



C O U N C I L M I N U T E S      N O V E M B E R 1 4 , 2 0 2 3 , 6 : 3 0 P M , S F D C O M M U N I T Y C E N T E R

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Sessoms. DeVaney provided the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following were present:

**Council**

- Tim Sessoms, Mayor
- Lynne Williams DeVaney, Mayor Pro-tem
- John Doggett
- Jeff Davis
- Reece Walker
- Janelle Robinson

**Staff**

- Scott Whitaker, Manager
- Dee Hall, Finance Officer
- Bob Hornik, Attorney
- Brad Rentz, Planning Manager

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

DeVaney motioned to amend the agenda by adding discussion about the Bandera Farms Park contract with Pond as item 12D, and to move item 12D about water to follow item 9. The motion was seconded by Walker and carried unanimously.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Whitaker announced the annual Christmas Tree Lighting event on 11/18; Town Hall would be closed for Thanksgiving 11/23-24; and the History Committee would meet 11/30 instead of 11/16.

**EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORTS**

- A. Summerfield Fire District:** In October, the Summerfield Fire District ran 30 fire-related calls, 72 EMS-related calls, and 42 "other" calls. The total for October was 144 incidents. They also installed 45 child safety seats.
- B. Guil. Co. Sheriff's Dept.:** In October, the Sheriff's Office responded to a total of 283 calls within Summerfield limits resulting in 19 formal case reports.

**ATTACHMENTS FOR COUNCIL'S INFORMATION**

Council received the following information with no action taken: committee/board minutes and the October financial reports. Bruce Peterson spoke on behalf of the History Committee and updated Council about current projects.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** *(limited to 3 minutes per speaker)*

Bill Goebel, 1402 Westridge Road, stated he was running for the Guilford County School Board as unaffiliated and needed signatures to get his name on the ballot. He reviewed the timeline of events leading to his decision.

Jane Doggett, 7956 Highfill Road, thanked Reece Walker for all his years of service to the town, starting as a teenager and concluding on Council. She thanked Jeff Davis for both his Council and Planning Board service.



Dwayne Crawford, 1106 NC-150 West, discussed draft minutes from the last 2015 Public Safety Committee meeting and disputed Chief Chris Johnson's statements about the depth of the water point at Polo Farms. He offered a yard stick to anyone who wished to have one.

### **COUNCIL, MANAGER, AND/OR ATTORNEY RESPONSE TO COMMENTS**

Walker stated he would like a yardstick as Crawford had offered.

### **WATER (Summerfield Fire District presentation re: dry hydrants, future system maintenance)**

Chief Chris Johnson made a presentation about dry hydrants and stated the Fire District does not want them due to their inefficiency. He disputed misinformation that had been spread about fire calls. DeVaney thanked him for the presentation and requested he be part of on-going conversations about fire safety. Robinson reiterated the Chief's assertion that water flows much faster from a wet hydrant than a dry hydrant and asked him to address Dwayne Crawford's claims that the Fire District had only run one fire that required water transport (in a given time period). Johnson said there had been 26 during the period and one resulted in a citizen death. He suggested Crawford obtain the specific addresses via a public records request.

### **PUBLIC HEARING/ACTION RE: VOLUNTARY ANNEXATIONS**

#### **(17 petitions for consideration by ordinance)**

Whitaker explained the legal requirements and steps for voluntary annexations and stated the town had 17 applications to consider, some contiguous and some non-contiguous. He stated the applications had been certified by the Clerk and suggested an effective date of 1/1/24 due to the properties having to be zoned within 60 days following the effective date.

*Sessoms opened the public hearing at 7:37pm.*

Hornik stated there were 3 contiguous parcels, 14 non-contiguous parcels, and they were presented separately for statutory requirements.

Shane Elton, 6606 Hedgerow Court, stated he moved to his house to get away from Greensboro and its taxes, and his house is only 200 feet from Summerfield's town limits. He wanted to be able to vote in town elections as well.

Dwayne Crawford, 1106 NC-150W, asked a question about a bill.

Don Wendelken, 3406 Windswept Drive, asked questions about how the town would manage non-contiguous properties.

Kathy Mullins, 6607 Hedgerow Court, stated she wanted to be annexed by Summerfield and not Greensboro and would prefer to pay Summerfield taxes.

Teresa Perryman, 7401 Greenlawn Drive, asked about a contract with Guilford County.

*Sessoms closed the public hearing at 7:50pm.*

Whitaker showed a map of all parcels proposed to be annexed. Hornik and Whitaker answered follow-up questions from Council.

DeVaney motioned to annex contiguous Lunsford Road focus area and those who would be contiguous: 6603 Hedgerow Court; 6607 Hedgerow Court; 6708 Lunsford Court; 2608 Lunsford Road; 6604 Hedgerow Court; 6606 Hedgerow Court; 6700 Lunsford Court; 6701 Lunsford Court;



2628 Lunsford Road; 2632 Lunsford Road; and 2644 Lunsford Road. This motion was seconded by Walker and carried unanimously.

