

The Smithfield Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, October 1, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Smithfield Town Hall, Mayor M. Andy Moore presided.

Councilmen Present:

Travis Scott, Mayor Pro-Tem
Marlon Lee, District 1
David Stevens, District 2
Dr. David Barbour, District 4
Emery Ashley, At-Large
John A. Dunn, At-Large
Stephen Rabil, At-Large

Councilmen Absent

Administrative Staff Present

Michael Scott, Town Manager
John Blanton, Fire Chief
Lenny Branch, Public Works Director
Ted Credle, Public Utilities Director
Gary Johnson, Parks & Rec Director
Tim Kerigan, Human Resources/PIO
Shannan Parrish, Town Clerk
R. Keith Powell, Chief of Police
Stephen Wensman, Planning Director

Present:

Bob Spence, Town Attorney

Administrative Staff Absent

Greg Siler, Finance Director

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Moore called the meeting to order at 7:00.

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Mayor Pro-Tem Scott followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Councilman Ashley made a motion, seconded by Councilman Rabil, to approve the agenda with the following amendment:

Move Consent Agenda Item 12. *Approval of the East River Phase I Final Plat* to Business Item 1.

Unanimously approved.

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Proclamation – Recognizing Public Power Week October 6th – October 12th

Mayor Moore presented a Proclamation honoring Public Power Week to Public Utilities Director Ted Credle

Proclamation
Promoting NC Public Power During
Public Power Week, October 6-12, 2019

WHEREAS, public power is a crucial component in cities and towns across North Carolina, contributing to the overall health of communities by providing reliable electricity, excellent local service and prompt restoration; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina's more than 70 public power cities and towns are among more than 2,000 across the country; and

WHEREAS, many of North Carolina's public power cities and towns have been electric providers for more than 100 years; and

WHEREAS, public power meets the electric needs of 40 million Americans, almost 15 percent

of electricity consumers; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina's public power utilities are valuable community assets that contribute to the well-being of the community and provide economic development opportunities; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina's public power utilities are dependable institutions that provide excellent service and a commitment to community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, M. Andy Moore, Mayor of the Town of Smithfield do hereby proclaim that the week of October 6-12, 2019 be designated as Public Power Week in the Town of Smithfield. A week to promote North Carolina's public power cities and Towns for these contributions to their communities.

PUBLIC HEARING: None

CITIZENS' COMMENTS:

- Pam Lampe of 415 North Second Street speaking on behalf of Emma Gemmel expressed her concerns about the proposed amphitheater at the Town Commons. She suggested the Town consider another location owned by the Downtown Smithfield Development Corporation located across the river. She further suggested the Town, Johnston County Visitor's Bureau and Downtown Development could partner with the Johnston Community College to use the college's the auditorium.
- Susan Pullium, Executive Director of Neuse Charter School, located at 909 East Booker Dairy Road expressed her appreciation for the support the Council provided for the students and staff at Neuse Charter School. She asked the Council to consider naming the road something that is reflective of the Town as a whole and something that is neutral to both school sites located on this road.
- Vanessa Holiday of 906 Fuller Street expressed concerns about parking on Massey Street in front of the Johnston, Harnett, Lee Community Action. She stated when patrons park in front of the building instead of in the parking lot, it creates a hazard for drivers trying to navigate the area. She asked if this issue could be examined further.
- Genora Street of 906 Fuller Street addressed the Council on a pothole located on Martin Luther King Jr. Drive and Lee Street. She asked when it would be repaired. Mayor Moore asked Public Works Director Lenny Branch to investigate the matter.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilman Barbour made a motion, seconded by Councilman Ashley, to approve the following items as listed on the Consent Agenda:

1. The following minutes were approved
 - September 3, 2019 – Regular Meeting
 - September 19, 2019 – Special Meeting
2. Special Event – Church Service: Approval was granted to allow the Watering Hole Church to hold a church service on October 13, 2019 from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm at the Neuse River Amphitheater. Amplified sound was approved for this event.
3. Special Event – SkyFest 2019: Approval was granted to allow Johnston Regional Airport to hold an event on October 12, 2019 from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm at the airport. Amplified sound was approved for this event.
4. Special Event – Community Garden Halloween Party: Approval was granted to allow Brandie Davis to hold a Halloween party on October 19, 2019 from 7:00 pm until 9:00 pm at the Fifth Street Community Garden. Amplified sound was approved for this event.

