

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN
TOWN OF KERNERSVILLE, N.C.
SPECIAL MEETING 9:00 A.M. JANUARY 14, 2011**

The Board of Aldermen of the Town of Kernersville met in regular session at 9:00 AM on the above date at Fidelity Bank located at 163 South Main Street.

Present: Mayor Dawn H. Morgan, Mayor Pro Tem Kevin Bugg, Aldermen Dana Caudill Jones, Keith Mason, Tracey Shifflette and Bob Prescott.

Absent: None.

Staff Present: Curtis L. Swisher, Town Manager; Dale F. Martin, Town Clerk; Jeff Hatling, Community Development Director; Kenny Gamble, Chief of Police; Doran Maltba, Public Services Director; Franz Ader, Finance Director; Ernie Pages, Parks and Recreation Director; Walt Summerville, Fire Chief; Gray Cassell, Information Systems Director; Ray Smith, Human Resources Director, and Russell Radford, Engineer Department Director.

Call to order and invocation.

Mayor Dawn Morgan called the meeting to order and Alderman Dana Caudill Jones delivered the invocation.

1. Board of Aldermen Planning Retreat.

Mayor Morgan welcomed everyone in attendance and Alderman Dana Caudill Jones delivered the invocation.

Mayor Morgan stated that the purpose of this meeting is to bring up issues that the Board would like the Staff to look into over the next year. She commended all departments and provided encouragement to keep bringing new ideas to the table to keep moving our town forward in the right direction.

1. Cooperative Issues with other Agencies

Mayor Morgan reported that we have a good relationship with other agencies.

- a. Infrastructure: City/County Utilities (CCUC)**
 - failing water lines (there have been many this year)**
 - take a proactive approach**
 - what are CCUC’s plans for maintenance, and upgrades?**

Mayor Morgan asked about upgrading N. Main Street. Mr. Maltba stated that CCUC did not want to do this project however, NCDOT refused to repave the street until the lines were fixed. The road was fixed through a cooperative effort between the Town, CCUC and NCDOT.

Mr. Radford reported on CCUC's efforts to create an inventory and assessment of the condition of existing infrastructure. They do have a program to replace older pipes, but couldn't say specifically for Kernersville's system. Slow response time for repairs was a concern for the Board and Staff. CCUC says limited staff and resources are constraints for them currently.

Mr. Maltba reported that they are also conducting a stormwater inventory. It will be large and time consuming.

Mr. Radford summarized the Board's request for a current inventory of water and sewer lines, plan for improvements and a maintenance plan for Kernersville.

Alderman Prescott recommended we contact our CCUC Board representative. Mr. Radford reported that Doug Jewel, CCUC representative gets in touch with Mayor Morgan after most meetings to provide an update.

b. 811 meeting in September – reviewing Kernersville's development regulations and land use plan in the areas of the Williams and other gas pipelines

Mayor Morgan noted that the Board was invited to attend a meeting on gas pipe line safety but were unable to attend due to a conflict with our Board meeting. Kernersville has two major pipe lines running through town. She reported that Staff is working with a N. C. 811 representative on a date to host a Regional Meeting here in Kernersville in September.

Staff reported that pipe line companies do have regulations and that local governments typically do not have additional regulations. This would be a good opportunity to look at our plans around these pipe lines.

Mayor Morgan noted that in some jurisdictions these areas are used for recreation purposes and noted that the Recreation Advisory Board may be interested in this information.

2. Beeson Park

Mayor Morgan noted the recent adoption of the revised Parks & Recreation Master Plan.

The Board and Staff held a lengthy discussion on Parks & Recreation highlighting the following areas:

- need for more space in Kernersville, the state and the country
- revised master plan
- comparison of Beeson to several parks:
 - Wake County Med Soccer Park (and cross country) in Cary, NC
 - BB&T Soccer Park in Advance, NC
 - Phillips Soccer Park in - High Point, NC
 - Oak Ridge Town Park in Oak Ridge, NC
 - Carolyn S. Allen Complex in Greensboro, NC (baseball &,softball)
 - Proehlfic Park in Greensboro NC (multiuse fields)
 - Lindsay Park in Greensboro, NC
 - Barber Park in Greensboro, NC
 - Latham Park in Greensboro, NC
 - Johnson Street Athletic Complex in High Point, NC
 - Deep River Park in High Point, NC
 - Hester Park, in Greensboro, NC - Lacrosse
 - Multiuse Parks: Kernodle Middle, Forsyth Country Day, Jesse Wharton Elementary; Mendenhall Middle; Oakridge Elementary, Oak Ridge Town Park, & Paisley Middle,

