



# Town of Carrboro

Town Hall  
301 W. Main St.  
Carrboro, NC 27510

## Meeting Minutes Board of Aldermen

Tuesday, February 10, 2015

7:30 PM

Board Chambers - Room 110

**Present:** Mayor Lydia Lavelle, Alderman Damon Seils, Alderman Michelle Johnson, Alderman Randee Haven-O'Donnell, Alderman Bethany Chaney and Alderman Sammy Slade

**Absent:** Alderman Jacquelyn Gist

**Also Present:** David Andrews, Town Manager, Cathy Wilson, Town Clerk, Mike Brough, Town Attorney

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### **PASSING OF DEAN SMITH**

Alderman Haven-O'Donnell noted the passing of longtime UNC coach Dean Smith.

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### **NTAAC LIAISON**

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN SEILS, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN HAVEN-O'DONNELL TO APPOINT ALDERMAN CHANEY AS THE NTAAC BOARD LIAISON. VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE ALL

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### **A PUBLIC HEARING TO OBTAIN COMMUNITY INPUT ON TOWN NEEDS AND BUDGET FOR UPCOMING FY 2015-16**

This is a public hearing to receive comments from the public regarding the upcoming budget for the Town beginning July 1, 2015.

David Andrews, the Town Manager, presented the staff report to the Board to begin the public hearing.

Alison DeMarco, representing Justice United, thanked the Board for their commitment to economic justice, the support for the living wage for Town Employees, the Day Laborer Center, and the Community Support Position. She asked for these items to remain funded in next year's budget. She stated that construction has completed on the Day Laborer Center.

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN CHANEY, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN JOHNSON, TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING. VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE ALL

Alderman Chaney asked for staff to work on different methods of notifying the public regarding budget public hearings.

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**SALE AND DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 110 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 200**

The purpose of this item is for the Board to decide the method of disposal of property located 110 East Main Street, Suite 200.

**A motion was made by Alderman Seils, seconded by Alderman Chaney, that this resolution be approved.**

**Resolution**

To select a method of sale for town owned property located at 110 East Main Street, Suite 200 Carrboro, NC.

February 10, 2015

WHEREAS, the Town of Carrboro owns the property located at 110 East Main Street, Suite 200 Carrboro, North Carolina 27510, which parcel is farther described as Parcel Identification Number 9778-86-9017.002 in the Orange County Registry, and;

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen have determined the town does not have a need or use for the property, and;

WHEREAS, the Board must declare the property surplus and determine the method of sell.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the property is hereby declared as surplus and the Board directs staff to follow Upset Bid procedure outlined in NCGS 160A-269 in regards to the sale of the property.

FURTHER, The Town Manager is authorized to select and enter into a contract with a Carrboro real estate firm to market, solicit offers to purchase and manage the sale of this property in accordance with NCGS 160A-269

This 10<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2015.

**The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** Mayor Lavelle, Alderman Chaney, Alderman Haven-O'Donnell, Alderman Johnson, Alderman

Seils and Alderman Slade

**Absent:** Alderman Gist

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## **GREEN BURIAL**

The purpose of this item was to better explain green burial and discuss the possibility and feasibility for using it in Carrboro's two cemeteries.

Julie Eckenrode, the Town's Assistant to the Town Manager, made the staff presentation.

Alderman Johnson stated that it would be helpful to see how many requests the Town has received regarding green burial. She also asked for staff to report back on how much maintenance would be required to mitigate the natural sinking of the graves.

Alderman Haven-O'Donnell thanked Ellie Kinnaird for bringing this request to the Town. She asked for staff to report back if a vault would be needed if the Town were to allow pine box coffins. Mike Brough, the Town Attorney, noted that the ordinance does not prohibit green burials and that it requires a grave liner or a vault to keep the grave space from collapsing in the interest of maintenance. She asked how much staff time is currently being devoted to cemetery upkeep and when the majority of the work occurs.

Alderman Slade stated that this is an appropriate venture for Carrboro. He asked for staff to look into the spacing of the graves for cycling of the graves. He also asked for certain plants and fruit trees to be planted so that the area could become an orchard.

George Seiz, the Town's Public Works Director, discussed the Westwood Cemetery topography and layout of the grave plots. He stated that even though the area does not show tombstones, there are plots that have already been sold and that space in the wooded area is somewhat limited. He stated that it is important to be sensitive to the expectations of the sites that have already been sold. He stated that staff spends about 1000 hours per year mowing both the Old Carrboro Cemetery and the Westwood Cemetery.

Alderman Haven-O'Donnell asked if the cost of plots have risen. Mr. Seiz responded that they have increased and that has been based on the market and the area. He explained that the current cost has been \$750.00 for residents and \$1400 for non-residents since 2007.

Alderman Chaney suggested that the Town should think ahead for another place that could be used specifically for green burial that would not create complications regarding maintenance. She stated that she would like to have a better understanding of where people are being buried if they are not choosing Carrboro Cemeteries. Mr. Seiz explained that the ordinance allows for burial of urns in the plots. Alderman Chaney asked for the Town Clerk to touch base with the Town Historian applicant to determine if they are still interested in the position and to bring it to the Board for appointment. She mentioned that information on the unmarked graves in the Old Carrboro Cemetery could be a project for the historian.

Alderman Seils stated that he would be interested to see the intention of the Westwood Cemetery lot

purchase by the Town.

Alderman Slade stated that he is interested in considering additional sites for green burial in the Town. He also stated that he is interested to see the costs associated with burials as currently required by ordinance and for the Board to think of this as an affordability measure. He asked for staff to consider the soil toxicity related to the area where ashes are allowed to be scattered.

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### **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN CHANEY, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN HAVEN-O'DONNELL TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE ALL