



MINUTES

The Holly Springs Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, June 21, 2022. Mayor Mayefskie presided, calling the meeting to order at 7 p.m. A quorum was established as the Mayor and four 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, Kristi Bennett, and Timothy Forrest.

Council Members Present by Electronic Means: Council member Shaun McGrath.

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*; Bronwyn Redus, *Development Services*; Rachel Jones, *Development Services*; Kendra Parrish, *Director, Utilities and Infrastructure*; Irena Krstanovic, *Director, Economic Development*; Corey Petersohn, *Administration*; Cassie Hack, *Director, Communications*; Paige Scott, *Director, Public Works*; LeRoy Smith, *Fire Chief*; Kathy White, *Deputy Clerk*; Anna Johnston, *Economic Development*; Michael Leonas, *Utilities and Infrastructure*; Sean Ryan, *Development Services*.

2. and 3. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by an invocation by Sandy Byrne of Oasis Church.

4. Agenda Adjustment: The June 21, 2022 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.

Mayor Mayefskie asked Council for a motion reducing the time for public comment to 2 minutes per person for this meeting. Council member Wolff moved to allow 2 minutes per public comment for this meeting. The motion was seconded by MPT Berry and passed with a unanimous vote.

Mayor Mayefskie asked the Clerk for a summary of written comments. The following written comments were received: 1 comment that internet access should be a right; 1 comment thanking the Council for their leadership; 1 comment opposed to Pride Month.

The following comments were received in person:

Ginny Suever said that the non-discrimination order (NDO) was more about politics than about the town. She said an NDO would have negative financial and constitutional ramifications. She spoke about how safe Holly Springs is. She thanked Council for their actions.

Michael Hale read verses from the Christian Bible. He told Council that they were responsible before God and said that everyone should be held to the same standards and not worry about protecting feelings.

Kevin Boland said he understands people present feel passionate about this issue. But he said he spoke for those who weren't there. He said he contributed to the campaigns of many of the Council members and knocked on doors for them. He said residents of Holly Springs don't care. And he said this was a positive thing because they don't see race, color, ethnicity or sexual orientation. He said most businesses don't discriminate and an NDO would hurt people by arousing suspicion among employees and employers.

Jolene Ehlers said at the last meeting someone spoke about bullying, especially in High Schools. Bullying, especially cyber bullying is becoming worse. She asked what is influencing this rise in disrespectful behavior. She said that over the last few weeks she has seen adults from both sides of the political aisle practicing bullying on other adults. She said that righteous causes do not excuse hateful behavior. And we feel free to practice this if we think the other one started this. We aren't agreeing to disagree. No wonder our kids are behaving this way. She asked everyone to look around and see that we are people who belong to the same town.

Robert Ehlers said that kindness is being preached as more important than discussion of opposing views. He said it seems the highest priority is not being hurtful, rather than discussing the facts. He said government shouldn't hold one opinion over another. He said the government was founded on free speech and freedom of religion and said that a group that does not represent everyone thinks they should be protected above other views. He said that government should not be allowed to push an ideology. He said he was speaking for those who are not here.

Duane Hansen said according to ancient and modern scriptures, marriage between a man and a woman is ordained of God. He said each human is a spirit child of heavenly parents. He said the first command given to Adam and Eve was to multiply and replenish the earth, and that remains in force today. Children are entitled to be reared by a man and a woman. He gave his opinion of the ingredients for a successful marriage and said the roles in the family of men were to provide and protect, and of women were to nurture children, and said that those who do not fulfill these responsibilities will be accountable to God. He called upon citizens and government officials to promote these measures.

Darleen Agle said she knows Council received a lot of criticism lately, but as someone with pride in the town and respect for personal autonomy, she expressed thanks to the Council for rejecting Pride month. She said Pride was a package deal that included more than respecting someone's dignity, and that it is a false dichotomy that you have to reject or accept all of it. She asked that Council not adopt the NDO. She thinks that it is overreaching and non-transparent, and it exposes the Town to legal issues. She said those who ran for office and were not elected embraced these topics.

Lis D'Alessio said as a result on attacks on the Holly Springs community as being unsafe and unwelcoming, she wants to highlight why so many people and businesses are flocking to Holly Springs. She said the focus of the town leaders has always been on maintaining a small town feel and maintaining the safety of all residents. Leaders continue to find new ways to engage with the community. She spoke in favor of PCAG and implementation of body-worn cameras. She said the only time she felt unsafe in Holly Springs was after the last council meeting for having supported someone who spoke against what others were speaking for. She said we must respect all our neighbors' opinions.

