



MINUTES

The Holly Springs Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, December 21, 2021. Mayor Mayefskie presided, calling the meeting to order at 7 p.m. A quorum was established as the Mayor and five Council members were present in the Chamber as the meeting opened.

Council Members Present: Mayor Mayefskie, Mayor Pro Tem Dan Berry, Council members Aaron Wolff, Shaun McGrath, Timothy Forrest, and Kristi Bennet.

Council Members absent: none

Staff Members Present in Chambers: Randy Harrington, *Town Manager*; Scott Chase, *Assistant Town Manager*; Daniel Weeks, *Assistant Town Manager*; John Schifano, *Town Attorney*; Linda McKinney, *Town Clerk* (recording the minutes); Mathew Mutter, *IT*; Chris Hills, *Director, Development Services*; Sean Ryan, *Development Services*; LeeAnn Plumer, *Director, Parks and Recreation*; Carolyn Couch, *Parks and Recreation*; Antwan Morrison, *Director, Finance*; Corey Petersohn, *Administration*; Mark Andrews, *Communications*; Paul Liquorie, *Police Chief*.

2. and 3. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by an invocation by Horace Ferguson, Pastor Emeritus of Holly Springs United Methodist Church.

4. Agenda Adjustment: The December 21, 2021 meeting agenda was adopted with changes, if any, as listed: none.

Motion: Berry
Second: Forrest
Vote: Unanimous

Public Comment: At this time, an opportunity was provided for members of the audience who had registered to speak to address the Council, and the Clerk was asked for any written comments received prior to the meeting.

The following written comments were received: none.

The following comments were received in person: none.

REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

5. N.C. House Representative Erin Paré Presentation

Randy Harrington, Town Manager, introduced N. C. House Representative Erin Paré. Rep. Paré was a champion in the NC House to bring infrastructure funding to Holly Springs. Rep. Paré presented the Town with \$10.5 million from the state budget: \$8 million to support new utility infrastructure associated with the economic development recruitment of Amgen to the Friendship Innovation Park, and \$2.5 million to supplement the NCDOT funding to increase the number of lanes on a planned new NCDOT bridge on Old Holly Springs Apex Road over Little Branch Creek from two lanes to four lanes.

6. Acceptance of proceeds from the 1st Annual HERO Golf Classic to the Police and Fire Departments

Police Chief Paul Liquorie expressed his gratitude to the organizers of the HERO Golf Classic for organizing the tournament to support public safety. He said the funds would go towards support of programs for wellness and mental health, particularly for programs for children. Fire Chief LeRoy Smith thanked them and said the funds would be split down the middle and the Fire Dept were going to purchase a new extrication tool.

Jon Smith and John Ratliff, organizers of the HERO Golf Classic, presented Police Chief Paul Liquorie and Fire Chief LeRoy Smith with \$15,000 to be shared evenly by their departments from the event at 12 Oaks.

Action: Motion to approve budget amendment to receive \$15,000 from the HERO Golf Classic.

Motion by: Berry

Second by: Wolff

Vote: unanimous

7. Holly Springs Skyhawks Presentation

LeeAnn Plumer, Director, Parks and Recreation, introduced Doug LeRoy, Daniel Moffitt, and Jason Guetgemann from the Holly Springs Skyhawks radio control group. Mr. LeRoy gave background on the Skyhawks and what they do. He thanked the Town for the cooperation partnership and encouragement. He said the Wings Over Springs annual charity electric fly in raised funds for the Meg's Smile Foundation. He said that 2021 was a record-breaking year in terms of funds raised on event day. He said that in-kind donations are reinvested in the park and flying site, and presented the Parks and Recreation Department with \$1,200.

Action: Motion to approve budget amendment to receive \$1,200 from the Skyhawks RC Club.

Motion by: Berry

Second by: Forrest

Vote: unanimous

8. Holly Springs Police Department Annual Report and Police Community Advisory Group Update

Police Chief Paul Liquorie said the purpose of this item was to present an overview of the Holly Springs Police Department's Annual Report, and to update Council on the Police Community Advisory Group (PCAG). He gave an overview of the department, including how many members, what degrees and certifications they have, and how many are veterans. He outlined some achievements and awards garnered by the department in 2021 and gave an update on the body-worn and in-car camera system roll out. He explained that while the population of Holly Springs continues to grow, calls for service have stabilized.

