

Index: Minutes, Summerfield Town Council
September 13, 2011

Approval of Minutes of the August 9, 2011 meeting and Financial Report (passed unanimously)	Page 1
Consideration of MOA with NCDOT for 220 Widening (unanimous motion to officially appeal need for fencing)	Page 2
Consideration/Approval of Hunter Enterprises Contract (passed unanimously)	Page 2
Consideration/Approval of Volunteer Appreciation Funds Use (by consensus, approval to use funds to provide volunteer meals during future events)	Page 2
Consideration/Approval of Unsealing Closed Session Minutes as Recommended by Attorney (passed unanimously)	Page 3
Appoint Carla Bluitt to Parks & Rec Committee (passed unanimously)	Page 3
Appoint Richard Lipinski to Public Safety Committee (passed unanimously)	Page 3

**MINUTES OF THE
SUMMERFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
SUMMERFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER
SEPTEMBER 13, 2011
6:30 PM**

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

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm by Mark Brown.
The invocation was led by Linda Southard, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

INTRODUCTIONS:

Council:

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

Staff:

Michael Brandt, Town Manager
Dana Luther, Finance Officer
William Hill, Town Attorney
Valarie Halvorsen, Town Clerk

CONSENT AGENDA:

Brown suggested adding item 11E Closed Session to consult with the attorney.

Barnes made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as amended, including the meeting agenda, minutes of the August 9, 2011 meeting, and Financial Report. The motion was seconded by Flowers and carried unanimously.

SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

Don Wendelken, 3406 Windswept Dr. stated he was offering a \$100 reward for any information regarding stolen campaign signs. He further noted his feeling that Summerfield should remain a Town and not become a City, and is concerned that the Summerfield Road Special Area Plan will lead to increased growth and commercialization of the historic district.

Eddie Bridges, 2007 Hamilton Rd Greensboro, gave an update about the Wildlife Education Center.

Mark Mortensen, 6110 Percheron Trail, agreed with speaker Wendelken, stating he likes the small town atmosphere Summerfield offers.

Gail Dunham, 5805 Snow Hill Dr. asked why the Wildlife Education Center was having a hard time receiving the money pledged by Council when it seems that the Summerfield Youth Council did not have any such difficulties. She also discussed the condition of the Town Hall building, and feels it should have been obvious that the brick found on the sidewalk did not fall from the building.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. Finance:** Luther stated there was no August meeting, the September meeting was cancelled, and the next meeting was scheduled for October 17.
- B. Historical:** Linda Southard said the August 25 meeting with guest speaker Marilyn Swinson was well attended. The next meeting is September 29.
- C. Parks & Rec:** Sherrie Joseph said the committee continues to work on programming and events, and is working with the MPO on the A&Y Feasibility Study.
- D. Public Safety:** No report.

E. SFD Rd/Development Ord.: Wray said the next SFD Rd meeting was September 19 and the Open House would be October 4. Barnes said the DO committee has been reviewing streets, connectivity and Right of Way.

BUSINESS FROM TOWN MANAGER

A. Consideration/Approval of MOA with NCDOT for 220 Widening

Brandt stated there were several reasons NCDOT required fencing: to provide for safety, identification of the right of way, and to prevent illegal driveway connections. He stated council could choose to pursue the options of no fencing, alternative fencing, and landscaping in addition to or in lieu of fencing. To do so would require an official appeal.

Wray made a motion directing the Town Manager to send an official letter of appeal requesting no fencing. The motion was seconded by Williams and carried unanimously.

Brandt also reported that the type of lighting selected for the tunnel was Council's choice, that NCDOT just needs to know what option is selected prior to tunnel construction. He intends to ask the MPO to share costs.

B. Consideration/Approval of Hunter Enterprises Contract

Brandt stated Brockman's Lawn Care is unable to continue the contract to maintain the SAP athletic fields. Hunter Enterprises is willing to take over the current contract at the same rate as Brockman. Hunter was the 2nd lowest bidder when the contract was bid last year. They also provide other field maintenance services and were the subcontractor that originally installed the fields.

Barnes made a motion to approve the SAP Athletic Field Maintenance Contract with Hunter Enterprises. The motion was seconded by Laughlin and carried unanimously.

C. Discussion/Approval of Volunteer Appreciation Funds Use

Brandt recommends utilizing the remaining Volunteer Appreciation Funds to provide refreshments for volunteers during remaining Town events. Council agreed by consensus.

D. Report on Meetings or Activities

Brandt stated the Armfield Master Plan project has been put on hold because I-73 will impact the property much more than previously thought. The plan will be redeveloped when more information about I-73 is made known.

E. Closed Session

Hill read the reason for entering Closed Session: **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.**

Wray made a motion to enter Closed Session at 7:25 pm. The motion was seconded by Barnes and carried unanimously.

