

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN
TOWN OF KERNERSVILLE, N.C.
BRIEFING SESSION MARCH 28, 2012**

The Board of Aldermen of the Town of Kernersville met in a briefing session at 6:30 P.M. on the above date in the Town Hall Executive Conference Room at the Municipal Building at 134 East Mountain Street.

Present: Mayor Dawn Morgan, Mayor Pro Tem Dana Caudill Jones, Alderman Keith Hooker, Alderman Tracey Shifflette and Alderman Neal Stockton.

Absent: Alderman Irving Neal.

Staff Present: Curtis L. Swisher, Town Manager; John G. Wolfe III, Town Attorney; Jayne Danner, Deputy Clerk; Jeff Hatling, Community Development Director; Ken Gamble, Police Chief; Walt Summerville, Fire Chief; Doran Maltba, Public Services Director; Russell Radford, Engineering Director; Brian Ulrich, Transportation Manager; Franz Ader, Finance Director, Ernie Pages, Parks & Recreation Director and Ray Smith, Human Resources Director.

Call to order and invocation.

Mayor Dawn Morgan called the meeting to order at 6:36 pm and Mayor Pro Tem Dana Caudill Jones delivered the invocation.

1. Informational Session with J. P Couch, NCDOT representative regarding various intersections within Town limits.

Mr. Brian Ulrich, Transportation Manager introduced Mr. J. P. Couch, Division Traffic Engineer with NCDOT. Mr. Ulrich stated that Mr. Couch would answer the Board's questions addressing their concerns with left turns at several major intersections. He added that Mr. Couch would also provide information on how NCDOT determines whether or not to install a signal, add a designated turn signal or increase the length of a signal cycle.

Mr. Couch stated that most of the signal cycles are 120 seconds; he added that if one is changed it causes a chain reaction and backs up traffic at other signals. He added that for every 20 seconds added maybe one or two more vehicles could travel through an intersection. He used a map to illustrate the intersections and flow of traffic. He presented the following key points for each of the intersections addressed:-

Piney Grove Road/ N Main Street/Cherry Street

- Study found only 53 of 550 cars turn left southbound from Piney Grove Rd during peak hours
- Research determined afternoon hours to be the only major problem
- Area is currently undergoing improvements
- Possibly review again upon completion of improvements

Mayor Morgan noted that Bost Street, Pitt Street and Nelson Street are being used to avoid this problem area. She inquired if a signal could be installed at this location.

Mr. Couch stated that a study would need to be conducted to determine if traffic volume met the warrants for a signal.

Mr. Couch also addressed the traffic issues on South Main Street. He added that some improvements have been made but the lack of lanes and number of traffic signals does not help alleviate this problem area, especially on Friday evenings.

Pineview Drive/S. Main Street (Moravian Church)

- Previous research determined volume of traffic did not meet warrants for traffic signal
- Research found highest traffic volume in the afternoon after school
- Predict future S. Main Street improvements will help alleviate some of the issues
- Traffic is increasing, possibly review again
- Possibly prohibit left turn during certain times of day

Alderman Neal Stockton stated that Pineview Drive is the only connector feeding traffic from Highway 66 to South Main Street and with the Salisbury Street bridge closed traffic volume is even greater, making it almost impossible to make a left turn onto S. Main Street safely. He expressed concern at prohibiting the left turn.

Mr. Couch stated that it was hoped that the majority of traffic would use the signal at Cherry Street and Oakhurst Street and that this may be the safest route.

Alderman Keith Hooker expressed concern with routing all traffic to Oakhurst Street to make a left turn to get to that area of town.

Alderman Tracey Shifflette asked if a flashing light, along the lines of a 3 way stop could be installed and used during peak hours.

Mr. Couch stated that NCDOT did not use this type of signal. He added that if NCDOT installed a signal it was operational 24/7 for safety reasons and not just operational at certain times of the day.

Mr. Swisher recommended that NCDOT research installing a no left turn at the intersection of Salisbury Street and Main Street.

Century Place Blvd/ S. Main Street (Left Turn @ Harris Teeter)

- NCDOT aware of tremendous volume in this area of S. Main Street
- Best option to keep traffic moving safely is currently being used, it may take 2 or 3 cycles to get through intersection
- Change in light cycle will impede traffic throughout the area, causing queuing

Alderman Tracey Shifflette asked about the possibility of a dedicated left signal out of the shopping center onto S. Main Street. Mr. Couch responded that this would back up traffic too much on the other side.

Alderman Hooker stated that his main concern about this intersection is that the dedicated signal into the shopping center flashes yellow but never seems to turn green.

Mr. Couch stated that he was unaware of this issue. He asked Mr. Ulrich to accompany him to investigate this matter.

