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April 4, 2012

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**MINUTES OF THE
SUMMERFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
SUMMERFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER
APRIL 4, 2012
6:30 PM**

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm by Mark Brown.
A moment of silence was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

INTRODUCTIONS:

Council:

Mark Brown, Mayor
Dena Barnes
Alicia Flowers
Elizabeth McClellan
John Wray

Staff:

Dana Luther, Interim Town Manager/Finance Officer
William Hill, Town Attorney
Valarie Halvorsen, Town Clerk
Carrie Spencer, Interim Town Planner

McClellan made a motion to formally excuse Laughlin. The motion was seconded by Barnes and carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Brown recommended adding Discussion/Approval of Girl Scout Troop 40498 Request to Plant a Tree and Affix a Recognition Plaque in Summerfield Community Park as Agenda Item 12F.

Barnes made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as amended, including the meeting agenda, minutes and Closed Session minutes of the March 9, March 13, March 14, and March 21, 2012 meetings, Financial Report, R-2012-008 Secondary Road Addition – Quarterhorse Court, and Town Council Budget Amendment #5 FY2011-2012.. The motion was seconded by Wray and carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brown stated the May Town Council meeting would be the 9th, rather than the 8th. Barnes announced an MPO Open House April 10 at the Greensboro Coliseum.

SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

A. Speakers From the Floor

Becky Strickland, 3220 Pleasant Ridge Rd, discussed reasons she believes the Development Ordinance Advisory Group was not in compliance with numerous aspects of the General Committee Ordinance.

Beth Kaplan, 7979 Highfill Rd, stated she was "angered and saddened" regarding the retirement of SPARC, noting the following: her feeling that the committee ordinance was not followed by council; that notice was not given to the committee regarding the retirement; that park construction is not completed, which was one of the statements made by council when deciding to retire the committee; that safety concerns are a staff, not committee, issue; and that volunteers were disrespected.

Jeff Phillips, 6108 Mountain Brook Rd Greensboro, is running for Guilford County District 5 Commissioner. He is concerned with increased budget spending in Guilford County during the last 15 years and increased debt being incurred. He is a fiscally conservative candidate and asked for support.

Dwayne Crawford, 1106 NC 150 W, stated he is available to volunteer if needed.

B. Public Comment Period for FY2013 Budget

Becky Strickland, 3220 Pleasant Ridge Rd asked if there was a budget for review. Luther replied no.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. Finance:** Luther reminded all of the April 16 joint meeting of Finance and Town Council, during which committees would present budget requests.
- B. Historical:** Linda Southard stated the recent Mother/Daughter Tea was well attended and enjoyed by all. The committee is considering making it an annual event. There are 17 tables reserved under the History Tent for Founders' Day, the Veteran's Appreciation Day was scheduled for May 28, and the next committee meeting is April 26.
- C. Public Safety:** No report.
- D. Founders' Day:** Carrie Spencer stated Brown and Dale Perry were the contacts regarding the parade, and the Friday night rain location was inside the Fire Department. The next meeting is April 19.
- E. Development Ord.:** Addressing Strickland's comments, Spencer stated Advisory Groups, which are short term and focused on completing a specific task do not follow the General Committee Ordinance, that the Development Ordinance Advisory Group follows regulations provided in a handbook. Luther said moving forward, Council should consider drafting a policy regarding such groups. Spencer will provide Council with an outline of key changes to the ordinance to date.

PRESENTATIONS

A. PTA and DAR Presentation About Bruce Park

The following representatives spoke about the project: Summerfield Elementary School Principal Jill Walsh, DAR Regent Dot Freeman, PTA President Lynn Devaney, and PTA Grant Writer Jennifer Cobia. This is a joint beautification project, elements of which are supported by the Comprehensive Plan and A&Y Feasibility Study which will help educate the public as well as increase safety of the school children and is proposed to include the following tasks/elements: relocate the walking track away from the DAR monument, install colonial style fencing around the schoolyard to protect children from the road, upgrade the proposed sidewalk in front of the school to brick pavers, improve and expand Bruce Park to connect to the proposed sidewalk, and replace school signage. Guilford County Schools will fund \$15,000 for fencing. The request to Council is for a commitment of \$17,488, which is the cost of upgrading the fencing from chain link to colonial style. The project group is attempting to secure grant money and volunteer commitments to pay for and/or construct/install many of the items.

