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October 9, 2012

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Town of Summerfield – Council Minutes

Summerfield Community Center

October 9, 2012 | 6:30PM | 5404 Centerfield Road

Town Council: Mayor Mark F. Brown

Mayor Pro-Tem Dena Barnes

Alicia Flowers

Dianne Laughlin

Valarie Halvorsen (Clerk)

Elizabeth McClellan

Scott Whitaker (Manager)

John W. Wray, Jr.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm 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
Elizabeth McClellan
John Wray

Staff

Scott Whitaker, Town Manager
William Hill, Town Attorney
Dana Luther, Finance Officer
Valarie Halvorsen, Town Clerk

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Barnes made a motion to approve the consent agenda, including the meeting agenda, minutes of the 9/11 and 9/25 meetings, financial report, and Finance Officer budget amendment #5 (FY11-12). The motion was seconded by Wray and carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brown introduced Jeff Phillips, District 5 county commissioner candidate, and reminded all of the November 3 Fall SummerCycle recycling event to be held 8:00am-2:00pm at Laughlin School.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Don Wendelken, 3406 Windswept Drive, acknowledged his support of Jeff Phillips, spoke about early voting, provided his reasons for voting, and encouraged all to vote for change.

Steve Kingsbury, 4202 Joseph Hoskins Road, Elmhurst Estates homeowner, expressed appreciation to council and staff for hearing concerns of residents regarding the 220 traffic signal and noise wall. He felt it important to get the information to citizens.

Dick Howard of Community Lutheran Church, 4960 US Highway 220, also expressed thanks to council and staff, and desired to continue to interact with NCDOT about citizen safety concerns.

Jeff Phillips, 6108 Mountain Brook Road, spoke of his campaign to be a District 5 county commissioner. He is a long-time Summerfield resident and fiscal conservative who is concerned with budget overspending and unemployment.

Guy Morrison, 7600 Frogs Leap Way, is the operator of The Shrimp Connection. He is a long-time Summerfield resident, his business contributes to the tax base, and it supports Tabitha's Ministry. Regarding The Shrimp Connection's pending citation, he acknowledged town efforts to seek a solution.

Gail Dunham, 5805 Snow Hill Drive, recommended cancelling the October 22 Zoning Board meeting because it would be the same night of the final presidential debate. She also spoke about the proposed employee benefits policy.

COMMITTEE / GROUP REPORTS

- A. **Finance:** Dana Luther said the next meeting would be October 15, during which the committee would continue discussion of the investment policy and investment options.
- B. **Historical:** Linda Southard stated the committee met September 27 and discussed goals, focusing on conducting interviews with local veterans, four of which have been completed. The committee had received a list of all Summerfield veterans from Gladys Scarlette.
- C. **Public Safety:** Roxanne Gilgallon stated the committee had been tasked with considering traffic concerns pertaining to the Highway 220 widening project and then making a formal recommendation for the town's consideration. While not on the agenda as a discussion topic, Gilgallon highlighted the committee's formal recommendations. She stated that flow traffic lanes would increase to four with an increase in southbound traffic in the mornings and northbound traffic in the evenings, and this traffic increase may impede local and school traffic, along with fire and emergency service response times. The committee recommended the following: a signal light at the intersection of Highway 220 and Joseph Hoskins Road equipped with a sensor; that the signal light at the intersection of Highway 220 and Scalesville Road be equipped with turning arrows; and perhaps a speed limit reduction to 45 mph.

BUSINESS FROM TOWN MANAGER

- A. **Introduction of Manager Assistant/Events Coordinator Amy Werner:** Whitaker introduced Werner, who stated she is looking forward to meeting and working with citizens.
- B. **New-employee benefits policy:** Whitaker stated the intent was to bring more equity to how employee benefits are granted to future employees. There was discussion of the following changes to the draft policy: removal of "part-time" in the sentence "...insurance benefits will be available to regular *part-time* employees working a minimum of 20 hours per week...;" the addition of "Town's"* to "...for the provision of the * dependent and/or spousal insurance...;" removal of the last sentence "These benefits changes will be incorporated into the most current version of the *Town of Summerfield Personnel Policies and Manual*;" grandfathered employees who elect the new benefits option will not be able to revert back to the original option; and moving "An employee who chooses to forego employee medical insurance and can provide proof..." to a separate paragraph.

Barnes made a motion to approve the proposed group insurance benefits changes, with the five changes discussed, to be effective October 1, 2012. The motion was seconded by McClellan and carried unanimously.

- C. **Appointment of NCLM voting delegate for October conference:** Whitaker planned to attend the October NCLM conference in Brown's stead. Brown recommended appointing Whitaker as the voting delegate.

Flowers motion to appoint Whitaker as the NCLM voting delegate, seconded by Wray, which carried unanimously.

- D. **Reports, updates, or comments:** Whitaker provided the following information: options were being explored regarding two recent Board of Adjustment appeals; the Public Safety committee would continue addressing Highway 220 widening concerns; Kimley-Horn would submit a traffic engineering proposal regarding Highway 220 widening concerns; a dedicated

computer server was installed at town hall; security issues at town parks had been addressed; and Whitaker welcomed Amy Werner and noted work was continuing on staffing needs.

BUSINESS FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL

A. **Red Ribbon Week proclamation:** Brown read the Proclamation, which is hereby incorporated into these minutes:

WHEREAS, the Town of Summerfield values the health and safety of all our citizens; and; **WHEREAS**, substance abuse is particularly damaging to one of our most valuable resources, our children, and; **WHEREAS**, observance of Red Ribbon Week brings millions of people together to raise awareness of the dangers of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, and encourage prevention, early intervention, and treatment services, and is the largest, most visible prevention awareness campaign observed annually in the United States; and **WHEREAS**, it is the goal of Red Ribbon Week to involve families, schools businesses, churches, law enforcement agencies and service organizations in all aspects of this campaign and establish an atmosphere that supports awareness, education and on-going initiatives to prevent illegal drug use; **NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Mark E. Brown, Mayor of the Town of Summerfield, do hereby proclaim the week of **October 23 - October 31, 2012**, to be designated as "**RED RIBBON WEEK IN SUMMERFIELD, NORTH CAROLINA**" and encourage the citizens of Summerfield to take time, not only during this week, but all year long, to participate in drug free activities. **Proclaimed this the 9th day of October 2012.**

B. **Reports and updates (as needed):** Barnes serves on the Guilford County Gang Commission and noted the need for male volunteers to serve as Big Brothers.

Luther was excused at 7:34 pm.

CLOSED SESSION

Brown read the reasons for entering into closed session as follows: to consult with an attorney and in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege as provided under NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3).

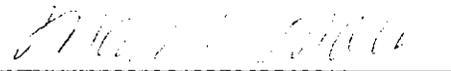
Wray made a motion to enter into Closed Session at 7: 35pm, seconded by McClellan and carried unanimously.

Barnes made a motion to return to Open Session at 7:49pm, seconded by McClellan and carried unanimously.

Potential approval of RFP bid for SAP Field House repairs

Flowers made a motion to table potential approval of RFP bid for SAP Field House repairs, seconded by Barnes, which carried unanimously.

With no further business before the Town Council, a motion was made at 7:50pm by Wray to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Barnes and carried unanimously.



Mark E. Brown, Mayor



Valarie Halvorsen, Town Clerk