Other Items discussed:

- economic impact Beeson Park has on the area by bringing in teams from all over the country to compete in these tournaments.
- local athletes benefit from this by competing with these teams.
- top attractions in Forsyth County
- Sponsorships, current and for future development
- Parking
- Trolley or shuttle from park to downtown for special events

Mr. Pages stated that once Beeson Park is built out there is only one park in North Carolina that we would be compared to and that is the Rocky Mount Sports Complex. To take this one step further, the next comparison would be ESPN Walt Disney Wide World of Sport Complex.

Other sports that need field space:

- Kernersville Raiders, lost contract with school system and ready to move into Beeson Park, turning kids away because of equipment and space needs
- Union Cross Bobcats, currently using Southeast Middle School
- field hockey

Mayor Morgan called a recess at 10:12 AM. The meeting was reconvened at 10:24 AM.

3. Kernersville Facilities (Capital Improvement Plan)

a. Fire station plans

Fire Chief Walt Summerville updated the Board on the need for future fire stations in various locations around Town: relocation of Station 42, S. Main St. area, Teague Lane area. Also discussed what impact the hospital will have on services. How much land would be needed for these future stations was also mentioned.

The potential for a bond referendum was discussed; however Mr. Swisher advised that if we pursue a bond referendum that one be done for all facilities and not just for a fire station.

b. Public Services plans

Mr. Doran Maltba, Public Services Director updated the Board on a recommendation to revise the original plans for the public works complex. He projected a savings of approximately \$3 million to redesign the public services building and another \$1.1 million if we can eliminate another building. He reported on the department's mulching operations and the need to relocate this somewhere else other than the middle of Town.

Mr. Swisher reminded the Board of the space needs for Engineering, Police and Town Hall. Engineering could be housed in the new Public Services building but would function better if located close to Community Development. He offered options of the Police Department taking over all of Town Hall and building a new Town Hall or building a new Police Station. All of this will be very expensive.

Mayor Pro Tem Bugg suggested research funding sources that may be available to the Town.

c. Other CIP questions

4. Services

a. Legislative changes and landfill bans – recycling plans for future

Mr. Maltba presented legislative changes to landfills, banned items and monitoring requirements for the old landfill.

i. Business – update on rollout of business recycling for small businesses

He updated the Board on the business recycling program.

ii. Residential and consumer plans

- b. Forecast of impact of 2011-12 budget on town services

Mr. Swisher stated that although we are not into the budget yet, we do have concerns regarding projected revenues, State expenditures, and increases in insurance, and operating cost increases.

Mr. Swisher stated that his priority in next year's budget is to eliminate furloughs for our employees. He stated that there have been no salary increases for several years and would like to provide some type of increase. He explained that if we eliminate positions again this year, there will be an impact on services. Staff is working on a budget calendar and will distribute it when available.

- c. Inspections

Mr. Jeff Hatling, Community Development Director presented slides illustrating the Town's zoning permit activity and number of inspections conducted. He noted the department's permit and enforcement activity as well.

5. Fourth of July Park

- a. Skate park – ongoing issues

Mr. Swisher and Mr. Pages reported on the vandalism that occurs at night partly due to staffing issues. PARTF contract regulations require the park be utilized for 25 years; however it can be moved to another facility with their approval.

Mayor Morgan called a recess for lunch at 12:13 PM. Alderman Tracey Shifflette left the meeting at 12:15 PM. The meeting reconvened at 12:28 PM.

6. Land Use and Transportation Planning

- a. Thoroughfare and Street Plan study – expected date of presentation of work of citizen committee; further steps

Mr. Hatling presented the time frames for the Thoroughfare and Street Plan Study. He stated that the Committee may have a full report ready to present in May. The second Thursday in March is the time targeted by the Committee to hold a joint meeting with the Board of Aldermen, Planning Board and citizens to present the preliminary findings.

