



C O U N C I L M I N U T E S A U G U S T 9, 2 0 2 2, 6:30PM, SFD COMMUNITY CENTER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Tim Sessoms. Mayor Sessoms 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
 Janelle Robinson
 Reece Walker

Staff

Scott Whitaker, Manager
 Dee Hall, Finance Officer
 Bob Hornik, Attorney

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon motion by DeVaney, seconded by Doggett and carried unanimously, the consent agenda was approved consisting of the following: 1) meeting agenda; 2) open session minutes for 6/14; and 3) Council meeting date change (11/8 to 11/10 due to election).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Whitaker announced the last music-in-the-park event of the season would be held 8/20 with The Holiday Band and that town hall would be closed 9/5 for Labor Day. Hornik stated the Governor's emergency order related to the pandemic would expire 8/15 and advised that remote meetings for public bodies should thereafter be conducted in-person. Sessoms thanked Bill Donnell and Chris Farris for installing the curtains in the community center, thus completing the main floor renovations. DeVaney also thanked Mary Horlacher for making the curtains.

Sessoms announced that \$5.5M had been allocated for town water development and \$2.3M allocated for Bandera Farms development, both from Guilford County's ARPA funds. Sessoms thanked several regarding these allocations and project efforts, including BOCC Chair Skip Alston and all Commissioners, Oak Ridge Mayor Ann Schneider, the Piedmont Land Conservancy, Council members, Whitaker, and Hall for project involvement and application to the County.

EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORTS

A. Summerfield Fire District: During June, the department responded to 39 fire calls, 76 EMS calls, and 30 "other" calls for a total of 145 incidents. They also installed 17 child safety seats and 22 smoke alarms. There was no July report (and no Council meeting).

B. Guil. Co. Sheriff's Dept.: There was no report.

ATTACHMENTS FOR COUNCIL'S INFORMATION

Council received the following information with no action taken: committee/board minutes and the June and July financial reports.



PUBLIC COMMENTS

Gail Dunham, 5805 Snow Hill Drive, noted that Shorty Wilson had passed, spoke of Bandera Farms Park, asked when Whitaker's ARPA-request presentation to the County would be available, complained about the 3-minute public comment limit, and criticized Mayor Sessoms' "monologues."

COUNCIL, MANAGER, AND/OR ATTORNEY RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

Whitaker said his ARPA-request presentation was available on Guilford County's website.

BUSINESS FROM TOWN MANAGER

A. Committee appointments/reappointments (*Finance, Founders' Day, Historical, Trails & Open Space*): DeVaney made a motion to re-appoint Vicky Bridges and Millie Hoffler-Foushee to the Finance Committee for one-year terms. The motion was seconded by Walker and carried unanimously. Whitaker stated the staff had not yet heard back from Alan Abrams regarding his desire to continue as a committee member.

Walker made a motion to re-appoint Lynne DeVaney as an ex-officio member of the Founders' Day Committee. The motion was seconded by Robinson and carried unanimously. DeVaney made a motion to re-appoint Reece Walker as an ex-officio member. The motion was seconded by Robinson and carried unanimously.

Walker made a motion to re-appoint Gary Brown, Mark Brown, Heather Buttonow, Bruce Petersen, and Troy Stantliff to the Historical Committee for two-year terms. The motion was seconded by DeVaney and carried unanimously. DeVaney made a motion to re-appoint Andy Schlosser for a one-year term. The motion was seconded by Robinson and carried unanimously.

Walker made a motion to re-appoint Cary Gentry and Bill King to the Trails & Open Space Committee for two-year terms. The motion was seconded by DeVaney and carried unanimously. Walker made a motion to re-appoint Trudy Whitacre for a one-year term. The motion was seconded by DeVaney and carried unanimously. Walker made a motion to re-appoint Jane Doggett as an ex-officio member. The motion was seconded by Doggett and carried unanimously.

B. Board appointments/reappointments (*Planning Board*): Walker made a motion to re-appoint Kathy Rooney to the Planning Board for a three-year term. The motion was seconded by Doggett and carried unanimously.

C. Reports, updates, or comments: Whitaker noted the town continues to recruit for the open Clerk and Planning Director positions. He is in discussions with a Planning Director applicant and hopes to have good news by the next meeting.