Flowers made a motion to fund the upgrade to colonial style fencing around the school in an amount not to exceed \$18,000, with the funds coming from the current year trails budget. The motion was seconded by McClellan and carried unanimously.

Wray made a motion directing Hill to draft a statement of support for the Bruce Park project. The motion was seconded by Barnes and carried unanimously.

B. Solid Waste Update by Susan Heim, Guilford County Environment Coordinator

Heim said the updates were required every three years and must be adopted by all parties for submission to the state before June 30, that the draft presented had been in the works since last September, and Brown attended the meetings as Summerfield's representative. Heim discussed the need to maintain current services while complying with new state regulations, which is a difficult task during tough economic times.

BUSINESS FROM INTERIM TOWN MANAGER

A. Consideration/Approval of R-2012-007 Resolution Accepting and Endorsing Guilford County's Solid Waste Management Plan

Flowers made a motion to approve R-2012-007 Resolution Accepting and Endorsing Guilford County's Solid Waste Management Plan. The motion was seconded by Wray and carried unanimously.

B. Discussion of Vendor Insurance Requirements

Luther stated small and independent vendors often do not have Workers Comp or liability insurance. They sign a waiver regarding Workers Comp, but direction is needed regarding liability insurance. By consensus, Council directed Luther and Hill to draft a policy which would require all vendors doing business with the Town to have either their own liability insurance or to use the TULIP program, which provides short term insurance.

C. Discussion of Rental Fees

Following brief discussion, Barnes made a motion to give the manager authority to negotiate rental fees with users of the SAP Field House. The motion was seconded by Flowers and carried unanimously.

BUSINESS FROM TOWN COUNCIL AND MAYOR

A. Proclamation – National Volunteer Week

Brown read the proclamation, which is hereby incorporated into these minutes:

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

WHEREAS, a basic ingredient in the foundation of this nation is the voluntary acceptance of initiative and responsibility by private citizens and voluntary organizations, a fact largely responsible for the progress and development of our great country; and

WHEREAS, many citizens of this community contribute to the well-being of fellow residents and the welfare of all our citizens by giving tirelessly of their time and energy to make a real difference in the lives of children, adults and the elderly without desire for recognition, remuneration or personal gain; and

WHEREAS, for many years these individuals and organizations have worked quietly, often unnoticed and unappreciated by the general public; and

WHEREAS, since 1974 the United States has celebrated National Volunteer Week every third week in April in order to recognize the contribution of our amazing volunteers.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Town Council of the Town of Summerfield proclaims April 15 through 21 as **NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK** and give recognition and appreciation to all volunteers, and urge all citizens to be aware of the contributions made by our committees and volunteer workers and to give recognition to these individuals and organizations for their valuable contributions in the quality of life in our community. **Proclaimed this 4th day of April, 2012.**

B. Proclamation – Municipal Clerks Week

Barnes read the proclamation, which is hereby incorporated into these minutes:

MUNICIPAL CLERKS WEEK

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, the Town Council of the Town of Summerfield proclaims the week of April 29 through May 5, 2012, as Municipal Clerk Week, and further extend appreciation to our Municipal Clerk, **Valarie R. Halvorsen**, and to all Municipal Clerks for the vital services they perform and their exemplary dedication to the communities they represent and encourage the community to join us in this recognition. **Proclaimed this the 4th day of April 2012.**

C. Proclamation – Certified Public Accountants Week

Brown read the proclamation, which is hereby incorporated into these minutes:

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS WEEK

WHEREAS, the fiscal health and well-being of Summerfield citizens, businesses and institutions is critical to the continued vitality and prosperity of the Town; and

