

Town of Pleasant Garden
Long Range Planning Board
September 18, 2007, 7:00 pm
Kirkman Municipal Building

The next scheduled regular meeting is October 16, 2007 at 7:00 pm.

Minutes
Regular Meeting

Attendance

Melvin Hinshaw
Donald Jones, Vice Chairman
David Lewis
Alan Marshall
Glenn Morgan, Chairman

Also in Attendance

Ron Surgeon / Council Liaison
Patrick Niland / Interim Finance Officer
Darla Robenolt / Assistant Town Clerk (Part-time)
Diana Schreiber / Town Clerk
Lynn Willis / *Pleasant Garden Post*

Audience

10

Call to order by Chairman Morgan at 7:02 pm
Invocation led by Donald Jones
Pledge of Allegiance led by Chairman Morgan

Roll Call

Ms. Schreiber called the roll. A quorum was present. Mr. Marshall made a motion to excuse Alan Carroll. Chairman Morgan seconded the motion. **5/0; the motion carried.**

Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Marshall made a suggestion that *Unfinished Business – Crime Statistics in Pleasant Garden* be tabled until the October 16 meeting and that the time be used to open the floor to a question / answer period after Ms. Chapman / USGS completes her presentation. Hearing no opposition, Mr. Marshall made a motion to adopt the agenda, as amended. Mr. Lewis seconded the motion. **5/0; the motion carried.**

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Morgan queried the board for any changes to the August 21, 2007 regular minutes. Some minor changes were suggested and then Mr. Marshall made a motion to approve the August 21, 2007 regular meeting minutes, as amended. Chairman Morgan seconded the motion. **4/0; the motion carried.** [Mr. Hinshaw abstained from the vote].

Welcome

Chairman Morgan welcomed all the board members, staff, presenters, and audience to the meeting.

Oath of Office

Council Liaison Surgeon delivered the oath of office to Mr. Scott May to induct Mr. May onto the Long Range Planning Board.

Presentations

Ms. Melinda Chapman, Groundwater Specialist, US Geological Service / Raleigh office presented a slide show (attached). At the conclusion of her presentation the floor was opened for a question and answer period.

Mr. Marshall – The Piedmont groundwater system is 2/3 of the state. It's representative of our area, correct?

Ms. Chapman – The average homeowner well is less than 300 feet deep. We haven't yet studied the effects of urbanization and paving on groundwater.

Mr. Marshall – The 1997 USGS study on the groundwater recharge rate in the southeast part of the county shows it to be slower than the northern part of the county.

Ms. Chapman – True. Due to the type of soil and topography. I will leave you some documents and website access information so you can look over the data.

Mr. Marshall – The problem we have is that some places in Pleasant Garden are on wells and some are on city sewer, with no 'giving back'.

Ms. Chapman – It would take many years to make a major impact on the well-based water supply based on the types and sizes of fractures in the wells.

Mr. Lewis – Can you track period of time, over 1 – 2 years let's say, to tell if the data is going up and then going down. Bottom line; are we at a crisis level at this point?

Mr. Jones – Has there been any crisis in the test wells at this point?

Ms. Chapman – No. In the coastal areas there are many wells being reduced, but not many in this region.

Mr. Lewis – Could a community of one-acre home sites drain off each other's wells?

Ms. Chapman – Not really. Those wells will recharge quickly.

Ms. Lewis – Is there any way to determine how much water a person has and how long it will last?

Ms. Chapman – Not really.

Mr. Lewis - Since 1988 there have been over forty (40) wells drilled around my well. Is my water level affected?

Ms. Chapman – GW1 forms must be sent to the Winston-Salem office by the drillers. You can request them to find out how deep the wells are, fractures, etc. Drillers are able to monitor the water levels while they are drilling a well. The county sometimes requires it.

Discussion continued re: community wells, their use and 'robbing' individual homeowners of their water supply.

Ms. Chapman – The USGS has funding available to help communities, but there must be a 'match' from the community. The USGS also has wells they monitor throughout the state, but none exist in Guilford County and the USGS would love to have one on which to install monitors and record data.

Ms. Chapman asked that she be contacted by email if anyone knows of a well to be monitored. In order to set up a monitor-well, matching funds are requested from the community – satellite monitoring is about \$15,000, transducer is \$4,000 - \$5,000 and the community is asked to pay about 40% of the costs. Ms. Chapman went on to say that wells are not drying up the streams. She also mentioned that the USGS publishes data each year and should have some for Guilford County since a Department of Natural Resources well exists with / within the county.

Mr. Marshall asked that Pleasant Garden be put on the USGS mailing list for future mailings.

Unfinished Business

Crime Statistics in Pleasant Garden (Alan Marshall) – Tabled until October 16, 2007 meeting.

New Business

None

Public Comment

None

Staff Comment

Interim Finance Officer Niland called the board’s attention Mr. Paul Kron’s proposal (attached) for the 48-acre municipal plan. Council Liaison Surgeon indicated that he was attending this meeting in place of Councilwoman Hice who is out of the country.

Board Comment

Mr. Marshall thanked Ms. Chapman for taking time to present the information and provide the LRP board and Pleasant Garden citizens with useful and valuable information. Mr. Jones agreed. Chairman Morgan thanked everyone for coming and participating.

Adjournment

Mr. Lewis made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chairman Morgan seconded the motion. **6/0; the motion carried** and the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Clerk

Date

Chair