

**July 28, 2014**  
**Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes**

The Wendell Town Board of Commissioners held their regularly scheduled meeting Monday, July 28, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. in the Board of Commissioners' Meeting Room with Mayor Pro Tem James Parham presiding. Present at the meeting were Commissioners Sam Laughery, Jon Lutz, John Boyette, and Virginia Gray; Manager Teresa Piner; Town Clerk Jonnie Driver; IT Administrator Tamah Hughes; Finance Director Butch Kay; Police Chief Bill Carter; Public Works Director Alton Bryant; Planning Director David Bergmark; Planners Patrick Reidy and Allison Rice. Due to his employment, Mayor Hinnant was out of town and unable to attend.

Mayor Pro Tem Parham called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed the guests.

Police Chief Bill Carter led the Pledge of Allegiance and the invocation was delivered by Mr. Mike Harrison of Wendell Christian Church.

**Adjustment and approval of the agenda**

Commissioner Laughery made a motion to approve the agenda as written. The motion passed unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

**Item 1 – Public Comment Period**

No one wished to be heard.

**Item 2 – Consent Agenda**

- a. Approval of the Minutes from Monday, July 14, Board of Commissioner's meeting.
- b. Approval of the Wake County Tax Report for May 2014.

Commissioner Lutz made a motion to approve the consent agenda as written. The vote was unanimous 4-0.

**Item 3 – Update and discussion on sharrow markings for Wendell Park.**

Manager Piner stated previously that an Appearance Committee member had suggested road markings into the park to indicate that bicycles and motorist should share the road. At that time signage was installed on upright posts along West Third Street asking motorists to share the road.

Manger Piner said on June 12, 2014, the topic of installing sharrows, or "Share the Road" markings was brought to staff's attention once again. A meeting was held with Planning Staff, the Public Works Director and the Manager to discuss the feasibility of the project.

Mrs. Piner said the US Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration suggest that sharrow markings be installed 11 feet from the curb, or approximately 4 feet from parked cars. She said bike and chevron markings are becoming the standard design. She said the symbols as a pavement marking should be white and should be placed immediately after an intersection and at intervals not greater than 250 feet.

Mrs. Piner said the road within the Wendell Community Park is owned and maintained by the Town of Wendell, which allows for some flexibility as to size, design, and placement of the markings. The drive, from the park entrance to the Community Center is approximately 850 feet, meaning that DOT guidelines would call for 5 or 6 markings. The park is an excellent area to use as a pilot program to see if the sharrows would work and how long the markings would last. She said staff had installed 5 markings to see if they are effective. Mrs. Piner said the cost of the thermoplastic markers installed by town staff would be \$444.72. The thermoplastic marker supplier has offered to use his application equipment at no

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additional cost to the Town. The supplier agreed to deliver the markers and be present at the time of application for training.

Commissioner Laughery asked how much space is required to have a bike lane. Mrs. Piner said they like to have a width of 3-4 feet if it is a separate lane. Commissioner Laughery asked if there were any streets in town that were wide enough to have a bike lane. Mrs. Piner said she thought there were; probably Third Street back to the east would be wide enough. Commissioner Laughery said it would be nice to know how many streets in the town were wide enough to have a bike lane.

Mayor Pro Tem Parham asked how long the markings would stay last. Mrs. Piner said staff would keep observing them to see how long they would last.

**Item 4 – Discussion and consideration of a donation in the amount of \$1,000 to East Wake Education Foundation for FY 2014/2015.**

Commissioner Laughery made a motion to approve the donation in the amount of \$1,000 to East Wake Education Foundation. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

**Item 5 – Update and discussion concerning a community calendar of events.**

Manager Piner stated during the budget process, the board expressed the desire to have more downtown events to spur economic development. As a result, the draft budget contained \$10,000 for special events. She said following the special called budget meeting, all items except for the purchase of a message board and town hall renovations were removed. This included funds for the many of the proposed downtown special events. Mrs. Piner said some of the events that have been scheduled are Movie Night at the Park, the Harvest Festival, July 4<sup>th</sup>, and Public Safety Day totaling approximately \$12,000.