Dobson Street/Bodenhamer Street

- Best solution is a roundabout, will not impede high volume truck traffic
- Little ROW acquisition required
- Design plans ready
- Awaiting approval from Town of Kernersville
- NCDOT ready to go once funding secured

Mr. Swisher stated that he was unaware that the Town had received any official paperwork from NCDOT of their plans for this intersection. Mr. Swisher requested that Mr. Couch have NCDOT resend this information to the Town.

Mr. Swisher advised the Board that they will need to determine and prioritize the Town's funding of this project.

Teague Lane /Old Salem Road

- NCDOT has not conducted traffic study at this intersection, will schedule
- Predict high traffic volume during school hours only
- Proposed new retirement center may meet warrants for traffic signal at later date
- Potentially good location for roundabout

Brown Road/Piney Grove Road

- NCDOT has not received signal request for this location
- Predict traffic volume will not meet warrants
- Predicts that a Police Officer is the best solution and best protection for high volume pedestrian school traffic during peak times

Mr. Couch asked if the Board had questions and concerns about any other areas in Town in addition to the intersections addressed.

Alderman Stockton noted that at the intersection of North Cherry Street and Bodenhamer Street sometimes the signal will not give a dedicated turn arrow.

Mr. Couch advised that this signal will skip an entire cycle if a vehicle is not in the dedicated turn lane at the end of the previous light cycle. He stated that he and Mr. Ulrich can research this.

Mayor Pro Tem Jones asked about NCDOT's future plans for the East Bodenhamer Street corridor, if there had been a study, and if it reflected an increase traffic volume.

Mr. Couch advised that the biggest issue seems to be the sight problem at Burke Street. He added that consideration was given to a potential reversible lane project for this road 12 or so years ago. If the Town desired NCDOT could look into this possibility again.

Mayor Morgan asked Mr. Couch to explain the warrants process NCDOT used to justify installation of traffic signals.

Mr. Couch advised that a study will be conducted at an intersection in question during a 4 or 8 hour period to measure the volume of traffic during a specific time frame and number of preventable accidents that occur at an intersection. He added that 200 vehicles during an 8 hour period will meet a warrant, 5 correctable accidents in a 3 year period would meet a warrant. Mr. Couch stated that although roundabouts are not extremely popular they are very effective in easing traffic congestion and do not require warrants.

Mayor Morgan thanked Mr. Couch for attending the meeting and for addressing the Board's questions and concerns on these traffic issues.

Mayor Morgan called for a recess at 7:46 pm.

Mayor Morgan reconvened the meeting at 7:54 pm

2. Briefing on the April 3rd, Regular Meeting Agenda.

Mayor Dawn Morgan highlighted the ceremonial items on the Agenda.

Item # 1 PUBLIC HEARING: Curtis Swisher, Town Manager, for consideration of an amendment to the Kernersville Development Plan to amend the Land Use Plan from Industrial to Commercial, for area around the intersection of NC 66 South and Shields Road containing a total of 31 acres more or less. Plan Docket KDP-35

Mr. Jeff Hatling, Community Development Director briefed the Board on this amendment to the Kernersville Development Plan. He stated that Planning Board and Staff recommend approval as presented.

Item # 2 PUBLIC HEARING: L.E. Pope Building Company, Inc., Owner, for property located at 1400 NC 66 South, being all of PIN#6885-54-9643, containing 7.89 acres more or less. Petitioner requests a Special Use District rezoning from GI (General Industrial) District to HB-S (Highway Business – Special Use District) Single-Phase (Lot 1) and Two-Phase (Lot 2) requesting numerous uses. Zoning Docket K-711

Mr. Jeff Hatling, Community Development Director briefed the Board on this rezoning request. He stated that Planning Board and Staff recommend approval with two amended conditions as presented.

Item # 3 PUBLIC HEARING: PM Development LLC, Owner for property located within the designated “Village Area” which is adjacent to Old Salem Road and NC 66 South, being all of PIN # 6884-66-4493, PIN #6884-66-0575, PIN #6884-66-6626, PIN #6884-47-2166, PIN #6884-47-2915, PIN #6884-67-3002, PIN #6884-46-6633, PIN #6884-46-2186, PIN #6884-58-2814, PIN #6884-57-0231, PIN #6884-58-5212, PIN #6884-27-8837, containing a total of 135.49 acres more or less. Petitioner requests to rezone from MU-S (Mixed Use – Special Use District) to MU-S (Mixed Use – Special Use District) to allow for revised office architectural design standards. Zoning Docket K-641.A6

Mr. Jeff Hatling, Community Development Director briefed the Board on this rezoning request. He stated that Planning Board and Staff recommend approval as presented.

Item # 5 Presentation of Annual Report by KSA and Request to Extend Lease of Soccer Fields at Beeson Park.

Mr. Curtis Swisher, Town Manager briefed the Board on this request. He added that Doug Everett, KSA Chairman will attend the meeting on Tuesday to give the annual report. He added that KSA is also requesting to extend the lease for the soccer fields for 5 or 10 more years. He further added that the Town has had a good working relationship with KSA.

