

**DRAFT SUMMARY MINUTES OF A WORK SESSION
OF THE CHAPEL HILL TOWN COUNCIL
MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2015, AT 6:00 PM**

Council Members Present: Mayor Mark Kleinschmidt, Mayor pro tem Sally Greene, Council Member Donna Bell, Council Member George Cianciolo, Council Member Ed Harrison, Council Member Maria T Palmer, Council Member Lee Storrow, and Council Member Jim Ward.

Staff members present: Town Manager Roger Stancil, Deputy Town Manager Florentine Miller, Town Attorney Ralph Karpinos, Mayoral Aide Jeff Deluca, Business Management Director Ken Pennoyer, Long Range and Transportation Manager David Bonk, Assistant Business Management Director Amy Oland, Budget Manager Matt Brinkley, Emergency Management Coordinator Matt Sullivan, Parks and Recreation Director Jim Orr, Library Director Susan Brown, Police Chief Chris Blue, Assistant to the Town Manager Jason Damweber, Budget Analyst Alex Terry, Fire Chief Dan Jones, Transit Director Brian Litchfield, Transit Operator Akalema Pharribo, Landscape Superintendent Robert Minick, Public Works Operations Manager Richard Terrell, Fire Marshal Todd Jaeger, Police Officer Rick Fahrer, and Communications and Public Affairs Director and Town Clerk Sabrina Oliver.

AGENDA ITEMS

1.

Approve Agenda (no attachment)

Mayor Mark Kleinschmidt called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEE STORROW MOVED, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JIM WARD, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. THE MOTION WAS ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY (7-0).

2. Capital Project Priorities and Debt Financing (no attachment)

Business Management Director Ken Pennoyer outlined the Town's capital planning approach and explained how the dedicated debt fund supports long term financing. Mr. Pennoyer reported that current debt levels remain favorable when compared to peer communities and emphasized that the Town's strong bond ratings reflect responsible financial management.

Mr. Pennoyer reviewed the upcoming schedule for Council actions, which includes adopting a preliminary findings resolution on April 27, setting the related public hearing on May 27, and considering bond orders and ballot questions on June 22. Mr. Pennoyer walked the Council through a high level overview of potential capital projects covering public safety facilities, fire station replacement, streets and sidewalks, greenways, recreation facilities, solid waste infrastructure, stormwater improvements, public building upgrades, and transit fleet replacement.

Council members discussed concerns about project inflation, construction timing, and the value

of phasing earlier to reduce long term costs. They highlighted the importance of accelerating transportation improvements and emphasized community priorities such as pedestrian mobility and traffic flow. Mr. Pennoyer committed to sending more detailed project information later in the week and invited Council members to submit follow up questions.

3. Review of Draft 2015-2025 State Transportation Improvement Program (R-1)

Long Range and Transportation Planning Manager David Bonk briefed the Council on major items of interest within the draft STIP. Mr. Bonk highlighted key projects affecting Chapel Hill, including improvements at the I 40/NC 86 interchange, the NC 54/US 15 501 corridor, and several proposed roundabouts.

Mr. Bonk outlined the need for enhanced bicycle and pedestrian facilities along major corridors and discussed the implications of proposed superstreet designs, noting potential impacts on transit operations and pedestrian crossings—particularly near Meadowmont and the Friday Center. Council members raised concerns about noise abatement along I 40, design considerations for Barbee Chapel Road grade separation, and the importance of accelerating project funding to support safe multimodal travel.

Council agreed to forward comments to the Durham Chapel Hill Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHC MPO), with a resolution to be placed on the Consent Agenda for the March 9 meeting. Mr. Bonk noted the timeline for MPO review and adoption of the final MTIP later in 2015.

The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.