Chief Liquorie said that Holly Springs violent crime rate is 13.5 times lower than the state average, and 13 times lower than the national average. The Town's property crime rate is six times lower than the state average and 5.25 times lower than the national average. He showed the five year trends for crimes reported to the FBI. He said that auto theft is up significantly, but these were all cases where the owners had left their keys in the car. Drug arrests are up, in step with the national trend. Most of these were related to traffic stops and were related to marijuana. DWI are up, but this is due to increased enforcement and an increase in drivers impaired by substances other than alcohol, either illicit drugs or prescriptions. He said that arrests compared to calls for service were slightly higher than 2020, but still less than one percent.

Chief Liquorie said that 52.82% of the people arrested in 2021 were Caucasian; 42.56% African American. 72.2% of traffic stops were Caucasian and 23.9% African American. Use of force accounted for 4.1% of arrests. This number looks higher than last year, but is likely due to a more

stringent reporting requirement, as 50% did not involve contact, but rather the drawing a weapon or Taser. Motor Vehicle collisions over a three year period show that while collisions are down, personal injury collisions have increased. He said impaired driving was a contributing factor.

Chief Liquorie outlined some of the community engagement activities sponsored by the Holly Springs Police Department.

Council member Wolff asked if the drug offense increase was diverted prescriptions, or from drugs coming in from foreign countries, and if officers have access to Narcan. Chief Liquorie said there is an increase in fentanyl, and there are counterfeit drugs that young people are taking. But fentanyl is usually a big part of those, because it is so addictive. He said all officers have access to Narcan including K-9 officers, because they are susceptible when sniffing out drugs. There are education programs to educate parents about what PD is seeing and what resources are available to them.

Council member Wolff asked if the Police Department had drug disposal sites. Chief Liquorie said there is a drop box in the lobby of the Law Enforcement Center where drugs can be dropped anonymously. Plus the Department runs several drug drop offs that are drive up. These are for prescription or illicit drugs.

Council member McGrath asked about causality for any of the trends and if staff was working to pinpoint places and reasons accidents happen. Chief Liquorie said the report is *per capita*, so our population growth is a factor. The Department has made a concerted effort to be visible in retail locations and will look at the statistics to see if that made a difference in retail thefts. The Department is working with other departments to identify hot spots and discuss the causes of accidents there, to see if it is a problem of speed, road engineering conditions, or other factors.

Chief Liquorie said that having a Police Community Advisory Group (PCAG) is a best practice recommended by the International Association of Chiefs of Police as well as the UNC School of Government, and required by Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) for accreditation. He explained that the PCAG would enhance police-community relations, trust and transparency; be informed about the structure, workload, policies, and philosophy of the HSPD; provide educational engagement activities to promote better understanding of law enforcement functions; and serve as a liaison between the community and the Town. He said they would not review officer conduct or disciplinary matters; draft policy; provide strategic direction; or direct structural or budgetary matters. He said that 103 applications were received. Ten members were selected reflecting a broad cross section of the town. The group will meet quarterly and also attend the inaugural cohort of the Citizens Police Academy which begins in January. The second cohort will be opened later in the year, perhaps September, and will be open to anyone who wants to apply.

Mayor Mayefskie asked for clarification on the activities required for the Academy. Chief Liquorie said there are no calisthenics or physical requirements, but they will be put through scenario-based training so that they can see that police officers are often put in positions where they have to make split-second decisions. But it is mostly classroom based. Council member McGrath asked if they were going to do ride-alongs. Chief Liquorie said that will be part of the curriculum.

