

**MINUTES OF THE  
SUMMERFIELD TOWN COUNCIL  
SUMMERFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER  
MAY 4, 2004  
6:30 P.M.**

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

Dena Barnes called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM.

Linda Southard led the invocation.

Carolyn Collins led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Council and Staff Present:**

Dena Barnes  
Bob Williams  
Mark Brown  
Michael Stewart  
Jane Doggett  
Carolyn Collins

Bill Trevorrow, Town Attorney  
Michael Brandt, Town Administrator  
Dianne Laughlin, Town Clerk

Planner Susan Smith was present, but there were no public hearing cases to be presented.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

A motion was made by Jane Doggett and seconded by Bob Williams to approve the Agenda including the minutes of April 6, and April 28 2004, the financial report, a Resolution for the addition of Earl Forbes Drive and Sorrel Run Court to the NCDOT Secondary Road Maintenance System, and a Resolution regarding the sealing and unsealing of Closed Session Minutes.

**PROCLAMATIONS RECONGNIZING NATIONAL CLERKS WEEK (May 2-8, 2004):**

Mayor Barnes read the Proclamation as follows:

**WHEREAS**, The Office of the Municipal Clerk, a time honored and vital part of local government exists throughout the world; and, the Office of the Municipal Clerk is the oldest among public servants; and

**WHEREAS**, The Office of the Municipal Clerk provides the professional link between the citizens, the local governing bodies and agencies of government at other levels, and

**WHEREAS**, Municipal Clerks have pledged to be ever mindful of their neutrality and impartiality, rendering equal service to all, and the Municipal Clerk serves as the information center on functions of local government and community, and

**WHEREAS**, Municipal Clerks continually strive to improve the administration of the affairs of the Office of the Municipal Clerk through participation in education programs, seminars, workshops and the annual meetings of their state, province and international

professional organizations, and

**WHEREAS,** It is with much appreciation that we recognize the accomplishments of the Office of the Municipal Clerk;

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Dena H. Barnes, Mayor of the Town of Summerfield, do recognize the week of May 2 through May 8, 2004, as Municipal Clerk Week, and further extend appreciation to our Municipal Clerk,

**Dianne Laughlin**

and to all Municipal Clerks for the vital services they perform and their exemplary dedication to the communities they represent and encourage the community join me in this recognition.

Witness my hand and seal of the Town of Summerfield this 4th day of May 2004.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Mayor Barnes recognized Stokesdale Mayor John Flynt, who was in attendance and introduced Tim Sessoms, a Summerfield resident who is running for N.C. Senate District 26, which includes the Northwest area and part of Rockingham County.

Laughlin announced that the Summerfield Youth Council was sponsoring a Barbecue dinner, to be held at the Summerfield Elementary School, with proceeds going to St. Jude's Children Hospital. The cost is \$6.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children.

Brandt announced the second round of hearings by the Metropolitan Planning Organization. The one closest to our area will be held on June 7, from 7 to 8 P.M. at Summerfield Elementary School.

**SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR:**

Dwayne Crawford spoke concerning the sales tax distribution, stating that the Commissioners withheld our part of the sales tax because we didn't have a property tax and that we will become a divided community if a property tax is started. He told Council that their way of spending money could be divisive also and that monies should be spent to benefit the community as a whole.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- A. Community Relations:** No Report
- B. Conservation Council:** Jane Doggett reported that they met and planned for Founders Day.
- C. Finance:** Betsy Ingram reported that there was no meeting in April, but one would be scheduled for the third Monday in May.
- D. Historical:** Linda Southard stated that they discussed the history tend for Founders Day and they presently have eleven tables to be set up and expect more.
- E. Parks & Rec.:** No Report
- F. Public Safety:** Bob Williams reported that they didn't have a quorum, but discussed the routing of truck traffic off Summerfield Road.
- G. Text Committee:** No report
- H. Thoroughfare:** No Report

**I. Water Resource:** Nothing new to report

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. PRESENTATION OF BUDGET FOR YEAR 2004-2005:**

Michael Brandt, Town Administrator, presented the proposed budget and spoke to changes that had been made since their previous meeting, including the removal of the payment of \$30,000.00 to the City of Greensboro for Summerfield residents use of their library. He also stated that \$1000.00 left in the budget for a Public Safety project needed more information before appropriating the funds.

Other highlights include:

Sheriffs Substation: \$500,000.00 had been previously allocated in the budget for this purpose, but the needs of the community have changed and Brandt is recommending \$750,000.00 to construct a larger building which could provide future office space for the town, a meeting space and perhaps a library on the property purchased by the Town on Summerfield Road.

Parks & Rec.: Money is being set aside for Phase 1 construction and Planning Phase 2 of the Summerfield Community Park. There is \$500,000 in the budget, but \$250,000 of that should come from a state grant and \$100,000 from Guilford County. \$232,000 is set aside for Phase 2 and this amount is required for another state grant. A Master Plan for parks and recreational facilities in the town is also being funded.