DeVaney then motioned to annex non-contiguous properties: 7725 Chesterbrooke Drive; 7705 Chesterbrooke Drive; 7728 Chesterbrooke Drive; 7729 Chesterbrooke Drive; 7740 Chesterbrooke Drive; and 1812 Pondside Court. Robinson seconded this motion, then withdrew her second and motioned to table these properties, which Walker seconded. The motion to table the properties was passed unanimously.

### **BUSINESS FROM TOWN MANAGER**

- A. Republic Services trash/recycling contract renewal:** Whitaker reviewed the contract details with Council and noted the amendment detail asking for spillage cleanups. Republic had wanted a 3-day service instead of the current 1-day pick-up and the town countered with a 2-day service. Republic agreed and said they would provide better service with this arrangement. Whitaker added that GFL (a competitor) had not been able to provide a proposal in time for the renewal but expressed interest in the next contract renewal. Whitaker stated the reading of the contract would serve as the first reading, but a second reading would be needed in December. Robinson motioned to approve the first reading of the contract with Republic Services for a 2-year term, the motion was seconded by DeVaney. The motion passed 3-2, with Davis and Walker opposed.
- B. Thoroughfare & Collector Street Plan:** Whitaker presented the updated map and plan. Walker noted this is an GUAMPO plan, not a NCDOT plan. Walker motioned to approve the plan, the motion was seconded by Doggett and passed 4-1 with DeVaney opposed.
- C. Reports, updates, or comments:** Whitaker stated the Martin House had been sold to Lauren Cox through Preservation North Carolina. The Gordon Hardware Building had a tentative closing date of 1/8/24 and the potential buyers were still in their due diligence period. Whitaker also advised that the A&Y Greenway trestle bridge over the lake would not reopen until it's been replaced, and that Greensboro would be working on design and permitting in 2024 with actual construction in 2025. He addressed pedestrian safety concerns with the Strawberry Road crossing and spoke of mid-2020 discussions among Greensboro/GUAMPO, Guilford County, and the town to improve safety. He clarified that Guilford County maintains the A&Y between Strawberry Road and the US-220 pedestrian tunnel, while Summerfield maintains the Summerfield Vine Trail leading to The Vineyards.

### **BUSINESS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL**

- A. Ballfield lights at Summerfield Elementary (SRA funding request):** Sessoms stated the initial request of \$19K had been recommended by the Parks and Rec Director. Walker asked Council to donate an additional \$2,500 to add a light on the t-ball field. Walker made a motion to donate \$21,500 to the SRA, the motion was seconded by DeVaney and carried unanimously.
- B. Unsealing of closed session minutes:** Hornik recommended redaction of some and others to be kept sealed. DeVaney motioned to unseal all minutes recommended by Hornik, the motion was seconded by Davis and carried unanimously.
- C. FY23-24 Council budget amendment #4:** DeVaney motioned to approve budget amendment #4. The motion was seconded by Doggett and carried unanimously.



- D. Bandera Farms Park contract with Pond:** DeVaney expressed concern that the design and engineering portion of budget was over budget. Whitaker explained the process in detail and that Pond's proposal pricing was competitive with the first company the town had negotiated with for the same scope. Walker motioned to approve the Pond contract, the motion was seconded by Davis and carried 3-2 with DeVaney and Robinson opposed.
- E. Reports, updates, or comments:** DeVaney stated there would be an open spot on the Finance Committee since Jonathan Hamilton had been elected to Council.

### OTHER BUSINESS

Robinson asked for a special called Council meeting to update newly-elected members about the de-annexation threat, recent OSM-V text amendment, and associated privileged information and DeVaney agreed and suggested Saturday, 12/16, at 8:30am, with the location to be determined (either the community center or town hall). There was no motion, but Hornik said that two Council members could call a special called meeting, so it would stand as scheduled.

Robinson also wanted another meeting for the UNC School of Government to provide Council training about the roles of Council, the Manager, and staff, and she asked the Manager to find out the SOG's availability. DeVaney asked to set a retreat date of either 1/13 or 1/27. Walker then moved to adjourn and it was seconded by Davis. Before voting, discussion continued about the retreat and combining the SOG training the same day, and then DeVaney asked if Council would terminate the contract with Ward & Smith (one of two lobbying firms). Sessoms called for a vote on the motion on the table, which was adjournment, but the vote failed 3-2. DeVaney then moved to terminate Ward & Smith, but it died for lack of a second.

### ADJOURNMENT

Doggett motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:58pm, the motion was seconded by DeVaney and carried unanimously.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Tim Sessoms, Mayor*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Dee Hall, Delegated Town Clerk*