Barnes made a motion to return to Open Session at 7:39 pm. The motion was seconded by Flowers and carried unanimously.

BUSINESS FROM TOWN COUNCIL

A. Consideration/Approval of Unsealing Closed Session Minutes

Hill stated the following Closed Session Minutes were to be unsealed in entirety: March 15, 2007, August 12, 2008, November 30, 2009, February 9, 2010, May 11, 2010, June 8, 2010, August 8, 2010, September

1, 2010, September 14, 2010, October 12, 2010, December 8, 2010, and April 12, 2011. The following minutes are to be unsealed with portions redacted: August 14, 2007, December 19, 2007, March 9, 2010, June 14, 2011, and July 12, 2011.

Barnes made a motion to approve unsealing of Closed Session minutes as recommended by Town Attorney William Hill. The motion was seconded by Flowers and carried unanimously.

B. Appoint Carla Bluit to Parks & Rec Committee

Barnes made a motion to appoint Carla Bluit to the Parks & Recreation Committee. The motion was seconded by Wray and carried unanimously.

C. Appoint Richard Lipinski to Public Safety Committee

Barnes made a motion to appoint Richard Lipinski to the Public Safety Committee. The motion was seconded by Laughlin and carried unanimously.

D. Report on Meetings or Activities

Barnes attended an MPO meeting.

BUSINESS FROM MAYOR

A. Proclamation – Constitution Week

Brown read the proclamation:

WHEREAS, September 17, 2011 marks the two hundred twenty-fourth anniversary of the drafting of the Constitution of the United States of America by the Constitutional Convention; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper to accord official recognition to this magnificent document and its memorable anniversary, to the patriotic celebrations which will commemorate the occasion, and the utmost importance that all citizens fully understand the provisions and principles contained in the Constitution in order to support, preserve, and defend it against all encroachments; and

WHEREAS, it gives us the opportunity to recall the high ideals and devotion to liberty of the men who framed our Constitution and to commemorate the many blessings enjoyed by our nation; and

WHEREAS, the freedoms guaranteed to American citizens, whether by birth or through naturalization, should be recognized during Constitution Week, as designated by the President of the United States, and in accordance with Public Law 915.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark E. Brown, Mayor of the Town of Summerfield, do hereby proclaim the week of September 11 – September 17, 2011, to be designated as

“CONSTITUTION WEEK IN SUMMERFIELD, NORTH CAROLINA”

and encourage the citizens of Summerfield to take time during this week to reflect upon and to be appreciative of the many benefits of our Constitution and American citizenship.

Proclaimed this the 13th day of September 2011.

B. Proclamation – Week of Service in Remembrance of 9/11

Brown read the proclamation:

WHEREAS, on September 11, 2001, the peace and security of our nation was shaken by cowardly terrorist attacks that killed nearly 3,000 innocent and brave people, and September 11, 2011 marked the tenth anniversary of those attacks; and

WHEREAS, while we still continue to recover, the spirit of our citizens have been revitalized, giving way to expressions of patriotism, unity, strength, renewed national pride and a true love of country; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States, on September 11, 2009, issued the Patriot Day Proclamation officially and permanently designating September 11 as a National Day of Service and Remembrance, and calling upon all interested Americans to participate in this observance through moments of silence, the flying of the flag of the United States at half-staff, and community service and charitable activities in tribute and remembrance.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark E. Brown, Mayor of the Town of Summerfield, do hereby proclaim, in tribute to all of the victims of 9/11 and the many who rose in service in response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks, that the Town of Summerfield will observe the week of September 11 – September 17, 2011, as

“A WEEK OF SERVICE IN REMEMBRANCE OF 9/11”

and encourage the citizens of Summerfield to take time to reflect upon and join this observance and to engage in activities of tribute, solemn remembrance and charitable service.

Proclaimed this the 13th day of September 2011.

C. Certificate of Appreciation –Jeanne Plybon

Brown read the certificate and expressed thanks for Jeanne Plybon’s service on the Development Ordinance Advisory Group.

D. Report on Meetings or Activities

Brown attended a Mayor’s meeting, during which there was discussion about increasing cooperation between Greensboro and the Towns.

