

**TOWN OF WEDDINGTON
SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING/OPEN HOUSE
THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2013 – 5:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

The Town Council of the Town of Weddington, North Carolina, met in a Special Meeting/Open House at the Weddington Town Hall, 1924 Weddington Road, Weddington, NC 28104 on April 4, 2013, with Mayor Walker F. Davidson presiding.

Present: Mayor Walker F. Davidson, Mayor Pro Tem Daniel Barry, Councilmembers Werner Thomisser, Pamela Hadley and Barbara Harrison and Town Planner Jordan Cook and Town Administrator Amy S. McCollum

Absent: None

Visitors: Reece Gibson, Paisley Gordon, Carole McLeod, David Sloop, Jan Sloop and R. Esser.

Item No. 1. Open the Meeting. Mayor Walker F. Davidson called the April 4, 2013 Special Town Council Meeting/Open House to order at 5:00 p.m. There was a quorum.

Item No. 2. Open House to Receive Input and Comments Regarding the Proposed Weddington Land Use Plan Update. Mayor Davidson asked the Council what format they would like to use for the Open House. Councilwoman Barbara Harrison recommended allowing three minutes for each speaker.

Mr. Reece Gibson – I own the property on the corner of Lester Davis Road and Highway 84 near the Optimist Park. Right now it is zoned R-40. The front side of the property has all the noise from the park. I gave NCDOT land for a turning lane. I have tried to sell to the park for years and they have had a hand full and have not been able to buy it. I am getting older and I would like to sell it and do something with it. You could put something for older retired people but I do not think the older people want to hear all that noise and light from the park. I would love to have it zoned for an executive park.

Mr. David Sloop asked if the public could ask questions.

Councilwoman Harrison advised that she felt the Open House was an opportunity for the public to share what they did or did not like with the Land use Plan.

Mayor Davidson advised that they could ask questions but they would not be answered at the meeting tonight and Councilwoman Pamela Hadley mentioned that they could ask questions and could be answered in an email tomorrow.

Ms. Jan Sloop – I have tried to read this and to see what has been crossed out and left in. This is a tremendously long package and I am glad that you all have had the patience to go through it but for those of us who are trying to read this now and understand it - it has left me somewhat confused when I look at the Land Use Survey that we took and then look at the Land Use Plan that has come from it. My questions are based on the Land Use Survey which it appears that maybe 65 people (or 9.7%) who responded said that they had interest in different types of housing. To me different types of housing can mean apartments, condos and smaller homes. It appears that we are looking at all of the things that such a few people had said they had an interest in doing. I might be confused but it sounded to me like there were going to be changes in how the land is going to be used. We moved here in 1992 because it was going to be one house per acre. We already see homes squeezed together in the conservation areas. Is it going to continue to digress to the point that down the road a very few number of people who make comments on a survey

might continue to gain a foothold and make changes? We like the one house per acre. We go along with the decision with the conservation planning but I definitely don't feel the direction of Weddington should be other land use that includes other types of housing such as condos, businesses with living areas upstairs and assisted living. We certainly have that close enough to us and it does not have to be within the confines of the Town.

Ms. Carole McLeod – I live in Aero Plantation. Thank you for all your hard work in this plan. It is very much appreciated. My family owns a piece of property in this area that we are trying to figure out what to do with or what not to do. Some of our friends have started to move because our houses are very big and we have very big lots. I appreciate your listening to other options that might come to you such as a walkable area with amenities for the residents. We moved here also for low taxes and great schools and we got that but our age has changed and I think having other options for residents here before they move back into Mecklenburg County that they could walk or ride their bike to the grocery store or to wherever they want to go. I appreciate in your plan looking at options and keeping it open because I think that is important. I know that the survey shows lots of things. I love the greenway and I think that is a great idea. We have lots of acreage that we could do that and we can incorporate a lot of really great things if we do it together. I wanted to speak for the people that are aging that might leave because we want something a little bit different than what we came here for. We have changed. Thank you again for this plan. I think it is a good plan. I think it is very open to a lot of things that the residents could bring to you to look at to consider for everybody and not just a group of people that do not want change. I think change is inevitable and we just have to do it the right way for everybody. Thank you for your time and we will be back in touch. We purchased this corner to protect the value of our area. We did it 20 years ago to protect the value because we did not want just anything happening there. When we purchased the property it was not in the Town of Weddington. It was involuntarily annexed.

Mr. Brooke Dunwoody – I live in the Wedgewood Subdivision. I was curious about the wastewater system because it looks like they plan to run a sewer line up the west fork of Twelve Mile Creek all the way to Beulah Church Road. I have not heard about this and I am curious about what is going on.

Mayor Pro Tem Barry moved to recess the meeting until 6:30 p.m. All were in favor, with votes recorded as follows:

AYES: Councilmembers Thomisser, Hadley, Harrison and Mayor Pro Tem Barry
NAYS: None

Mayor Davidson reopened the meeting. There were no additional citizens that wished to speak.

Item No. 3. Adjournment. Mayor Pro Tem Barry moved to adjourn the April 4, 2013 Special Town Council Meeting/Open House. All were in favor, with votes recorded as follows:

AYES: Councilmembers Thomisser, Hadley, Harrison and Mayor Pro Tem Barry
NAYS: None

The meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Walker F. Davidson, Mayor

Amy S. McCollum, Town Clerk