

**NOTICE OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
ASHEBORO CITY COUNCIL**

**Monday, March 15, 2010**

**5:30 p.m.**

Notice of a special meeting of the Asheboro City Council is hereby given. This meeting will be held on Monday, the 15<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2010, at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Asheboro Municipal Building, 146 N. Church Street, Asheboro, North Carolina.

This special meeting has been called for the purpose of allowing the mayor and members of the Asheboro City Council to consider the following issues:

1. A conceptual discussion of potential changes in the design standards found in the Asheboro Zoning Ordinance.
2. An update on the status of the proposed United States Highway 64 Bypass (sometimes referred to as the "Southern Loop").
3. A discussion of options for improving the ease for motorists of locating and accessing the North Carolina Zoological Park.

This notice is issued on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2010, in accordance with the laws and ordinances of the State of North Carolina and the City of Asheboro.

s/ David H. Smith  
David H. Smith, Mayor  
City of Asheboro, North Carolina

# # # # # # # # # # # # # #

**SPECIAL MEETING  
ASHEBORO CITY COUNCIL  
COUNCIL CHAMBER, MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
MONDAY, MARCH 15, 2010  
5:30 p.m.**

This being the time and place for a special meeting of the City Council, a meeting was held with the following officials and members present:

- David H. Smith ) – Mayor Presiding
- Talmadge S. Baker )
- Clark R. Bell )
- Edward J. Burks )
- Stuart B. Fountain ) – Council Members Present
- Linda H. Carter )
- Michael W. Hunter )
- Walker B. Moffitt )

- John N. Ogburn, III, City Manager
- Dumont Bunker, P.E., City Engineer
- Richard L. Cox, Jr., Community Planning and Development Department Intern
- Holly H. Doerr, City Clerk/Senior Legal Assistant
- John L. Evans, Planner
- Casandra M. Fletcher, Marketing Specialist
- R. Wendell Holland, Jr., Zoning Administrator
- R. Reynolds Neely, Jr., Planning Director
- Deborah P. Reeves, Finance Director

**1. Call to order.**

A quorum thus being present, Mayor Smith called the meeting to order for the transaction of business, and business was transacted as follows.

Mayor Smith recognized two (2) Boy Scouts who were in attendance as a requirement in order to obtain a Boy Scout merit badge.

**2. A conceptual discussion of potential changes in the design standards found in the Asheboro Zoning Ordinance.**

Mr. Neely reported that the Planning Department Staff is currently in the process of preparing proposed amendments to certain sections of the Asheboro Zoning Ordinance, more specifically the performance standards section.

Mr. Neely suggested that the amendments should focus on the following goals:

- Promote health, safety, and welfare.
- Improve quality of life.
- Improve ordinance usability.
- Continue transition to district specific standards.
- Consolidate performance regulations.
- Consolidate and clarify use specific standards.

In addition to the above-referenced goals, Mr. Neely explained that certain topics should be considered when amending the performance standards of the Asheboro Zoning Ordinance. These topics include, but are not limited to, light, vibration, noise, traffic, landscape, open space, storm water, and water and sewerage.

Additionally, Mr. Neely explained the two (2) key points of design standards, siting standards and architectural standards. Siting standards include principal structure(s), accessory structure(s), access, parking, landscaping, open space, storage area requirements, pedestrian amenities, solid waste areas, utilities, incidental uses, signage, and site inventory. Architectural standards include scale, massing, orientation, style, façade, sense of enclosure, and sense of place.

Mr. Neely highlighted that, in his opinion, the design standards as currently stated in the zoning ordinance are cumbersome. Mr. Neely suggested that the ordinance should be amended to include a list of materials that developers may use in terms of façade, etc. Additionally, the amendments should address scale and massing.

Mr. Richard Cox, Community Planning and Development Department Intern, discussed and presented specific examples of the different siting and architectural standards. During substantive discussion, Council members agreed to the importance of incorporating these standards into the text of the zoning ordinance.

With the Council's consent, Mr. Neely and the Planning Department Staff will continue to pursue improvement of the design standards of the Asheboro Zoning Ordinance by refining proposals that can be scrutinized during a public hearing.

**3. An update on the status of the proposed United States Highway 64 Bypass (sometimes referred to as the "Southern Loop").**

With the aid of a handout prepared by Hannah Cockburn of the Piedmont Triad Council of Governments, Mr. Neely updated the Council on the status of the proposed United States Highway 64 Bypass. The North Carolina Department of Transportation completed the Final Environmental Impact Statement in March of 2007 for the United States Highway 64 Bypass. The Record of Decision was approved by the Federal Highway Administration on December 6, 2007. In March of 2008 a design hearing was held, and the comments received during the said hearing have been reviewed and incorporated into the final design plans for the project. The next phase of the project is right-of-way acquisition.

The current 2009-15 TIP document shows that right-of-way acquisition may begin in federal fiscal year 2010 for segment B (U.S. 220 to Old Cox Road), and construction may begin in federal fiscal year 2013. The remaining segments will be considered in the future.

Council members expressed their concerns that the proposed U.S. Highway 64 Bypass does not include a connector sending traffic to the North Carolina Zoological Park.

**4. A discussion of options for improving the ease for motorists of locating and accessing the North Carolina Zoological Park.**

Mayor Smith invited Mr. Russ Williams of the North Carolina Zoological Society to participate in the Council's discussion of ways to improve access to the North Carolina Zoological Park. Mayor Smith asked the Council to brainstorm ways to improve the high volume of zoo traffic along Zoo Parkway during the summer season. Council members expressed concerns that the high volume of traffic is discouraging some visitors from returning to Asheboro for a day at the North Carolina Zoological Park.

In order to address the issue, Council members suggested that the following solutions could be explored:

- Print and place onto the cars parked in the zoo's parking lot, flyers illustrating directions for alternative routes for exiting the park.
- Extend the zoo's hours until 7:00 p.m. during the peak season.
- Place electronic message boards along Zoo Parkway signaling alternate routes.

With the general consent of the Council, Mr. Ogburn will have city staff to prepare a resolution for Council's review requesting that the North Carolina Zoological Park extend its hours during peak season. Additionally, city staff is to prepare a plan that addresses the zoo traffic issue. Said resolution and plans will be presented for Council's review and consideration at a later date.

**5. Items not on the agenda.**

Mayor Smith asked Dr. Fountain and Ms. Carter to review certain examples of staff review forms. Once they have reviewed the forms, they will present their findings to the Council.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
s/ Holly H. Doerr  
Holly H. Doerr, City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
s/ David H. Smith  
David H. Smith, Mayor