



**Sworn in**

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"I certainly loved having grown up in Winston and I certainly want the decisions I make will ensure that my grandchildren will have a wonderful city that they will live in. And I always keep in mind that the decisions I make really reflect the heartbeat of our community," she said. "I

am very very pleased to serve with passion, compassion and integrity."

Before leading the oath on Monday night, Forsyth County District Court Judge Denise Hatfield told Scipio she was extremely proud to be the one chosen to deliver the affirmation and have her serve as her representative in the East Ward.

"I am extremely proud for a number of reasons to be able to administer this oath to you. In Leadership

Winston-Salem, you were an example to me and all of my classmates. You led with distinction and with honor and made all of us proud graduates, and more importantly proud to be a part of this Winston-Salem community," Hartsfield said.

"... I am extremely proud this evening to be able to call you my Council Woman and I'm proud for you to represent me."

Photo by Tevin Stinson

(Left) During the City Council meeting on Monday, Nov. 26 Annette Scipio was sworn in as the representative for the East Ward.

**Shooting**

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"He saw a black man with a gun and he made his determination he must be a criminal," Ben Crump, a lawyer for Bradford's family said during a Sunday news conference in Birmingham.

The family's lawyer said witnesses have contacted his law firm saying Bradford was trying to "wave people away from the shooting" and the officer did not issue any verbal commands to drop the weapon before shooting the 21-year-old.

Police said the details of what transpired remain under investigation.

Police and the city of Hoover on Monday issued more detailed statements on the shooting and the investigation. They said Bradford "had a gun in his hand as police officers responded to the active shooter situation between mall patrons."

"We can say with certainty Mr. Bradford bran-

dished a gun during the seconds following the gunshots, which instantly heightened the sense of threat to approaching police officers responding to the chaotic scene," the statement said. They later clarified the use of the verb "brandished" saying it meant Bradford was holding a gun.

"We are deeply and sincerely sympathetic to Mr. Bradford's grieving family and all of those affected by this incident. We all want answers and we believe that with patience and focus, the truth will be firmly established," the statement says.

Bradford's father said he wants to see body-camera video from the shooting.

The Monday police statement says "body camera video and other available video has been turned over to the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA) which is now investigating the shooting."

"Release of any video will be done as ALEA deems appropriate during



Emantic Bradford Sr. via AP

This undated image provided by Emantic Bradford Sr. shows Emantic Fitzgerald Bradford Jr. posing for a picture at his father's home near Birmingham, Alabama, in his senior year of high school.

the investigation," the statement said.

ALEA said Monday that the results of the investigation will be turned over to the district attorney's office.

The shooting sparked a weekend protest at the mall, with demonstrators chanting Bradford's name as they walked past Christmas shoppers to the spot where he was killed.

Protesters on Saturday, Nov. 24, marched through the mall. More than 200 demonstrators including several relatives, chanted "E.J." and "no justice, no peace" as they marched past Christmas shoppers at the mall. They held a moment of silence at the spot outside a shoe store where Bradford was killed.

Hoover police initially told reporters Bradford had shot a teen at the mall, but later retracted the statement.

"We knew that was false," said stepmother Cynthia Bradford when she heard police were blaming him for the shooting. She described her stepson, who went by E.J., as a respectful young man whose father worked at a jail for the Birmingham Police Department.

The city and police on Monday promised transparency and said they would begin offering weekly updates to the news media and public.

Bradford's father, a former longtime employee of the Birmingham Police

Department, said his son had a permit to carry a concealed handgun. The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, which issues concealed carry permits, referred questions to ALEA on whether Bradford had a permit to carry a concealed handgun.

The code of conduct posted on the Riverchase Galleria's website says firearms and illegal weapons are prohibited.

Family members expressed frustration and anger that the young man was initially presumed to be the shooter in the incident.

"I knew my son didn't do that. People rushed to judgment. They shouldn't have done that," Emantic Bradford Sr. told The Associated Press.

The police also expressed sympathy for the family of the 18-year-old man and the 12-year-old girl who were wounded in the initial shooting and said they are "pursuing the initial shooter who still remains at large."

**Votes**

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they're going to be found."

The 2018 General Election wasn't as exciting as in 2016, but there were a few surprises on Election Night. The biggest surprise came in the race for sheriff, in which Winston-Salem native, Democrat Bobby Kimbrough Jr. upset incumbent Republican Bill Schatzman, who was running for his fifth term.

The final tally shows Kimbrough, a retired agent with the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), received 72,648 votes, which rounds to about 54 percent of the total vote compared to only 46 percent for Schatzman.

Democrats took majority control of the Board of Education as well. Democrats Deanna Kaplan, Andrea Bramer, Barbara Hanes Burke, and Malishai Woodbury will join incumbent and fellow Democrat Elisabeth Motsinger on the board along with incumbent Republicans Lida Calvert Hayes, Lori Goins Clark and Dana Caudill Jones. Republican Leah Crowley was elected to the board as well.

For the first time in recent history, all women will serve on the Board of Education.

In the race for U.S. House of Representatives District 5, the challenger,



Photo by Tevin Stinson

Members of the Forsyth County Board of Elections look over ballots during the elections canvass on Friday, Nov. 16.