5. Special Event – Family Fun Days Fest Carnival: Approval was granted to allow Inners Show, Inc. to hold a carnival October 9, 2019 – October 13, 2019 at 1025 Outlet Center Drive. 5pm on weekdays and 1pm on weekends and end on weekdays at 10pm and weekends at 11pm
6. Special Event – Silent March: Approval was granted to allow Harbor Inc. to hold a silent march on October 30, 2019 from 12:45 pm until 1:15 pm on the sidewalk at the Johnston County Courthouse. Sidewalks would be blocked off for this event.
7. Special Event – Fall Festival: Approval was granted to allow the Clayton General Store to hold a Fall Festival on October 18, 2019 from 10:00 am until 7:00 pm at 1025 Outlet Center Drive. Food trucks were approved for this event.
8. Bid was awarded to Barrs Recreation in the amount of \$16,856 for the purchase and installation of two dug out covers at Smith Collins Park and 2 shade structures at the Second Street Dog Park. Bids received were as follows:
 - Barrs Recreation \$ 16,856.00
 - Caroline Recreation and Play \$ 24,600.00
 - Playworld \$ 25,808.00
9. Bid was awarded to Greenfields Equipment in the amount of \$32,000 for the purchase fitness equipment for the DAV Trail to be funded by the Connect North Carolina Bond (CNCB) Grant.
10. Bid was awarded to TA Loving in the amount of \$59,540 for the replacement of the filter media at the Water Plant. Bids received were as follows:
 - TA Loving: \$ 59,540.00
 - Turner Murphy: \$ 93,986.00
 - Evoqua: Did not submit a bid
11. Bid was awarded to Southern Vac in the amount of \$49,500 for the purchase of an Outfall Jetter for the Public Utilities Water/Sewer Department. Bid received were as follows:
 - Southern Vac \$ 49,500.00
 - US Jetting \$ 51,860.00
 - VAC Con – SC Dealership \$ 55,750.00
12. Approval was granted to allow the Smithfield Police Department to retire K-9 Diesel to its handler Master Police Officer Jordan Cutchins in accordance with NCGS 20-187.14

13. New Hire Report

<u>Position</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Budget Line</u>	<u>Rate of Pay</u>
Police Officer II	Police	10-20-5100-5100-0200	\$18.59/hr. (\$41,567.24/yr.)
P/T Instructor	P&R – Aquatics	10-60-6220-5100-0230	\$10.00/hr.
P/T Instructor	P&R – Aquatics	10-60-6220-5100-0230	\$15.00/hr.
P/T Instructor	P&R – Aquatics	10-60-6220-5100-0230	\$15.00/hr.
P/T Pool Staff – Lifeguard	P&R – Aquatics	10-60-5220-5100-0220	\$7.50/hr.
P/T SRAC Staff – General	P&R – Aquatics	10-60-6220-5100-0210	\$8.00/hr.
P/T SRAC Staff – General	P&R – Aquatics	10-60-6220-5100-0210	\$9.00/hr.
P/T SRAC Staff – General	P&R – Aquatics	10-60-6220-5100-0210	\$9.00/hr.

Current Vacancies

<u>Position</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Budget Line</u>
Police Officer I	Police	10-20-5100-5100-0200
P/T Recreation Aide	P&R – Recreation	10-60-6200-5100-0210
Facility Maintenance Specialist	PW – Sanitation	10-60-5500-5100-0200

Unanimously approved

Business Items:

1. Consideration and request for approval on the East River Phase I Plat

Planning Director Stephen Wensman explained Sam's Branch is requesting Final Plat of East River Phase 1. The final plat is comprised of 40 single-family residential lots on 25.58 acres of land. It is the first phase of a nine-phase planned development consisting of 281 single-family residential lots over 64.95 acres of land. The site was annexed into the Town in August of this year.

