

**August 11, 2014**  
**Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes**

The Wendell Town Board of Commissioners held their regularly scheduled meeting Monday, August 11, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. in the Board of Commissioners' Meeting Room with Mayor Timothy A. Hinnant presiding. Present at the meeting were Commissioners Virginia Gray; John Boyette; James Parham; and Sam Laughery; Manager Teresa Piner; IT Administrator Tamah Hughes; Finance Director Butch Kay; Police Chief Bill Carter; Public Works Director Alton Bryant; Planning Director David Bergmark; Planners Patrick Reidy and Allison Rice. Commissioner Jon Lutz and Town Clerk Jonnie Driver were not in attendance.

Mayor Hinnant called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed the guests.

Police Chief Bill Carter led the Pledge of Allegiance and the invocation was delivered by Commissioner Sam Laughery.

**Adjustment and approval of the agenda**

No adjustments were made and Commissioner Parham made a motion to approve the agenda as written. The vote was unanimous.

**Item 1 – Public Comment Period**

No one wished to be heard.

**Item 2 – Consent Agenda**

- a. Approval of the Minutes from Monday, July 28, 2014 Board of Commissioners' meeting.

Commissioner Parham made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The vote was unanimous 4-0.

**Item 3 – Recognition of Boys 7-8 Tarheel League State Champions**

Mayor Hinnant said he would like to thank the young men in attendance as well as the parents, sponsors, coaches and supporters for helping to make this special occasion possible.

Kelley Connolly said a lot of hard work had gone into the Championship teams. She said she would like to thank the coaches and parents for all of their hard work. These teams stood up and won their State Championship. The team went 3-1 in the SJBA, 4-0 in the Tar Heel District Tournament and 5-1 in the Tar Heel State Tournament.

Each player was recognized as well as the coaches for the Wendell Blue 7-8 year old State Championship Team. Dallas Baker, Davis Broadwell, Cameron Brown, Ethan Clinebelle, Weston Dixon, Carson Dunn, Sam Dutton, Connor Fitts, Johnathan Montague, Memphis Neyland, John Tolleson, Coach's: Kenny Fitts, Robert Clinebelle, Don Brown, and Chris Dixon.

**Item 4 – Recognition of Boys 9-10 Tarheel League State Champions.**

Kelley Connolly stated the 9-10 team went 3-1 in the SBJA and went on to a 4-0 in the Tarheel District Tournament. She state that one of the things that was special about this team was that they were all 9 year olds except for one player who was 8 years old and they still went on to beat all the 10 year old teams.

Kelley said in the State Championship they went 4-0. We appreciate all the fans that supported the teams as well as Commissioner Gray who came out and cheered them on in Smithfield.

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Each player was recognized as well as the coaches for the Wendell 9-10 State Championship Team. Edward Apple, Jake Barbour, Preston Blackley, Brett Fuller, William Helms, Wyatt Holbrook, Andrew Lanphere, Cameron Long, Aaron Measley, Dean Wall, Dean Williams, Coach's: Kevin Barbour, Jody Wall, Greg Fuller, and Kevin Measley.

**Item 5 – Recognition of Boys 13-14 SWAC State Champions**

Kelley Connolly stated the 13-14 year old boys went 2-1 in the SBJA and 2-2 in the. They went 4-0 in the Tournament that was held in Goldsboro, N.C. It was great to see all the parents and supporters that went to Goldsboro to follow this team.

Each player was recognized as well as the coaches for the Boys13-14 SWAC State Champions. Dyllan Baranchak, Preston Clifton, Matt Cracchiolo, Thomas Gaster, Brendan Hasbrouck, Alda Jimenez, Garrett Johnson, Austin King, Shane Knight, Harrison Neese, Drew Smith, Grey Yancey, Kirby Yeargin, Coach's: Chris Cracchiolo, Sherrill Johnson, Alex Neese, Matt Knight, Dave Baranchak, and Tommy Clifton.

Mayor Hinnant called for a recess until 7:20 p.m.

Mayor Hinnant called the meeting back to order at 7:30.

**Item 6 – Introduction of Mr. Jeff Polaski as the Parks and Recreation Director for the Town of Wendell**

Manager Piner said following the retirement of Brinkley Wagstaff, Jeff Polaski began work as the Town of Wendell's Parks and Recreation Director on Monday, July 28, 2014. Mr. Polaski is a 1999 graduate of East Carolina University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Management of Recreation Facilities and Services. Mr. Polaski is a Certified Playground Safety Inspector, has experience in the writing/receiving of PARTF Grants, and budgeting. She said Mr. Polaski holds multiple national coaching certifications through Special Olympics of North Carolina, has been heavily involved with organizing and promoting special events, is Drug and Alcohol Abuse Symptoms Certified, and is a Pitt County Youth Sports Alliance founding member. She stated Mr. Polaski has served as the Historic Albemarle Area Director for Special Olympics of North Carolina, the Farmville Parks and Recreation Director and worked with Special populations in addition to working in the aquatics and fitness center with Greenville's Recreation and Parks Department.

Manager Piner said Jeff in his spare time coaches Farmville Central's Varsity soccer team and was Vice President of the Ayden/Farmville/Grifton Baseball League.

Mrs. Piner said Jeff is married to Crystal Polaski and is the father of 3 daughters Bailey -7, Charlotte - 4, and Harper – 4 months and a step son Riley who is 6. He enjoys being outside playing sports and is an expert snow skier.

Commissioner Gray said she went by and met Mr. Polaski last week and something that he said had really stuck with her. He stated that after education, parks and recreation departments play the second highest role for people selecting communities in which to buy homes. She was happy to hear that and she was ready to see what Jeff was going to do.

Commissioner Laughery said Parks and Recreation was very important to Wendell and it had been very successful over the past years and for that very reason, he informed Mr. Polaski that he had a real

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challenge ahead. It would be a tough act to follow, but you have a great staff, a remarkable facility and he was happy to have Mr. Polaski here.

Mayor Hinnant welcomed Jeff to Wendell and said please know that we all support you.

Jeff stated he was happy to be in Wendell and the past two weeks had been very busy and that he had met a lot of people. He said he knew that he had a top notch staff and they knew what they were doing. He said he had a lot of ideas that he would like to share and work with the Chamber and other departments to develop.

**Item 7 – Introduction of Mr. David Bergmark as the Planning Director for the Town of Wendell.**

Manager Piner said David’s position as planner had recently been reclassified to Planning Director. She said he began his career with the Town of Wendell in July of 2008. She said David’s educational background includes an undergraduate degree in Geography from UNC Chapel in May of 2006, and a Masters in City and Regional Planning from UNC Chapel Hill in May of 2008. David has become a North Carolina Certified Zoning Official and was nationally certified through the American Institute of Certified Planners.

