



May 10, 2017

MINUTES

The Holly Springs Town Council met in special session on Tuesday, May 10, 2017 in the community room of the W.E. Hunt Recreation Center, 301 Stinson Ave. Mayor Sears presided, calling the meeting to order at 6 p.m. A quorum was established as the mayor and all five council members were present as the meeting opened.

Council Members Present: Mayor Sears, Councilmen James Cobb, Tom O'Brien, Hank Dickson and Peter Villadsen and Councilwoman Cheri Lee.

Council Members Absent: None.

1. Utley Creek Water Reclamation Facility – Council members heard a report that Utley Creek Water Reclamation Facility upgrade is nearly completed and that a dedication ceremony is being planned. There was also discussion about what is being done to address neighbor complaints about odors.

2. Canine Storm: The Council heard a report from Police Chief John Herring that the City of Roanoke Rapids is in need of a canine for its police force. He added that the Town of Holly Springs has a spare trained canine that could be provided to Roanoke Rapids. He asked that the canine, named Storm, be declared surplus property and that the Chief be authorized to provide canine Storm to a police department in need.

Action: The Council approved a motion to adopt Resolution 17-21 retiring Storm from police duty in Holly Springs and authorizing his release to the City of Roanoke Rapids where he will resume active duty and training.

Motion by: Dickson

Second by: Cobb

Vote: Unanimous

Resolution 17-21 is on file in the Town Clerk's office and is, by reference, hereby made a part of these minutes.

3. Growth and Development Principles – The main purpose of the night's discussions was for Council and staff to see how well aligned they are on the issues of growth in Holly Springs. Staff and management need direction from the Council if past policies need to be amended since there seems to be some resistance to growth among some Council members.

From a practical standpoint, if the Council desires to slow or even stop growth, then there are budget and personnel considerations that need to be addressed before adoption of the next fiscal year budget.

After much discussion, it would seem some members of the Council expressed a belief that continued residential development (especially in the Avent Ferry Road area) would aggravate traffic congestion. All said they understood that growth that is likely to continue in the region will impact Holly Springs.

Some key conclusions were drawn:

- The Planning and Zoning Department is conducting a small area plan for what is being called the Southern Area Planning Initiative.
- The SAPI will have public input as well as statistical input based on residential building permits, transportation studies, density, walkability, bikability and residential character.

- The SAPI will look at the Community Growth Areas and determine whether they are all necessary
- The SAPI heavily will favor less dense development and open space.
- The opening of the Main Street Extension should divert a lot of traffic away from Avent Ferry Road.
- The Council directed a resolution be presented at the next regular meeting directing staff to bring forward to Town Council no rezoning petitions for property located within the Southern Area Planning Initiative study boundary until the presentation of the SAPI findings is made to Town Council or for six months (Nov. 16, 2017), whichever comes first.

14. Adjournment: There being no further business for the evening, the May 10, 2017 meeting of the Holly Springs Town Council was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted on Tuesday, July 18, 2017.

Joni Powell _____

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