Mrs. Piner said there were some events that were discussed but were unfunded and have not yet been scheduled. One is Opening Day at the Park, one movie night downtown at a cost of \$1,000, three bands for downtown events for \$4,500, and corn hole tournament equipment for about \$2,500 which could be moved to different venues.

Mayor Pro Tem Parham said he believed that movie night was a positive thing for downtown. He said he would like to see staff focus on downtown since that the goal was to get more people into the downtown area. He said it appeared it was cheaper for the town to do the movie night and it was better to have it in the downtown area.

Commissioner Gray said regarding the corn hole tournament, the Chamber was going to host that in conjunction with the Harvest Festival this year, so she felt like the town should wait on planning that. She said as far as the movie night, there was a big difference in the price of \$1,000 and \$5800 that the town had agreed to pay, but before the Board decides to do something different the town needs to have the one that was already planned for this year and see how it goes. She said she would like for us to look outside the box; these are things that a lot of people have done, and we need to try to do something unique to Wendell. She said when she went to Goldsboro one time they had a Teddy Bear Picnic. They had a story teller come, children brought their Teddy Bears and they had cookies and lemonade. The town could have someone come from the Library and read a book about Teddy Bears and promote it. She said there are a lot of things the town could do and they don't all have to cost a fortune.

Commissioner Laughery said he agreed with Commissioner Gray. The town needs to have a lot more events in the downtown area. He said we have the new Parks and Recreation Director that started today and he would really like to see Parks and Recreation involved in planning more events for downtown. He said the Board took a lot of things out of the budget that were funded with the fund balance, but at that

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time they said as things come along during the year the Board could use the excess funds in the fund balance. He said for future meetings if the Board could have a running estimate of the fund balance is that would be a big help as the town plans these events.

Commissioner Boyette said the events downtown need to reach a critical mass. He said if the Town gets people in the mindset that there was something every week or every other week or some exact date each month, people will start to remember. When you do things one time, by the time the word gets out the event is over with.

Commissioner Gray said she agreed, but the town needs to do different things than were already being done. She said we are smart people and could come up with some events that are different so that the town is not doing the same things over and over.

Mayor Pro Tem said he agreed with what had been said, but asked who would make this event calendar. Mrs. Piner said she would sit down and talk with the Parks and Recreation Director and brainstorm to come up with some events. She suggested that staff does a survey and see what people want. Commissioner Gray said she did not want to get into a survey since that just adds more time; she just hoped people would contact the manager and the commissioners can contact staff. She said the town already had an event for September and October so we only have to come up with 10 more things. She asked if it be possible to have that list by the next board meeting. She said we could post to Facebook and allows people to tell us what things they would like to see in in the downtown area for events.

Commissioner Lutz said there would not be a lot of activities in the winter months due to the colder temperatures and he thought the first of the month would be a good time since most of what we have already done have been around the first of the month. He did not think it would be too much of a task to get twelve items down.

**Item 6 – Update and discussion of fiber installation within the Town of Wendell**

Mrs. Tamah Hughes from the IT Department said staff had received direction from the Board to gather more information on installing fiber in Wendell. Staff had talked to AT&T, Vishay Measurements, Town of Wake Forest, Holly Springs and Greenlight with the City of Wilson. She said they had discussed different avenues that could be taken for the installation of fiber. She said there were three options we were investigating: 1) Town owned Wi-Fi for the downtown; 2) Town owned fiber to town facilities and the downtown commercial district, and 3) Fiber to the home or business via a private company owning fiber (i.e. Time Warner Cable, AT&T, RST, etc.). She said what staff would like for the Board to tell us whether they would like staff to continue to pursue any or all of these options.

Mrs. Hughes stated that Holly Springs had a good model. She said it was a 16 month period from the time Holly Springs decided to install fiber until they turned the light on.

Commissioner Laughery said his question was more on the Wi-Fi side. If the town decided to run Wi-Fi downtown, did the town have adequate bandwidth available? Tamah said currently the town did not. Commissioner Laughery said providing Wi-Fi was probably the most feasible right now since it was so expensive to get fiber run into downtown.