Teresa said David grew up on North Carolina, living in Raleigh and Goldsboro before attending college in Chapel Hill. In June of 2014, he married his wife Jennifer who is a native of Raleigh and works as a Recreational Therapist at Central Regional Hospital in Butner, NC.

David said he was grateful to be serving in the capacity of Planning Director for the Town of Wendell and he was always at the board’s disposal if you need anything.

Mayor Hinnant said he thought that he spoke for the entire board, that congratulations were in order and that we looked forward to working with you in the future in this new capacity.

**Item 8 – Public Hearing on a text amendment to allow for indoor firing ranges within the Town of Wendell Planning Jurisdiction.**

David Bergmark stated previous interest had been expressed by an investor regarding the opportunity of opening an indoor small arms shooting range in downtown Wendell. He said the current Table of Uses does not specifically define land uses for indoor or outdoor shooting ranges.

David said in order to determine how to best address these uses, staff researched standards of neighboring jurisdictions, including Wake County, Raleigh, Zebulon, Fuquay-Varina, Garner, Cary, Holly Springs, Wake Forest, Knightdale, and Apex. Of these 10 jurisdictions, (3) allow indoor shooting ranges by right and (5) allow outdoor shooting ranges either by right, with a special use permit or with a special use permit with additional standards provided.

David said any proposed indoor shooting range would be required to be designed by an architect or designer in order to ensure safety measures are met. In the case of Wendell, a Wake County building inspector would review the designer’s proposal as part of the building permit approval process. The architect or designer would have to specify how all projectiles would be safely contained within the building and how noise would be controlled. The design of indoor shooting ranges is also usually under strict insurance regulations.

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David said at the May 19<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Planning Board asked staff to return with additional research into the viability of allowing an indoor shooting range in the Town of Wendell. Staff surveyed downtown businesses to determine their opinion on the inclusion of an indoor shooting range within the DMX. The feedback ranged from enthusiastic support to indifference. Some business owners expressed concern as to the health and safety of the range staff and customers, as well as the noise levels this use would generate. Concerns were expressed but overall, business owners expressed hope for the use generating more business.

David said in order to address noise concerns, planning department staff researched what noise limitations have been employed by other jurisdictions. Of those jurisdictions which did include noise standards, the maximum decibel level permitted varied from 40 decibels to 85 decibels. The decibel limit incorporated into the proposed text amendment is the same as that used by Wake County (60 decibels).

David said staff visited two indoor shooting ranges in Raleigh in order to measure the amount of noise being generated by these facilities. The decibels were between 63 and 70 however, the measurements would vary depending on the number of people using the facility at any given time. Mr. Bergmark said both facilities were retrofitted to serve as indoor shooting ranges. He said the indoor shooting range in south Raleigh was loudest by a metal door on the back corner of the building, which was allowing more noise to escape. He said the decibel readings were much lower elsewhere.

David said the Proposed Text Amendment would read

1. To amend Section 19.3 of the UDO to include the following definition:
  - A. Shooting **Range, Indoor**: The use of a structure for archery and/or the discharging of firearms for the purposes of target practice or temporary competitions.
2. To amend Section 2.3C of the UDO (Use Matrices Table) to include "Shooting Range, Indoor" Under the "Entertainment/Recreation" category as a Special Use (SUP) within the Corridor Mixed Use (CMX), Community Center (CC), Commercial Highway (CH), and Manufacturing & Industrial (MI) districts, with additional standards listed in Chapter 3 of the UDO.
3. To amend Section 3.3 of the UDO (Additional standards by use) to add:

**LL. Shooting Range, Indoor**

1. This use is prohibited within 1200 feet of a school.
2. The building housing this use shall be designed and constructed so as to muffle noise Generated by the firing of weapons so that no sound over 60 decibels may be heard at the property line. The method for obtaining this noise level must be identified in the design plans prior to approval.
3. The allowed hours of operation shall be 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
4. No mechanical or ventilation equipment shall be visible from a public right-of-way. Exhaust air discharged from the range shall meet all state and federal requirements, and designed to separate discharge from any air supply intake for the same or nearby uses to prevent cross-contamination of heavy metal-laden air.
5. No storage of lead, ammunition, firearms, gunpowder, or other hazardous or dangerous materials, as may be identified by the Wendell Police Department or the

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Wake County Fire Marshall, shall be stored in an accessory structure. No cleaning or repair of guns shall be allowed within an accessory structure.

6. The applicant must provide proof of insurance as part of their Special Use Permit submittal. All shooting range facilities shall maintain general liability insurance Coverage in an amount of not less than Three Million Dollars through an insurance company licensed to do business in North Carolina. The policy shall not exclude coverage for property damage or personal injury caused by the discharge of firearms.

David said staff recommends approval of the proposed text amendment for indoor firing ranges. Due to Staff's concerns over the perception which seeing armed individuals walking around downtown could have on citizens and visitors, staff did not include the Downtown Mixed Use (DMX) district within the list of permitted zoning districts.

Commissioner Boyette said he had requested a map that showed the distances from the public schools, hospitals and other things like that. David said he amended the map to show 400 feet, 800 feet and 1200 feet, which was what the Planning Board recommended. Commissioner Boyette said his concern was 1200 feet especially when shooting from inside would not allow very much noise to get out and as far as safety issues if the building can't contain it, it should not be built period so he did not think that had anything to do with distance. He said he was personally in favor of the indoor shooting range, but he did not want to see them shoe horned into tight corners, creating limited options.

Mayor Hinnant opened the public hearing for anyone who wished to speak for or against indoor shooting ranges.

Mr. Paul White, business owner and citizen stated the Economic Development Committee recommended this. He said they were looking for a niche that would draw people to Wendell and if they come for the shooting range they would probably eat and shop while in town. He said he thought the Planning Board's recommendation of 1200 feet from schools was too much.

No one else wished to be heard and Mayor Hinnant closed the public hearing.

**Item 9 – Public Hearing on an application by Longleaf Development Services on a Conditional District located off of Edgemont Road.**

Mayor Hinnant stated that the board would like to hold the public hearing tonight, but table action to create a Conditional District for the property until another time. Attorney Cauley said you can open the public hearing and leave it open and continue the vote on the issue, or you can open the public hearing and conclude the public hearing and table the vote until the next meeting.