Lesslie Corner said she was here to speak in favor of the NDO. She said as a retired teacher she is acutely aware of the effect of homophobia on students. Research shows that LGBTQ students are

more likely to attempt suicide if they do not have at least one place where they are affirmed. Passing an NDO tells students that they will receive protection from discrimination, at least in school. It tells students that they are valued and protected. She said efforts are underway nationwide to strip protections from LGBTQ people. She said the NDO also protects more than the LGBTQ community against discrimination, it protects against discrimination based on race, veterans or National Guard status, pregnancy, national origin, marital status, religious belief, age, and disability. She said that while she believes most businesses in the community are making a good-faith effort to avoid discrimination, there are gaps in the state laws that leave many spaces unprotected. She said it was disappointing that the Town Council refuses to pass the NDO. It appears the Council wishes to reserve the right to discriminate.

Brian Norman said he realized that there are many people who feel one way or the other. He said he was here to talk about one side or the other, he was her to talk about truth. Feelings should not be allowed to impact what is right and what is wrong. He said the NDO was wrong because it was discriminatory against people like him. He said he doesn't have a problem with people who have a different lifestyle or believe differently from him. He said an NDO creates divisiveness. He recommended that the Council stand their ground and not go down the road to create more diversity and divisiveness. Let's all get along.

Chanel Wilkins said that at the previous meeting her understanding of the NDO was that it would cover public spaces, but exclude religious facilities. She said she was born into an evangelical Christian family and understands Biblical connotations and how we have been taught. But she said she was asking the Town Council to sign on to the NDO and re-evaluate it at the end of the "free trial" in June of 2023. She has heard that members of Town Council are not aware of incidents of discrimination or prejudice. She said that Councilmember Wolff said that until the discussion of Pride he had no reason to think his kids wouldn't be safe. She has never known that feeling, of thinking her kids were automatically safe. She has never had a day that she wasn't afraid for her children.

Rob Nester said that he was a nerd and loved data. Answering those who say Holly Springs is a safe community, he said that it is true for some people. The Safest City designation doesn't include statistics on discrimination or harassment, just FBI crime data. The NDO is 4 pages long. He hopes all have read it. Three pages are definitions, lists of things are not in play, and the signature page. There's one page that talks about what it covers, and it is actually really simple. It says, if you have employees, regardless of the number, these are the things that you cannot discriminate against. It covers not just LGBTQ, which seems to be the sticking point. It covers pregnancy, natural hair, and other things. He said he is not affected by any of these things, but he cares about everyone who is. Even if we don't sign on to it, the fact that the town attorney has suggested it is something to be reviewed, means Council should.

Donna Friend said she had prepared different comments, but wanted to respond instead to the comments given. She said that what seems to be the real issue is that the sticking point on the NDO isn't about race, it's about homophobia. Everyone who talked about the Bible and God makes us look like a homophobic town. If that's the reputation you want, don't sign the NDO. Aaron Wolff himself asked a couple of weeks ago, what groups do we not want to protect, who do we want to leave out? I think it's pretty clear who we want to leave out.

Jackie Turnwald said they were a trans non-binary resident whose pronouns are they/them. They said they were disappointed that the Council continues to choose inaction over hearing the residents who are expressing how important this is to them. Recently they and their partner learned that neighborhood children harassed their children and told them that their dad hates gay people. They have had pinecones thrown at their windows, and last fall a teenage boy in town threatened to fist fight them and their partner, a brown queer woman, simply because they showed up to a Town sporting event. Across the US, people like them experience disproportionate rates of violence and

murder. The year 2021 was one of the most fatal years on record for LGBTQ people. When they enter a new space they have to mindfully scan for verbal and nonverbal cues to assess who is safe. And a few days ago they learned that someone who isn't safe for their family sits on Council, someone who ran on a Family First platform, but was recruiting people online to speak against an NDO that would make their family safer. When they hear that this is "not for Holly Springs" they have to ask, how has our town found itself exempt from institutional racism, ableism, transphobia, and misogyny? The truth is, it hasn't.

