



C O U N C I L M I N U T E S      M A R C H 4 , 2 0 2 3 , 4 : 0 0 P M , S F D C O M M U N I T Y C E N T E R

The emergency meeting was called to order at 4:02pm by Mayor Sessoms.

The following were present:

**Council**

Tim Sessoms, Mayor  
Lynne Williams DeVaney (*remote*)  
Jeff Davis (*remote*)  
John Doggett  
Janelle Robinson  
Reece Walker

**Staff**

Scott Whitaker, Manager  
Sarah Tibbetts, Clerk  
Bob Hornik, Attorney (*remote*)

**AGENDA**

DeVaney motioned to approve the agenda, the motion was seconded by Doggett and carried unanimously.

**POTENTIAL LEGISLATION AIMED AT DE-ANNEXATION**

Sessoms briefly stated that town was likely facing a major de-annexation bill in the NC General Assembly. Council would be going into closed session to speak with the attorney and a likely statement would be given when back to open session.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Walker motioned to move to closed session to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege as provided under NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3), the motion was seconded by Doggett and carried unanimously.

*Closed session ended at 4:42pm. Walker motioned to return back to open session, the motion was seconded by Robinson and carried unanimously.*

**STATEMENTS OR COMMENTS**

Sessoms read the media statement (attached) publicly and stated what he read would be posted on the town’s website following the meeting. Walker encouraged citizens to reach out to local representatives and let their voices be heard.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Walker motioned to adjourn the meeting, the motion was seconded by Robinson and carried unanimously.

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*Tim Sessoms, Mayor*

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*Sarah Tibbetts, Town Clerk*



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 4, 2023 (5:45pm)

**Potential De-annexation of Property from the Town of Summerfield**

It has come to Council's attention that State legislation is in motion that would greatly alter the heart of Summerfield. **The proposed State bill aims to de-annex (remove from corporate limits) a substantial part of our town and it involves properties owned by Mr. David Couch.** Senate President Pro-tem Phil Berger is knowledgeable about this effort.

As the Mayor, I am disappointed if Mr. Couch is choosing this path instead of working through our town's development ordinances to provide housing and amenities citizens want. Removing a substantial core of Summerfield would be detrimental for our residents. The town has fairly considered The Villages of Summerfield Farms project thus far and remains open to development that our people want and will support.

Following an emergency meeting of Council, **town leaders are opposed to any de-annexation.** If this proposed legislation gains traction and continues to move forward, a provision should be included to require a referendum so that our 12,000 citizens can be heard. **Council encourages residents to contact Guilford County representation to the North Carolina General Assembly. These officials will play a role in this important decision and contacts are easily accessible at:**

[www.ncleg.gov/Members/CountyRepresentation/Guilford](http://www.ncleg.gov/Members/CountyRepresentation/Guilford).

Sincerely,

Mayor Tim Sessoms and Council