Commissioner Boyette said he liked the idea of Wi-Fi also. He thought if the town was going to make any type of infrastructure upgrades to IT, he would hate to select Wi-Fi over cable or phone line to later find out the town wanted to upgrade to fiber, it would not be up to par. He would like to see how far the closest fiber connection was to see if it is feasible to install in a town this size. He said

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he would especially like to see a map, because just because fiber comes to Wendell does not mean that it would not serve all of Wendell.

Commissioner Gray said she would like to see the map before the Board makes any type of decision. She would like to see staff continue moving forward with obtaining more information until we know something for sure. She said she liked the idea of starting to see if the Wi-Fi was the first step downtown or if the town was doing one thing instead of another. Mrs. Hughes said the town can do either or both. Commissioner Gray asked Mrs. Hughes if she could give the Board an update at the next meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Parham stated it seemed to be the consensus of the Board to continue gathering information to bring back to the Board.

**Item – 7 Discussion and review of the planning board’s recommendation regarding indoor and outdoor firing ranges.**

Planning Director David Bergmark said currently the Table of Uses does not specifically define land uses for indoor or outdoor shooting ranges and the Planning Department had not been contacted by anyone recently interested in opening an indoor or outdoor firing range. They had however been informed of interest by an investor.

Mr. Bergmark said currently the Table of Uses, which lists everything that was allowed in different zoning districts, does not include a use for indoor or outdoor firing ranges. He said given the relative lack of facilities available in Wake County, the special interest that this type of recreation would generate from around the region, and the potential public nuisance issues that are inherent with this use, staff had asked the Planning Board to discuss if and how these uses should be permitted.

Mr. Bergmark said the Town does currently have something in the Code of Ordinances (Section 14-50) which stipulates that “no person shall discharge any firearms, fireworks, or any other explosive contrivance within the inhabited portion of the town without the town manager’s consent.” This consent could be granted by having the Town Manager sign the privilege license request for a firing range to establish their business or through the special use approval process.

Mr. Bergmark said operation of shooting ranges and their designs were legally obliged to adhere to OSHA laws on lead and noise exposure, as well as EPA laws regarding lead.

Mr. Bergmark said if the board did decide to move forward with this, any proposed indoor shooting range would be required to be designed by an architect or designer in order to ensure safety measures were met. In the case of Wendell, a Wake County building inspector would review the designer’s proposal as part of the building permit approval process. The architect or designer would have to specify how all projectiles would be safely contained with the building and how noise would be controlled. He said the design of indoor shooting ranges was usually under strict insurance regulations.

Mr. Bergmark said staff surveyed downtown businesses to determine their opinion on the inclusion of an indoor shooting range within the DMX. The feedback ranged from enthusiastic support to indifference. He said some business owners expressed concern as to the health and safety of the range staff and customers, as well as the noise level this use would generate. He said the concerns were not enough to disapprove of the use and, overall business owners expressed hope for the use generating more business.

Mr. Bergmark said in order to address noise concerns, planning department staff researched what noise limitations have been employed by other jurisdictions. He said of those which did include noise standards, the maximum decibel level permitted varied from 40 decibels to 85 decibels. Mr. Bergmark

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said the decibel limit incorporated into the proposed text amendment (60 decibels) is the same as that used by Wake County.

Mr. Bergmark said the proposed text amendment would be amended to read:

1. Section 19.3 of the UDO to include the following definition:
  - a. Shooting Range, Indoor: The use of a structure for archery and/or the discharging of firearms for the purposes of target practice or temporary competitions.
2. To amend Section 2.3C of the UDO (Use Matrices Table) to include “Shooting Range, Indoor” under the “Entertainment/ Recreation” category as a Special Use (SUP) within the Corridor Mixed Use (CMX), Community Center (CC), Commercial Highway (CH), and Manufacturing and Industrial (MI) districts, with additional standards listed in Chapter 3 of the UDO.
3. To amend Section 3.3 of the UDO (Additional standards by use) to add:

LL. Shooting Range, Indoor

1. This use is prohibited within 1200 feet of a school.
2. The building housing this use shall be designed and constructed so as to muffle noise generated by the firing of weapons so that no sound over 60 decibels may be heard at the property line. The method for obtaining this noise level must be identified in the design plans prior to approval.
3. The allowed hours of operation shall be 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
4. No mechanical ventilation equipment shall be visible from a public right-of-way. Exhaust air Discharged from the range shall meet all state and federal requirements, and designed to separate discharge from any air supply intakes for the same or nearby uses to prevent cross-contamination of heavy metal-laden air.
5. No storage of lead, ammunition, firearms, gunpowder, or other hazardous or dangerous materials, as may be identified by the Wendell Police Department or the Wake County Fire Marshall, shall be stored in an accessory structure. No cleaning or repair of guns shall be allowed within an accessory structure.
6. The applicant must provide proof of insurance as part of their Special Use Permit (SUP) submittal. All shooting range facilities shall maintain general liability insurance coverage in the amount of not less than three million dollars through an insurance company licensed to do business in North Carolina. The policy shall not exclude coverage for property damage or personal injury cause by the discharge of firearms.

Mr. Bergmark said staff recommends approval of the proposed text amendment for indoor firing ranges. Due to staff’s concerns over the perception which seeing armed individuals walking around downtown could have on citizens and visitors, staff did not include the Downtown Mixed Use (DMX) district within the list of permitted zoning districts.

Mr. Bergmark said currently staff has had complaints about hearing gun shots outdoors coming from individuals discharging firearms on their personal property. He said if outdoor shooting ranges were added as an allowed use, the frequency of these complaints would likely increase. He said staff recommends that outdoor shooting ranges not be added to the town’s use table at this time, however if the board wishes to allow outdoor shooting arranges that they be permitted with a Special Use Permit (SUP) in the Residential Agriculture (RA).

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Commissioner Laughery asked if the Planning Board recommended not allowing it in the DMX. Mr. Bergmark said that was correct.

Commissioner Boyette asked if the board could get a map showing the school buffers indicating different size buffers so the board would see what 400 feet or 600 feet looks like on the map. Mr. Bergmark said he would provide that to the board. There were no further questions or comments.

**Item 8 – Update and discussion on the purchase of tables and bike racks to be placed in the downtown business district.**

Planner Patrick Reidy stated that at the July 14<sup>th</sup> Board of Commissioners meeting, Commissioner Laughery asked staff to provide cost estimates for tables and bike racks that could be located in the downtown area. The Appearance Commission has previously brought up the idea of adding tables and bike racks to the downtown area as well.

Mr. Reidy said the table style that was selected would discourage skateboarding on the seats and table top. The estimated cost for the table was \$1,615, which included shipping, and the estimated cost of the bike rack is \$350, which also included shipping.

Mr. Reidy said staff has walked through downtown taking measurements of ideal locations for both tables and bike racks. It is staff's recommendation that only one table and one bike rack be ordered at this time to use as a test pilot to gauge the use by citizens. He said the items were not included in the FY14-15 budget and would require a budget amendment.

Commissioner Laughery asked if the Appearance Commission recommended the locations or did they depend on staff to locate them. Mr. Reidy said they did not give an official recommendation, but had previously suggested the area around the train tracks. Commissioner Laughery said the mural had been discussed a lot. Has anyone discussed placing the seating with the mural? Mr. Reidy said no, the mural location had been identified as the building at the corner of Cypress and Third Street.

Commissioner Gray said she was not sure what she thought doing one bike rack and one table and waiting to see how the citizens respond. She felt that the town was doing things in drips and drabs and we need to pick a couple of things and do them well. If the town could not afford three tables and three bike racks, then we could not afford any. She said for her personally, she would rather to go ahead and purchase three.

Mayor Pro Tem Parham asked if the town decided to get three tables and three bike racks, does staff have three ideal locations already. Mr. Reidy said he believed they did.