Mr. Wensman explained the UDO Article 5 contains the final plat procedures. If the final plat is consistent with the preliminary approval, it must be approved by the Town. In most jurisdictions, this is an administrative approval. The Town's approval of the East River PUD Preliminary Plat included a series of conditions that must be met by the applicant. The developer has complied with all of the preliminary plat conditions except for item 10 which addresses over flow parking. No overflow parking has been identified in phase 1. Staff is not overly concerned about this as phase 1 will be a test to see what problems arise once homes are built. There would be over flow parking in other phases. Staff finds the Final Plat to be consistent with the preliminary plat with the exception of no overflow parking being identified within the project phase.

Mr. Wensman explained park dedication fees in lieu of land dedication will be paid in the amount of \$17,543.86 based on the appraised value of the land and the calculation of 1/57 an acre per lot within the development. This payment has been submitted with the final plat application and is required prior to recordation of the final plat. With the recordation of the final plat, the developer will be dedicating public infrastructure, such as utilities, street right-of-way, trails, and sidewalks.

Those items that have not been installed, inspected and approved are required to be completed within one year after the recordation of the final plat and the developer is required to post a performance guarantee (typically a surety bond) equal to 1.25% the reasonably estimated cost of the completion. The developer will be posting a surety bond for any public improvements not completed prior to recordation, most likely for sidewalks, trails, handicap ramps and final lift of pavement.

A draft of the Declarations of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions was submitted with the final plat. The document will need to be reviewed by the Town Attorney and Planning Department for compliance with requirements prior to recordation of the final plat.

Staff recommends the Town Council approve the Final Plat of East River -Phase 1, finding it substantially consistent with the Preliminary Plat.

Councilman Barbour stated the application in the agenda packet indicated the development was not located in the Town limits. Mr. Wensman responded when the initial application was made, the development was not located in the corporate Town limits, but it has been recently annexed into the Town's corporate limits.

Councilman Barbour expressed concerns about staff's response to condition ten. "The developer will work with staff to incorporate overflow parking areas into each phase of development." Councilman Barbour asked that a caveat be added to this statement. "Although no overflow parking has been identified in Phase 1, it will be evaluated as we move to the next phase of development." Mr. Wensman responded those were preliminary plat conditions and at this point, staff does not know what the parking issues will be. The overflow parking issue can be remedied in the second phase. Mr. Wensman further responded that while it is not an issue now, it could be an issue in the future. Councilman Barbour stated the Council felt overflow parking was an important condition during the preliminary plat phase and asked that it be denoted in the record. Mr. Wensman responded when the second phase final plat comes before Council, if the overflow parking issue hasn't been addressed in the construction drawings, the Council could then enforce that condition.

Councilman Ashley asked Councilman Barbour if his concern was to make sure that the overflow parking condition was not waived. Councilman Barbour stated that was correct. Mr. Wensman responded that Councilman Barbour's concern was duly noted in the public record and assured Councilman Barbour that he felt the overflow parking issue could be assessed in the second phase. If there is an issue that the developer doesn't address, the Council has the final decision during the second phase final plat.

Councilman Barbour explained that he asked to have this item removed from the consent agenda not because he had any concerns, but merely to make sure the public was informed of the new development. He stated it was important the citizenry knew about the Town's growth.

Councilman Barbour made a motion, seconded by Councilman Rabil, to approve the East River Phase 1 Final Plat. Unanimously approved.

Reid Smith, developer of the East River project, commended staff for the assistance they have provided through this process. He stated that in most municipalities final plat approval is a formality. By it having to come before Council, it has slowed down the process considerably. He suggested that more be done in the beginning so houses can be built faster. He further stated that if there was an issue, it should have been addressed before now.

