



KNIGHTDALE PLANNING AND ENGINEERING COMMITTEE MINUTES

950 Steeple Square Court, Knightdale, North Carolina 27545

February 8, 2016

The Knightdale Planning and Engineering Committee met at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Conference Room.

TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Councilor Tripp, Councilor Chalk

LURB MEMBER LIAISON PRESENT: George Hess

ABSENT: No one

Staff Members Present: Chris Hills, Development Services Director; Jason Brown, Senior Planner Long Range; Joe Turner, Development Services Engineer; Jennifer Currin, Senior Planner Current; Donna Tierney, Planning Technician

Meeting called to order by Councilor Tripp at 6:03 p.m.

ITEM I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

...Motion by Councilor Chalk to approve the minutes of January 8, 2016. Motion seconded by Mr. Hess and carried unanimously.

ITEM II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Front Yard Parking Ordinance

Senior Planner Long Range Jason Brown recently spoke with Town Attorney Clyde Holt in reference to comments about front yard parking. Mr. Brown suggested that staff would redraft the ordinance based on Mr. Holt's comments and revisit the issue next month.

In addition to front yard parking being an aesthetic issue, Council Tripp explained that it also causes erosion and kills grass. It is not ideal to have residents pave their front yards in order to solve the mentioned issues.

Councilor Chalk expressed concern that some lots in Old Town are very narrow, which does not leave residents with many options for parking. Some individuals have service vehicles and already park them on the street.

Development Services Director Chris Hills explained there is not a one size fits all solution to the issue and staff is looking for the best option for satisfying the largest amount of people. Staff is weighing convenience against aesthetics against environmental impacts and is aware that a new ordinance could create hardships for some people.

Councilor Chalk expressed his belief that an ordinance may not be warranted due to such a small amount of people parking in the front yard.

Mr. Hills suggested taking the issue back to the Old Town Advisory Committee to reevaluate their interest in pursuing it further. Committee members agreed to this recommendation.

B. Mingo Creek Greenway Trailhead

Mr. Hills explained that the topic was discussed at the recent Town Council retreat. There is a general willingness to consider the idea of a temporary trailhead and the future location of a fire station on the Duke Energy parcel on Hodge Road across from Princeton Manor.

Parks and Recreation Director Tina Cheek met with Marty Clayton to discuss this parcel and Mr. Clayton was okay with it in concept.

The first step to obtain written approval from Duke Energy will be for the Town to have a survey performed. Once the substation is built, the goal is to eventually have a permanent trailhead.

The topic will be kept on the agenda for future developments.

ITEM III.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Capital Improvement Plan Discussion

Mr. Hills announced that staff has started developing a new Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). This plan includes items such as roads, pedestrians, utilities, open space, and community amenities that should be considered for construction in the next 5-10 years.

Councilor Chalk voiced that the Mingo Creek greenway connection should be a high priority and that the Town should budget money for the design and submit the project to CAMPO in order to possibly receive grant money.

Mr. Hills and Senior Planner Jennifer Currin explained several of the projects already on the list. Committee members discussed several options: completing the greenway connection from Mingo Creek Park to Knightdale Station Park, connecting to the Wendell Falls greenway, and completing the First Avenue sidewalk connection to Knightdale Blvd.

Councilor Tripp recommended adding a sidewalk from McKnight Drive to Carrington Drive on Smithfield Road and adding a connection between Brookefield Station and Smithfield Road.

Committee members were asked to start thinking about the projects mentioned and make any suggestions as necessary. When adding projects to the CIP, the investment, return on investment, how many people it will serve, and cost should be considered.

B. Street Resurfacing Discussion

Due to the time, this discussion was tabled for next month's meeting.

ITEM IV. OTHER BUSINESS
None at this time.

ITEM V. ADJOURNMENT
...Motion by Mr. Hess to adjourn at 6:57 p.m. Motion seconded by Councilor Chalk
and carried unanimously.


Dustin Tripp, Planning and Engineering Chairman


Donna Tierney, Planning Technician