Mike Kondratick said that he was here to speak in favor of the town signing on to the NDO. He said he is not a member of the LGBTQAI+ community but was here to speak on their behalf. He takes issue with the Council, upon being asked reasonable questions by that community about their safety, essentially being told that their safety is going to come down to a cost. The Town will provide for their safety, essentially, if the price is right. He said that was offensive to him, and he is left to wonder if at some point in the future his safety and that of his family will come down to the same financial equation. He asked Council to take human costs and make that the center of the debate moving forward.

Diane Wetzle passed.

Oksana Sharapora said she wanted to thank Council for not proclaiming June as Pride month because that would be discriminatory against people of faith and traditional families. She asked those who disagree to think what they would think if a month was declared Traditional Family Month. She said Holly Springs is a family-friendly town, and they want to make sure town events are family friendly and that they are not discussing sexual preferences or talking about different orientations in front of kids. She said it was not age-appropriate. She asked that they stand united and not divided and not push their beliefs on others.

Amanda Lunn said she lives in Holly Springs and has a business here. She said that as she was standing in line at Bush Gardens a little black girl said she was not afraid of the roller coaster. But she was afraid of getting her hair wet because it took her five hours to straighten it. She said she was speaking in favor of the NDO and Pride Month. Because we are all human; we are all worthy of love, acceptance, and safety in our towns. We are all the same inside, bones, muscle, skin, with a heart. She asked Council to look into themselves, just because they don't see a need for an NDO or Pride Month. She asked them to let marginalized voices lead the discussion. She asked them to check their biases and love their neighbors. She said their actions do speak louder than words, and the actions or lack of actions she has seen give way to increased incidents violence and bullying, especially to the LGBTQ community.

RECOGNITIONS

5. Irena Krstanovic, 2022 NC Economic Developer of the Year

Randy Harrington said that at the NC Economic Developers Association annual conference last week, Irena Krstanovic, Director of Economic Development, was named NC Economic Developer of the Year for 2022. He said this is a great honor for Irena, and he outlined some of the many accomplishments in her tenure with Holly Springs. He outlined the criteria for the award and said that she was voted by her peers to this honor.

Irena Krstanovic said a few words about the Town and the support she has had from the Manager and Council.

6. Park and Recreation Month Proclamation

LeeAnn Plumer, Director of Parks and Recreation, said that July is celebrated as Park and Recreation month nationally. She introduced future leaders of the community to join her in receiving this Proclamation. She spoke about the importance of parks and recreation, and the benefits the programs have brought to Holly Springs.

Kaia Davidson, 6 years old, spoke about Bass Lake and the classes there. She said she liked seeing all the animals and nature. Tembo Daniel said he has lived here for 13 years and participated in the Parks & Recreation each of those years. He read the “ABCs of Parks and Rec.” naming one program for each letter of the alphabet that he had participated in, or hope to participate in the future.

Mayor Mayefskie proclaimed July as Park and Recreation Month in the Town of Holly Springs.

REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

7. Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) Amendments Update

Sean Ryan, Development Services, said the purpose of this item was to provide Council with an overview of proposed amendments to the UDO. He said they were looking for guidance so that they could prepare for the July public hearing. He reminded the public that the new UDO was adopted in October of 2021 and went into effect in March of 2022. The first amendment was made in March to separate the Planning Board and the Board of Adjustment. These proposed amendments are mostly clarifications or corrections. There are a few that are for legal compliance, some minor changes and one major change around notification. He then counted down the top ten changes (in no particular order).

10. The decision matrix and notification added new Type 7 Review for Town-wide policy actions; added a neighborhood meeting requirement; and expanded the notice requirements for development applications from 300 feet to 500 feet.

9. Neighborhood meetings can be no more than 12 weeks before the application, with notice mailed to renters and prior notification to Town staff. Any in-person meetings need to be held near the site location.

8. Open space and landscaping requirements would clarify that nonresidential uses in Residential Districts are to follow Commercial & Mixed-Use District standards. Examples would be childcare centers in Residential use Districts following Neighborhood Mixed-Use standards for open space and landscaping.

7. Accessory Structures in Rural Residential (RR) District would be changed to allow additional area, not to exceed the size of the dwelling, when the property is zoned RR and is greater than 2 acres.

6. Adding design standards for manufactured dwellings regarding roof pitch and materials, siding material, removal of hitch, and enclosure with landscaping. These were accidentally left out of the new UDO.

5. Updating definitions to divide “Religious/Assembly” use into two distinct uses where Assembly Uses include banquet facilities, event centers, etc., and Religious Uses include facilities such as a church, temple, monastery, synagogue, or mosque used for worship by a non-profit organization.