2. Neuse River Amphitheater Discussion

Parks and Recreation Director Gary Johnson addressed the Council on proposed renovations to the Neuse River Amphitheater. Mr. Johnson explained a year ago, the Council approved moving forward with the conceptual design for the renovation of amphitheater. Mr. Johnson explained that at this time, the Parks and Recreation Department and the Johnston County Visitor's Bureau was requesting approval to move forward with the No-Rise Feasibility study. This study was an environmental study to determine if construction of the amphitheater would have any negative impacts on flooding. Mr. Johnson explained the current amphitheater was antiquated and not handicapped accessible. The seating area was also starting to deteriorate. The stage needs to be repaired and the electrical needs to be updated. Mr. Johnson explained the following estimated costs of the total project. They are as follows:

Estimated Construction Costs - \$ 630,855
Engineering Costs - Design and Permitting - \$ 90,843
General Contractor - \$ 113,554
Contingency - \$ 126,171
Environmental Documentation - \$19,500
Total Estimated Cost - \$ 980,923

The next steps in the project include the following:

- Conduct the Environment Study requested by USDA

In addition to the application materials needed by USDA, environmental documents will require the following:

Environmental Scoping Form with submission to the State Clearinghouse for comment.

Phase I Environmental Assessment

No-Rise feasibility report along with a No-Rise Certification meaning that this would not have a negative impact in regards to flooding

- Submit a RFP for construction plans for the project
JCVB has budgeted for the construction plan drawings as outlined in the proposed budget in the 2019-20 annual budget for the Town of Smithfield
- Write up a MOU with the Johnston County Tourism Authority for payments on USDA loan.
Submit grant requests and seek corporate gifts to lower loan from USDA.
The new Hampton Inn will generate \$60,000+ in new 2% room tax for Smithfield, which will be very close to covering the yearly loan amount.
- Award construction bids for the project – Spring of 2020
- Create new marketing plan for promotion of the amphitheater for concerts, rentals, and special uses by July 1, 2020.
- Open the new park in 2021.

Councilman Dunn questioned the seating capacity. Mr. Johnson responded it was approximately 500.

Councilman Dunn questioned if a study had been conducted on how frequently the amphitheater would be used. Mr. Johnson responded it use would be dependent on how it was marketed. Downtown Development and the Parks and Recreation Department would utilize the amphitheater more than it is currently being used. The Town of Cary has one that is used approximately thirty times a year and the Town of Knightdale just built a new amphitheater

Councilman Barbour questioned why the Johnston County Visitor's Bureau (JCVB) was in favor of this type of facility. JCBV Executive Director Donna Bailey-Taylor responded a facility like this was one of the top recommendations in the countywide Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Residents and visitors wanted an amphitheater for more outdoor events such as; concerts, movie nights and outdoor plays. The current amphitheater is not accessible and the renovation could be a show pieced for the Town. JCVB is willing to help support the project.

Councilman Ashley questioned if the No-Rise study was to determine the impacts the facility would have on flooding. Mr. Johnson responded it was to determine if there would be any additional impacts on flooding. Councilman Ashley further questioned if staff had conducted a study on how flooding would impact this facility one it was built since the current structure has flooded ten times in the last five years. Mr. Johnson responded the amphitheater would be built with material that would withstand flood damage and would be easier to maintain. Both are requirements for the USDA loan. Councilman Ashley stated that while it was a great idea, he didn't believe anyone would build a house in that location because of flooding concerns.

Mayor Pro-Tem Scott questioned if any other sites had been investigated for the location of the amphitheater because flooding has been a major issue in that area. He stated he wish there was a better location in Town because he struggled to spend \$1 million in an area that repeatedly floods. Mayor Pro-Tem Scott stated it would be a great addition to the Town, but it needed to be in area that was substantially safe and that was not a safe area

Councilman Dunn stated the amphitheater would make a beautiful entrance into the Town, but with seating for 500 people that would be a fair amount of parking in the downtown area and parking has been an issue. Councilman Dunn questioned if there had been any thought into constructing a civic center that could be used year-round. Ms. Bailey-Taylor responded there has been a study conducted for the feasibility of a convention center, but it would cost a lot more than \$900,000.