Commissioner Boyette asked if the locations for the bike racks are suggested because there was space for them or because staff had noticed that bikes being parked at those locations. Mr. Reidy said bikes could be seen everywhere downtown because there were not any locations to put them, but if bike racks were placed by the train tracks then bicyclists could walk either way down Main Street.

Commissioner Gray said she would like to see one bike rack near the train track closer to the Third Street location; it seems that the proposed racks were all located on the Wendell Boulevard side of the train tracks. Manager Piner said staff could take a look at that and see. Mrs. Piner said the Appearance Committee was working on this and if these items were not funded in the budget, the Board would have to approve the purchases and a budget amendment would be required. Mrs. Piner asked if the board would rather staff wait until the Appearance Committee meets again and talks about the mural, tables, and bike rack locations. Mrs. Piner said she did not want to come back next week with a mural project that

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could not be funded due to the purchase of the tables and chairs. Mr. Reidy said the Appearance Committee meets the first Monday in August.

Commissioner Lutz said his thought was to go ahead with the purchase; if the mural was going to be on Cypress Street he did not think that was going to be a big issue.

Commissioner Lutz made a motion to approve the purchase of three tables and three bike racks to be placed in the downtown area. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

**Item 9 – Discussion and review of the selection process for the chair and vice-chair of the Wendell Planning Board and Board of Adjustment.**

Planning Director David Bergmark said that at the July 14, 2014 Board of Commissioner meeting, staff was asked to review the procedure for appointments for Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Planning Board and Board of Adjustment and investigate what the process would be for having citizen boards elect their own chair and vice-chair.

Mr. Bergmark said the UDO and the Code of Ordinances contain references to the Board of Commissioners appointing a chair and vice-chair to the Planning Board. The UDO also contains references to the Board of Commissioners appointing a chair and vice-chair to the Board of Adjustment.

Mr. Bergmark said an amendment to the Code of Ordinances and the UDO, including review by the Planning Board and a Public Hearing, would need to be held before a text amendment would be made, which would change the procedure.

Commissioner Boyette asked if there were others towns that allowed their citizen boards to appoint their own Chair and Vice-Chair. David said you could have them both ways, but at one time the Town of Wendell did allow the boards to appoint their own Chair and Vice-Chair.

Commissioner Gray said she thought it was important that the town lets the boards decide. She thought groups would become more invested in what they were doing and they needed to elect their own leadership.

Mayor Pro Tem Parham asked staff to send this to the Planning Board and schedule a Public Hearing.

**Item 10 – Discussion and review of the Downtown Façade Grant Application Submittal(s).**

Planner Patrick Reidy stated at the July 7, 2014 meeting, the Appearance Commission reviewed one Downtown Façade Grant application for the June 30<sup>th</sup> deadline period.

Mr. Reidy said the Appearance Commission recommended by a vote of 6 to 0 that the Board of Commissioners approve of the downtown façade grant application for 102 W. Third Street (Lake Life) in the amount of \$1,000. The Appearance Commission noted the application met the intent of the program.

Mr. Reidy stated the total estimated cost for the renovations is \$3,207.54 and the applicant applied for the downtown façade grant program in the amount of \$1,000.

Commissioner Gray made a motion to approve the Downtown Façade Grant Application for 102 W. Third Street. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

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**Item 11 – Discussion and review of CAMP’O Transportation Plan Maps.**

Planner Director David Bergmark stated that at the July 14<sup>th</sup> Town Board meeting, staff was asked to compile and bring back information on prospective roadway projects that have been proposed in recent transportation plans. He said the last version of the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP)’s map was included with the Board’s agenda.

Mr. Bergmark said the 2040 Comprehensive Metropolitan Transportation Plan (CMTP) is the long-range guide for major transportation investments for the North Carolina Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO). The CMTP is updated every four years. The transportation plan groups fiscally constrained projects which fall under the MTP, as well as non-fiscally constrained projects which fall under the CTP. All CTP project (or post-2040 roadways shown on the MTP map) are displayed but have no funding source.

