



**MINUTES OF THE  
SUMMERFIELD TOWN COUNCIL  
SUMMERFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER  
AUGUST 12, 2008  
6:30 PM**

**NOTE: The official minutes are a CD recording of the meeting. The following is a summary of the events of the meeting.**

Barnes announced that Brown and Strickland would not be in attendance and Wray would be a few minutes late. In order to have a quorum, the meeting would not be called to order until Wray's arrival. Barnes recognized NC House Representative John Blust, who announced the passage of Senate Bill 2137 – Filling of Vacant Town Council Seats, which was passed through the efforts of Senator Berger.

The meeting was called to order at 6: 42 pm by Dena Barnes.

The invocation was led by Linda Southard, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**INTRODUCTIONS:**

**Council:**

Mark Brown, Mayor (excused absence)  
Dena Barnes  
Alicia Flowers  
Becky Strickland (excused absence)  
Bob Williams  
John W. Wray Jr.

**Staff:**

Michael Brandt, Town Manager  
Dana Luther, Finance Officer  
William Hill, Town Attorney  
Craig Harmon, Town Planner  
Valarie Halvorsen, Town Clerk

Wray made a motion to confer the powers of the Mayor to Barnes, the Mayor Pro Tem, for this meeting, and to formally excuse Brown. The motion was seconded by Williams and carried unanimously.

Wray made a motion to formally excuse Strickland from the meeting. The motion was seconded by Williams and carried unanimously.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Wray made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, including the meeting agenda, minutes of the July 8 meeting, the July 8, 2008 Closed Session minutes, the Financial Report, Finance Officer Budget Amendment #6, and the Speed Limit Modification Ordinance. The motion was seconded by Williams and carried unanimously.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Barnes announced the passage of Senate Bill 2137 – Filling of Town Council Vacancies, and stated this bill adjusts the town charter to comply with state law.

**SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR (limited to 5 min. on non-agenda items)**

Jeff Johnson, 6106 Bascom Dr, discussed the Beeson Rezoning, stating the only reason it was not approved was due to the protest petition that was filed. He feels he was retaliated against by the Beesons with the removal of trees on the property based on his protest against it, and the whole episode has “pitted neighbor against neighbor”. He faults the council for entertaining the notion of commercial development 35 feet from his home and neighborhood and has lost faith in

the majority of the council and its ability to do what is right, that they should put the town's needs above those of their friends. Johnson states he is unable to live harmoniously with his neighbors, which was his intent in moving here.

Mark Mortenson, 6110 Percheron Trail, spoke of his recent visit to Ireland and the pride they take in preserving natural beauty, rural character, and open space. He encouraged Summerfield to do the same.

Dwayne Crawford, 1106 NC Hwy 150 W, discussed a quote, "Don't pee on my leg and tell me it's raining," in relation to the amphitheater, bullying, population numbers, and petitions and surveys. He requested that the citizen who continues to reference the amphitheater cost at \$1 million, to either produce documentation to back that figure up or stop referring to that cost.

Gail Dunham, 5805 Snow Hill Dr, asked that the record reflect her request that Mayor Brown include the park on the September agenda; he stated in July that it would be on the August agenda. She feels that Michael Stewart owes petition signers an apology for his statement that they probably did not know what they were signing. Dunham stated over the years the amphitheater has been discussed, there is no record of a groundswell of support for the project. She also discussed the cost of the amphitheater, outdoor classroom, park gates, and other aspects of park construction.

Beth Kaplan, 7979 Highfill Rd, thanked all the town volunteers for their hard work on behalf of the town and thanked council for revisiting the volunteer policy and application.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- A. **Community Relations:** No report.
- B. **Finance:** Luther stated the next meeting is September 15 and they have been working on creating a Finance Committee Ordinance and evaluating investments.
- C. **Historical:** Linda Southard stated the next meeting is August 28.
- D. **Parks & Rec:** Sue Beeson stated the next meeting is September 3.
- E. **Public Safety:** Ron Marshburn stated the next meeting will be held on August 20.
- F. **SYC:** No report.
- G. **Comprehensive Plan:** Harmon stated the next meeting will be a community meeting on September 29 to gather citizen input on the process and plan.

