



Town of Summerfield – Council Minutes

Summerfield Community Center

March 12, 2013 | 6:30PM | 5404 Centerfield Road

Town Council: Mayor Mark F. Brown

Mayor Pro-Tem Dena Barnes

Alicia Flowers

Valarie Halvorsen (Clerk) *Dianne Laughlin*

Carol Carter (Planner) *Elizabeth McClellan*

Scott Whitaker (Manager) *John W. Wray, Jr.*

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm by Mark Brown.

The invocation was led by Linda Southard, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The following were present:

Council

Mark Brown, Mayor
Dena Barnes
Alicia Flowers
Dianne Laughlin
John Wray

Staff

Scott Whitaker, Town Manager
William Hill, Town Attorney
Katrina Whitt, Finance Officer
Valarie Halvorsen, Town Clerk
Carol Carter, Town Planner

Barnes made a motion to formally excuse McClellan, seconded by Laughlin, which carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Wray made a motion to approve the consent agenda as amended, including the meeting agenda, minutes of the 2/12/13 meeting, and Finance Officer budget amendment #2 (FY12-13). The motion was seconded by Barnes and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Don Wendelken, 3406 Windswept Drive, spoke of the importance of voter ID laws, noting such laws will not stop voter fraud completely. He stated identification was required for many things in life, such as driving a car, and encouraged citizens to be supportive of the initiative.

Elizabeth Ingram, 7552 Dubach Road, asked Council to have the town-owned lot on Summerfield Road appraised prior to consideration of donating it to the Summerfield Fire Department.

COMMITTEE / GROUP REPORTS

- A. **Finance:** Whitaker stated the next meeting was scheduled for March 18, during which the committee would begin work on the budget and explore investment options.
- B. **Historical:** Linda Southard said the committee met February 28 to prepare for the Afternoon Tea event, which will be held this Sunday 2-4:00pm at Town Hall.
- C. **Public Safety:** Don Wendelken said the committee had a productive meeting in February; the next meeting is March 20.
- D. **Founders' Day:** Whitaker stated things are progressing; the next meeting is April 2.

BUSINESS FROM TOWN MANAGER

- A. **Introduction of Finance Officer Katrina Whitt:** Whitaker introduced Whitt, a long-time Greensboro resident and licensed CPA with a BS in Accounting from UNCG. Past work includes working for RJR International and Japan Tobacco International as Financial Analyst,

Senior Financial Analyst, Manager of International Accounting, and Finance Manager.

- B. Designation of Deputy Town Clerk:** Whitaker noted the need for a Deputy Town Clerk, who would perform duties needed in the absence of the clerk, and recommended naming Town Planner Carol Carter as deputy clerk contingent upon training. Hill will make sure there no restrictions regarding dual office-holding.

Flowers made a motion to appoint Town Planner Carol Carter as Deputy Town Clerk, contingent upon training satisfactory to the manager, and Hill's verification about dual office-holding. The motion was seconded Barnes and carried unanimously.

- C. Resolution of support for school zone signage flashers at Summerfield Elementary:**

Whitaker introduced Lieutenant Cameron Piner and Master Corporal James Miller of the Guilford County Sheriff's Department. Miller spoke about traffic stops in the school zone, noting 75% of stopped cars say they did not see a school zone light and were therefore unaware they were traveling through a school zone.

Whitaker and Carter further discussed the issue, stating that following discussion by the Sheriff's Department and the Public Safety Committee, they met with NCDOT. The agency said it would be willing to install solar-powered flashers on each end of the school zone at its expense, provided that the school would be responsible for overseeing, adjusting, and maintaining the timers according to the school's schedule. The school principal is agreeable to the condition and supportive of the flashers.

Brown stated the issue was brought up years ago, and NCDOT said flashers were not justified as there were no students walking to school. Wray is concerned with safety and thanked the Sheriff's Department for their efforts to monitor speeding in the school zone.

