



Town Hall: POB 970, 4117 Oak Ridge Road, Summerfield, NC 27358
 ph: 336-643-8655 / fax: 336-643-8654 / www.summerfieldgov.com

C O U N C I L M I N U T E S O C T O B E R 1 3 , 2 0 1 5 , 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 Linda Southard, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The following were present:

Council

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

Staff

Scott Whitaker, Town Manager
 William Hill, Town Attorney (arrived at 6:42pm)
 Katrina Whitt, Finance Officer
 Valarie Halvorsen, Town Clerk

McClellan motioned to formally excuse Adams, seconded by Barnes, carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

McClellan motioned to approve the consent agenda, including the meeting agenda, open and closed session minutes for 9/8, financial report, and Armfield secondary road additions resolution (RES-2015-004). The motion was seconded by Barnes and carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Whitaker stated the town tree lighting event would be 11/21, 5:30pm at SAP; the 10/3 SummerCycle recycling event was a success with 215 vehicles processed; the 10/3 Touch-a-Truck event was a tremendous success and Vulcan Materials provided 250 free hot dogs for attendees.

Barnes announced her candidacy for re-election to council; McClellan announced her candidacy for mayor.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Council candidate John O'Day of 7013 Mustang Court said the key issues facing Summerfield are: the impact from road construction on small-town feel; the need to preserve town history, character, and rural charm; finishing the Development Ordinance rewrite; keeping taxes low; ensuring ordinances are clear, concise, and in line with the Comprehensive Plan; and completing the A&Y Greenway.

Council candidate Reese Walker of 979 NC-150 West agreed with O'Day.

Council candidate Dwayne Crawford of 1106 NC-150 West spoke about reduced water access for the fire department due to algae congestion at water points and recommended investigating a long-term solution; he had contacted several agencies about it.

Council candidate Adrian Williamson of 3901 Lewiston Road felt money spent on trails could be better used to help citizens and wanted to keep taxes low and preserve Summerfield's rural heritage.

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Gail Dunham of 5805 Snow Hill Drive thanked Crawford for looking into the water-point algae issue, noting that the county should clean the lakes/ponds rather than Summerfield paying for it, stated expenses associated with the A&Y would result in increased property taxes, and felt fire hydrants would benefit developers such as Paul Milam, who contributed \$1400 to Mark Brown's mayoral campaign a few years ago.

Council candidate Cheri Pikett of 7804 Robinson Road expressed concern about the impact of I-73 and suggested asking NCDOT to have regular meetings with affected residents. Pikett further noted people are more important than "wants."

Northwest Observer editor Patti Stokes of 6911 Maynard Road stated there was participation by all candidates in the election news section slated for the upcoming issue.

COMMITTEE / EVENT REPORTS

- A. **Finance:** Whitt said during the 9/21 meeting the committee decided to move \$500,000 in excess funds in the Suntrust checking account to the Bank of North Carolina money market account, the FY14-15 audit was almost complete, the next meeting would be 11/16.
- B. **Historical:** Linda Southard stated the committee was working on historical markers for Laughlin School and the Bugle Boy site on NC-150; they were currently interviewing WWII veterans.
- C. **Public Safety:** Dwayne Crawford said the committee elected officers during the 9/16 meeting, work was in progress for an instruction manual for operating the town generator, the fire department was concerned about water-point algae congestion, the Sheriff's department asked that citizens keep their valuables locked securely, the next meeting would be 10/21.
- D. **Trails and Open Space:** Jane Doggett said the committee would continue discussion about the preservation of open space during the 10/28 meeting.

BUSINESS FROM TOWN MANAGER

- A. **Board of Adjustment Reappointment (Don Wendelken):** Flowers motioned to reappoint Don Wendelken as a Board of Adjustment alternate, seconded by McClellan, carried unanimously.
- B. **Speed limit reduction within intersection (Oak Ridge Rd. and Summerfield Rd.):** Whitaker stated the intersection's historic properties are experiencing considerable vibration due to heavy construction hauling during I-73 and US-220 construction and that large-vehicle traffic would continue after completion of these projects. Speed through the intersection compounds the vibration problem. Whitaker met with NCDOT and NC State Historic Preservation Office representatives to address concerns and impacts. NCDOT then conducted vibration monitoring and patched some rough pavement that made a small improvement.