Planner Patrick Reidy stated the applicant Longleaf Development Services (on behalf of D.R. Horton, Inc., Ammon's Acres, Inc., Ronnie and Jennifer Mizzell, and Helen Strain) has requested to create an R-4 Conditional district for approximately 70.84 acres of property within the parcels identified by PIN #s 1774 69 5502; 1774 59 4831; 1774 59 6154; and 1774 58 9781. This consists of the phases 1C and 2(A-E) of Edgemont Landing, as shown on the Master Development Plan.

Patrick stated the purpose of the Conditional District was to provide an alternative means of land development and an alternative zoning procedure that may be used to establish residential, commercial, and industrial Conditional Districts at appropriate locations in accordance with the planning

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and development objectives of the Town. He said a Conditional District may depart from the strict application of the requirements of the town's general zoning districts.

Patrick said the Conditional District alternative may allow uses which are not specifically allowed in standard zoning districts. A primary purpose of this section was to provide standards by which such flexibility could be achieved while maintaining and protecting the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens. In this case, no alternative uses or lot dimensional standards have been proposed by the applicant.

Patrick said a second purpose of the conditional district is to establish a more complete living and working environment through the application of enlightened and imaginative approaches to community planning, and property design. A conditional district should provide a variety of natural features and scenic areas, efficient and economical land use, improved amenities, orderly and economic development, and the protection of existing and future adjacent development.

Patrick said the provisions of the Conditional District Master Plan shall replace all conflicting development regulations set forth in this Ordinance which would otherwise apply to the development site. The Planning Board may recommend and the Board of Commissioners may attach reasonable and appropriate conditions including, but not limited to, the location, nature, hours of operation, and extent of the proposed uses(s). Conditional and site-specific standards shall be limited to those that address conformance of the development and use of the site to this Ordinance and officially adopted plans and those standards and conditions that address the impacts reasonable expected to be generated by the development and use of the site.

Patrick said the property is currently zoned R4CU and is subject to the zoning conditions approved as part of the original rezoning request. Attachment A contains the current zoning conditions, which are as

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follows: (See Attachment A which has been inserted and made a part of the minutes).

ATTACHMENT A

**Existing R-4 zoning conditions of approval**

The existing R-4 rezoning conditions are listed below. All but the conditions pertaining to entry signage will remain as part of the conditions for this rezoning:

1. Entrance signs will be placed at the entrance into the subdivision and landscaped *(condition not relevant to this rezoning and will be omitted)*.
2. Landscaped berm along entrance *(condition not relevant to this rezoning and will be omitted)*.
3. Easement dedicated to the Town of Wendell for future greenway.
4. Walking/jogging trail along the greenway and open space area (non-paved, natural)
5. Gazebo in the open space area.
6. Park benches and picnic tables to be provided in open space/greenway area.
7. Establishment of a Homeowners Association.
8. Minimum 1500 square foot (heated space) homes (Type III)
9. No modular units.
10. Concrete driveways required.
11. Sodded front and side yards, seeded rear yards.
12. Minimum of two balled and burlapped (1.5 – 2") trees in the front yard as specified by the Wendell Tree Board.
13. Landscaped front yard of unit
14. Two car garage on 80% of the lots, one car garage on 15% of lots, and no garage on 5% of the lots.
15. Mixture of different designs of homes to include layouts and elevations to present a pleasant curb appeal.

**Proposed additional R-4 conditions of zoning approval:**

1. Vinyl siding may be utilized on homes without restriction as to building separation distances.
2. Homes may be built on "slab on-grade" foundations requiring no raised entrances.
3. Exposed slabs can opt to be enclosed with brick, stucco, or stone – but it is not a requirement to do so.
4. Attached garages with front-loading bays must be recessed at least 2' from the front façade of the house.
5. The width of an attached garage shall not exceed 50% of the total building façade of the house.
6. Phase 1C wishes to pay a fee in lieu of open space for the 0.88 acres required.
7. The proposed greenway trail shall be constructed of crushed stone.
8. Former lot 91 (located to the rear of lot 92) shall be utilized for an open space amenity. Specifics on the use of the open space lot to be determined however a connection to the greenway trail will be provided.

Patrick said the applicant was proposing to continue with the approved conditions with the exception of conditions #1 and #2 which were no longer needed as they relate to the entrance of Edgemont Landing and have been previously satisfied. Condition #3 should also be amended since the greenway was proposed to be constructed with this application. Condition #4 was proposed to be deleted and replaced with a new condition related to the trail surface being constructed with a gravel surface.

Patrick stated the Proposed Conditional District Conditions (In addition to existing conditions #5-15): as follows:

The applicant proposes eight additional conditions for the Conditional District, as follows:

1. Vinyl siding may be utilized on homes without restrictions as to building separation distances.
  - a. Comment: The current UOD requires a 30 foot building separation between buildings that have vinyl. The purpose of the requirement was to help alleviate concerns over fire safety. The UDO allows for the use of wood clapboard, cementitious fiber board, wood shingle, wood drop siding, primed board, wood board, and batten, brick, stone, stucco or synthetic materials similar and/or superior in appearance and durability.
2. Homes may be built on "slab on-grade" foundations requiring no raised entrances.
  - a. Comment: The UDO requires that all front entrances shall be raised above the finished grade a minimum of one and a half feet. The raised entrance gives a home a more prominent aesthetical look and creates vertical separation between passing pedestrians and residents sitting on their porch.
3. Exposed slabs can opt to be enclosed with brick, stucco, or stone – but it was not a requirement to do so.

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- a. Comment: This condition proposes to eliminate the UDO requirement that slabs or crawl spaced be wrapped in brick, stone, or stucco, at least 8 inches above visible grade. The UDO requirement gives the foundation of a home a more finished visual appearance so that concrete slabs or cement blocks are not exposed.
4. Attached garages with front-loading bays must be recessed at least 2 foot from the front façade of the house.
  - a. Comment: The UDO requires that garages with front-loading bays be recessed at least 5 foot from the front façade of the house.
5. The width of an attached garage shall not exceed 50% of the total building façade of the house.
  - a. Comment: The UDO requires that the width of an attached garage shall not exceed 40% of the total building façade of the house.
6. Phase 1C wishes to pay a fee in lieu of open space for the 0.88 acres required.
  - a. Comment: The open space opportunity on this small section of land would not be an ideal location and would result in the loss of up to six lots. The six lots and the fee in lieu would be more beneficial to the town than the less than desirable location of open space in that phase. It should be noted that Phase 2 of the proposed development was proposing 0.22 acres less than the 6.25 acres of required open space. Staff met with the applicant and they agreed to an additional condition requiring a fee in lieu for those 0.22 acres.
7. The proposed greenway trail shall be constructed of crushed stone.
  - a. Comment: Crushed stone would provide an improved surface above the current mulch requirement. Crushed stone is proposed. However, requiring an asphalt surface would provide a more permanent trail surface and be a greater benefit to the residents for biking, walking, and skating, and future town connectivity. Asphalt would provide active open space and accommodate a larger number of children which would assist in reducing those playing in the street.
8. Former lot 91 (Located to the rear of lot 92) shall be utilized for an open space amenity. Specifics on the use of the open space lot to be determined, however a connection to the greenway trail will be provided.
  - a. Comment: The deletion of Lot 91 at the southern end of the proposed development would create a trail connection. The application proposes to determine specific uses for the open space at a later time. Staff recommends the programming of the open space with this application with a tot lot to be provided between lots 114 and 261. Staff would have recommended the removal of Lot 91 even if the applicant had not in order to make the trail connection so that residents wouldn't have to cross through private property or walk back to the middle of the trail to get back home.