Water: The Water Resources Committee had requested \$1.5 million to begin working on a town water system, but Town Council decided to work on a public/private partnership with Aqua America (formerly Hydraulics, Ltd.)

Conservation: Funds to hire a contract employee to find property for conservation and funds to purchase the property is being set aside.

Planning & Inspections: A plan to hire employees to handle these duties instead of contracting with Guilford County is included in the budget.

Staff recommends a property tax of 10.5 per \$100 of property valuation based on a report showing the value of property in the town.

Brandt recommended the budget hearing be set for the next regular council meeting on June 1.

**BUSINESS FROM TOWN PLANNER:**

There was no business from the Town Planner.

**BUSINESS FROM TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:**

Brandt asked Council to approve a Resolution authorizing NCDOT to a study of truck traffic on Summerfield Road stating that this gives permission to study, but not implementation of a change.

After some discussion, a motion was made to approve the resolution authorizing NCDOT to study truck traffic on Summerfield Road by Carolyn Collins and seconded by Bob Williams. The Resolutions read as follows:

**A RESOLUTION CONSENTING TO A STUDY BY NORTH  
CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OF  
REROUTING TRUCK TRAFFIC ON A PORTION OF**

**SUMMERFIELD ROAD (SR 2117) LOCATED WHOLLY WITHIN THE  
CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE TOWN OF SUMMERFIELD,  
NORTH CAROLINA**

**WHEREAS,** The residents of Summerfield Road (SR2117) have requested a study as to the feasibility of rerouting truck traffic from the point of Pleasant Ridge Road (SR2133), north to NC Highway 150 (Oak Ridge Road), south to Auburn Road (SR2204) because of the potential damage said traffic could cause to Historical Structures and Buildings and the high volume of traffic in this area;

**WHEREAS,** at the completion of the study, the North Carolina Department of Transportation will submit their findings to the Town Council;

**WHEREAS,** The Town Council of Summerfield as the governing body for the citizens of the Town of Summerfield will review and either approve, disapprove or recommend amending said study;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** The Town Council on behalf of the Town of Summerfield, North Carolina does herewith, after due consideration and deliberation and without any objection being heard, concur and consent to the study of rerouting truck traffic from a point at Pleasant Ridge Road (SR2133) north to NC Highway 150 (Oak Ridge Road)

Brandt also requested Council to approve a Resolution to place ballot referendums to place an ABC store in the Summerfield Town limits and to allow liquor by the drink. He reported that there have been several requests for upscale restaurants in the area but we have been unable to get them because they would like to serve liquor by the drink. He stated that he didn't plan to open an ABC store in the near future, but putting it on the ballot would let Council know what citizens think about this idea. He reported that if an ABC store is approved, Council would have to be appoint an ABC Board and that it would be their decision as to when to open a store.

Barnes stated that Council had directed the Town Administrator to find funds wherever possible to replace the sales tax that was taken away by the County Commissioners.

After some discussion, a motion was made to approve the Resolution requesting ABC store and liquor by the drink be put on the November ballot by Jane Doggett and seconded by Bob Williams. The motion carried unanimously.

The Resolution reads as follows

**RESOLUTION ALLOWING THE CITIZENS OF THE TOWN OF  
SUMMERFIELD TO VOTE ON THE OPERATION OF ABC STORES WITHIN  
THE TOWN LIMITS**

**WHEREAS,** the Summerfield Town Council represents the citizens of the Town of Summerfield and;

**WHEREAS,** the Summerfield Town Council seeks economic development opportunities for the citizens of Summerfield and for the betterment of the Summerfield community and;

**WHEREAS,** the Summerfield Town Council has determined that the operation of ABC stores in

Summerfield may present economic development opportunities and may also provide for more control of alcoholic beverages and;

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of Summerfield should have the opportunity to decide on the operation of ABC stores and this issue shall be decided by the majority of the registered voters in the Town of Summerfield and;

**WHEREAS**, the Summerfield Town Council seeks to serve the citizens of the Town of Summerfield in a manner that represents the will of the majority;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Summerfield Town Council requests that the Guilford County Board of Elections place the following ABC referendum on a ballot no earlier than May 28, 2004 and no later than July 27, 2004 pursuant to G.S. 18 B-602 (g) (h):

To permit the operation of ABC stores:

FOR

AGAINST

Adopted by majority vote this 4<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2004.