Mr. Bergmark said fiscally constrained projects in the Wendell area include:

- 2040 improvements to Poole Road from Martin Pond Road to Wendell Boulevard,
- 2040 improvements to Poole Road from Future 540 extension to Martin Pond Road,
- 2040 improvements to the I-495 Corridor from Raleigh to Zebulon,
- 2040 improvements to Rolesville Road/Eagle Rock Road from Martin Pond Road to Marks Creek Road (to the North), and
- 2040 interchange improvements at the intersection of Rolesville Road and Wendell Boulevard.

Mr. Bergmark said as CAMPO’s transportation plans are updated, project deadlines may be pushed back and roadway projects may be added, deleted, or modified.

Commissioner Laughery said at the CAMPO meeting the DOT representative said if a project was not on the TIF Plan in the next five years, then it was not on the plan at all. Wendell’s projects were scheduled 26 years out. He said the town needs to have an idea of what our priorities are and get them on the TIF. He said he knew we cut the Transportation Plan out of the budget, but he would like to have a good understanding of what that plan intended to address and what staff had in mind for that Transportation Plan. The town needs to know what our near term priorities are.

Mayor Pro Tem Parham asked Mrs. Piner if she had a list of prospective road projects for the town. Mrs. Piner said the road projects that had been assigned numbers had been looked at by CAMPO in the past. She suggested that the staff starts there. She said she thought there were different roads and segments of roads that staff needed to look at and identify as a total package.

Commissioner Gray said she completely agreed with the need of the Transportation Plan. She said she submitted as a budget item this past year. The one meeting she missed was when the Transportation Plan was taken out of the budget and she was not here to fight for it. She said it was important since it would guide the town, our development and our growth. It would allow the town to plan and potentially acquire land where needed, it would be encompassing and it was crucial that the town has it. She said it would give the town the guidance that we need to just quit talking about the intersection at Buffalo and Wendell Boulevard and get something done.

Commissioner Laughery said it might take a meeting with the planning staff to clear this out a little, to agree on what our priorities are.

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**Item 12 – Update and discussion of community input regarding the Unified Development Ordinance**

Planning Director David Bergmark stated that at the June 23, 2014 Town Board meeting the Board gave staff direction to receive public comments regarding the UDO. It was decided that the Town would request written comments from interested parties who have had the opportunity to interact with the UDO.

Mr. Bergmark said staff created a submission form and a contact list of builders, developers, and business owners who have dealt with the UDO. Based on comments received at the July 14<sup>th</sup> meeting, staff expanded the list of contacts to include all business owners located within the corporate limits.

Mr. Bergmark said that on July 17<sup>th</sup>, letters and/or emails were sent to all parties listed. The town also posted requests for feedback on Facebook, through an eBlast, in East Wake News, and the Chamber of Commerce to be included in their electronic distributions. He said the public comment submission form has been posted on the Town's website and a copy was mailed with the letters. Staff has requested that all public comments be submitted by August 14<sup>th</sup> and the results would be shared with the Town Board at their August work session meeting.

Commissioner Laughery said he did not know if two weeks was enough time and the form is relatively simple, but that it asked for development history in Wendell. He said he would not like to have someone who had not developed in Wendell think that they could not submit a form. He suggested that staff kept the form as simple as possible and not ask for any history.

Commissioner Gray suggested had a little section that asked what their concern was with the UDO. If someone had a concern, she did not want them to think they did not know enough about the UDO to submit a form. If someone had a concern she wanted to know what it was.

Commissioner Boyette said he would like for the form to say that a printed copy of the UDO was located at Town Hall and/ or could be viewed online, with a link to where the UDO could be found online.

Commissioner Laughery said he thought the two weeks needed to be changed to 1 month and suggested a deadline of August 31<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Bergmark said staff would make those changes.

**Item 13 – Discussion and review of Wendell's telecommunication ordinance.**

Manager Piner said Commissioner Gray requested that the Telecommunication Ordinance be placed on the agenda for review in reference to the location of a proposed cell tower at the corner of Fourth and Hollybrook.