4. Tobacco Stores, defined as a retail use where the sale of tobacco products, tobacco-derived products, or vapor products exceeds 30% of total gross sales, would be removed as a permitted use in Downtown Mixed-Use, Regional Mixed-Use, and Innovation Village Mixed-Use districts. The use will remain permitted in Community Business.

3. Parking location flexibility was outlined in Chapter 2 with the intent of allowing for parking location flexibility in Conditional Zoning Districts. Changes would be to Table 6.3 to allow for flexibility to be considered with a Conditional Zoning request.

2. Apartment Dwellings would be allowed in Community Business District (CB) with Additional Standards (PS) consistent with other Commercial and Mixed-Use districts. This would be consistent with density standards in Chapter 2. Additional Standards would limit the use to upper

level apartments only, or with flexible standards by Conditional District. This is a consistency correction.

1. All Residential Use districts were intended to allow 50' building height with a Conditional Zoning District. The Suburban Residential district was mistakenly not included. This change would correct that.

MPT Berry asked if the amended notifications applied to development petitions as well as rezoning. Mr. Ryan said it would apply to all public hearings. The neighborhood meeting would be what would notify residents of a development petition not covered under the public hearing process. MPT Berry asked if the building height change addressed the CB district and whether any thought was given to making that height requirement more permissive. Mr. Ryan said there is a process for asking for a lower height either through a variance or asking for a rezoning. MPT Berry asked if any thought was given to having Special Exception Uses go before Council instead of the Board of Adjustment. Mr. Ryan said staff was not looking at the list of SU Permits for this round of amendments, but it could be looked at for future amendments. The way the uses were separated out were those with larger, community impact, were to go to Council. Other uses have more neighborhood specific impact and were given to the Board of Adjustment. But these can be moved around by moving them to the Conditional Use process if there are specific uses Council is concerned about.

Council member McGrath said that he agreed with MPT Berry about special use categories. He would like to expand that. He asked for a clarification of who is responsible for sending the notification out. Mr. Ryan said that for neighborhood meetings it is the developer; for public hearings it is the responsibility of the Town staff. Council member McGrath said that the increased notifications would require a budget increase. Mr. Ryan said staff will be sending more letters.

Mayor Mayefskie asked how staff would manage renter notification. Mr. Ryan said that the Wake County tax website lists two addresses – the property address and the owner's address – and staff can use that to mail notice to renters as well as owners.

Council member Wolff said he thought tobacco shops would be moved to industrial only, not CB. Mr. Ryan said staff could do that, and allow them in RT: Research and Tech or HI: Heavy Industrial, or both. Council member Wolff asked if RT allowed for commercial use. Mr. Ryan said it allowed limited commercial use, mostly business service. Council discussed that allowing tobacco shops as a conditional use in BRT would require it to go before Council and consensus was that was where Council would like it to be.

Council member Bennett asked if there were any virtual requirements for notification or was it all mail. Mr. Ryan said for public hearings, staff mails letters, posts signs, and posts information on the web site. For neighborhood meetings there are 2 options – a meeting organized by the developer near the location or they can offer a virtual option.

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 Forrest and a unanimous vote. The following actions were affected:

8. Minutes – Council approved the minutes of the May 24, 2022 workshop and the June 7, 2022 business meeting.

9. End of Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget Amendment – The Council approved the end of the fiscal year budget amendment for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 and adopted PAYGO Capital Project Ordinance 22-28.

Copies of the budget amendment and Ordinance 22-28 are attached to these minutes.

10. Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance – The Council adopted Ordinance 22-26 amending the Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance.

A copy of Ordinance 22-26 is attached to these minutes.

11. Tax Collection Order for Fiscal Year 2022-23 – The Council adopted Order 22-01 authorizing Wake County Tax Administrator to levy and collect property taxes for FY 2022-23 for the Town of Holly Springs.

A copy of Order 22-01 is attached to these minutes.

12. Operations Campus Design Services Contract & Reimbursement Resolution for Funding – The Council awarded a contract to ADW Architects in the amount of \$564,500 for the Operations Campus Phase-1 schematic design, program verification, early site package, and project contingency funding in the amount of \$50,000 for a total of \$614,500, and authorized the Town Manager to execute the design contract. The Council approved Resolution 22-25 authorizing a later issuance of public funding to pay for these prior expenditures.