As currently proposed, the improvements suggested as part of this Conditional District request involve adding crushed stone to the greenway trail instead of a mulched surface, and adding open space at the southern end of the trail where lot 91 was previously located. All other proposed changes constitute reductions in the current design standards.

At its July 21, 2014 meeting, the Wendell Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend approve of the proposed Conditional District with the additional requirements for a Tot Lot and that soffits not be constructed using vinyl.

Mayor Hinnant said he was in favor of what Longleaf Development Services was trying to do. He said although he heard it was a reduction in design standards of the current UDO, he thought what was important was not to reduce integrity of the development. The guidelines being proposed were the

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guidelines used in the initial phases of the development. He said we wanted to make sure before we actually change a development plan that we don't cause the development to lose its integrity and the houses depreciate. He appreciated staffs input, but reading this, it was almost like we trying to stack the deck against the development. The mayor stated that he supports what was being asked for by the developer.

Commissioner Boyette said about the percentage of the garage allowed on the front façade, what was it before the UDO was passed. Patrick said there was none before the UDO. Commissioner Boyette said so the 50% would be a limitation as opposed to what was there before. Patrick said that was correct. Commissioner Boyette said he understood that the houses that were already built were on slab on grade and he understood the developers wanted to continue in the same fashion, but at the same time we learn from things. A reasonable accommodation to allow slabs would be to wrap it. He said considering slab on grade foundation was only a few inches tall it could not be a burdensome cost. He said the proposal also says it would allow vinyl without regard to the separation of houses and that was clearly a public safety issue. He said vinyl siding sometimes melts when sun reflects off windows and Rolesville had three to burn down a few years ago because they were so close and had vinyl siding. Commissioner Boyette said we learn from these things and he had strong personal feelings about safety. He said the current UDO says 30 feet and when there was a fire, they still melt 30 feet apart so that would make him personally have to say no to vinyl.

Commissioner Gray asked what the applicant could have done to preserve their original plan. Patrick said when they did their preliminary plats they had a two year window to record their final plats creating individual lots and they would have been locked in and could have continued with the design standards in place at that time. He said the permit extension act extended that time far beyond two years. Commissioner Gray asked if there were others that were recorded at this time that were sitting and waiting in case the developers came back. Patrick said there were. She said the slab on grade bothers her. She said she thought a lot of people put a lot of time into the UDO and were trying really hard to create a certain atmosphere and environment in Wendell and it was not saying that one was a lesser product, but just that we were trying to move in a certain direction and we find ourselves in a position where we are asked to make an exception to that rule. She said it really takes a lot to make her turn from the UDO and she thought we needed to try to stick with it unless we find that it was unreasonably burdensome. She said she would be willing, since there was an existing neighborhood there and this was the second phase of an existing neighborhood that we might do a percentage with a raised elevation. She said she would want them all to be banded. She felt that would be fair. If we make the requested changes, we would continue to have developers come and ask for exceptions and we would have longer meetings than tonight because each developer thought their developments should be an exception.

Commissioner Parham said 2008 caught a lot of people off guard and Longleaf Developers was one of them and he understood Commissioners Boyette and Gray concerns, especially the safety concern and the slab concerns. We have to get ourselves through this situation where people were caught in a situation they had no control over, so he would agree with the mayor that as long as what they were proposing to do was not going to degrade the existing development or be less than what was there, he was ok with it.

Commissioner Laughery said he was in favor also. He thought building using the old design standards would be fine. He had a couple of issues that he would like to understand a little better. One is the vinyl siding. He did not know what the right distance was, but if it was 10 feet apart that was too close. He

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did not agree with making the paths asphalt. He thought that would be a real burden on the homeowners association at some point so he did not agree with staff's recommendation on that. He would like to know what percentage of houses would be built slab on grade and the ones that would not. He said he agreed with Commissioner Gray that if it was slab on grade, having it wrapped would make it look better and he thought they would sell better. He hoped the developer could back with some ideas of how we could get past some of these issues.

Commissioner Laughery said he could not build the house he has today under the UDO because the garage door is 43 or 45 percent of the width of the house. He said we need to make a change for this development and change the UDO for future developments.

Mayor Hinnant said what we wrestle with was consistency. He asked what did we allowed for Wendell Falls to do when they asked not to wrap around the foundation. Patrick said any side that was along the street had to be wrapped. The Mayor said we can't make one developer wrap it all the way around and allow another one to do something different.

Mayor Hinnant opened the public hearing.

Mr. Kevin Daniel who lives in Edgemont Landing said on July 29<sup>th</sup>, the homeowners had a meeting with Longleaf and there were several people there and his understanding was that if they went ahead with their plans as submitted, they would devalue the existing homes. He said as a homeowner, he would not be interested in the devaluation of his home. He said also building 175 houses with the current road infrastructure, two entrances to the first part of it and after the bridge there was one entrance, we would have 217 homes using one entrance, would that be sufficient. He said he also had concerns about the parking spaces. As children grow, the number of vehicles continues to grow and you can't park them all in the driveway, where do you park, on the street. We have two infant swings and two regular swings, a climbing wall and a slide for the children as well as the pool, but when you add another 175 additional homes that would not be enough space for all the children and that was brought up and ignored.

Mr. Wes Parker lives in Edgemont Landing and speaking from the HOA standpoint. He said, financially we need more houses to support the infrastructure that was designed for the entire build out of the 250 houses. He was president of the Homeowners Association and his goal was never to raise HOA dues, and D.R. Horton had been subsidizing the monthly dues and that was the only way we had been able to keep above water financially. The whole community was designed for 250 homes and we need that extra housing dues to support the amenities currently in place.

