



**C O U N C I L M I N U T E S      S E P T E M B E R 1 8 , 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 4:00pm by Mayor Sessoms.

The following were present:

**Council**

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

**Staff**

Scott Whitaker, Manager  
 Sarah Tibbetts, Clerk  
 Bob Hornik, Attorney  
 Brad Rentz, Planner

**AGENDA**

Walker motioned to approve the agenda, the motion was seconded by Davis and carried unanimously.

**DE-ANNEXATION AND HB5**

Sessoms stated that amid many emails, calls, and conversations about HB-5, the town still did not firmly know all options regarding de-annexation and the town's future. He stated Council had worked very hard for an extended period of time to attempt to come to terms with a plan that "could be somewhat good for everyone, and disastrous for no one," which was Council's goal. Sessoms stated the matter was very serious and Council would be going into closed session. He thanked everyone for attending and asked for patience.

**CLOSED SESSION**

DeVaney 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 NCCGS 143-318.11(a)(3), the motion was seconded by Doggett and carried unanimously.

*Closed session ended at 5:46pm. DeVaney motioned to return back to open session, the motion was seconded by Doggett and carried unanimously.*

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Sessoms read the following proposed resolutions: RES-2023-006, RES-2023-007, and RES-2023-008.

DeVaney motioned to adopt RES-2023-006 as read, seconded by Davis and carried unanimously.

Doggett motioned to adopt RES-2023-007 as read, seconded by Walker and carried unanimously.

Walker motioned to adopt RES-2023-008 as read, seconded by Davis and carried unanimously.

Sessoms stated that the three just-adopted resolutions were in effort to work with Couch and his team for the preservation of Summerfield and should be considered a good faith effort. He announced there could be a town meeting 9/28 and more information would be provided as it became available. Sessoms thanked citizens for their emails, calls, and letters to the General



Town Hall: POB 970, 4117 Oak Ridge Road, Summerfield, NC 27358  
 ph: 336-643-8655 / fax: 336-643-8654 / www.summerfieldnc.gov

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Assembly and stated they had not fallen on deaf ears. He encouraged everyone to continue to reach out and let their voices be heard. He thanked Priscilla Olinick for all she had done during this process. Sessoms stated that the Senate had scheduled a third reading of HB5 for 9/19, but the town had been told they would not be voting on it as scheduled due to the town's good faith efforts thus far. He stated Council would continue to update citizens through social media and the town's website. He thanked citizens for their support and input, stating he has seen a slow-down in the vitriol within social media posts and it was appreciated.

### ADJOURNMENT

DeVaney motioned to adjourn the meeting, the motion was seconded by Doggett and carried unanimously.

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*Tim Sessoms, Mayor*

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*Sarah Tibbetts, Town Clerk*