Wray made a motion to approve the Resolution of support for school zone flashers at Summerfield Elementary. The motion was seconded by Flowers and carried unanimously.

- D. Resolution of support for safety improvements at Strawberry Rd. trail crossing:**

Whitaker stated this was addressed during the same NCDOT meeting described above. Carter stated NCDOT has committed to safety improvements with no cost to the town. The improvements on Strawberry Road include a reflective sign with flashers and pavement lettering to warn motorists of possible pedestrian traffic. Improvements on Highway 220 include markings, signage, and barriers at the current parking area to prevent parking on the right of way.

Barnes made a motion to approve the Resolution of support for safety improvements at Strawberry Road trail crossing. The motion was seconded by Flowers and carried unanimously. Barnes thanked the Sheriff's Department, Public Safety Committee, and staff for their work on this issue.

- E. Adoption of 2013 budget calendar:** Flowers made a motion to adopt the 2013 budget calendar as presented by the Town Manager. The motion was seconded by Wray and carried unanimously.

- F. Reports, updates, or comments:** Whitaker reported the following: he and Mayor Brown will meet with Duke Power regarding upcoming tree trimming in Summerfield; the deadline for Trails and Open Space Committee applications is March 15; discussion is needed on procuring

additional Public Safety Committee members: the Summerfield Fire Department is meeting regarding their interest in the town-owned lot on Summerfield Road.

Carter gave an update on the text amendment regarding temporary/accessory uses, noting the Zoning Board will discuss at its March 25 meeting; Carter also gave an update on the Development Ordinance rewrite.

BUSINESS FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL

- A. Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week proclamation:** Brown read the proclamation, which is hereby incorporated into these minutes:

Proclamation Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week

WHEREAS, multiple sclerosis is a chronic and disabling disease of the central nervous system in which the progression, severity and specific symptoms cannot be foreseen; and,

WHEREAS, every hour of every day someone new is diagnosed with MS, a disease that can erode a person's abilities and hopes, halt a career and unravel the fabric of families; and,

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Chapters of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society reports that in our state more than 10,000 people are affected by this devastating disease, and multiple sclerosis generally strikes young adults aged 20 through 40, attacking them in the prime of their lives; and,

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Chapters of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society have been committed throughout the years to heightening public knowledge and insight about this devastating and disabling disease, and raising millions of dollars to find the cure for MS and develop effective treatments for the disease, as well as provide a wide range of client programs; and,

WHEREAS, research advances have brought us closer to finding the cure, much remains to be done, and services must continue to be provided to those who live with the disease; and,

WHEREAS, finding the cause and developing a method of prevention for multiple sclerosis is an important task that all Americans and North Carolinians should support.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark E Brown, Mayor of the Town of Summerfield, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim that the week of March 11-17, 2013, be declared as "Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week," and commend this observance to all our citizens.

Proclaimed this the 12th day of March, 2013.

- B. Reports, updates, or comments:** Flowers stated she received a call from a citizen urging Council to sell the Summerfield Road lot, rather than donate it, if it is sellable and has value. Brown suggested waiting to discuss it until feedback is received from the Fire Department.

CLOSED SESSION

Brown read the reasons for entering Closed Session as follows:

- A. to prevent the premature disclosure of an honorary degree, scholarship, prize, or similar award as provided under NCGS 143-318.11(a)(2)
- B. to 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)
- C. to 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) and 160A-168

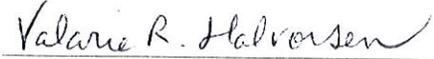
Barnes made motion to enter into Closed Session at 7:39pm. The motion was seconded by Flowers and carried unanimously.

Wray made a motion to return to Open Session at 8:35pm. The motion was seconded by Barnes and carried unanimously.

With no further business before the Town Council, a motion was made at 8:36pm by Barnes to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Wray and carried unanimously.



Mark E. Brown, Mayor



Valarie R. Halvorsen, Town Clerk