Mr. Brian Staples Fire Chief in Wendell stated his concern was vinyl siding. He said he was completely opposed to vinyl siding without regard to distance. We had proof from our neighbors in Rolesville that when the homes were built too close together using vinyl siding, when one catches on fire it would burn two to three houses. The radiating heat would melt the vinyl on neighboring houses and then catch them on fire. If we allow them to use vinyl siding without regard to distance we would burn down multiple houses at a time. He was not the one to say how far, but he would suggest contacting the Rolesville Planning Department because they rewrote their codes following various issues to address this situation. He said from a safety standpoint he was completely opposed to allowing vinyl siding without regard to distance. Mayor Hinnant asked if there was other material that the chief would not recommend because of safety. Brian said hardy plank had done well through in testing.

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Mr. Don Mizzell with Longleaf Development Services stated we would not be coming before you asking for UDO deviations if this were a new project. He said we come in and look at what the codes call for and make an educated decision as to whether to move forward or not. He said we basically stopped development due to the recession. If the recession had not come, not only here in Wendell but across the country, we would have proceeded along and kept our plans. It was time to move forward with Edgemont Landing again and this was the best way to do that. He said from a plan standpoint, nothing has changed since 2006, we deleted a couple of lots, added a tot lot, and changed the greenway trail from mulch to crushed stone. He said thank you for the board's comments, it was good to hear your concerns. He said we can comply with the vinyl siding distance to whatever the board chooses. He said we would go back and discuss this and see how we could adjust things to address the board's concerns.

Mayor Hinnant asked Mr. Mizzell to address the gentleman's concerns who spoke about the ingress, egress. Could you educate this board on the matter of ingress and egress from the neighborhood? Mr. Mizzell said as part of the current plan there were two entrances off of Edgemont Road, as you go back into the development there was a stream crossing that leads to the future phases and that was where there was one way in and out of the undeveloped section of Edgemont. He said as the property develops around the site, you will have connectivity. Edgemont Landing indicates stub outs to adjoining property. This plan was approved by the town in 2006 and the roads were already in place based upon that design.

Ronny Mizell of 4841 Wendell Boulevard stated he had lived and worked in this community and he cared about the citizens in Wendell and the Town of Wendell. He appreciated the Fire Chief and Commissioner Boyette's concern about vinyl siding, but he would ask that rather than looking at Rolesville who had three fires, that you look at the County who has had multiple. He said Wake County did call for an emergency session, but what was the outcome of that session. He said that session was for multiple dwelling developments and did not have anything to do with single family dwellings. They changed the use of vinyl in the eaves and soffits so that fire would not get up into the attics. He said at the meeting with the homeowners, the developer agreed to adopt exactly what the county had adopted. He would ask if you had been to the subdivision, and if so was there anything in the subdivision that you are ashamed of. Commissioner Boyette said he was not ashamed of any neighborhood in Wendell. He said Edgemont Landing was an attractive neighborhood and overall the board was in agreement with approximately 90 percent of what had been presented tonight. Commissioner Boyette said we feel that there may be a few small tweaks that could make it more palatable for us, the citizens of Wendell, and the current residents of Edgemont Landing. He said while we understand that the community needs to be built out to support the infrastructure that has already been built, we want to move forward without over burdening the developer or builder.

Ronny said he had been told that this was the second best subdivision in Wendell and it puzzles him that we critique something to the depth of whether it was a foundation on slab or we come up a little bit. Commissioner Gray said she wished Mr. Mizell would not take it as personal criticism. It was a matter of since that neighborhood was built the UDO was passed and the people who did that decided they wanted these things. She was going to be sitting up here when the next person comes along and asked them to make changes as well. It was not a matter of being ashamed, but a matter of trying to stick to the rules created for for the Town. Ronny said all he wanted to do was continue building this beautiful neighborhood. Sometimes we get lost in a lot of details, but you said the key word, it was a beautiful neighborhood and all we are asking to do was to continue moving forward on this beautiful neighborhood. Commissioner Gray said if you came in right now and it was a new neighborhood you would not be allowed to build it without a few adjustments.

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Commissioner Laughery said no one had said that they were opposed to the development. We were giving you an opportunity to look at a few things and come back. Commissioner Gray said this was an unusual situation. She would like to see us come up with a way that you could give a little and we could give a little and come up with a compromise that was unique to your situation.

Regina Harmon said nobody could fault the passion that Ronny had for Wendell. She said the board's job was equally as hard, you did set precedent with the UDO and she knew that if anyone could find a compromise, this board could. She said she agreed with what the Mayor said about changing the slab and wrapping it. You can't do for one, if you don't do for the other. The board needs to keep the UDO strong to benefit people that want to build without opening a can of worms for other people that want to take advantage of the regulations that have been set.

Mr. John Nance, Vice President of Acquisition and Development for D.R. Horton said we opened this community up years ago and if it were not for the economic downturn we would not be here tonight. He said all we were asking to do was finish the neighborhood. If we can get our legs under us, we will be discussing buying the back half of the neighborhood and continuing to build. He said slab construction was great construction; it was 28 percent more efficient to heat and cool. He could take the board to Cary and show you houses that are in the \$600,000 range that were built on slabs. He said in reference to vinyl siding, he would not put it on a house if I thought it was going to endanger anyone. We would be somewhere between 25-27 feet apart and we can find the right number for that. We have pretty good separation in Edgemont Landing and that was what we want to continue. We think the UDO for this neighborhood was too restrictive for what we were trying to do. He said the housing market had come back, but it had not come all the way back. We need to get to a price point that people were willing to buy and with the UDO you could be adding as much as \$15,000 cost per house. We would just like to finish up what we started.

Mayor Hinnant said the difficult part was going to be how do you change the UDO for big developers and then the personal contractor comes to us and wants to build, how do you say you have to go by this UDO because you are only going to build one or two houses. The difficult part was going to be down the road as to what we do about the UDO and do we have two sets of standards one for the big developer and one for the individual contractor.

Commissioner Parham said he did not believe we had a problem because this board had been, and will continue to be fair and consistent. He said circumstances dictate the rules and we have to live by that. Commissioner Gray said she had been an advocate about treating everyone the same under similar circumstances, but she did think we need to keep in mind that with Wendell Falls their lot size was significantly narrower and that makes a difference as far as the banding and things like that. She said everybody has a different circumstance and she was willing to address that circumstance when necessary. She said she did not want people to think we did it for Wendell Falls but we did not do it for another, it was not the same situation.