Whitaker also explained that a Greensboro developer had requested that a local, long-planned transportation project be removed from NCDOT plans. The project was to build a connector from Fleming Road to Lewiston Road, along with an interchange at I-840. Whitaker and Walker, as members of the MPO's Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) and Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) respectively and acting with feedback from Council, participated in a separate meeting with GUAMPO and NCDOT and maintained that the road was important to improve connectivity with northwest Guilford and this part of the project should not be removed. The interchange no longer fit NCDOT location parameters and the town supported its removal.



The TCC recommended keeping the road, removing the interchange, and changing the road designation from a major thoroughfare to a minor thoroughfare, although the TAC would decide the matter during its upcoming meeting. Walker stated that Whitaker was selling his efforts short and thanked him and Oak Ridge TCC member Sean Taylor for their efforts to secure the TCC recommendation and keep the connector road.

Whitaker noted that SAP's field lights were at the end of their useful life and had been replaced under contract. SAP's parking lot lights were also scheduled for replacement soon with more efficient LED fixtures. Duke Energy would be performing the work.

BUSINESS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL

- A. Appointment to fill vacant Council seat (*process or potential action*):** Sessoms outlined the process, stated he and DeVaney had talked with each applicant, and then introduced Greg Fox, Dawayne Crite, Bob Jones, and Jeff Davis (Patrick Ingegno and Tara Peterson were not present). Sessoms thanked each applicant for their interest in serving. DeVaney stated that the Council is not setting a precedence regarding the selection process and suggested that future Councils may approach the process differently. Hornik explained the process and latitude of appointment in the event of a vacant seat. Walker made a motion to appoint Jeff Davis to fill the vacant Council seat starting 8/10 [term to end December 2023]. There were no other nominations. The results from a roll call from Sessoms were as follows: Walker, yes; Doggett, yes; DeVaney, yes; Robinson, yes. Upon unanimous vote, Sessoms congratulated Mr. Davis as a new Council member and stated he would be sworn 8/10 at town hall. Davis expressed his appreciation for the other candidates and encouraged them to apply for the Planning Board.
- B. Scheduling of special called, joint Council and Planning Board meeting (*Land Use Plan presentation by PTRC*):** Upon motion by DeVaney, seconded by Doggett and carried unanimously, Council agreed to a special called, joint Council and Planning Board meeting for Monday, 9/26, at 6:30p with the location to be determined.
- C. Reports, updates, or comments:** DeVaney asked Whitaker if there was an update on the \$1.1M water grant from the State. Whitaker responded that with the new \$5.5M ARPA allocation from the County, Summerfield now has \$6.6M in water-exploration funding. He added each allocation has a different deadline (the State funding mid-2023 and the County allocation likely late-2024) and he and Hall continue to track the requirements.

Sessoms reported citizen calls about a new development with 96 townhomes coming to Pleasant Ridge Road. He explained the project is in the City of Greensboro and not Summerfield and acknowledged the confusion of some homes have Summerfield mailing addresses even though they're not within town limits. DeVaney reported calls about another development near Northern High School, which is also not in the town limits. Whitaker commented that Greensboro does not notify the town when there is a rezoning near town limits. Sessoms stated there is also a new development on Alcorn Road, which is also not part of Summerfield.

From the audience, Teresa Perryman asked about a public hearing on the town's website. Whitaker explained it was advertised prior to an applicant's withdrawal of a rezoning request.



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CLOSED SESSION

DeVaney made a motion at 7:28pm to go into closed session to: 1) 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); 2) address the amount of compensation and other material terms of an employment contract and to instruct staff or negotiating agents concerning the price and other material terms concerning real property as provided under NCGS 143-318.11(a)(5); and 3) consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual employee as provided under NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6). This motion was seconded by Robinson and carried unanimously.

Upon motion by DeVaney, seconded by Doggett and carried unanimously, Council returned to open session at 8:11pm.

Walker made a motion to authorize the settlement of the Jarrell v. Town of Summerfield lawsuit per the NC League of Municipalities recommendation, after mediation, by payment of the League of \$30,000, a portion of which the Town will pay as a deductible per its insurance policy. The motion was seconded by DeVaney and passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Sessoms said Robinson invited attendees to Luigi’s Restaurant Bar & Pizzeria after the meeting and stated that no town business would be discussed by Council in keeping with open meetings law.

Upon motion by DeVaney, seconded by Doggett and carried by a unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 8:14pm.

Tim Sessoms, Mayor

Dee Hall, Finance Officer/Delegated Clerk