Councilman Ashley questioned if there were plans to control any of the drainage issues. Mr. Johnson responded there would be some subsurface drainage that would be installed to drain water away from the area which would then flow to the river.

Councilman Barbour stated no one wanted to lose the amphitheater but the question was did the Council wish to spend \$200,000 to repair it or \$900,000 to renovate it. He stated the roof needed to be replaced and the stage decking needed to be replaced. He stated the area was not visitor friendly. He questioned if staff had prepared plans for when it would flood, stating because it was located next to the river it would flood. Mr. Johnson responded materials would be used to withstand flood waters.

Mayor Pro-Tem Scott questioned if staff had considered the property owned by the Downtown Smithfield Development Corporation located across the river. Mr. Johnson responded he was unsure if anything could be built on that land since it was located in the floodway. Mr. Johnson stated this project at its current location would be a renovation project because it has an existing footprint.

Mayor Moore stated the existing wooden structure was built in 1987. He questioned if there had been a substantial amount of work done to the structure. Mr. Johnson responded there had not been a substantial amount of work done to the structure.

Councilman Dunn questioned if \$200,000 would repair the existing structure. Mr. Johnson responded he was unsure because he has not had a contractor inspect the structure.

Councilman Ashley questioned if this was not a renovation on the site, the Town would not be able to construct the new amphitheater. Mr. Johnson responded the Town would have to conduct other environmental studies and he was unsure if USDA would finance the project. Ms. Bailey-Taylor explained the renovation would be in the same footprint as the current amphitheater. Councilman Ashley stated his concern was the river rising and not this project contributing to the rise. He stated

he was not sure if he felt comfortable spending the money needed for the project.

Mayor Moore stated the request was to allow the JCVB to spend \$5,200 to do the No-Rise study. He questioned if the Council wished to move forward with the request. Mayor Moore suggested staff provide the project plans to the Council for review. Councilman Ashley responded the area would flood and the Council needed to understand the long-term maintenance plan for the facility. He further stated the No-Rise study would not address the concerns expressed by the Council.

Mayor Pro-Tem Scott asked staff to strongly consider this project in a different location.

Councilman Stevens stated if the Town spent \$200,000 to repair the existing structure, they could be potentially wasting money. He stated the location for the amphitheater was a part of Smithfield. While he didn't like the parking situation, parking in the downtown was less in the evenings. He further stated if funds were going to be used to renovate the amphitheater then it needed to be marketed so it would be used. Councilman Stevens stated he did not want to spend any money on a facility that would not be used to its fullest potential. The current amphitheater is not being used because of its condition. If the Town were to find another location, land may have to be acquired.

Councilman Ashley stated the Town hasn't maintained the facility so why do we believe we can maintain a more expensive facility. Councilman Stevens stated a lot of the cost will be in clearing the grounds. Mayor Moore stated the idea should not be dismissed just because the Council was unsure how it would be maintained.

Councilman Barbour stated the Town was always looking for ways to connect the river to the Town. The current wooden structure was built in 1987 and has lasted 32 years. This new structure would last forever since materials would be used to withstand flooding. He stated getting people into the downtown area was important and any other location would not have the same impact. He asked staff to find out what it would cost to repair the existing amphitheater.

Mayor asked staff to provide additional information and asked the Council not to rule out the current location. He stated the Town hasn't spent a considerable amount of money on the structure that was built in 1987. He stated it did make sense to build an amphitheater at the current location since the Town has been trying to find ways to capitalize of the river. He further stated the issue of parking was a valid concern.

Councilman Barbour stated the request tonight was to spend \$5,200 for the No-Rise study. Mayor Moore responded it was his recommendation to delay the No-Rise study at this time and get engineering plans. He stated the Town would have to spend some funds to consult with an engineer for some more detailed drawings. This would give the Council an idea of construction material that would be used. Also, a storm related study could also be completed.