Commissioner Boyette said no one had to talk me into a slab house and construction. He was in the middle of building a house and it was on a slab with a stem wall. He said he would admit that he had some prejudice against them in the beginning, but when you sit down and understand how they work, it was good. My Fiancé and I are building a slab house with a raised entrance and it had vinyl siding. He said going back into being consistent we got into it a little with the banding on just the front and he asked then why not banding all. He said the reason was your can't see at Wendell Falls was because

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they were too close, but they gave up the use of vinyl to get the closeness they needed. When we passed that, it was passed specifically for that tract and not a text amendment for the entire zone anywhere it would be found. He said he stuck by that if we were going to do it for one; we should do it for all.

Commissioner Laughery said he would like to ask the Town Manager to prepare a list of concerns that had been discussed tonight so that the next time we come together we will know what we would be discussing.

Mayor Hinnant said the public hearing will remain open until the next meeting August 25, 2014.

**Item 10 – Discussion and action on a text amendment to allow for indoor firing ranges within the Town of Wendell Planning Jurisdiction.**

Commissioner Parham made a motion to approve a text amendment to allow for indoor firing ranges within the Town of Wendell Planning Jurisdiction. The vote was unanimous 4-0

**Item 11 – Discussion and action on an application by Longleaf Development Services to create a Conditional District for property located off of Edgemont Road.**

This item was tabled until the August 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Item 12 – Application request by Mr. George Knuckle to waive rental fees for Rally Fore Rusty event scheduled for October 24, 2014.**

Mayor Hinnant said this item was tabled until a later date.

Mayor Hinnant called for a 10 minute recess until 8:50.

Mayor Hinnant called the meeting back to order.

**Item 13 – Update and discussion of fiber installation within the Town of Wendell.**

IT Administrator Tamah Hughes stated at the last meeting staff updated the Town Board on fiber options and requested direction to continue investigating options and costs. Staff was directed to continue investigations and report back on August 11, 2014.

Tamah said we have explored the following fiber options:

- (1) Town owned WI-FI for the downtown
- (2) Town Owned fiber to town facilities and the downtown commercial district, and
- (3) Fiber to the home or business via a private company owning fiber (i.e. Time Warner Cable, AT&T, RST, etc.).

Tamah said HB 129 denies a municipality the ability to compete directly with a private provided in the market place, a community can provide service for free or through a third party carrier.

Tamah said the City of Wilson along with the Electric Power Board of Chattanooga, Tennessee have filed with the FCC a petition pursuant to Section 706 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 for removal of State Barriers to Broadband Investment and Competition, filed on July 24, 2014. There was a 60 day window of comments being accepted on behalf of the petition. We have prepared comments in line

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with this petition and have the comments available for the Board to review. She said this was important to us because if those two entities already have fiber and they are providing fiber for their citizens at a low price and creating competition in the town as well.

Tamah said the Board directed staff to bring back costs from upgrading the town internet connection from 5 MB to 50 MB with our current provider. Our current total monthly costs to our provider was approximately \$4,000 monthly, this includes internet connection, fiber between the buildings and telephone connection.

Tamah said an increased monthly operating cost of about \$1,000 plus the FCC fees and taxes associated with the internet connection being upgraded to 50 MB. This does not include any hardware or supporting costs.

Tamah said the recommendation was to obtain consultant cost to design network and create a business plan for review. We have requested a cost analysis of creating a design from the City of Wilson.

Commissioner Laughery said he thought at the last meeting he asked if we needed to increase our bandwidth in order to put WI-FI in the downtown areas. Tamah said we do and we started a test today at Parks and Recreation with 1 MB which she did not expect to see a big difference in our overall speed. Commissioner Laughery said there were two issues, the WI-FI downtown and the other was more for having fiber in town for business and industries, not just to Town Hall. He said bringing additional bandwidth into Town Hall was so we could support WI-FI. Tamah said that was one option and we were pursuing that. She was getting cost for that option. The first cost would be the 50 MB to provide WI-FI with which would be approximately \$1000 per month and the other price was the cost of buying the antennas, access points, installation on the poles downtown. That would be a separate plan which I don't have at this time.

Mayor Hinnant said he thought we needed to Table this item until you have all the information and cost in place and can report to us. Mayor Hinnant said we will schedule this for the next work session and if we do not have the information needed, we can pull it off the agenda.

**Item 14 – Discussion and Review of cell tower definitions and designs.**

Manager Piner said following the July 28<sup>th</sup> Town Board meeting, staff was asked to bring back examples of cell tower designs for information purposes which have been provided to you.

Mrs. Piner said she wanted to report back with available information and she would be glad to take direction and get information of other designs and other ordinances if needed. She said we were still working with the cell tower company and looking at options. Even if we do make changes to the current ordinance, it would not affect this particular tower at the location in question.

Mayor Hinnant asked if you could tell the board exactly where we were with the cell tower placement on the Greene property. Teresa said to the best of her knowledge, SCI Towers was continuing to look at their options. The FCC regulates the tower itself and approves the tower if it meets federal requirements. Section 106 states that the tower is to go before North Carolina's State Historic Preservation Office. She said SHPO ruled that this would create an adverse effect on the historic areas of the Town of Wendell. Although the tower would not be directly located in the historic district; it was very visible from that area. SCI They was approached about lowering the tower, using stealth technology and SHPO said they would continue declare the tower as an adverse effect. Mayor Hinnant

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said it sounds like no matter the decision of this board, if the State Historic Preservation Office says it does not work for them; there was nothing this board could do. Teresa said that was correct, however it does not mean that the site is no longer a viable option to the FCC. Because the State Historic Preservation Office has ruled that it creates an adverse effect, the FCC requires the cell tower company to look at options. If it is determined that there are no other options, it would still be possible that the FCC could rule in favor of that location. Mayor Hinnant said when he looked at that property; he saw a railroad track and the back of a warehouse, not historic Wendell. He said if he was on Main Street, he cannot receive a cell phone call and the citizens and businesses need a cell tower.

Commissioner Laughery said the last time we talked you said SCI was looking at putting the tower at Parks and Recreation. Mrs. Piner said she had talked with members of SCI and their engineers were looking at what options they had, and the park site was one option. Commissioner Laughery said does the design of the tower provide the same service as another design. Teresa said the more antennas/carriers that are on that tower the better; it is more likely that citizens would have their carrier on that tower. The taller the tower, the more antennas a permitted the more money the tower owner makes. He said he thought the tree design looked better than 195 foot tower.

