

MINUTES OF MIDWAY TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 6, 2014 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE MEETING ROOM AT THE MIDWAY FIRE AND RESCUE BUILDING, 228 MIDWAY SCHOOL ROAD, MIDWAY, NORTH CAROLINA

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Norman Wilkes called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present.

Mayor Pro Tem Mike McAlpine gave the invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance prior to the opening gavel.

Councilors present were: Mike McAlpine, Keith Leonard, Robin Moon, and Todd Nifong. Absent: Councilor John Byrum. Town Manager Ryan Ross, Town Attorney Jim Lanik, Town Clerk Linda Hunt, and Planning Consultant Vagn Hansen were present.

Each Councilor had been furnished an agenda prior to the meeting.

No members of press were in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion by Mayor Pro Tem Mike McAlpine, seconded by Councilor Todd Nifong, Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2013 Town Council regular meeting as presented.

PUBLIC ADDRESS

Mr. Dan Wishnietsky, 300 Bent Oak Drive in the Town of Midway, addressed Council to speak to the issue of renovating the house on Gumtree Road and converting the house to serve as Town Hall. Mr. Wishnietsky stated he had attended the Town Council Special Meeting on December 30, 2013 at which time the House Renovations Committee presented its findings regarding the feasibility of renovating the house and using it for Town Hall. Mr. Wishnietsky said that once the report was presented, his perception was that Council still had concerns about the foundation of the house; however, once the slide show illustrating what the interior of the house would look like if renovated, Council appeared to be enamored by what they saw. He encouraged Council to wait until the citizens have an opportunity to speak before making a decision and urged Council to proceed with caution.

ADOPT AGENDA

Town Manager Ryan Ross told Council Planning Consultant Vagn Hansen had requested an item be added as follows:

ADD: Subsection d. Update on Input Received at Public Meeting Under Item 3. Property Owned by Town of Midway - 37.53 Acre Tract – 426 Gumtree Road under VII. REGULAR BUSINESS.

On motion by Councilor Nifong, seconded by Councilor Moon, Council voted unanimously to adopt the agenda as amended.

OPENING REMARKS BY MAYOR

There were none.

REGULAR BUSINESS

**MIDWAY COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION EVALUATION – CONTROL OF ACCESS
BREAK**

At its meeting on April 16, 2012, Town Council contracted with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. to perform transportation planning services for the Town of Midway. Benchmark CMR, Inc. assisted Kimley-Horn in developing the plan. The purpose of the plan was to identify transportation problems in Midway and to develop coordinated transportation solutions. As part of the planning process, three public information meetings were held to receive citizen input citizens on the proposed transportation plan. Those meetings were held on June 26, September 25, and November 29, 2012 in the meeting room at the Midway Fire and Rescue Building. Town Council approved the finalized transportation plan at their May 6, 2013 meeting.

Planning Consultant Vagn Hansen stated the plan includes a series of action items, one of which is to work with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) to obtain a control of access break across from the exiting US Highway 52 northbound ramps to allow for construction of a new public street. Mr. Hansen said Mr. Jonathan Guy of Kimley-Horn has contacted him recently about the pressing need to move forward with obtaining the control of access break before US Highway 52 becomes an Interstate. The estimated cost for the new public street is \$12,600. Mr. Hansen said the Town could seek some compensation from the benefactors of the new street to help offset some of the cost. Construction of the street will increase the value of the property along that street and possibly could attract future development in that area.

For information only. No action taken.

RESOLUTION TO REQUEST GRANT FUNDS FROM THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA FOR HI-MAST LIGHTING AT THE INTERCHANGE OF US HIGHWAY 52 AT HICKORY TREE ROAD

Town Manager Ryan Ross told Council that in addition to adoption of the resolution requesting grant funds from the State for interchange lighting on US Highway 52 at Hickory Tree Road, NC State Senator Stan Bingham had suggested that the Town ask the Davidson County Board of Commissioners for their support for the Town's request to the State. Mr. Ross told Council he has talked with County Manager Robert Hyatt about the situation and Mr. Hyatt agreed to submit the Town's request to the Davidson County Board of Commissioners for consideration after the Midway Town Council adopts the resolution. Mr. Ross further stated that if the Council approves the proposed resolution at tonight's meeting, it is likely the Board of Commissioners will consider the Town's request for the Board's support of the Town's resolution requesting State funding for hi-mast lighting at the US Highway 52 at Hickory Tree Road interchange at their January 14, 2014 meeting. Mr. Ross said that he and Mayor Wilkes will plan to attend the Commissioners' meeting on that date.