Commissioner Gray said the Board changed the town's ordinance in participation of building a cell tower at the Wendell Park. Mrs. Piner said the ordinance was not specific to that location because of money received from a PARTF Grant and the use of Wake County Funds. Commissioner Gray said she was concerned that the town had left itself open. She said the town needed the infrastructure, but it didn't need it just anywhere. The Board needed to take a look at the ordinance to make sure we were putting in a layer of protection for our town.

Commissioner Laughery said he was concerned about having a 195 foot cell tower right in the middle of downtown. He would rather have something of a normal 60 feet or one that looks like a tree. He said the reality was the property was zoned for this use and the property owner had signed a contract. Mrs. Piner said the cell phone company was looking at alternative sites. Commissioner Laughery said as he saw it, the Board's hands are tied. Mrs. Piner said the tower company had mentioned lowering the tower to 160 feet and they mentioned the option of a stick pole.

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Commissioner Gray said her sole concern was now that the town realizes that the effects of a loose cell phone tower ordinance, as Wendell grows the Board would need to be cognizant of the placement of them. The town had left itself vulnerable so maybe the Board would need to look into how we could protect the town a little bit. She said she was thinking about the future.

Commissioner Gray asked Mrs. Piner if could she get some information for the board about the different kinds and the different heights of cell phone towers and come back to the Board with those options. Mrs. Piner said she could.

Commissioner Lutz asked if the company surveyed the area, found that there were no other sites suitable for the tower, and came back to the original location would the Historical Society have the authority to stop the tower from being built. Mrs. Piner said no, the FCC would license the tower and once they determine there is no other location suitable, and then the FCC could approve the location at Fourth and Hollybrook.

Commissioner Boyette said the town could look at options, but all the town could do is ask nicely. The tower was an approved use and if the property owner and tower company decided they wanted to put the tower there, it was within their right to do that. He thought the takeaway was the Board had to be very cognizant of the decisions it makes. He said not having some sort of connectivity for the downtown was as much of an adverse impact as having to see the cell phone tower. He said he did not even see cell phone towers any more. They are everywhere and people didn't even notice them.

Commissioner Laughery said the Board was talking about future towers and it might be as simple as restricting what districts they could go in.

**Item 14 – Commissioners' Comments**

Commissioner Laughery said he wanted to thank Randy Broach for the sign that was erected on Wendell Boulevard and that it looked great.

Commissioner Lutz said he would like to congratulate the two State Champions Teams from Wendell.

Commissioner Boyette said to the proprietors of the Beacon Inn, he would like to say that Wendell was open for business. He said it would be similar to the structure behind the Shell Station in Knightdale. He said hotels were not always looked upon favorably, but at least from his opinion he would like everyone to know Wendell was open for business.

Commissioner Gray said she had one more thing to say about the indoor firing range. She said she was wondering if staff could provide the decibels that other towns allow. She said she wanted to thank everyone for voting on the façade grant tonight. She said when the Board agreed to have a work session and a regular meeting it was her understanding that it could vote on a matter if needed and she was glad the Board did that tonight. She said she also wanted to congratulate the 7-8 and 10U Baseball teams that won the State Championship. She said she went to the game and there were a lot of people from Wendell supporting the teams. She said one of the Coaches for the 7-8 team was Don Brown, who serves on the town's Economic Development Committee, and one of the coaches for the 10U was Jody Wall, a Wendell Police Officer. She said the 13-14 Team was playing in Goldsboro that night and maybe they would win.

**Item 15 – Mayor Pro Tem's comments.**

Mayor Pro Tem Parham said he would like to remind all the citizens, commissioners, staff and everybody else who was associated with Wendell that the Board's focus was Wendell. He said that the Board needed

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to take a close look at the UDO, since some time had passed since it was adopted in 2010. This would help the town prepare for the expected growth in building. It needs to be modified, and the Board needed to do that for the benefit of Wendell. It would have to happen if Wendell kept pace with our sister towns and their build out.

**Item 16 - Adjourn**

Commissioner Laughery made a motion to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. The motion passed unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

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James Parham, Mayor Pro Tempore

Attest:

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Jonnie S. Driver, Town Clerk