NCDOT offered to consider a speed limit reduction at the town's request. Whitaker stated that a speed limit reduction from 35mph to 25mph would be congruent with Policy 11.2 of the Comprehensive Plan. Following discussion about where to begin/end a 25-mph zone (suggested from Brisbane Road to US- 220 along Oak Ridge Road and Medearis Street to Laughlin along Summerfield Road), Barnes motioned to formally request an NCDOT review of speed limits and transitions in the historic district and extending down Summerfield Road to Laughlin. Hill

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stated as there seemed to be two separate concerns (vibrations from construction traffic and speed limits) that it may be more prudent to make a more general request, to ask NCDOT to analyze and make a recommendation first, then negotiate. Following brief discussion, Barnes rescinded her motion. Flowers motioned that the town formally request that NCDOT review speed limits and transitions in the area of the intersection of Summerfield and Oak Ridge Roads in the interest of preserving the town's historic buildings. The motion was seconded by McClellan and carried unanimously.

- C. Consolidated Committee Ordinance:** Whitaker stated a goal of streamlining and consolidating committee-related ordinances, noting the draft ordinance established uniformity and complemented the Comprehensive Plan's goal of maintaining a limited-services government with lots of citizen engagement via advisory committees and diversity. The proposal was to rescind O-2008-002 "Ordinance Establishing the General Rules of Procedure for Summerfield Committees" as well as the individual committee establishing ordinances: Finance (O-2008-009), Founders' Day (O-2009-003), Public Safety (O-2009-004), and Trails & Open Space (O-2013-004) and to replace them with ORD-2015-002 "Consolidated Committee Ordinance." Whitaker further noted that the Summerfield Parks & Recreation Committee's establishing ordinance was rescinded by default when the committee was officially disbanded 3/13/12, and the Historical Committee (active) and Summerfield Road Special Area Plan Committee (on hiatus) did not have an establishing ordinances. Some noteworthy changes proposed were to amend membership numbers to odd numbers (to prevent tie votes) and to limit volunteer service to no more than two committees simultaneously (not including Zoning Board and Board of Adjustment, which are separate from advisory committees) to allow more citizen participation.

Flowers and McClellan asked about meeting attendance; Whitaker stated the information was tracked by committee chairs. McClellan requested that attendance information be provided when considering reappointments. Laughlin suggested adding that in the case of service on multiple committees a member should only be allowed to chair one committee; McClellan stated committees appoint their own officers. Flowers did not agree with limiting simultaneous service if there were no other applicants; McClellan agreed.

Following further discussion about limiting simultaneous service, existing term limits, and annual committee reports, McClellan motioned to approve ORD-2015-002 Consolidated Committee Ordinance (thereby rescinding O-2008-002 General Rules of Procedure for Summerfield Committees, and individual committee establishing ordinances: O-2008-009 Finance, O-2009-003 Founders' Day, O-2009-004 Public Safety, O-2013-004 Trails & Open Space), with the following amendments: remove item 6 on page two that limits the number of committees a person may serve on simultaneously, add that a person on more than one committee may only serve as the chair for one, add the requirement of a simple, written report about the year's accomplishments, and strike from page 4 in section 3. Historical Committee "Create and maintain an inventory or properties of historical significance, including houses, barns, farms, commercial buildings, cemeteries, monuments and markers, railroad artifacts, historic districts, etc. through written descriptions and photographs." The motion was seconded by Flowers and carried unanimously.

- D. Reports, updates, or comments:** Whitaker stated Richard Schlobohm had been hired as a part-time seasonal Parks & Recreation Attendant.



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BUSINESS FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL

- A. **Unsealing of closed session minutes:** Flowers motioned to release closed session minutes as recommended by the town attorney, seconded by Barnes, carried unanimously.
- B. **Tree lighting co-sponsorship with Summerfield Merchants Association:** Sessoms stated during the last merchants association meeting, members voted to contribute \$500 for the tree lighting event. The association particularly wanted to lead the food drive effort for Backpack Buddies, approved by consensus.
- C. **Reports, updates, or comments:** Flowers attended a Stokesdale council meeting which included discussion of trails with Mountains-to-Sea Trail (MST) representative Kate Dixon and recommended asking Ms. Dixon to present to Summerfield as well. Barnes stated MPO prioritization projects had been submitted for review, and the "Men Can Cook" event was very successful in raising funds for the Women's Resource Center, which celebrated its 20th anniversary in conjunction with the event.

CLOSED SESSION

McClellan motioned to enter into closed session at 8:29pm to instruct the public body's staff or negotiating agents concerning the price and other material terms concerning real property as provided under NCGS 143-318.11(a)(5). The motion was seconded by Barnes and carried unanimously.

Barnes motioned to return to open session at 9:02pm, seconded by McClellan, which carried unanimously.

With no further business, a motion was made at 9:02 by Barnes to adjourn. The motion was seconded by McClellan and carried unanimously.

Tim Sessoms, Mayor

Valarie R. Halvorsen, Town Clerk