



C O U N C I L M I N U T E S M A Y 28, 2013, 6:30PM SED COMMUNITY CENTER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Mark Brown with the following were present:

<u>Council</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Mark Brown, Mayor	Scott Whitaker, Town Manager
Dena Barnes	Katrina Whitt, Finance Officer
Alicia Flowers	Valarie Halvorsen, Town Clerk
Dianne Laughlin	
Elizabeth McClellan	
John Wray,	

CONSENT AGENDA

Wray made a motion to approve the consent agenda, including the meeting agenda, seconded by Barnes and carried unanimously.

MANAGER PRESENTATION OF FINAL DRAFT OF FY13-14 BUDGET

Whitaker discussed the budget message and described the following key aspects of the proposed budget:

- Of the \$2,171,889 proposed budget, \$1.2M was allocated to the following capital projects: town hall land acquisition/improvements, town hall exterior repairs, trail development, athletic park Field House repairs, and athletic park entrance.
- The tax rate was proposed to remain at 3.5¢ with \$1,029,339 allocated from the fund balance.
- Revenue and expenditure projections were highlighted.
- Summerfield's population has increased approximately 50% in 13 years. The median family income and average home price are both two times that of the state average and the poverty rate is 4%, compared to the state average of 16%.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

The following items were discussed: tax collection rate (98%); wages and salaries; website redesign and branding; staff insurance; completion of the development ordinance rewrite; Parks & Recreation salaries, contracts, tools and supplies, SAP operating costs vs. revenues; and Zoning Board and Board of Adjustment education and training.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Gail Dunham, 5805 Snow Hill Drive, made the following comments: she felt the budget documents were incomplete; Laughlin School should be utilized for meeting space rather than constructing any new town facilities; the almost \$2.2M budget is ambitious and lacks detail; the budget process was flawed and has not given the public ample opportunity to comment; and branding and website redesign is not as important as needed facility repairs.

Opened: Mark Brown, Mayor; Dena Barnes, Alicia Flowers, Dianne Laughlin, Elizabeth McClellan, John Wray

Staff: Scott Whitaker, Town Manager; Katrina Whitt, Finance Officer; Valarie Halvorsen, Town Clerk; Doreen Jones, Planning Director

Cheri Pickett, 7804 Robinson Road, was pleased with the low (4%) poverty rate in Summerfield and that there is no proposed tax increase, but also noted 40% of the middle class has lost income.

Dwayne Crawford, 1106 NC Highway 150 West, wanted to know the unemployment rate, and noted there were lots of foreclosures and 401k losses among Summerfield residents. He felt the property tax was not necessary and wanted council to acknowledge this publicly. He asked if the town should be in the business of running ballfields, and if it could do that well. He felt ballfields and the Founders' Day festival are not the business of government.

With no further business, a motion was made at 8:50pm by Wray to adjourn. The motion was seconded by McClellan and carried unanimously.



Mark E. Brown, Mayor



Valarie R. Halvorsen, Town Clerk