interim City Manager Reggie Goodson  
City Clerk April Onley

Mayor Rivers called the Special Meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. Councilman Gibbs provided the invocation, after which Councilman Biggs led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Motion was made by Councilman Javis Gibbs, seconded by Councilwoman Katherine Felton to enter Closed Session at 12: 08 p.m. as allowed by NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6) for Discussion of Personnel and NCGS 143-318.11(a)(1) for Discussion of Information Which Should be Prevented from Disclosure due to its Privileged or Confidential Nature. Those voting in favor of the motion were: Biggs, Gibbs, Spence, Felton, Morris and Walton. Against: None. Motion carried.**

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The Council returned to open session at 12:34 p.m.

Interim Manager Goodson recommended hiring Dr. Aresta Johnson as the City's new HR Director. He was impressed with her experience with high-value budgets and believed she would prove extremely beneficial to our budgeting process. She is a highly qualified candidate and would be an asset to the young staff in our HR Department.

Councilman Biggs asked if she would be continuing her outside employment. Interim Manager Goodson was not certain, but he noted that she only involved herself in that about once each year. Her start date with the City would be sometime after the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

**Motion was made by Councilwoman Katherine Felton, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Spence to confirm the hiring of Dr. Aresta Johnson as the HR Director for the City of Elizabeth City. Those voting in favor of the motion were: Biggs, Gibbs, Spence, Felton, Morris and Walton. Against: None. Motion carried.**

**2. Adjournment:**

There being no further business to be discussed, Mayor Rivers adjourned the meeting at 12:37 p.m.

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Kirk Rivers  
Mayor

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April D. Onley  
City Clerk, NCCMC

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