

Town of Rutherford College  
Special Meeting  
August 8, 2011

*6:00 PM/ Meeting with Realtor*

The Town Council met with Mr. Timothy Truitt, a realtor from Coldwell Banker, to walk through the property at 920 Malcolm Blvd.

*7:00 PM/ Regular Meeting*

**CALL TO ORDER/** Mayor Jimmy O. Huffman, Sr.

Present: Councilman Wallrichs, McClure, Satterwhite, and Jensen

Absent: Council Jennifer Abernethy

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/** Lead by Council Satterwhite

**INVOCATION/** Council Satterwhite

**AMEND/APPROVE AGENDA/** Council McClure moved to accept the Agenda with the following additions:

1. Amend Town Charter
2. Discuss/ 920 Malcolm Blvd

Vote was unanimous of Council present.

*7:10 PM/ Public Hearing*

Mayor Huffman opened the Public Hearing for discussion on amending the Town Charter by changing the Form of Government from Mayor/Council to Council/Manger. Several citizens were present and were curious as to what this new form of government would mean. Mayor Huffman stated that the new Town Manager would be the spokesperson for the town as well as handling a majority of the Town's business including personnel, utilities, and special projects. The Mayor further stated that a manager would be able to find and apply for more grants. Since Mrs. Donnelly will be retiring in the near future, our new manager will be handling a majority of her job. It was asked if the Manager would have full authority or if the Council still held the ultimate authority. The Mayor stated that the Council will still be the final judgment on major items, and decisions can be overridden by the Council, if they see fit. Another question was asked on the spending limit the Manger would have. Mrs. Donnelly stated the Council could set a dollar limit on what the Manager can spend before it would need to be presented to the Council. Council McClure stated that a Town Manager would represent the Town of Rutherford College at local, regional, and state levels. With no other questions or discussions presented, Council McClure moved to close the Public Hearing at 7:30 PM. Vote was unanimous of Council present.

*7:25 PM/ Regular Meeting Cont.*

**NEW BUSINESS**

- I. *Town Charter Amendment- Form of Government-*** Council McClure moved to amend the Town Charter by changing the Form of Government from Mayor/Council to Council/Manager. Vote was unanimous of Council present.
- II. *Acquisition Request of 920 Malcolm Blvd.-*** The Council agreed that the purchase of 920 Malcolm Blvd. (previously Healing Arts of Gentle Methods & Downtown Delights) would be beneficial to the town for the following reasons:
  - a.** It is currently the only property between church and Campus St. that is not owned by the town.
  - b.** The town park needs a kitchen/ dining area for town events and public rentals
  - c.** The front office area could be renting out as office space to offset the mortgage payments on the property
  - d.** The front office building has an historical value as one of the oldest remaining building in the town.

A motion by Council Satterwhite was made to allow Attorney Ayers to make an offer of \$147,500 for the property of 920 Malcolm Blvd., contingent upon the town being able to secure a loan in that amount. Vote was unanimous of Council present.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Principal Ross Rumbaugh, Rutherford College Elementary School, was present to ask the Council for funding to help with the upgrading of the school playground, which is also often used as a community park during evening and weekend hours. Principal Rumbaugh stated that much of the playground equipment was not up to code and would need to be replaced or upgraded. He further stated that the PTO is planning to do several fundraisers in hopes to raise \$5,000. The Council agreed that Rutherford College Elementary is an essential part of the community. Council McClure moved to pledge a match of up to, not exceeding \$5,000 of what the PTO is able to raise from their fundraising efforts. The Clerk is to also advertise fundraising efforts for Rutherford College only, on the digital sign at the school's request. Vote was unanimous of Council present.

**ADJOURN**

Mayor Huffman adjourned the meeting at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jessica S. Bargsley  
Town Clerk

Approved:

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Mayor Jimmy O. Huffman, Sr.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_