13. Friendship Utilities – Procurement of Construction Materials – The Council approved \$2,000,000 for material procurement for use on the Friendship Utilities Project.

14. NC Biotechnology Center Partnership Development Grant – FUJIFILM Diosynth Biotechnologies – The Council accepted NC Biotechnology Center's Partnership Development Grant for \$175,000 for the benefit of middle and high schools serving Holly Springs, approved a grant agreement with NC Biotechnology Center to receive \$175,000 and a performance agreement with FUJIFILM Diosynth Biotechnologies. The Council adopted Grants and Special Project Ordinance 22-27 to appropriate the \$175,000, and authorized the Town Manager, Attorney, and Finance Director to sign and execute the agreements.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

15. Voluntary Annexation A2203, Utley Creek Substation

Bronwyn Redus said the town received an application for annexation of 69 +/- acres north of Dexter Ridge Dr. and Holly Thorn Tr. for the future development of the Utley Creek Substation. She said that tonight's hearing was specifically for the annexation, to bring these properties into the Town Limits, and they would be going to the Board of Adjustment for a Special Use Permit, which would be a quasi-judicial hearing on July 6th. She said that public notice has gone out for that hearing. She showed where the property is located on the map and explained that the part not currently in the ETJ is in the Urban Service Area, because it belongs to Duke Progress Energy. She showed approximately where the substation would be. She showed an aerial view showing the future access for the development on an existing access road off of Avent Ferry Road, not through the subdivision. She said the substation is a minimum of 1000 feet from existing homes.

A member of the audience asked what a substation was and Ms. Redus explained.

Mayor Mayefskie opened the public hearing.

Kevin Chesney, 1500 Dexter Ridge Dr. said that there was already construction at the site. They drove up and down the entrance road by his property today. He said multiple trucks have been in the neighborhood. He said if the hearing for the use isn't until July, why are they already doing work?

Travis Bash, said he came prepared with different comments. But he wanted to point out that he is on the very end of Dexter Ridge, and the future plans for the Town in that corner of Town show possible road construction from the industrial park to Avent Ferry, possible greenways in that location, and now this substation. There are competing interests in that part of town. He asked for clarity moving forward on what that area of town is going to look like. He knows that the additional electrical service is required, but he asked for a good working relationship with Duke Energy and the town on this product.

Mayor Mayefskie said if they would email him he would pass their interests on to Duke Progress Energy.

Toby Coleman, Smith Anderson, counsel for Duke Progress Energy. He said that they appreciate the people who came out. There are people from Duke Progress Energy here tonight who will be happy to talk to them after the meeting to address questions or follow up with them. Duke has sent letters to residents and has met with the Braxton Village and Holly Glen HOAs. He said the work that was done today was soil testing, not construction, and they would not be doing any construction until after the hearing.

A member of the audience said that soil testing was directly related to the construction process.

There being no further input, Mayor Mayefskie closed the public hearing.

MPT Berry said given the concerns expressed, he wanted staff to check that all the proper permits were in place. Council member Wolff asked Chris Hills, Director of Development, to reach out to the HOAs and give them a point of contact for this project.

Action: Motion to adopt Annexation Ordinance A22-03 to annex properties at 1520 Dexter Ridge Rd. and a portion of the property located a 0 Avent Ferry Rd.

Motion by: Wolff

Second by: Forrest

Vote: unanimous

A copy of Annexation Ordinance A22-03 is attached to these minutes.

NEW BUSINESS

16. Downtown Village District Area Plan Consultant Selection

Sean Ryan, Development Services, said that this item was to consider a consultant contract for developing a Downtown Village District Area Plan. He said that original plan was adopted in 2006 and guided decision making and investments in the downtown area, including decorative streetscapes, public parking lots and signage, and private development. Updating the plan will help guide development and redevelopment activities and adapt to a rapidly changing and dynamic environment, incentivize new opportunities, and continue to develop a sense of place in the community. He said the new plan would provide design characteristics, recommendations for land uses including distribution of parks and open spaces, special areas that will create energy and identity, economic development tools, and priorities, timelines, and strategies to achieve these goals. He outlined the process for consultant selection and said that Design Workshop was recommended because of their community-based approach, design-based strategies, experience in streetscapes, urban design, and placemaking, and their action-ready plans.