Alderman Mason and Mr. Hatling spoke of the efforts of the committee to involve the residents and the desire to hold future meetings to gather as much input as possible.

- b. Greenway Plan

Mayor Morgan stated that this list of topics was put together prior to the last Friday packet. (The Friday Packet included an update on the Greenway Plan)

- i. Questions about future need for Kilburn Road Extension (should this road be closed; designated for pedestrian access only or left on plans as a future road extension?)

Mr. Russell Radford pointed out the need for a connection between Hopkins Road and the Pope property across the creek. This road connection could be Kilburn or some other better location. There needs to be an additional connection from this area onto Old Winston-Road also. He recommended leaving this connection on the map until such time a better connection has been identified.

- i. Other Greenway questions or discussion

Mr. Radford presented an outline of the development process, a map, a summary of the cost for alternatives that have been identified.

The Board discussed issues with greenways such as construction costs, maintenance costs, and the potential for crime to occur.

- c. Downtown – trolley between downtown locations

Mayor Morgan stated that the possibility of a downtown trolley has been mentioned. Mr. Hatling added that a trolley has come up in numerous meetings of downtown businesses. Brian Ulrich talked with folks in Lexington. Mr. Radford reported that Lexington implemented license plate fees to fund their system. He projected a trolley system would be a significant issue to undertake. Mr. Swisher reported that a trolley was discussed to run from Beeson Park to Wal-mart and the S. Main St. area and to the downtown area. Mr. Pages reported that there may be grants available for purchasing a trolley. Mr. Swisher stated that it is unclear what the grant money can be used for and nobody has really stepped up to the plate (KDPDC, Ciener Gardens, Folly) offering to fund it and so it will probably fall back on the Town.

Alderman Bob Prescott left the meeting at 12:55 PM.

d. Land Use plan at Old Winston and Hopkins and future road improvements

Mr. Hatling presented a current land use plan and a current thoroughfare plan for this area. He noted the uses of the area. The current study being conducted will give us a better idea of the preferred land uses for this area. The Board briefly discussed the changes in land use taking place in this area.

e. **“Gateway” Overlay District**

- ii. discussion of whether standards in the gateway areas should apply to areas that are not immediately adjacent to the road way (ex: Goodwill drop off is outside Gateway)
- iii. other questions about Gateway district

Mayor Morgan stated that now that we have established the “gateway” area we need to address requirements of the overlay district. Mr. Hatling explained that properties that border a corridor are part of the overlay district and explained options for creating partial overlay districts.

7. Library – the library bond has been approved by voters and is on the Forsyth County CIP for 2016-17 - defining Kernersville’s role in the process

Mayor Morgan reported that the bonds were approved by the voters and deferred to Mr. Swisher to explain his conversation with Forsyth County.

Mr. Swisher explained that we have submitted a letter to Forsyth County requesting that Kernersville be the lead agency in planning for our library. They have indicated that we would be. The time frame is 4 to 6 years out before Kernersville will be started. We will stay in contact with them. They don’t have to let us participate but the citizens will be better served if we are the lead agency.

H. Other Issues

Mr. Swisher reported on a request to expand our Christmas decorations and the blinking lights downtown. If the board concurs, we will need to investigate our options for extending this down Mountain Street and/or Cherry St. It was the consensus of the board to look at these areas and report back to the Board.

Mayor Morgan thanked the Staff for getting the lights fixed around Town Hall. She added that she will be working with Brian Ulrich on the school speed zone issues and the safe routes to schools campaign.

8. Adjournment.

Alderman Dana Caudill Jones made a **Motion** to adjourn the meeting. Alderman Keith Mason seconded the motion and the vote was all for and motion carried.

Being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 1:20 PM.

Dawn H. Morgan, Mayor

Attest:

Dale F. Martin, Town Clerk

I, Dale F. Martin, Town Clerk of the Town of Kernersville, North Carolina, do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the meeting duly held on January 14, 2011.

This the _____ day of _____, 2011.

Dale F. Martin, MMC, Town Clerk