

A regular meeting of the Carrboro Board of Aldermen was held on Tuesday, November 16, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. in the Carrboro Century Center.

Present and presiding:

Mayor	Michael Nelson
Aldermen	Joal Hall Broun
	Mark Chilton
	Jacquelyn Gist
	John Herrera
	Diana McDuffee
Town Manager	Steven E. Stewart
Town Attorney	Michael B. Brough
Town Clerk	Sarah C. Williamson

Absent:

Alderman	Alex Zaffron
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PUBLIC HEARING: NORTHEAST ANNEXATION AREAS “A” AND “B”

The purpose of this item was for the Carrboro Board of Aldermen to hold a public hearing regarding the possible annexation of Northeast Area “A” and Northeast Area “B” as identified in the attached Resolution of Intent and Service Report for Northeast Annexation Areas “A” and “B” adopted by the Board of Aldermen on September 14, 2004.

Roy Williford, the town’s Planning Director, presented a report.

Janet Tulowiecki, 1503 Tallyho Trail, stated that annexation is poorly suited. She said that she does not want to be annexed and that she believes that Area B has already made a significant contribution to Carrboro and neighboring communities by hosting the original and extended landfills, hosting the construction and demolition of waste site, hosting the new home of public transportation and public works, the likely future host of the solid waste transfer station, and by providing a congenial environment to two Habitat sites.

Ken Rundo, 1005 Tallyho Trail, stated that he has no need for town services. There are no police and fire substations in the area and he feels annexation will line the town’s pockets and is stealing from the residents. He stated that he feels the town has nothing to offer the residents.

John Kramer, 1011 Brenden Ct., asked why Rogers Road was split. Town services will cost the residents money and he does not feel there will be insurance savings and that the population figures are correct. The annexation will not be mutually beneficial. He wants same services Carrboro residents receive. He wants bus service and feels New Hope provides better fire service with more water storage capacity. He suggested that the town raise its fees for services and not annex. If annexed, residents will run for office and will change the face of the town.

Meredith Kramer, 1011 Brenden Ct., stated that she is against annexation because she might have to move and neighbors might have to move. She does not want street lights because they contribute to light pollution and waste electricity.

Cameron Kramer, 1011 Brenden Court, stated that they would not be able to afford their home if annexed and may have to move.

Donald McDonnell, 1002 Gloucester Ct., and President of Camden Homeowners Association, spoke against the annexation and said he is comfortable with current services. He stated that it would have been a good idea for the Mayor and Board of Aldermen to have contact with the affected property owners prior to receiving the official notice of the public hearing. He suggested delaying the annexation for one year to allow residents to plan for the additional taxes. He asked that the town address the public safety issue at the top of Camden Road at Homestead Road, and that neighbors be given an opportunity for input on street lights, etc.

Alena Callimanis, 1004 Camden Lane, asked that the Board take off discussion of a roundabout at the intersection of High School Road and High School Road.

Ken Meardon, 1008 Bugle Court, stated that they are an area without representation. He asked that the Board be open-minded about the annexation, and that the annexation area boundary agreement is a planning document that can be changed.

Larry Miller, 1611 Claymore Road, suggested that the town contract with the Chapel Hill Fire Dept. until a fire substation can be constructed. He said that a different solution needs to be found for Winmore rather than cutting through of Claymore Road into Winmore.

Tom Covalla, 8400 Sterling Bridge Road, asked that Carrboro enter into a dialogue with Chapel Hill to modify the annexation and joint planning agreements to allow for annexation of their area into Chapel Hill. He stated that he does not believe in forced annexation. They are not directly using Carrboro services; the only services they will receive are garbage collection and unwanted streetlights.

He read a statement from Dave Richter, 1613 Skye Drive, opposing the annexation. He is retired and on a fixed income. The annexation will force he and his wife to sell their house. The annexation proposal is an unwanted intrusion in their lives with no added value of services. They are satisfied with the services provided by the Orange County Sheriff's Department, and fire services are so far away that they do not offer any added benefit. The Chapel Hill tax rate is lower and fire service is closer.

Arne Johnson, 1005 Staffield Lane, stated that they do not use Carrboro services nor do they shop in Carrboro. He takes his trash to the landfill, does not want streetlights, does not need police service. The annexation will split the Rogers Road community. He stated that he is willing to pay his fair share. He also presented a petition from residents opposing the annexation.

Brad Redfoot, 8505 Sterling Bridge Rd., asked why Carrboro wants to annex his neighborhood. Their neighborhood is not what Carrboro likes. He chose to live in Chapel Hill, not Carrboro. He asked that the town leave their neighborhood as it is.

Brian Skinner, 8222 Huntsman Ct., stated that if annexed, he might have to move. Carrboro has a history of raising taxes. He does not feel they will be receiving any services and would not be able to afford to connect to OWASA water and sewer. Carrboro should share in the cost of the water and sewer. He requested that the Board remove Area B from consideration and urged the town to cut expenses.

Rhett Maconson, 2009 Whitmore Circle, stated that the only benefit he will receive is to roll his garbage can out to the street once a week.

Laura Van Sant, 8207 Reynard Road, stated that they will get street lights they don't want. Residents of Area B would get less services than other areas of Carrboro if the annexation occurs. She does not want street lights.

Anthony Giacheth, 8322 Lochlaren Lane, stated that taxes will go up 56% and they will not be getting better services. This annexation is premature because the town does not have a fire substation yet. Chapel Hill should annex their area if annexation takes place.

Shirley Marshall, 205-D W. Poplar Avenue, spoke in favor of the annexation. These annexations will complete the urban Carrboro boundaries as set by the Joint Planning Agreement.

Amy Clement, 1223 Tallyho Trail, stated that she is not part of Carrboro, but Chapel Hill, do not hijack them.

