



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 A U G U S T 9, 2 0 1 6, 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 6:30pm 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, Mayor Pro-tem
 Mike Adams
 Dianne Laughlin
 John O'Day
 Reece Walker (teleconferencing)

Staff

Scott Whitaker, Town Manager
 Valarie Halvorsen, Town Clerk
 William Hill, Town Attorney

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Brown stated the manager wanted to discuss Whitaker Road's speed limit under Other Business.

Barnes motioned to approve the consent agenda, minutes for 7/12 and 7/14, and the financial report. The motion was seconded by Laughlin and carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

O'Day announced the annual Men Can Cook fundraising event would be 9/24, 6:00pm, at the Greensboro Coliseum.

Whitaker stated Walker had joined the meeting via telephone; invited all to the 8/27 Music-in-the-Park featuring Eric and the Chill Tones; and announced two resident openings on the Finance Committee and two Board of Adjustment alternate openings.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dwayne Crawford of 1106 NC-150 West spoke against the A&Y Greenway, stating putting a trail through town along the railbed is to connect other places to each other rather than to serve citizens who live in Summerfield.

Teresa Pegram of 7401 Greenlawn Drive said too much money had already been spent on just one part of the greenway and stated citizens do not come to speak at council meetings because they feel council does not listen to them.

Martha Long of 7230 Summerfield Road said trails should be in parks with rules and times of usage rather than through property owners' front yards; affected owners were not contacted about the proposed alignment; trails should not go through towns nor be paved; and noted the abundance of already-constructed nearby trails.

Eric Long of 7230 Summerfield Road felt the trail alignment needs more thought and should be agreed upon by all parties.

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Beth Kaplan of 7979 Highfill Road stated there was much research about the benefits of trails and open space; that citizen input led to Policy Area 2 of the Comprehensive Plan which addresses trails and open space, council voted to adopt the plan, and the goal was to connect the A&Y to the MTS trail. Kaplan expressed her certainty that council would approve the best alignment to implement this goal.

COMMITTEE / EVENT REPORTS

- A. **Finance:** Whitaker said the committee did not meet 7/18. The next meeting would be 8/15 during which the committee would discuss reinvestment options following an expired CDARS investment.
- B. **Historical:** Linda Southard invited all to the veterans display open house 8/14 from 2:00pm until 4:00pm at town hall.
- C. **Trails and Open Space:** Jane Doggett said the committee elected officers during the 7/27 meeting; the next meeting would be 8/24 during which the committee would work on identifying open space in Summerfield.

EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORTS

- A. **Summerfield Fire District:** Captain Jenna Daniels reported June calls (114 total, 31 fire, 64 EMS, 19 "other"); 30 safety seats were installed. The fire department recommended that families make a fire escape plan and practice it.
- B. **Guilford Co. Sheriff's Dept.:** Captain Robert Elliott reported on crime (7 outbuilding break-ins, shopliftings from Food Lion and Walgreens, 4 assaults) and recommended securing windows and making noise if a stranger knocks on the door so they know the home is occupied, which deters crime.
- C. **Guilford Co. Emergency Services:** Whitaker read a report from Don Campbell: 71 calls in Summerfield during July; there were numerous flooding and thunderstorm incidences in July; Emergency Management recommends staying out of flooded roadways and to "Turn Around, Don't Drown."

BUSINESS FROM TOWN MANAGER

- A. **Introduction of incoming Planning Director Carrie Spencer:** Whitaker introduced Spencer noting she was a long-time Summerfield resident, had worked for the town in the past, and that her specific knowledge of and experience with both Summerfield and Guilford County would be invaluable in providing planning expertise, great customer service, and stability to the Planning Department.
- B. **A&Y Greenway (south) alignment alternatives:** Whitaker stated that a key segment of the proposed route from the US-220 pedestrian tunnel westward into Greensboro's watershed was no longer viable. An informational meeting had been held just prior to the council meeting during which alternative routes were presented by the design and engineering firm (Stewart) and input was provided by citizens.



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Iona Thomas with Stewart discussed alternative routes including associated issues, options and costs, and the need for additional parking. There was discussion about safety, pedestrian traffic signals, crosswalks, and surface parking in watershed areas. Whitaker requested direction from council as to which alignment they would like to pursue so the project could move forward.

Barnes motioned to admit Walker to the meeting as he had joined earlier by telephone. The motion was seconded by Adams and carried unanimously.

Adams motioned to approve the alignment shown in green on the map (attached) and to investigate surface parking options, seconded by Barnes. Thomas stated there would be some additional cost to do the design and engineering work for the alternate route; O'Day asked if this would exceed the contract price, Whitaker replied affirmatively. Walker offered a friendly amendment, then a substitute motion, to get a price to carry out the original alignment (shown in yellow on map); Brown replied that alignment was not a possibility and Walker withdrew his motion.

Brown called for a vote on the original motion which carried 3 to 2, Laughlin and Walker opposed.

- C. **Historical Committee appointment (new):** The applicant has a Summerfield address, but does not live in the town limits; therefore, Mr. Thornburg would like to be considered for ex-officio membership. O'Day motioned to appoint Robert Thornburg as an ex-officio member of the Historical Committee. The motion was seconded by Barnes and carried unanimously.
- D. **Reports, updates, or comments:** Whitaker reported the following: awaiting information about future water meetings with Rockingham County; The Vineyard Trail had both public and private segments with the same name (the recently-improved section is public, but another internal section is private), so the public trail had been renamed "Summerfield Vine Trail"; \$625 and approximately 400 pounds of food had been collected during the recent fundraising campaign by thru-hiker Chuck Harmon; the well pump that runs the irrigation at SAP needs to be replaced at a cost of approximately \$7,400; recruitment was on-going for another planning position; bids would soon be solicited for the SCP amphitheater cover; NCDOT is looking at options for possible bridge enhancements at the I-73/Oak Ridge Road location.

REPORTS, UPDATES, OR COMMENTS FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL: none

CLOSED SESSION

Barnes motioned to enter into closed session 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 Adams and carried unanimously.

Laughlin motioned to return to open session, seconded by Barnes, which carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Whitaker reported a resident of Whitaker Drive requested the speed limit be lowered from 40mph to 35mph. NCDOT stated the 40mph speed limit was rescinded (to 35mph) in 2003; however, the town has no records of this and the signs indicate 40mph. NCDOT will change the signs to 35mph if

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council approves. Barnes motioned to lower speed limit from 40 to 35 and ask NCDOT to replace all signs. The motion was seconded by Laughlin and carried unanimously.

With no further business, a motion was made at 8:25pm by O'Day to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Adams and carried unanimously.


 Mark Brown, Mayor


 Valarie R. Halvorsen, Town Clerk

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