
**TOWN OF WENTWORTH
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
October 3, 2006
7:00 P.M.**

The Wentworth Town Council held their regular monthly meeting at the Town Hall meeting room in the National Guard Armory, on **Tuesday, October 3, 2006, at 7:00 p.m.**

Council members present: Mayor Pro Tem Evelyn Conner, Councilman Robert Aswell, Councilwoman Iris Powell

Council members absent: Mayor Dennis Paschal, Councilman Nathan Hendren

Staff Present: Brenda Ward, Town Clerk / Fred Baggett, Town Attorney
Lee Templeton, Rockingham County Planning Department

A quorum was present.

Article I. Mayor Pro Tem Evelyn Conner called the meeting to order.

Article II. Councilwoman Iris Powell gave the **Invocation.**

Article III. Discussion / Revision and Adoption of Agenda

A. Requests and Petitions of Citizens

Mayor Pro Tem Conner noted that **Floyd Wulfeck** signed the Speaker Register and made a motion, "*The Agenda be amended and approved with the addition of Mr. Wulfeck under Article VII. Public Comments.*"

Councilman Robert Aswell seconded the motion. There was no discussion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Article IV. Approval of Town Council Minutes for September 5, 2006

There were no changes or corrections to the minutes. **Councilman Aswell** made a motion, "*We accept them as written.*"

Councilwoman Powell seconded the motion. There was no discussion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Article V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Consideration of Speed Limit Ordinance to Declare the Following Speed Limit(s):

- (1) 40 mph from a point 0.08 mile north of SR 1998 (Wentworth Street) north to a point 0.05 mile north of SR 2010 (Talley Road) in Wentworth.**
- (2) 45 mph from a point 0.05 mile north of SR 2010 (Talley Road), northward to SR 2203 (Ashley Loop) in Wentworth.**

Mayor Pro Tem Conner noted that **Brenda Ward, Town Administrator**, spoke with NCDOT concerning the speed limits.

Mrs. Ward said that Council tabled this item at the September meeting, and that **Councilman Aswell** suggested checking with the Department of Transportation, "...to see if they would consider lowering the speed limit between Wentworth Street and Talley Road (Item 1), from the suggested 40mph to 35mph."

Mrs. Ward said she spoke with **Mark Aldridge** at the Greensboro D.O.T. office, who said they would like to send someone out to look at it before they made a decision. She added, "**Mr. Aldridge** said he didn't know how quickly he would get to it, and said we may want to table it for the time being."

Councilman Aswell made a motion, "*We table it until the November meeting.*" **Mayor Pro Tem Conner** seconded the motion. There was no discussion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Article VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consideration / Approval of Plat Survey for William Earl Hewett & Doraine P. Hewett / Property located on Roach Road (Off NC 87 North)

- Lee Templeton – Rockingham County Planning Department

Mrs. Templeton referred council to their packets of information in reference to the parcel for **Mr. and Mrs. Hewett**. She advised, "It is off NC 87 beyond Ashley Loop, on the right side going north toward Eden. As you go up Roach Road, it is on the left side, not far off NC 87."

Mrs. Ward commented, “Not very much of it is in the Town limits.”

“No,” said **Mrs. Templeton**. “Part of it is, but not all of it.”

Councilman Aswell made a motion, “*That we approve.*”

Councilwoman Powell seconded the motion. There was no discussion. All voted in favor of approving the plat survey.

Article VI. New Business – Continued

B. Consideration of Speed Limit Ordinance to Declare the Following Speed Limit:

(1) **Speed Limit 45 / NC 87 from a point .10 mile north of SR 2082 (High School Road) northward to a point .41 mile north of SR 2203 (Ashley Loop Road) in Wentworth; and**

(2) **To rescind the 35mph speed limit on NC 87 from a point 0.13 mile south of SR 2293 (Ashley Loop), Northward to a point 0.23 mile north of SR 2203 (Ashley Loop), in Wentworth. (Wentworth School, in effect from 30 minutes before to 30 minutes after school begins and ends on school days only.)**

Mayor Pro Tem Conner asked **Mrs. Ward** if she would discuss the photographs, etc. that were in the council packets.

Mrs. Ward said, “As you know, when we incorporated, NCDOT began asking us to *officially* approve speed limit ordinances within the town limits. Apparently, we have missed a few and one of them is the one we just tabled for Camp Dan Valley Road. But this one, the school zone I call it, we have already addressed. We asked for the 35mph zone there at the elementary school, so I called **Mr. Aldridge** and asked him why they wanted to rescind the 35mph speed limit and approve 45mph.”