And;

**RESOLUTION ALLOWING THE CITIZENS OF THE TOWN OF SUMMERFIELD TO VOTE ON THE SALE OF MIXED BEVERAGES WITHIN THE TOWN LIMITS**

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council of the Town of Summerfield represent the citizens of the Town of Summerfield and;

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council seeks economic development opportunities for the citizens of Summerfield and for the betterment of the Summerfield community and;

**WHEREAS**, the Summerfield Town Council has determined that the sale of mixed beverages in Summerfield may present economic development opportunities and may also provide for more control of alcoholic beverages and;

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of the Town of Summerfield should have the opportunity to decide on the sale of mixed beverages and this issue shall be decided by the majority of the registered voters in the Town of Summerfield and;

**WHEREAS**, the Summerfield Town Council seeks to serve the citizens of the Town of Summerfield in a manner that represents the will of the majority;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Council of the Town of Summerfield requests that the Guilford County Board of Elections place the following mixed beverages referendum on a ballot no earlier than May 28, 2004 and no later than July 27, 2004 pursuant to G.S. 18 B-602 (g) (h):

To permit the sale of mixed beverages in hotels, restaurants, private clubs, community theatres, and convention centers.

FOR

AGAINST

Adopted by majority vote this 4<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2004.

Brandt requested Council adopt a Resolution to join the Piedmont Triad Council of Governments, stating that he believes the membership could help the Town in many areas, including resources, support and ability to possibly collect cable franchise fees from Guilford County. He reported that the cost is based on population and is estimated at \$1500 per year for Summerfield.

Dwayne Crawford, resident in attendance, asked if Council could use this to get cable rates lowered in Summerfield and Barnes stated that this would be a possible opportunity to collect franchise fees instead of them being paid to Guilford County. Crawford repeated his request for Council to ask for lower rates and Bill Trevorow, Town Attorney, stated that it is premature to speculate on the impact or ask that question at this time.

After further discussion, a motion was made to approve the Resolution to join Piedmont Triad Council of Government by Jane Doggett and seconded by Bob Williams. The motion carried unanimously.

The Resolution reads as follows:

RESOLUTION OF MEMBERSHIP AND RATIFYING THE CHARTER OF THE  
PIEDMONT TRIAD COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

WHEREAS, NC General Statutes 160A-470 and 153A-445 authorize municipalities and counties to form and to join regional councils of governments; and

WHEREAS, The Town Council of the Town of Summerfield desires to join with other municipalities, and counties which are members of the Piedmont Triad Council of Governments; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council affirms the benefits of cooperation among local governments within a region and their elected and appointed officials;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the town of Summerfield that the Attached Charter of the Piedmont Triad Council of Governments is hereby ratified and that membership in the Piedmont Triad Council of Governments for the Town of Summerfield is hereby authorized, pending a majority vote of the member governments the Piedmont Triad Council of governments.

This the 4<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2004

Brandt presented a Budget request for the public rail-trail project in the Vineyard development, not to exceed \$7,000. He reported on a joint effort between the Vineyard and the Town, at a considerable cost to the developers, with Guilford County paying for some of the materials and the town paying for the stone to go on the trail. He stated that once the trail is complete, the bridge and remainder of the trail would become the responsibility of the Homeowners Association.

Carolyn Collins asked if this would be a one-time investment and Brandt reported that we would possibly have to add some stones in the future.

After further discussion a motion was made by Jane Doggett to approve an amount up to \$7,000 for the public rail-trail project in the Vineyard and seconded by Bob Williams. The motion carried unanimously.

Brandt stated that the Leyland Cypress trees at the Town Hall needed to be replaced because some had died and the soil worked on for the new trees.

After some discussion, a motion was made by Carolyn Collins to replace the cypress trees, waiting until

fall to plant, working on the soil in the meantime and seconded by Jane Doggett. The motion carried unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION (property and personnel matters):**

A motion was made at 7:25 PM to recess to Executive Session for property and personnel matters by Jane Doggett and seconded by Carolyn Collins. The motion carried unanimously.

Council reconvened at 8:00PM.

**BUSINESS FROM COUNCIL:**

A motion was made to appoint Ron Willis to the Thoroughfare Committee by Bob Williams and seconded by Michael Stewart. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Barnes stated that after an evaluation of the Town Administrator, a motion was made by Jane Doggett and seconded by Carolyn Collins to grant Michael Brandt a 3.5% salary increase.

Michael Stewart thanked the Summerfield Garden Club for replanting bushes in front of the Community Center.

Mayor Barnes congratulated Councilman Brown on his retirement at the end of April and welcomed him to the "leisure life".

Councilman Williams reported that there were over 200 entries in the Founders Day Parade.

Councilwoman Doggett reported on the birth of a new grandson, born May 3.

**OTHER BUSINESS: (if any)**

Dwayne Crawford stated that it is very easy to spend other people's money and he requested a study as to how long the town could operate on it's existing funds and Mayor Barnes stated that a study had already been done and that the issue had been discussed at length and that the town must have income to progress and it was time to levy a property tax. She suggested that if he disagreed, Mr. Crawford should call the County Commissioners and ask them to spend some money here in Summerfield.

With no further business before the Town Council, a motion was made by Bob Williams and seconded by Carolyn Collins to adjourn at 8:10 P.M. The motion carried unanimously.