Mr. Hills introduced Benjamin Boyd from Design Workshop. Mr. Boyd introduced the team that would be working on Holly Springs' plan. He outlined the steps they take to make an authentic design plan, and things they would consider for a performance-based design for Holly Springs. He then outlined why Design Workshop was unique and the right choice for Holly Springs.

Mr. Ryan gave a timeline for the project with the kickoff in late summer and adoption in the Fall of 2023. He said next steps are the kickoff and consultant tour, followed by data gathering and public outreach.

Action: Motion to authorize the Town Manager to negotiate and execute the contract for the Downtown Village District Area Plan with consultant firm Design Workshop, for a total not to exceed \$150,000.

Motion by: Forrest

Second by: Bennett

Vote: unanimous

OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Mayefskie said that Triangle J COG was asking for letters to advocate for federal funds for the renovation of RDU airport's primary runway. He said a letter was drafted and said Council would get a copy of the letter when it was sent out.

Council member Forrest said funding for the airport was a good thing. He said he had heard concerns about, the new design model of the traffic signal coming out of South Park Village onto Avent Ferry Rd. He said residents of Trotter Bluff and Morgan Park have contacted him because of the free-flowing traffic in the right lane which makes it difficult for them to move right. He said watched traffic this week and saw many near accidents. He was told that NCDOT would be watching the intersection, but he hasn't seen any mechanism for that. He is concerned about that intersection. He knows it's a DOT intersection, but he would like staff to engage with DOT about that intersection. Randy Harrington, Town Manager, said that Michael Leonas, Utilities and Infrastructure, was present and could answer questions. Mr. Leonas said that staff has the same concerns and have been in conversation with residents and have also asked DOT for additional signage. It is under their jurisdiction so whatever we do, we have to coordinate with them, but staff is asking for more education on this. He also said that there is a new hybrid pedestrian signal that will be installed soon, and staff is working with Communications to get the word out on how those pedestrian beacons will work. Council member Forrest asked when the cross-walk signals at Ralph Stevens / Avent Ferry and also this intersection would come online. Mr. Leonas said next week is the hope. The intent is to get everything operational by the end of June, but it may fall over into the first of July.

Council member McGrath thanked all the residents who have continued to come out and provide their thoughts on what is going on in Town.

Council member Wolff thanked everyone for coming out. He said he knows this is not an easy thing to speak about and he knows that this is the first time for some, and he thanked them for that. He said when Council first started talking about this it was said that it was a "solution without a problem." If nothing else, this outreach should have cleared that up. He said he spoke with a resident who gave him permission to share her thoughts, omitting her personal information. He read an email from a resident who lives here with her wife and newborn son. They moved to Holly Springs thinking it was heading in a direction that was promising for families like theirs. But they are worried that they are wrong and are considering selling and moving elsewhere. She and her wife both work for large tech companies in the area but work remotely, so they can live anywhere. Without protections, they don't feel safe shopping in town and drive to Cary and Apex to do most of their shopping. She said the lack of protections for LGBTQ community hurts the entire community. They participate in Pride groups at their respective employers and have shared their concerns with them. She asked what she could do to advocate for families like theirs, and Council member Wolff said he told them that was his job and she needed to focus her energy on her newborn.

After reading this, he asked Council if that sounded political. Do people uproot their families to make a political statement? He said that last week Council left after a long discussion, with no action items. After thinking about his colleagues' concerns, questions, and feedback, he came up with some action items that reflected those concerns.

1. Amend legislative agenda for 2022 to advocate with state and federal to explore ways to close the loopholes.
2. Add this for consideration to the September workshop, which gives plenty of time to review the ordinance, and for the Town Manager and Attorney to reach out to the County

to see how much amendment might be accepted by the County. Three months would also be adequate time for our Communications Department to create an education plan for residents and businesses. This would be to discuss the accommodations piece of the NDO, which Council recognized as a gap in existing law.

He asked for feedback on those suggestions. There was none.

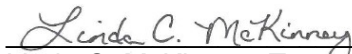
MANAGER'S REPORT

Randy Harrington, Town Manager, said he had two items. First, there is no meeting on July 5th due to the Independence Day holiday. The next meeting will be the July Workshop. Second, he is excited for the July 5th Fireworks celebration at Sugg Farm Park. Activities begin at 6 pm, with fireworks around 9:15.

CLOSED SESSION: none

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

Respectfully Submitted on Tuesday, July 19, 2022.



Linda C. McKinney, Town Clerk

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