#### **PRESENTATION: NC 150 REALIGNMENT STUDY (Lydia McIntyre)**

McIntyre discussed the study goals, process, alignment, and alternatives, making special note of the following:

- There was a lot of public input in the process
- The project is 30 years out
- It is not currently a DOT priority

- Alternative 1 is recommended due to environmental, historical, and developmental impacts of the other choices
- The documents are available for public review at Summerfield Town Hall, via a link on the [www.summerfieldgov.com](http://www.summerfieldgov.com) website, or on the internet at [www.guampo.org](http://www.guampo.org).

Brandt noted that this project has been on the map since 1986, and as development occurs, developers are made aware of it and can preserve right of way in case of future construction.

**BUSINESS FROM TOWN MANAGER**

**Discussion of Community Based Organization Funding Approvals**

Brandt noted this item is being brought forward based on the need for a clear method of dealing with applications when received. Luther has mocked up a proposed a method and the Finance Committee has offered to review these submissions prior to submitting them to council.

Barnes suggested moving this item to the September meeting as Strickland was not present. Following a brief discussion, it was decided that council would review the documents and note any comments, questions, and suggestions, then bring the item back for discussion during the September meeting.

**BUSINESS FROM COUNCIL**

**A. Committee Reappointments**

Brandt stated that each person on the list has sent a letter or email indicating their request to continue serving as a committee member. He noted that each applicant for reappointment was a long serving member, and according to the recently enacted committee ordinance, reappointment would be for one more two year term only of those who have already served more than four years, unless there were no new applicants wishing to serve at the conclusion of the term. Brandt stated each committee is working on their own ordinance which will include the number of preferred members.

Following a brief discussion, Williams made a motion to reappoint those requesting to continue to serve. The motion was seconded by Wray and carried unanimously.

Those reappointed are as follows:

<u>Public Safety</u>	<u>Historical</u>	<u>Finance</u>	<u>SPARC</u>
Agnes Dixon	Bill Gordon	Mildred Hoffler-Foushee	Sue Beeson
Rick Hall	Debbie Hoffman	Phyllis Meyer	Doug Canavello
Robert Johnson	Willie Laughlin	Ronnie Stafford	Jane Doggett
Ron Marshburn	Dianne Laughlin		Debbie Hoffman
Molly Brady	Etta Reid		Sherrie Joseph
	Linda Southard		Clayton Kile

**B. Review/Appoint Athletic Advisory Committee Applicants, Historical Committee Applicant, and Parks & Rec Committee Applicant**

Brandt stated the Parks & Rec application would be continued until the September meeting, and there was an additional applicant under consideration for the Athletic Advisory committee.

Flowers discussed her wish to meet with applicants in order to ask questions and get to know more about them and she was advised to call applicants for further information. Barnes reminded Flowers of her suggestion of meeting with applicants in a small group, perhaps with herself, Flowers, and the applicants.

Speaking from the floor, Ron Marshburn, Public Safety Chair, stated he invites all applicants to the next committee meeting and suggested that Flowers attend as well. Barnes said that suggestion could be made to all committee chairs. Brandt described the recently created process, which included inviting applicants to the next committee meeting and notifying the chair.

Speaking from the floor, Gail Dunham noted that council members used to interview applicants. Barnes replied that all Zoning Board and BOA applicants are interviewed.

Flowers made a motion to appoint David Harlowe, Geoff Cass and Doug Canavello to the Athletic Advisory Committee. The motion was seconded by Williams and carried unanimously.

Flowers made a motion to appoint Patricia Juszczak to the Historical Committee. The motion was seconded by Williams and carried unanimously.

Barnes released Luther and Harmon from the meeting, and then read the reasons for entering into Closed Session as follows:

**CLOSED SESSION:**

**(C) to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged**

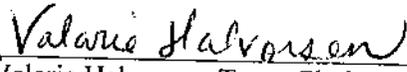
Wray made a motion to enter into closed session at 8:13 pm. The motion was seconded by Flowers and carried unanimously.

Wray made a motion to return to open session at 8:38 pm. The motion was seconded by Williams and carried unanimously.

Flowers made a motion to advise Town Attorney Bill Hill to move forward in resolving the Armfield lawsuit with the stipulations discussed. The motion was seconded by Williams. Hill stated the stipulations included removal of the lookback provision and adding only the additional 24 lots, which was agreed upon by the homeowners with a vote of 10 to 0. Barnes called for a vote, which was passed unanimously.

With no further business before the Town Council, a motion was made at 8:40 pm by Wray to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Williams and carried unanimously.

  
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Dena Barnes, Mayor Pro Tem

  
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Valarie Halvorsen, Town Clerk