Patricia White, 1600 Sky Dr., does not use Carrboro Recreation and Parks services, but does shop in Carrboro. The annexation will make her home unaffordable. She asked that Board reconsider annexation and charge fees for Carrboro services.

Charlie Buckner, 8100 N. Hound Ct., stated that his neighborhood is not walkable, and there are no plans for connectivity. Rogers Road residents are having septic system problems and these issues should be resolved before annexation takes place.

Randolph Ryan, 1609 Claymore Rd., expressed concern about the response time to their area by Carrboro Fire Department. He stated that Chapel Hill Fire Station #4 has a response time of 2.39 minutes. In addition no land has been purchased by Carrboro to build a fire sub-station.

Jeff Vanke, 102 Weatherhill Pointe, said he couldn't get the town to pave his street and he lives in Carrboro. He stated that the town does not pay for schools and the residents of these two annexation areas do not use recreation department services, and that there needs to be a compelling reason to annex these areas.

Haiyan Gao, 1903 N. Hawick Ct., does not want to be annexed into Carrboro and was not informed by the realtor of a possible annexation.

Melissa Clepper-Faith, 1900 N. Hawick Ct., asked the Board to listen to the residents. She has faith that their voices will be heard, and asked the Board to do the ethical thing.

Lynn Carrino, 1310 Tallyho Trail, a school teacher with a single income, stated that she would struggle if the annexation takes place. The annexation is unjustified and she does not want it. She challenged the Board to hear their voices.

Sharon Cook, 1610 Claymore Road, stated that Rogers Rd. is a very diverse neighborhood, and this annexation will divide that neighborhood and burden the neighborhood with increased taxes. In addition, the roads in these neighborhoods were not designed to be major roads.

Susan Malone, 1001 Staffield Lane, stated that she is opposed to annexation by Carrboro, and that Rogers Road needs to be in one municipal district.

Polly Dixon, 8202 Reynard Road, stated that Chapel Hill Fire Department would get to their house first in case of fire, New Hope would get there second and Carrboro would get there third. She spoke against the annexation.

Sarah Kinyan, 1404 Tallyho Trail, asked that Board make it possible for them to continue to live in their neighborhood.

Scott Justus, 1904 N. Hawick Ct., asked if, following annexation, they have better police service? Better fire service? Does the Board realize the financial burden being placed on these residents? How will the increased revenues be used?

Rik Faith, 1900 N. Hawick Ct. does not want to be annexed into Carrboro, but does want to be annexed into Chapel Hill. If annexed, he will be able vote against Carrboro Aldermen in the next election, and will have to pay taxes for two years before voting for Mayor. He stated that there is still time for the Board of Aldermen to take the ethical high road, and open a dialogue with Chapel Hill to change the annexation boundary agreement.

Brian Voyce, 8401 Sterling Bridge, speaking for Jerry Benson of N. Hawick and Tom Weber of Burns Place, spoke against the annexation. Mr. Voyce stated that the annexation will turn affordable houses into unaffordable houses, and they will not get any services. He expressed his disappointment that the Board had not met with the residents about the proposed annexation prior to tonight's public hearing. He stated that he would work to get the Board members removed from office if the annexation takes place.

Jim White, 1600 Skye Drive, asked that annexation be delayed until all elected positions turn over. He is satisfied with the services of the Orange County Sheriff's Department and takes trash to landfill. He asked that Carrboro provide curb, gutter, sidewalks, street lights, and a paved bikepath to the high school without further assessment.

Kean Hankins, 1004 Staffield Lane, stated that Carrboro does not represent their interests, and they do not need services of Carrboro.

Janet Hankins, 1004 Staffield Lane, spoke against the annexation and said she has no affiliation to Carrboro.

Todd Pearson, 8404 Sterling Bridge Road and also speaking for his wife, Jan Diamond, stated that he has no desire to be annexed by Carrboro, does not want to pay additional taxes for services he does not need or want. Suggested that the Board table the annexation, initiate a process of merger into Chapel Hill, and that his home be annexed into the merger town.

Jeff Linker, 1803 Claymore Road, stated that it makes no sense to live so close to Airport Road and Chapel Hill and be annexed into Carrboro. Any additional tax dollars should go to Chapel Hill.

Jim Rabinowitz, 1510 Homestead Road, lives on property that abuts Chapel Hill. Carrboro is a village; the annexation is so far out it cannot be considered a part of the village. He asked why the proposed annexation was not made public much sooner than it was.

John Gallagher, 8320 Lockhaven Lane, was not told anything about the annexation when he bought his house one year ago. This annexation does not meet the goals of Carrboro.

Ron Weber, 8317 Lockhaven Lane, stated that he cannot afford the extra tax burden with children in college. He has no need or use for town services, and requested that they not be annexed.

Nelson Strother, 1703 Tallyho Trail, is interested in preserving status quo. He is not involved in Carrboro activities, and, if annexation occurs, Carrboro Aldermen will change and the tax rate will be reduced.

Sue Coutret, 8116 Reynard Road, spoke against the annexation. She stated that she couldn't afford the additional taxes. The annexation will turn her out of her home.

Kent Goode, 8119 Reynard Road, stated that he knows only one person out of the entire area that is for the annexation. Many families cannot afford the additional taxes, and there is no balance from the annexation.

Marilyn Strother 1703 Tallyho Trail stated that she signed the petition to be annexed into Chapel Hill. She read from the Declaration of Independence.

Donna Kramer, 1011 Brendan Court, lives in the county because of the lower taxes. She was told that Carrboro does not annex unless neighborhoods petition the town to be annexed. The annexation will force people to move.

Jim Bateson, a resident of Fox Meadow, stated that the annexation law is important and the town should consider consolidation of some services with Chapel Hill.

Mayor

Town Clerk