Commissioner Gray said that she asked for this to be put on the agenda because she felt like the pole that everyone was talking about is on its own course now. She wanted to make sure that as the town grows and we need additional cell towers we need to have our hands in this process a little more. She asked what kind of process does a cell tower company have to go through in Wendell. Teresa said it depends on the size and location of the tower. An engineer reviews for the allowable height, for the number of antennas the tower could carry, and how the property is zoned. A tower can be approved at staff level if not over 200 feet and in a residential area it could not be over 60 feet. Commissioner Gray asked if other communities let that be approved at staff level. Teresa said there was a wide range. In some cases if a tower is above a certain height, and in a specific district, approval may be a special use and come before the town board. Commissioner Gray said she felt like maybe we left it a little too open. You have to have a permit to put a table and chairs in front of your business, but we let you build a 200 foot cell tower and no one except staff has to approve it. Teresa said that was certainly the prerogative of this board to make that change. Commissioner Gray said she thought it was something that we need to consider changing and that is just her opinion.

Commissioner Boyette said if the Historic Society or FCC were to decide there was another location where the cell tower could be put and if this board decides we want to change our standards referencing height, a flag pole one, or a stealth or where they can be would it apply to the cell tower that we were talking about right now and what would that timeline be. Teresa said she knew that if it were a new tower coming in and we had a new ordinance, the new ordinance would apply, but she was not sure if that would apply to the current tower because an application has been submitted. Attorney Jim Cauley said the application is more site specific than it was tower specific so his instinct is you could change the ordinance and the new rules would apply, but it just depends on when it goes into effect. Mayor Hinnant said he did want us to have to start at the beginning with this cell tower, because we need it desperately. Attorney Cauley said when the ordinance was adopted it was drafted in an open way to try to encourage cell service and that has not happened yet.

Mayor Parham asked who has the final say. He knew that the historical society recommended against the proposed location at fourth and Hollybrook. Teresa said the State Historic Preservation Office stated they felt it was an adverse affect. She said it was ultimately the FCC that approved the tower and they

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could still approve the Fourth and Hollybrook site, but there was nothing the town could do to influence their decision at this time.

Commissioner Gray said her concern was when the next tower comes into town. Commissioner Laughery said it could be as easy as amending the ordinance to read must be approved by Town Board and keep it simple.

Commissioner Parham directed the manager to place this on the next agenda.

**Item 15 – Discussion and approval of a budget amendment to replace street light fixtures with LED’s**

Mrs. Piner stated Duke-Progress has been working with the Town on a proposal to replace existing sodium vapor and metal halide streetlights with LED fixtures in order to reduce maintenance costs and to lower the Town’s monthly electrical bill. Duke Power has reported 553 fixtures currently eligible to be changed to LEDs. She said of the 553 lights eligible, 166 are still under contract and there would be a cost to the Town of \$50 per fixture, for a total of \$8,300.

Mrs. Piner stated Duke Energy had calculated for the pay back comparing the current cost, less tax, to the rate of the LED replacement and there would be a total monthly savings of \$1,154.28 with a total yearly savings of \$13,851.36

Mrs. Piner stated the upfront cost to change the 166 fixtures remaining in the contract would be \$8,300 With a payback less than 8 months.

Mrs. Piner said if the change-out started immediately, the town could have new lights install and stay within the approved budget for the fiscal year 2014/2015 including the cost of the fixture replacement.

Mrs. Piner said administration request approval of a budget amendment in the amount of \$8,300 authorizing Duke-Progress to replace 553 existing light fixtures with the Town of Wendell.

Commissioner Parham made a motion to approve the budget amendment to replace the street light fixtures with LEDs in the amount of \$8,300. The vote was unanimous 4-0.

**Item 16 - Update on a potential zoning text amendment to alter the UDO’s sign regulations as they pertain to temporary signs.**

Planning Director David Bergmark said the Planning Board reviewed whether modifications should be made to the UDO to allow small temporary signs posted in the ground on private property to be allowed without a sign permit.

David said currently Section 12.7D and 12.7E of the UDO (Temporary Signs Requiring a Permit) provides regulations for when and how a temporary sign may be erected. Permitted signs are to be located either behind a sidewalk or ditch line, or where neither is present, signs may be located at least 5 feet from the edge of pavement. He said with the exception of banners placed on buildings, lighter than air signs, and seasonal farm product signs, all other temporary signs may be permitted for 10 calendar days, up to four times per year, for a total of 40 days. Up to six temporary signs may be permitted at one time with one temporary sign permit, but permission must be obtained from the property owner where a sign is to be placed.

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David said staff has concerns that removing all requirements for small temporary signs (with the exception of location) could lead to a proliferation of signs that could become visually stifling. Many of the temporary signs which are currently collected by the Town's code enforcement officer are for businesses that are not located in town. Such signs might include messages like "We Buy Houses" or "Mattress for Sale".

David said if the Board desires to change the temporary sign regulations, staff advises that a moratorium be initiated first by the Town Board on the requirement that temporary signs correctly placed on a lot and no more than 3 square feet in size be required to obtain a temporary sign permit. By removing this permitting requirement for a set amount of time, staff and the Town Board could observe the impact of removing the requirement permanently prior to amending the UDO. Temporary signs would need to follow prescribed setback requirements even though a permit would not be required.

David said a public hearing would need to be scheduled in order to approve the text amendment; however no public hearing is required to instate a moratorium on the enforcement of the current temporary sign regulations.

David said the Planning Board unanimously recommended that a 6 month moratorium be initiated by the Town Board on the requirement that temporary signs correctly placed on a lot and no more than 3 square feet in size be required to obtain a temporary sign permit.

Attorney Cauley said he would suggest characterizing it as suspending enforcement of permit requirement for 6 months and can be revisited sooner if it turns out to be necessary. The Board was unanimously in agreement with Attorney Cauley's suggestion.

**Item 17 – Discussion and update on Family Dollar Request to review parking and design standards.**

Planner Patrick Reidy said on July 3, 2014, Bartlett Engineering submitted a sketch plan for a proposed Family Dollar to be located next to McDonald's. The applicant received plan review comments and expressed concerns with parking regulations and design standards for commercial buildings. He said staff advised the engineer of the UDO public comment period currently underway, however due to time constraints indicated by Family Dollar; the submission of a zoning text amendment by Family Dollar would be the quickest route to address potential conflicts with the specific ordinances.

Patrick said on July 31<sup>st</sup>, the applicant provided staff with suggestions they felt would help with the development of their site and other developable sites within the town. Staff met with the applicant to discuss their suggestion and assisted the applicant with information regarding the text amendment process. The applicant submitted a zoning text amendment and it is scheduled to go before the Planning Board on August 18, 2014 for review and recommendation. Patrick said a public hearing would be held before the Board of Commissioners on September 8, 2014.