RECOGNITIONS

9. Recognition of SolSmart bronze designation

Sean Ryan, Development Services, said the purpose of this item was to recognize the Town's achievement as a SolSmart Bronze designated community. Achieving this designation supports Strategic Priority of Responsible and Balanced Growth, Initiative 2.3. He said that the SolSmart program recognizes communities that make going solar easier, faster, and more affordable for everyone in the community, and promotes local climate and energy sustainability goals. He explained the three levels, Bronze, Silver, and Gold, and what Holly Springs had done to date to earn Bronze, and how we were only 20 points away from achieving Silver. He said there were over 400 other communities in the US in the SolSmart program, including Cary, Apex,

Pittsboro, Chapel Hill, and Durham. He explained some of the things the Town did to achieve the bronze designation.

Mr. Ryan said that to reach the Silver designation the Town would need to identify ways to earn an additional 20 points, commit to additional staff training, a review of permit issuance timelines and fees, enhance the website, and create informational flyers.

Consent Agenda

The Council passed a motion to approve all items on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried following a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Berry, a second by Council member Wolff and a unanimous vote. The following actions were affected:

10. Minutes – Council approved the minutes of the business meeting held December 7, 2021.

11. Resolution Concerning Proposed Bond Issue – The Council approved Resolution 21-30.
A copy of Resolution 21-30 is attached to these minutes.

12. Introduction of Bond Order – The Council introduced bond order authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$17.2 million General Obligation Refunding Bonds.

13. Current Refunding of General Obligation Bonds – The Council adopted Resolution 21-31 providing for the issuance of not to exceed \$17.5 million in General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2022 of the Town of Holly Springs.
A copy of Resolution 21-31 is attached to these minutes.

14. Personnel Policy Amendments – The Council approved amendments to the Personnel Policy pertaining to funeral leave and pay for employees required to work on a Town-observed holiday that falls on a weekend, and authorized the Town Manager to update the Personnel Policy to reflect these changes.

15. Gunter Morris Rd. Road Closure – The Council adopted Resolution 21-32 declaring the Town's intent to close a portion of right of way located on Gunter Morris Road and to hold a public hearing on February 1, 2022.
A copy of Resolution 21-32 is attached to these minutes.

16. Mayor and Town Council Procedures Manual Amendment – The Council amended the Town Council Procedures Manual to allow electronic participation of council members under certain circumstances.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

17. Holly Springs New Hill Road Rezoning & Development Agreement 21-REZ-01

Sean Ryan, Development Services, said that the public hearing needed to be opened, and continued to January 4th meeting.

Mayor Mayefskie opened the public hearing.

Action: Motion to continue the public hearing to the January 4, 2022 meeting.

Motion by: Wolff

Second by: Forrest

Vote: unanimous

OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Mayefskie wished the staff and their families a great holiday.

Council member Wolff said he received a screen shot of Wake Counties COVID information. Holly Springs is at 71% vaccination, but we are behind Apex which is at 76%, so we need to catch up. Please get your booster, and if you are traveling, get a test before you leave.

Council member McGrath said it was great to be back tonight. For those wondering where he has been, he had a great opportunity to help with an Air Force program in Germany. He reminded listeners that while this week is happy for a lot of people, it can be hard for others. Please check in on your friends and neighbors, particularly those that have served in the military. Check to make sure they are ok.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Randy Harrington, Town Manager, said Friday, Christmas Eve, refuse and recycling collection will start an hour earlier, because the landfill is closing an hour early. Happy holidays and he is looking forward to the new year ahead.

CLOSED SESSION: The Council entered into closed session, pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3) to consult with the Town Attorney to discuss all pending litigation matters.

Motion by: Wolff

Second by: Berry

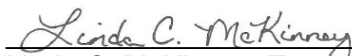
Vote: Unanimous

In the closed session the Town Attorney provided an update to the council on all pending litigation matters, particularly the case of *Meritage Homes vs. Town of Holly Springs*, and various minor land condemnation matters. The Council heard from the attorney and manager but took no action.

Motion to leave closed session was made by Council member Forrest, seconded by Council member Wolff and passed with a unanimous vote.

Adjournment: Council member McGrath made a motion to adjourn at 8:47 pm. It was seconded by Council member Wolff and passed with a unanimous vote.

Respectfully Submitted on Tuesday, January 4, 2022.



Linda C. McKinney, Town Clerk

Addenda pages as referenced in these minutes follow and are a part of the official record.