On motion by Mayor Pro Tem Mike McAlpine, seconded by Councilor Moon, the Council voted unanimously to adopt the resolution as follows:

TOWN OF MIDWAY
DAVIDSON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

RESOLUTION
TO REQUEST FUNDS FOR HI-MAST LIGHTING AT THE INTERCHANGE
OF US HIGHWAY 52 AND HICKORY TREE ROAD IN MIDWAY

WHEREAS, the Town of Midway was incorporated on June 29, 2006; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Midway is located in northern Davidson County and along one of North Carolina's most heavily traveled highways, US Highway 52 which is part of the proposed Interstate 73/74 to run from Myrtle Beach, South Carolina to Sault St. Marie, Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the US Highway 52 interchange at Hickory Tree Road is the main gateway into the Town of Midway and entranceway to the Town's core commercial district; and

WHEREAS, as the result of the Town of Midway constructing a sewer system to serve the businesses in the core commercial district, the Town has experienced development in that area; and

WHEREAS, currently there is no lighting at the ramps from US Highway 52 to Hickory Tree Road and the area is extremely dark at night making it difficult to see the interchange; and

WHEREAS, on October 7, 2013 the Town Council of the Town of Midway submitted a request to the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) requesting interchange lighting on US 52 at Hickory Tree Road; and

WHEREAS, on November 7, 2013 the Town of Midway received notification from the NCDOT Roadway Design Unit – Special Section in Raleigh that the interchange lighting at the located is neither warranted nor justified at this time; however, NCDOT may allow interchange lighting to be installed at the location if the Town of Midway can secure funding for the initial construction, estimated at \$300,000 and be responsible for annual maintenance and power costs for the system.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Midway to respectfully request a grant in the amount of \$300,000 from the State of North Carolina to be used for interchange lighting on US Highway 52 at Hickory Tree Road.

TOWN PROPERTY – 37.53 ACRES – 426 GUMTREE ROAD IN MIDWAY

A. EXTENSION OF FENCE ALONG GUMTREE ROAD

It was the consensus of Council to extend the fence along Gumtree Road from property line to property line.

B. SIGNAGE

It was the consensus of Council to put up some small "Town of Midway" signs on the gates to the property. Signs to be placed on one of the slats on each gate.

C. HOUSE RENOVATION/CONVERSION

Councilor Todd Nifong gave a brief overview of the report presented to Council at the December 30, 2013 special meeting and asked Council how they wanted to proceed regarding the house. A brief discussion followed but no action was taken.

D. UPDATE FROM SITE PLAN PUBLIC MEETING

Planning Consultant Vagn Hansen presented Council with copies of the results of the survey and public meeting on recreation facilities along with a map illustrating the preliminary concept that was based on the public input received from the surveys and the public meeting. The preliminary concept includes:

- Walking/jogging trails
- Playground
- Horseshoe pits
- Restrooms/Storage
- Picnic shelters
- Volleyball court
- Dog park (fenced in)
- Community garden
- Parking (50-70 spaces)
- Water feature

Mr. Hansen will present the preliminary concept at the next Site Plan public meeting. A copy of the information provided to Council is available for public inspection at Town Hall.

For review only. No action taken.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORTS

SET DATE FOR TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP

Town Manager Ryan Ross proposed holding the workshop in either late March or early April, 2014. He asked Council to think about a date and ideas for the workshop so the date can be set at the February 3, 2014 Council meeting.

For information only.

OFFICE CLOSED ON MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 2014, FOR MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HOLIDAY

Town Manager Ryan Ross announced that the office will be closed on Monday, January 20, 2014, to observe the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

AUDIT REPORT – FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013

Town Manager Ryan Ross presented copies of the Audit Report for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 to Council. Mr. Ross said Auditor Eddie Carrick will go over the report with Council at the February 3, 2014 Town Council regular meeting.

For information only.

Just prior to adjournment, Mayor Pro Tem Mike McAlpine announced that the annual Appreciation Dinner has been set for Monday, January 27, 2014. Details will follow.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Councilor Nifong, seconded by Councilor Leonard, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Norman L. Wilkes, Mayor

Linda A. Hunt, Town Clerk