



C O U N C I L M I N U T E S S E P T E M B E R 1 3 , 2 0 2 2 , 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 Mayor Sessoms. Mayor Pro-tem DeVaney provided the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following were present:

Council

Tim Sessoms, Mayor
 Lynne Williams DeVaney, Mayor Pro-tem
 Jeff Davis
 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. It consisted of the meeting agenda and open session minutes for 8/9.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Whitaker introduced Sarah Tibbetts who would be starting 9/23 as the new town clerk. He announced the upcoming 9/16 movie event to be held at SAP and also the 9/17 Summer-Cycle event at Laughlin Professional Development Center. He announced a 9/26 special-called joint meeting of the Council and Planning Board at Summerfield Charter Academy for the presentation of the final draft Land Use Plan. Public hearings will be held at a later date.

Mayor Sessoms welcomed Jeff Davis to the Council. The Council recognized Elizabeth Ingram for her service to the town from March 2001 to August 2021 on various committees and presented her with a plaque. Mrs. Ingram spoke as well and expressed her thanks to the town and citizens.

EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORTS

A. Summerfield Fire District: During August, the department responded to 34 fire calls, 74 EMS calls, and 20 "other" calls for a total of 128 incidents. They also installed 20 child safety seats. The fire department invited the community to visit 9-11am on 9/24 for safety seat inspections. The 6th annual Stop, Drop and Roll 5K will be held 10/1.

B. Guil. Co. Sheriff's Dept.: Hall read the report from Sgt. Seals. The department responded to 265 calls in District 1 during August which led to 26 formal case reports filed. Citizens are encouraged to lock car doors, hide valuables, and to lock residences. There have been multiple reports of motor vehicle break-ins at the trailheads and in several neighborhoods.

ATTACHMENTS FOR COUNCIL'S INFORMATION

Council received the following information with no action taken: committee/board minutes and the August financial report.

Bruce Petersen presented minutes from the Historical Committee meeting. Archiving of the Gordon Hardware Building is almost complete. The potential building sales have generated considerable



foot traffic through the building and Martin House. Potentially 200 unmarked graves have been located behind Summerfield Peace Church using ground-penetrating radar, possibly dating to the Civil War. The committee is recording the history of Wilson's Grocery following the passing of Shorty Wilson.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Teresa Perryman, 7401 Greenlawn Drive, expressed her displeasure at not being allowed to place a recorder in front of Mayor Sessoms during the meeting. She requested the state statute that says she can't place a recorder on the Council table.

Gail Dunham, 5805 Snow Hill Drive, criticized the Land Use Plan and complained about no citizen participation and said the maps support developers, high density, and water systems. She tossed a copy of the Land Use Plan, wrapped in a bow, on the table in front of the mayor.

Maria Adams, 7999 Morganshire Drive, stated her disapproval that a book, "Salvage the Bones," was allowed to remain at Northwest High despite parent protest. She opposed the use of the book, naming it crude and obscene.

Derek Mobley, 6012 Crystal Spring Court, Greensboro, announced his Democratic candidacy for Guilford County Board of Commissioners, District 3.

COUNCIL, MANAGER, AND/OR ATTORNEY RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

None.

BUSINESS FROM TOWN MANAGER

- A. **Committee appointments/reappointments:** Walker made a motion to re-appoint Alan Abrams to the Finance Committee for a one-year term through 7/1/23. The motion was seconded by DeVaney and carried unanimously.
- B. **Board appointments/reappointments:** DeVaney made a motion to appoint Clint Babcock to replace Jeff Davis as a member of the Planning Board for a three-year term through 7/1/25. The motion was seconded by Davis and carried unanimously.
- C. **Reports, updates, or comments:** Whitaker stated the project that would have extended Fleming Road to Lewiston Road had been voted down by the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) despite the town's preference. Whitaker also noted the town continues to recruit for the Planning Director position, the SAP lighting updates were complete, and the town would be selecting a vendor soon to clear and mulch for the dog park.

BUSINESS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL

- A. **Process of interviewing committee and board applicants:** After discussion about the current Consolidated Committee Ordinance, Walker suggested Council revisit who interviews applicants every two years after elections. Doggett volunteered to be the designated Council member and it was agreed to by consensus. Walker suggested that the designated Council member be revisited at the December meeting of an election year (when the Mayor Pro-tem is selected). Davis made a motion to amend the current ordinance to appoint a representative, not necessarily the chair of a committee, in addition to the Mayor Pro-tem and a designated Council member to interview potential committee and board members. The motion was seconded by



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Walker and passed unanimously. Council agreed that it would also use this approach when considering Planning Board and Board of Adjustment members, although it wouldn't be memorialized in a specific policy or ordinance.

- B. Reports, updates, or comments:** DeVaney thanked Bill Donnell and Chris Farris for making the shelves in the community center basement. She also announced the town needs members for the Founders' Day committee. Davis stated we need alternates for the Planning Board and encouraged citizens to apply. Sessoms announced there is still the opportunity to be voluntarily annexed into the town and we would be reaching out to the Ridgewood community.

CLOSED SESSION:

Walker made a motion at 7:36pm to go into closed session to 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 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 Walker and carried unanimously, Council returned to open session at 7:47pm. Doggett made a motion to award Manager Whitaker a 3.5% merit increase. The motion was seconded by Walker and passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

Upon motion by DeVaney, seconded by Doggett and carried by a unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 7:48pm.

Tim Sessoms, Mayor

Dee Hall, Delegated Clerk