Councilman Barbour asked staff to research how other river towns take advantage of being close to the river with these types of venues. Ms. Bailey-Taylor responded that had already been completed. Mayor Moore asked staff to compile the information on the amphitheater renovation and provide it to Council with any updates. He further asked staff to investigate if there were any other areas in the Town for this type of facility.

No action was taken by the Council.

3. Consideration and request for approval to allow the Fire Department to retain the ladder truck to use as a spare once the new ladder truck is placed in operation

Fire Chief John Blanton addressed the Council on a request to retain the ladder truck. Chief Blanton apologized to the Council because during the budget sessions it was discussed that the ladder truck would be surplussed once the new ladder truck was put into service. He explained that on July 27th, Engine 2 (American LaFrance Model) went out of service and it still was not back in service. The following week, two other trucks went out of service. The ladder truck can be used as a fire engine. The Council can revisit surplussing the ladder truck once the new fire engine is put into service next year.

Councilman Dunn questioned if the two American LaFrance engines had been out of service a

considerable amount of time. Chief Blanton responded Engine 1 was out of service for 10 months with electrical and mechanical issues costing \$17,000 and Engine 2 has been out of service since July 27th. With the company out of business, it is difficult to find needed parts for repairs.

Mayor Moore questioned if the ladder truck was still in working condition. Chief Blanton stated it was. Mayor Moore questioned the annual cost of maintenance on the ladder truck. Chief Blanton responded it cost approximately \$7,500 - \$8,000 a year. Chief Blanton stated the combined flow capacity for fire vehicles on a scene was 3500 gallons per minute (gpm). With one truck out of service, the Smithfield Fire Department doesn't meet that requirement. The current ladder truck had 1500 gpm and the new ladder truck will have 2000 gpm.

Councilman Barbour questioned if mutual aid was included in the total gallons per minute sum of 3500. Chief Blanton responded each company must maintain 3500 gpm before mutual aid can be dispatched. Councilman Barbour questioned if the ladder truck was retained would it have a negative impact on the budget. Town Manager Michael Scott responded revenue projections for the sale of the ladder truck were not included in the budget. However, the Safer Grant for the three additional firefighters will run out this year. It was the Manager's idea that funds from the sale of the ladder truck could be used to fund one of the firefighter positions. Councilman Barbour stated there was a cost for keeping the ladder truck.

Town Manager Michael Scott informed the Council he had some questions about the American LaFrance trucks and the cost associated with needed repairs to Engine 1 and Engine 2. He asked the Council to table this matter until next month so he could investigate the matter more. The Town Manager stated he would like to determine if it would be more feasible to surplus one of the American LaFrance Engines since they may be costing the Town more money with all the needed repairs.

No action taken by the Council.

4. Booker Dairy Road Naming

Planning Director Stephen Wensman addressed the Council on the naming of the new portion of roadway that connects to a portion of Booker Dairy Road. Mr. Wensman explained this road project was nearing completion and once complete, it will need a name for addressing and wayfinding purposes. It will be the Town's responsibility to name the road. The road corridor is currently named M. Durwood Stephenson Highway from US 70 Business Highway W (Market Street) to Buffalo Road; then after Buffalo Road, becomes Booker Dairy Road. The new extension picks up on the easterly section of Booker Dairy Road and extends to Ava Gardner Avenue where it intersects with US 301. The corridor currently has 3 names: M. Durwood Stephenson Highway, Booker Dairy Road and Ava Gardner Avenue. M. Durwood Stephenson Highway is a controlled access highway with no properties having addresses along its frontage Staff is recommending no change to this segment. Booker Dairy Road runs east-west and north-south, and may need to be extended to the north to Buffalo Road to provide access to parcels along US 70. Ava Gardner Avenue is currently less than a block long and none of the properties fronting on it are addressed to it. When considering the naming options, wayfinding is a major consideration. The Town is currently installing wayfinding signs to aid visitors to navigate their way around town. For wayfinding purposes, the entire length of the corridor should ideally have a single name. Booker Dairy Road is problematic because it runs in both an east-west and north-south direction and will likely need to be extended north into the "Northern Gateway" area to provide road access to the future development area. The renaming of the roadway will result in some readdressing of properties. Regardless the option, 7 properties will be affected by a name change as Booker Dairy Road becomes a T-intersection with the new extension. Suggestion to name the curved section that will be cut off be named Old Booker Dairy Road.