Commissioner Boyette asked what are their issues were. Patrick stated the parking regulation within the Gateway Overlay that the Board changed last year, they pointed out with a smaller lot there were some constraints that should be allowed, basically to allow one row of parking in the front and down the side with parking on both sides, some of the building materials they though should be allowed and we have been working with them and staff feels comfortable with their recommendations.

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Mayor Hinnant said as it is currently stated how much parking would they be allowed to have without making any changes to the UDO. Patrick said that site would on require 17 total spaces and they could have done 10 of those spaces in the front. He said they are providing roughly 33 parking spaces.

There were no further comments.

**Item 18 – Review and discussion on previously proposed transportation plan.**

Planning Director David Bergmark stated in preparation of the FY 14-15 budget, the Planning Department requested that Mike Surasky of AMT develop a proposal for updating the Town's various transportation plans, however due to budgetary restraints, the transportation plan update was not included in this year's budget.

David said the scope of services, the proposed transportation plan update did not explicitly prioritize or rant identified transportation projects. However, the information gathered as part of this plan would support these decisions and a project prioritization could be added at little cost. He said the current proposal did not include bicycle or pedestrian elements as part of the plan, except for the extension of the multi-purpose path running along Wendell Falls Parkway.

Commissioner Laughery stated this came up because at the CAMPO they were talking about priorities and the TIP and the gentleman from DOT said if you are not on the TIP for the next five years you may as well not even be on the TIP. He said we are not on the TIP for the next five years and we are in the 30-40 year range. He said I think each member of the board needs to have some input on what they think the transportation priorities are for Wendell. He said we need to make sure that they are the most important traffic problems that we have in Wendell and then let's do whatever we need to do to get them on the master plan.

Commissioner Gray said the fact that we are left out like Commissioner Laughery said, this is something I put on our budget retreat and it did not make the cut. It is important and I don't see it as a plan that you have and throw it on a shelf. I would like for the board to consider it. She said David you said it did not the bike paths and pedestrian elements, is there somewhere else that we can get that information. David said if that was something that we wanted, we could get them to include that it would just add an extra cost.

Commissioner Boyette said he felt like a lot of this is out of our hands, whether it comes to the limited voting power we have with CAMPO, the fact that most traffic problems are long term things. He said he did not want to be short sided and say we had a bad traffic issue at a certain intersection right now, these projects, even if they are five years out, by the time we get to them it could be worse or we could have traffic shifted in another direction. He said he thought Buffalo Street and Wendell Boulevard was moderately bad and would be horrible once Wendell Falls gets going. He said when you allow your mass transit buses to drive on the shoulder because all of your roads are clogged, to me that was admitting that just building more and wider road had not worked. He said there needs to be a comprehensive transportation plan in this County and he would like to see Wendell, while we look at some solutions in our own town, we need to do more to try and push solutions that serve the whole region. He said if we don't have the votes to do something on our own, we need to get with other communities and speak a little louder we might have a little bit of a chance of getting something.

Mayor Hinnant said what he did not want to see the board spend money on a plan that he knew would not be implemented. If we were not careful we were going to be spending dollars to try and get some

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type of transportation plan that would not even be heard. He said DOT does have some Spot Safety Dollars and he would think that our concerns about a bad intersection might be a safety issue and we might have a chance to lobby for a few dollars. He said he was not against us doing something, but he was against us paying consulting fees for a transportation plan when DOT continually tells us they were not going to do anything.

Commissioner Gray said she thought it was important to have a prioritized list, so that we could all be on the same page, maybe we need to get together one Saturday morning and talk about it. Mayor Hinnant said that would be a good retreat item and we could discuss it at the retreat. Commissioner Gray said she did not want to wait until our retreat that is 5-6 months away. Mayor Hinnant said you could try and get a meeting set up and if so it could be discussed.

**Item 19 – Update and discussion concerning a community calendar of events.**

Manager Piner stated we were asked to bring back to the board a list of proposed events for this fiscal year and we have done that and it is estimated to be approximately \$20,000. She said about half of that has been budgeted or paid for so it is about \$12,000 that has not been paid for.

Manager Piner said as you could see we have lots of interesting and exciting events planned through June of 2015, this was a tentative schedule, and some events have already been set.

Commissioner Laughery asked Teresa if she could report where we are on the Electronic Sign. Mrs. Piner said we were working with the property owner and the attorney has drawn up an easement and we had the area surveyed. She said it was planned to be located between the Fire Department and Industrial Drive.

**Item 20 – Commissioners’ Comments**

Commissioner Gray said she had received a lot of positive comments on the Welcome to Wendell sign at the Chamber’s Monthly meeting last week and she just wanted to make sure everyone had seen the sign. She updated the Chamber on some things that we had passed such as the outdoor seating and bicycle racks. She said the chamber had discussed the harvest festival and the Christmas decorating contest for businesses and residents that they would hold. She said the chamber had adapted their harvest festival logo to match the Town of Wendell logo and the chamber is using orange and brown for the harvest festival. She said you could go to the Chamber website and there were a lot of sponsorship opportunities and there were a lot of new things this year and it was going to be really great.

Commissioner Gray said she wanted to congratulate Lizard Lick Printing. They were selected as Business of the Month and she wanted to congratulate the 7- 8, 9-10, & 13-14 State Champions. She was able to see the 7- 8, & 9-10s play and win which was very exciting.

Commissioner Gray said she wanted to thank parks and recreation, especially Kelley Connolly for the great job she had done with baseball this year. She knew that tonight’s meeting was long and crowded, but I really pushed and put my foot down to get all three teams in here tonight because she thought that was important. We need to toot our own horn more; it was a good thing that we had three teams to win Championships. She said Kelley asked me to announce on Saturday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 4:00 p.m. that Wendell Parks and Recreation Department will be recognizing all All-Star teams at the Town Square so please come out to that event.

Commissioner Laughery, Boyette and Parham had no comments.

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**Item 21 – Mayor’s Comments**

Mayor Hinnant had no comments.

**Item 22 – Closed Session**

Mayor Hinnant said the board will go into closed session to discuss a personnel matter.

Commissioner Laughery made a motion to return to the regular meeting. The vote was unanimous.

**Item 23 – Adjourn**

Commissioner Laughery made a motion to adjourn. The vote was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

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Timothy A. Hinnant, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Jonnie S. Driver, Town Clerk