Mrs. Ward referred council to the photographs taken on NC 87 in the area of both schools and continued, “The way he explained it to me is that 45mph is the *official* speed limit when there is no school going on, and he said we need to approve that. As far as the 35mph, he said the little yellow sign up there, and if you will note in the photograph I made, there is actually a pole blocking the view of the sign and you can’t see it until you get right up on it; he did say he would have them move that sign so it is more visible, but he said the 35mph is basically a recommended speed and that it is not enforceable.”

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Mrs. Ward asked **Deputy Tony Walker** (Rockingham Co. Sheriff's Department) if this is true. **Deputy Walker** said, "They (NCDOT) usually have a sign referencing a certain speed limit during school hours", which is the sign Mrs. Ward was referring to.

Deputy Walker said there is a sign on NC 87 prior to the high school entrance—a *white* sign—with the 35mph speed limit during school hours. **Mrs. Ward** said that a picture of that sign is also included in the council packet.

Mrs. Ward said she explained to Mr. Aldridge that she believed Council's original intention was that the area be considered a school zone, with an appropriate enforceable speed limit. She said **Mr. Aldridge** advised that NCDOT would have to declare it a school zone by ordinance. She added, "He said if we would approve the 45mph ordinance before us, they will look at creating an ordinance to make it an official school zone."

There was no further discussion and **Mayor Pro Tem Conner** made a motion, "*That we approve the ordinance as noted for the 45 mph speed limit, rescind the 35 mph speed limit, and request an official school zone ordinance.*"

Councilman Aswell seconded the motion. There was no discussion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Article VI. New Business – Continued

C. Acceptance of Equipment From the Piedmont Triad Council of Governments—Hewlett Packard DesignJet 650C Mapping Machine/ Serial Number ESB4505679

Mayor Pro Tem Conner asked the **Town Administrator** to comment on the mapping machine.

Mrs. Ward advised that **Hanna Cockburn** with the Piedmont Triad Council of Governments asked her if the Town could use the "plotter" and offered it to the town free of charge. **Mrs. Ward** explained that government agencies may transfer equipment, etc. to other such agencies, "and we need to officially receive it into our inventory."

Councilwoman Powell said, "So all we have to do is say 'thank you'."

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“Yes,” replied **Mrs. Ward.**”

Mayor Pro Tem Conner made a motion, *“That we accept the equipment from the Piedmont Triad Council of Governments.”*

Councilman Aswell seconded the motion. There was no discussion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Article VII. Public Comments

Mayor Pro Tem Conner invited **Mr. Floyd Wulfeck** to address Council.

Mr. Wulfeck said, “I am **Floyd Wulfeck**. I live at 113 Kilmer Lane. That’s a Reidsville mailing but I live in the Town of Wentworth.”

Mr. Wulfeck continued, “My purpose this evening is to come and thank you all, including Brenda, and Yvonne, for all you did for my wife, Pat, last November and January when she was in the hospital. You sent flowers then, and when she was in the hospital in June and July. At the funeral home...you came over for visitation and I really appreciate it, and the courteous way you’ve always treated her, when she wanted to promote National Prayer Day and everything else, I just want to thank you.”

Mayor Pro Tem Conner thanked **Mr. Wulfeck** and acknowledged, “We’ll miss her, too.”

Mrs. Ward commented, “She was so faithful to attend (council meetings).”

Mayor Pro Tem Conner, in concluding the Speaker Register, advised, “Brenda received an email late in the day from an interested citizen who could not be here tonight, but is concerned about the town property. We will forward a copy to the mayor and the council member who is not here tonight, and plan to address it at our next council meeting.”

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Article VIII. Announcements

Mayor Pro Tem Conner made the announcements listed on the Agenda.

The **Town Administrator** advised that the October Planning Board meeting may turn out to be a joint meeting. She said the purpose of the meeting would be to “continue discussion of the Central Business District and bring the results of the charrette that some of you participated in at RCC. **Hanna Cockburn** (PTCOG) thinks we definitely need a joint meeting before we have a Public Hearing on this.”

Mrs. Ward added, “If it doesn’t work out for October, it will probably be held in November, but we’ll keep you posted.”

Article IX. A D J O U R N

Councilman Aswell made a motion, “That we adjourn.”
Councilwoman Conner seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted By: _____
Brenda Ward, Town Clerk

Approved By: _____
Dennis Paschal, Mayor