



C O U N C I L M I N U T E S A U G U S T 1 2 , 2 0 1 4 , 6 : 3 0 P M , S F D C O M M U N I T Y C E N T E R

The meeting was called to order at 6:32pm by Tim Sessoms. The invocation was led by Cheri Pikett, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The following were present:

Council

Tim Sessoms, Mayor
Dena Barnes
Mike Adams
Alicia Flowers
Dianne Laughlin
Elizabeth McClellan

Staff

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

CONSENT AGENDA

McClellan motioned to approve the consent agenda, including the meeting agenda, open and closed session minutes for 7/8, the financial report, and Finance Officer budget amendments #4 (FY13-14) and #1 (FY14-15). The motion was seconded by Barnes and carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Whitaker announced two events on 9/13, a SAP Touch-a-Truck event for kids and a SCP Music-in-the-Park event featuring the Stephen Legree Band.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Frank Ficca of 6300 Westcott Drive asked that the citizens be informed via the town website when rezoning applications are received and that careful consideration be given to the Development Ordinance rewrite to ensure development that is appropriate for the town.

Gail Dunham of 5805 Snow Hill Drive felt the town was remiss in scheduling last month's rezoning meetings, and discussed cats that were left behind at the Gordon property, the Gordon demolition, staff compensation, and the SRA's failure to provide requested financial documents.

Dwayne Crawford of 1106 NC 150 West requested that a trail inventory be done to assess existing trails and utilization prior to new trail construction.

Cheri Pikett of 7804 Robinson Road did not want to see commercial development at the forthcoming I-73/NC 150 intersection; she felt a generator at town hall was a good idea.

Kathy Flanigan of 7532 Strawberry Road asked for donations of children's books for the Free Little Library at Golden Antiques and Treasures.

Adrian Williamson of 3901 Lewiston Road did not agree that a town hall generator is needed, noting the town already owns a large generator and power outages are infrequent and brief.

Whitaker clarified that the purpose of the mobile, town-owned generator is to power shelters during emergency situations. The two public mentions of a town hall generator referred to an idea passed

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along to the Public Safety Committee for consideration at its next meeting. The question is whether a permanent/fixed, "stand-by" generator would be a sound investment, apart from the mobile unit.

Gregg Geofreys of 6108 Percheron Trail apologized for speaking so strongly during last month's meeting and expressed his desire to work together, and not against each other.

COMMITTEE / EVENT REPORTS

- A. **Finance:** There was no July meeting; the next meeting would be 8/18.
- B. **Historical:** There was no July meeting; the next meeting would be 8/28.
- C. **Public Safety:** There was no July meeting; the next meeting would be 9/17.
- D. **Trails and Open Space:** There was no July meeting; the committee planned to continue discussion about trail-route options 8/27.

BUSINESS FROM TOWN MANAGER

- A. **Approval of October 11 for Summer-Cycle fall recycle event:** Flowers motioned to approve October 11 as the date for the Summer-Cycle fall recycling event, seconded by Adams, which carried unanimously.
- B. **Elimination of Athletic Park Advertising and Sponsorship Policy (POL-2010-003):** During the budget process, the Finance Committee recommended eliminating the SAP banner-advertising program. This was also discussed by council during budget deliberations, and it was eliminated from the approved fee schedule. Following discussion about pricing, revenue expectations, manpower, and administrative requirements to implement and maintain such a program, Barnes motioned to table consideration of elimination of the Athletic Park Advertising and Sponsorship Policy (POL-2010-003) indefinitely. The motion was seconded by Flowers and carried unanimously.
- C. **Founders' Day 2015:** Whitaker acknowledged the event coincides with budget season and requires an enormous amount of staff time. Flowers requested that moving forward, staff time spent on Founders' Day be tracked and reported. There was discussion of attendance levels, securing and retaining vendors, this year's event coinciding with other events, parade participation, and the possibility of outsourcing event planning. It was decided by consensus to keep the Friday night portion the same, shorten the Saturday hours to end at 4pm, attempt to increase parade participation, and get input from the future merchants' association, if it reorganizes.
- D. **A&Y Greenway (discussion of width and surface requirements):** In early 2012, the town entered into an agreement with NCDOT to build a "multi-use underpass for the Atlantic & Yadkin Greenway under US 220 just south of SR 2117 (Summerfield Road)," which described the greenway as a "continuation of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail (MST)" and stated that the town "must construct the continuation of the A&Y Greenway." The agreement specified a greenway as opposed to a simple local trail.

Whitaker said that greenways are "shared use paths" that have specific design requirements when using certain state or federal funds and must be built per design requirements of the

NCDOT, American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). He explained that greenways are designed similar to public roadways, but on a smaller scale. He added that the paved width must be 10' minimum, it typically ranges from 10' to 14', and that 8' is permissible for short distances in order to avoid an obstruction. The total width area needed is much larger than the actual paved surface due to shoulders, necessary drainage features (pipes and ditches), and potential railings, signage, lighting, and/or bridges/boardwalks. Shoulders are to be 2' on each side. If the town decided not to construct a full greenway to these standards, it would fall short of the municipal agreement with NCDOT and risk obligation for 20% of the actual cost (plus administrative costs) of the US 220 underpass/pedestrian tunnel.

Flowers did not think council was fully aware of what they agreed to in 2012 and that it might have perceived a more rural trail. McClellan and Flowers said they were under the impression that the town would determine the nature of the trail. McClellan noted the most important factor is what the citizens want.

There was discussion about construction and maintenance expenses, funding sources, and the possibility of garnering corporate sponsors. Speaking from the floor, Dwayne Crawford suggested allowing citizens to decide through a bond referendum; Flowers liked the idea.

Whitaker said he and Trails and Open Space Committee Chair Paul Lambrecht would be attending a Mountains-to-Sea Trail conference in early September.

- E. Reports, updates, or comments:** Whitaker reported that: following recent investment recommendations, \$7.5M had been reallocated per the council's directive; the Gordon southern tract demolition was underway and information was posted on the town site for citizens; a portion of Strawberry Road would be closed through 11/30 for bridge replacement; portions of Centerfield and Greenlawn Roads were about to be repaved; and Whitaker received moderator recommendations for a strategic planning retreat. He requested workable dates and was directed to poll council electronically for an agreeable Saturday date.

REPORTS, UPDATES, OR COMMENTS FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Flowers wanted to discuss the November tree lighting event during the September council meeting and requested copies of After-Action reports for future events, as well as committee member attendance records when considering reappointments.

Barnes stated the MPO meeting would be 8/27. Sessoms thanked staff for their hard work.

Hill stated work on the UDO rewrite is more than 50% complete.

CLOSED SESSION

Barnes motioned to recess to closed session at 8:36pm for the following reason: to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee as provided under NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6). The motion was seconded by Adams and carried unanimously.

McClellan motioned to return to open session at 9:30pm, seconded by Barnes, which carried unanimously.

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OTHER BUSINESS

Adams motioned to give Whitaker a 4% salary increase retroactive to June 11. The motion was seconded by McClellan and carried unanimously.

With no further business, a motion was made at 9:31pm by Barnes to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Adams and carried unanimously.

Tim Sessoms, Mayor

Valarie R. Halvorsen, Town Clerk