Mr. Wensman explained a public meeting was held at the Smithfield Recreation and Aquatics Center on September 12 at 6 PM. All property owners with addresses on Booker Dairy Road that may be affected by the name change were notified. There were people 13 in attendance at the meeting including 9 property owners that will be directly affected by a potential name change including the Smithfield-Selma High School Principal and two representatives from State Employees Credit Union. At the meeting, it was agreed that the north-south section of Booker Dairy Road should remain unchanged. It was accepted that the 7 property owners along the curve of Booker Dairy Road would have a change because that segment will be detached from Booker Dairy Road.

Although most understood the desire for a single name for the road between Buffalo Road and U.S.

301, those in attendance generally preferred to keep their current addresses, only naming the extension. The Smithfield-Selma High School Principal was in favor of a single name for the corridor. Mr. Booker suggested the road name be changed to "Spartan Way" or similar name. A representative from the Neuse Charter School was fine with whatever option the Town chose as long as the name was not Spartan Way. In attendance, Mrs. Booker explained that Mr. Booker had reconsidered his suggestion for the naming of the road.

Town Manager Michael Scott stated to reinforce what Mr. Wensman said, the Council was being asked to rename two sections of the roadway; the curved section that is going to become detached and the larger new portion of roadway. Staff is recommending one name for the section or roadway from Highway 301 North to Buffalo Road. If the Council chose not to use the existing Ava Gardner Avenue name for the entire corridor then Ava Garner Ava would also change to the Council's desired name.

Councilman Barbour asked if the smaller curved portion of roadway that would be detached from Booker Dairy Road could be addressed first.

Councilman Barbour made a motion to rename the curved portion of Booker Dairy Road that would become detached from Booker Dairy Road, Old Booker Dairy Road.

Mayor Pro-Tem Scott questioned the location of the traffic light. Mr. Wensman responded the traffic light would be installed at the T intersection. He further stated the curved road will not have access to Booker Dairy Road, but will be able to access it via an existing road.

Councilman Ashley questioned if staff discussed the possibility of Booker Dairy Road remaining as it currently is. Mr. Wensman responded staff did discuss it, but thought it would be confusing for the road to have three names for what appears to be one corridor. Staff was trying to eliminate confusion.

Councilman Barbour questioned if it was the plan for the North-South section of Booker Dairy Road to be extend out to Buffalo Road. Mr. Wensman responded it was included in the long-range plan.

Mayor Pro-Tem Scott suggested naming the corridor Ava Gardner Parkway and change M. Durwood Stephenson Highway to M. Durwood Stephenson Parkway. Mayor Moore stated changing Ava Gardner Avenue to Ava Gardner Parkway would not impact any properties

Councilman Dunn stated no matter what the roadway name would be, it would be difficult for the current residents and businesses along Booker Dairy Road. The simplest thing to do would be to keep the roads as they are. He hated for people to have to change their addresses because of the roadway name change.

Councilman Barbour stated he was not in agreement with having three different names for one corridor. It was his opinion that the entire corridor from US Highway 70 West to US Highway 301 North have one name.

Mayor Moore stated there was a motion on the floor to name the curved portion of Booker Dairy Road that will become detached from the existing road, Old Booker Dairy Road.

Councilman Stevens asked Mrs. Register who resides at 1106 East Booker Dairy Road if she was in agreement with changing the name of the road where she resides to Old Booker Dairy Road. Mrs. Register responded she was in agreement with the proposed name. Her only concern was the repair of the potholes that have been caused by the construction. Mayor Moore assured her the road would be repaired. Mrs. Register asked if the address numbers could remain the same. Mr. Wensman responded he would try to make sure the numbers remained the same.

Councilman Barbour made a motion, seconded by Councilman Ashley, to rename the curved portion of Booker Dairy road that would be detached from the existing Booker Dairy Road once construction was completed to Old Booker Dairy Road. Unanimously approved.