Winston-Salem City Council Member Denise "DD" Adams, lost by nearly 40,000 votes to longtime incumbent Virginia Foxx, according to statewide results but here in Forsyth County, Adams received 56 percent of the total vote, more than 77,000 votes.

One of the most exciting races to watch on Election Night was the battle for District 75 of the N.C. House of Representatives. Throughout the night,

results see-sawed back and forth in favor of Republican Donny Lambeth and Democrat Dan Besse, who is also a member of the Winston-Salem City Council.

In the end incumbent Lambeth came out on top earning 53 percent of the total votes compared to only 47 percent for Besse.

Although they didn't officially throw their names in the running for the Democrats in 2020, both Adams and

Besse suggested they would run again.

The 2018 City Bonds, \$122 million worth of projects in five categories, including streets and sidewalks, parks and recreation, public safety facilities, economic development and housing, each passed with nearly 60 percent of the total vote.

It was a different story for the Forsyth County quarter-cent local sales and use tax increase. Nearly 70 percent of voters voted no on the tax increase, which was set to be used to pay for a new county jail, with part of the excess used to increase teacher supplements in Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools.

Now that the voters have spoken, it is unclear how the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners plan to fund the jail and supplement increase.

As reported in the Nov. 22 issue of The Chronicle The BOE also sent the names of two voters to the District Attorney's Office. It appears the voters aged 18 and 34 cast their ballots during the early voting period and voted again on Election Day. It is not clear what the DA will do with those two individuals.

For full results from the 2018 General Election visit <http://www.forsyth.cc/elections/>.

**Bird**

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sion for riders because they don't know where they can ride the motorized scooters.

After the number of complaints continued to grow, on Monday, Nov. 19, the Public Safety Committee voted 3-1 to ban all Bird scooters until they can find a way to regulate use. The report, which was presented during the Public Works Committee meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 20, laid out a list of suggestions city officials could take if they decide to allow the scooters back on the streets in the future.

Suggestions presented to members of the committee addressed a number of issues including management options, basic safety requirements, parking and placement, customer service, equipment standards, fees, and location restrictions.

Following the presentation made by Matthew

Burczyk, Council members raised several questions and made suggestions about things they would like to see changed before the scooters return. Council Member James Taylor, who represents the Southeast Ward, raised concerns about the current age limit, which is 18 and what Bird requires in cities across the country.

Taylor, who is a co-owner of The Chronicle, asked if the age could be lowered to 16.

"... I certainly ask the committee to consider lowering the age and I guess if it stays at 18, what happens in the event if young people are pulled over. I work at 5th and MLK and there are so many young people using these scooters as modes of transportation, what happens if one of them gets pulled over? Does it go on their criminal record? Do they get a citation?" he asked. "That creates a whole new set of problems that we could address today, so that's something

that we should consider.

"... We do not need young people getting misdemeanors at age 16 that will affect them at age 40."

Taylor also suggested setting limitations on where the scooters can be used. He said certain areas are much safer for scooters to be driven on sidewalks, because the roads would be extremely dangerous.

Council member John Larson, who has been vocal about his disapproval of Bird since they came into the city unannounced, asked about the stop time for the scooters, which is currently 9 p.m. Because the scooters are only equipped with small lights in the front and back and almost impossible to see at night, Larson said the cut-off time should be earlier.

"The idea of night driving with the lights that I'm seeing currently, I'm wondering why we're setting 9 o'clock, which is a late dark time of day and why we're not initially looking at these as day-light oper-

ating vehicles and avoid the whole issue of night issues with these things," said Larson. "When we push it to 9 o'clock, I'm a little concerned about that, particularly this time of year as to what that might mean."

Larson also suggested that the city create a document to present to companies on what they expect and a starting point for how they plan to move forward with the scooters.

Council Member Denise "DD" Adams wants an accurate count of scooters in the Winston-Salem area. Adams also requested a benchmark on cities our size to set a limit for the number of scooters allowed in the city at one time.

When discussing the matter and the possibility of the state setting regulations on the scooters in 2019, board chair, Council Member Dan Besse said he wants a default option for Council to consider in January, if the State Legislature has not made a

decision by then on where the scooters can be driven.

He also said he prefers the city to require a permit application for all companies interested in bringing scooters or bikes to the area as opposed to Request for Proposals (RFP), which is a document that solicits proposal through a bidding process.

During the public comment portion of the meeting, several Bird users, chargers, and mechanics discussed why they believe the scooters should be allowed here in Winston-Salem. Amy Easter, who is a member of the Winston-Salem Cycling Advocacy Network, said dockless technology such as the motorized scooters address a lot of the problems that our city currently faces, including affordable transportation access, parking demands, traffic demands, and pollution.

"This is not unlike the automobile; in the early 1900s when the automobile was introduced, it was hated by many. It was very

dangerous due to lack of proper infrastructure, laws, education, and enforcement. While individuals and industries saw it as a really good tool that could be used, a lot of people literally called it evil and the people who use them recklessly," continued Easter. "... I see clear parallels between that history and what we're experiencing today. People see bicycles and scooters as something that gets in the way and they perceive to be dangerous and I think they're solutions to every problem."

"More and more people want that variety and I think we have to work together to be more friendly to multi-mode-transportation."

While last week's discussions were a good start to the conversation, no action was taken during the Public Works Committee meeting. The item will be brought up again in the December Public Works Committee meeting.

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