WHEREAS, Certified Public Accountants have achieved the education and professional experience requirements to become licensed and passed the rigorous Uniform CPA Examination; and

WHEREAS, CPAs must uphold high standards of ethics, professionalism and knowledge by maintaining and enhancing their skills through lifelong continuing professional education, and provide valuable accounting and auditing services, management advisory services, individual and corporate tax and financial planning advice and countless other services; and

WHEREAS, CPAs continuously draw upon their unique knowledge and experiences to provide sound, reliable financial counsel in order to protect and promote the growth of business, the soundness of government operations, the excellence of higher education and the confidence of investors in the Town of Summerfield, the state of North Carolina, and throughout the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting to recognize CPAs' contributions to the financial well-being and success of citizens and commerce in the Town of Summerfield and across the nation; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the Town Council of the Town of Summerfield proclaims the week of April 15 through April 21, 2012, as Certified Public Accountants Week, and further extend appreciation to our Town Finance Officer, **Dana M. Luther, CPA**, and to all CPAs for the vital services they perform and their exemplary dedication and encourage the community to join us in this recognition.
Proclaimed this the 4th day of April 2012.

D. Proclamation – National Day of Prayer

Barnes read the proclamation, which is hereby incorporated into these minutes:

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

WHEREAS, Civic prayers and national days of prayer have a long and venerable history in our constitutional republic, dating back to the First Continental Congress in 1775; and

WHEREAS, The Declaration of Independence, our first statement as Americans of national purpose and identity, made “the Laws of Nature and Nature’s God” the foundation of our United States of America and asserted that people have inalienable rights that are God-given; and

WHEREAS, The Supreme Court has affirmed the right of state legislature to open their sessions with prayer and the Supreme Court and the U.S. Congress themselves begin each day with prayer; and

WHEREAS, In 1988, legislation setting aside the first Thursday in May in each year as a National Day of Prayer was passed unanimously by both Houses of Congress and signed by President Ronald Reagan; and

WHEREAS, The National Day of Prayer is an opportunity for Americans of all faiths to join in united prayer to acknowledge our dependence on God, to give thanks for blessings received, to request healing for wounds endured, and to ask God to guide our leaders and bring wholeness to the United States and her citizens; and

WHEREAS, It is fitting and proper to give thanks to God by observing a day of prayer in the Town of Summerfield when all may acknowledge our blessings and express gratitude for them, while recognizing the need for strengthening religious and moral values in our State and nation;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Town Council of the Town of Summerfield proclaims the **first Thursday in May 2012**, to be designated as “**A DAY OF PRAYER IN SUMMERFIELD, NORTH CAROLINA**” and encourage the citizens of Summerfield to observe the day in ways appropriate to its importance and significance. **Proclaimed this the 4th day of April 2012.**

F. Discussion/Approval of Girl Scout Troop 40498 Request to Plant a Tree and Affix a Recognition Plaque in Summerfield Community Park

Wray made a motion to approve Girl Scout Troop 40498 Request to Plant a Tree and Affix a Recognition Plaque in Summerfield Community Park. The motion was seconded by Barnes and carried unanimously.

Brown read the reasons for entering into Closed Session as follows:

CLOSED SESSION:

A) consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee as provided under NCGS 143-318.11(a) (6); and

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 as provided under NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3)

Barnes made a motion to enter into Closed Session at 9:10 pm. The motion was seconded by Flowers and carried unanimously

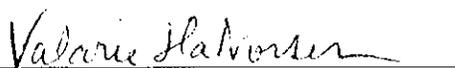
Barnes made a motion to return to Open Session at 9:47 pm. The motion was seconded by McClellan and carried unanimously.

Brown stated there would be a Special Call meeting April 20, 10:30 am at Town Hall to interview a Town Manager candidate, and a Special Call meeting April 30, 6:30 pm at Town Hall for budget discussions.

With no further business before the Town Council, a motion was made at 9:50 pm by Wray to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Barnes and carried unanimously.



Mark E. Brown, Mayor



Valarie Halvorsen, Town Clerk