Councilman Barbour stated there was a recommendation from the Planning Department that there was no intension to rename M. Durwood Stephenson Highway because no one would be affected by it. Mr. Wensman responded it would be ideal to have one name for the entire corridor, but M. Durwood

Stephenson Highway was named when construction was completed.

Mayor Pro-Tem Scott questioned if the divided highway would have east and west addresses. Mr. Wensman responded that everything east of the river would be donated as east.

Mayor Pro-Tem Scott made a motion, seconded by Councilman Stevens, to rename the roadway from US Highway 301 North to Buffalo Road, Ava Gardner Parkway. Mayor Pro-Tem Scott, Councilman Stevens voted in favor of the motion. Councilman Barbour, Councilman Ashley, Councilman Dunn and Councilman Rabil voted against the motion. Councilman Lee did not vote therefore his vote counted in favor of the motion. Motion was denied on a 4 to 3 vote.

Councilman Barbour made a motion, seconded by Councilman Stevens to rename the roadway from US Highway 301 North to Buffalo Road, Ava Gardner Avenue. Councilman Barbour, Councilman Stevens and Mayor Pro-Tem Scott voted in favor of the motion. Councilman Ashley, Councilman Dunn and Councilman Rabil voted against the motion. Councilman Lee did not vote therefore his vote counted in favor of the motion. Motion was approved on a 4 to 3 vote.

Councilmembers Comments:

- Mayor Pro-Tem Scott questioned why the pump station on West Market Street has not be repaired. Public Utilities Director Ted Credle responded staff had performed some repairs to Pump Station 1 in the spring. At that time a temporary pump was installed because that station seems to have a large amount of sewer rags which clog the pump. The origin of such rags is unknown. The temporary pump was installed because it was more efficient at pushing larger items through the station. The temporary pump is owned by the Town and staff continues to work on this issue.
- Councilman Barbour questioned if a town wide traffic study had ever been conducted. He stated with increased traffic flowing through the Town's corridors had the Police Department seen an increase in accidents. The Town Manager responded according to the Police Department Report contained in the agenda packet, it listed there have been 10 more accidents this year as compared to last. Councilman Barbour questioned if the accidents had shifted to different locations due to increased traffic. The Town Manager responded the Police Department monitors major intersections and if there was an increase in accidents in one specific area, the Patrol Officers would monitor that intersection. Councilman Stevens stated with the new Ava Garner Avenue there should be a decrease in traffic in certain areas of Town.
- Mayor Moore asked Marketing and Communications Specialist Brian Eaves to explain the new social media campaign, "Smithfield in 60". Mr. Eaves explained this was a weekly video that highlighted and promoted events happening in Smithfield

Town Manager's Report:

Town Manager Michael Scott gave a brief update to the Council on the following items:

- Power Outage - A recent power outage was caused by a squirrel getting into the transformers.
- Halloween Events:
 - Halloween Party Event at Community Gardens on October 19th from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm.
 - Community Park will hold its Egg Haunt event on October 24th at 7:00 pm.
 - Community Park "Trunk or Treat" on October 26th at 10:30 am
 - The SRAC is holding its Spooktacular event on October 26th at 5:30 pm
 - The Sarah Yard Center will hold its Boo Bash Party on October 30th from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm
- Swim Meet: The East Coast Aquatics organization will be hosting a swim meet at the SRAC on October 5th and 6th. Swimmers will range in age from 8 to 18 years old. About 400 swimmers will compete.
- Trick or Treat: Trick or Treat is scheduled for Thursday, October 31st from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm
- November Meeting: A reminder the November regular meeting is scheduled for November 12th at 7:00 pm due to the November election.
- A highlight of each department's monthly activities was given to the Council

Adjournment

Being no further business, Councilman Barbour made a motion, seconded by Councilman Ashley, to adjourn the meeting. Unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:53 pm.

M. Andy Moore, Mayor

ATTEST:

Shannan L. Parrish, Town Clerk