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

Brown read the following statement into the record:

“I am taking my time in the Council Comments portion of our agenda to address an email that our Council and others received on Friday, September 9 from Dwayne Crawford. I feel my comments are necessary at this time for two reasons. First I want to show once and for all the thought process and facts that go into the creation of one of the conspiracy theories that this town has been bombarded with over the last eight years. Secondly since this is an election year in Summerfield and this latest conspiracy theory has been partly directed at me and sent far and wide by email I think the facts need to be shown to dispel the falsehood. The email from Mr. Crawford’s email account that I received I am now quoting:

Council and candidates, I called Charlie Collicutt at the Board of Elections last Friday (9 2 2011) and withdrew from the local race. You may have noticed I've recently missed a couple meetings...not that the current council particularly cares if anyone other than their sycophants show up (google it), but like many others in Summerfield I'm dealing with much larger workload these days than a regular 40 hour work week can deal with. To the challengers - good luck - for far too long our council has been dominated by the same old, stupid, self-loving, angry, retired people. Mr. Wendelken, and challengers...a favor, please...for far too long Mr. Brown has failed to reveal details about economic development benefits he received from the national, town paid, "economic development" (per town GL) advertisement back in 2004. Every time I've asked him, he gets struck by amnesia. In his own words, the benefit was his (Brown) learning about property which resulted in 83 houses "we're getting" (Brown's exact words) in Summerfield. Advertising was paid for by town check# 3375. Attached is copy of that advertising, audio of Brown's council table revelation of his benefiting from town-paid advertising, and transcript of Brown's council table conversation with Jane Doggett (she was clearly knowledgeable about the 83 houses Brown said he and others were getting). Its time for Brown and Doggett to come clean on how town money they spent benefited them! Its also time for this stinking "Government in a Closet" business to end.

Dwayne Crawford

P.S. Just want to point out I didn't call anyone a CAVE person. How tremendously ignorant and self absorbed one must be to call someone else "against virtually everything"? Mrs. Barnes should have just come out and said, "I simply don't like people that disagree with me." In that context, this would actually make Barnes the CAVE person and not everyone else, right? Calling citizens "CAVE people", how very clever Mrs. Barnes must think she is. Calling citizens "CAVE people", how incendiary!!!!

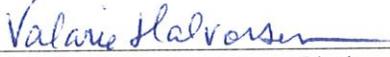
Sometime in 2004 I saw a News 2 at 6pm report of a man who was planning to develop property on the Guilford/Rockingham County line in unincorporated Guilford and Rockingham counties. This man proposed to build houses with an aircraft runway in the middle for use by homeowners. At a Summerfield Town Council meeting sometime later, for some reason, I thought about the News 2 story and turned to Councilwoman Jane Doggett who sat beside me and asked her if she had by chance saw or heard of the News 2 story or of the proposed development. I recall she had seen the story and sometime within the conversation of air strips and residences she asked if I knew that a local Summerfield chiropractor had an air strip at his home. I indicated to her I did not know this. A year or two later Mr. Crawford approached me at a Council meeting and made some comment which I do not remember now but which made me think that he was making some type of accusation of me. I was clueless of what he was talking about. For some weeks later I was troubled over his comments. For some reason, the News 2 story and my comments to Councilwoman Doggett came to me and I felt that this was probably what Mr. Crawford was talking about. I subsequently asked Mrs. Doggett if she remembered that conversation and she said she did. The transcript of a Council meeting which was attached to the September 9 email from Mr. Crawford further convinces me that the News 2 story and my comments to Councilwoman Doggett were the gist of Mr. Crawford’s accusation. In my opinion this is the entire basis for the first part of the conspiracy

theory in the September 9 email. In the September 9 email Mr. Crawford also alludes to a check, and to an economic benefit that I received that resulted from a town council action. At the March 23, 2004 town meeting the town Council voted to partner with Summerfield businesses to buy an ad in the US Airways magazine entitled "Attache" as an economic development tool. The town paid an ad agency to place this ad. As a Council person I voted against the motion to approve the magazine ad. In my lifetime I have had an economic interest in only four properties all of which are public record at the Guilford County Register of Deeds office. I was part owner of the house located at 956 NC Hwy 150 West with my ex-wife from 1979 until she became the owner during an equitable distribution in 2001. I rebuilt in 2002 at 6212 Horseshoe Dr., Summerfield on family property that has been in the family since 1926. In 2003 when my aunt died I bought her house located at 4265 Hamburg Mill Rd., Summerfield from her estate. In 2006 when my father died I inherited the home place located at 4258 Hamburg Mill Rd. Summerfield. This is the entirety of any real estate dealings that I have ever been a part of. I have not been an investor in, nor a silent partner, nor in any way had any interest with anyone in a housing development or any business or business property anywhere. Neither have I directly or indirectly received any type of benefit resulting from the ad placed in 'Attache' magazine by vote of the Summerfield Town Council. Again, the foregoing facts illustrate the creative lengths that have been resorted to in the creation of the conspiracy theories that the town council, the community volunteers and the citizens of Summerfield have been subjected to over the last 8 years. I ask Mr. Crawford and others to cease this constant barrage of false conspiracy theories in the future and instead help work to build a Town of Summerfield that our families and citizens can be proud of. I have worked tirelessly since soon after the town was incorporated to volunteer to help in building the town and I am proud of it."

With no further business before the Town Council, a motion was made at 8:00 pm by Wray to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Laughlin and carried unanimously.



Mark E. Brown, Mayor



Valarie Halvorsen, Town Clerk