Item # 6 Presentation by the Pedestrian & Bicycle Advisory Committee regarding the “Sidewalk Implementation - 4th Annual Budget Report”

Mr. Jeff Hatling, Community Development Director briefed the Board on this matter. He stated that Bruce Frankel, Pedestrian & Bicycle Advisory Committee Chairman will present the annual report on Tuesday evening. He added that the Committee is also recommending installation of a sidewalk at the corner of Salisbury Street and South Main Street, near the Old Bodenhamer Store, which would complete the sidewalk along South Main Street from Cagney’s Restaurant to downtown. He further added that NCDOT has approved this sidewalk installation.

Item # 7 2012 Annual Reports and Budget Requests:

Kernersville Chamber of Commerce

Kernersville Senior Enrichment Center

Kernersville Downtown Preservation & Development Council

Sister City Commission

Mr. Swisher stated that a representative from each of these non-profit organizations will present their annual report and budget request at the meeting on Tuesday evening.

Alderman Keith Hooker made a **Motion** to excuse Mayor Pro Tem Dana Caudill Jones from the meeting at 8:07 PM. Alderman Shifflette seconded the motion and the vote was all for and motion carried.

Item # 8 Presentation and Consideration of Alternatives for Improvements to South Main Street.

Mr. Curtis Swisher, Town Manager briefed the Board on this matter. He added that Jay Clapp, a representative from Ramey-Kemp, will present the Board with the study findings on Tuesday evening. Mr. Swisher stated that Staff has met with all property owners and that Alternative #2, recommended by Staff is the only alternative NCDOT has approved. He further stated that a Resolution of Support has been prepared for the Board's consideration to request funding of the project by the MPO.

Item # 9 Presentation and Consideration of Kerner's Mill Creek Greenway Final Alignment Selection.

Mr. Swisher briefed the Board on this matter. He added that a representative from McGill Associates will present the Board with several alternatives for the Kilburn Way Lane Connection and Southern Street crossing for their consideration on Tuesday evening. He added that Staff is recommending Alignment # 1, as it will not require switchbacks and it will have the least impact on the majority of the homes.

Item # 10 Consideration of an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Winston Salem for Kerners Mill Creek Greenway Design.

Mr. Curtis Swisher, Town Manager briefed the Board on this interlocal agreement with the City of Winston Salem. He added that once this agreement is approved the Town will be reimbursed 80% (\$101,360.60) of the \$126,700 cost of the already completed engineering design services.

Item # 11 Consideration of an Ordinance to amend Chapter 17 Vehicles for Hire.

John Wolfe, Town Attorney briefed the Board on this amendment to the Ordinance for Vehicles for Hire. He added that the majority of the changes are minor grammatical changes; however a major change is the addition of a fee that will be set and collected on behalf of the State to conduct a State and Federal Criminal History Record Check as authorized by North Carolina General Statute 160A-304 prior to issuance of taxi driver permits.

Item # 12 Consideration of the Purchase of Real Property.

Mr. Curtis Swisher, Town Manager stated that a contract has been prepared for the Board's consideration to purchase property on Teague Lane. He added that this property will be used for a future fire station to replace the temporary location of Fire Station # 44.

Item # 13 Presentation by Police Department Recipients of "The Director's Award" by the NC Governor's Highway Safety Program.

Police Chief Ken Gamble briefed the Board on this award received by the Police Department. He added that he will present the Award to the Board on Tuesday evening.

Item # 14 CONSENT AGENDA: All of the following matters are considered to be routine by the Board of Aldermen and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate

discussion unless a Board member or citizen so requests, in which event the matter will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered under the following item.

- C-1 Approval of Minutes for February 7, 2012, Closed Session
- Approval of Minutes for February 29, 2012, Briefing Session
- Approval of Minutes for March 6, 2012, Regular Session
- Approval of Minutes for March 6, 2012, Closed Session

Mayor Morgan noted the Consent Agenda Items.


3. Matters to be presented by the Town Manager and Town Attorney.

None presented.


Alderman Tracey Shifflette made a **Motion** to go into Closed Session to confer with legal counsel under the Attorney-Client privilege as well as to discuss certain matters of land acquisition at 8:19 p.m. Alderman Keith Hooker seconded the motion and the vote was all for and motion carried.

4. Adjournment.

Alderman Keith Hooker made a **Motion** to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 p.m. immediately following the Closed Session. Alderman Tracey Shifflette seconded the motion and the vote was all for and motion carried.



Dawn H. Morgan, Mayor

Attest:


Jayne Danner, Deputy Clerk

I, Jayne Danner, Deputy 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 March 28, 2012.

This the 15th day of May, 2012.


Jayne Danner CMC, Deputy Clerk