

A worksession of the Carrboro Board of Aldermen was held on Tuesday, February 13, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Board Room.

Present and presiding:

Mayor	Mark Chilton
Aldermen	Joal Hall Broun (arrived 8:00 p.m.)
	Dan Coleman
	Jacquelyn Gist
	John Herrera
	Randee Haven-O'Donnell
	Alex Zaffron
Town Manager	Steven E. Stewart
Town Attorney	Michael B. Brough
Deputy Town Clerk	Sharmin E. Mirman

REPORT FROM TRIANGLE TRANSIT AUTHORITY ON “NEXT STEPS IN THE TRIANGLE”

The Triangle Transit Authority has requested an opportunity to present information on transit planning for the Research Triangle region. Damien Graham will be on hand to present this information.

Damien Graham addressed the Board.

Patrick McDonough addressed the Board. He stated that last year a work group including Alderman Herrera, Dale McKeel, a few citizens, and Chapel Hill Transit met to look into improving the connection of bus service travel time from Carrboro to Raleigh, Durham, RTP and Hillsborough. Neither the TTA or Chapel Hill Transit felt they could expand because of budgetary constraints. They also discussed whether the para transit experience could be more seamless and done without a transfer. They talked about a Downtown Carrboro/Downtown Chapel Hill trunkline with service between Carrboro and Chapel Hill every ten minutes. The TAB was concerned that it could negatively impact regular riders of the F, J or CW for the convenience of a smaller, yet unidentified group that are not using the bus but might if the service were improved. Due to lack of budget, a family emergency and Dale McKeel leaving Carrboro, the group lost momentum. He recommended that TTA and Chapel Hill Transit prepare a joint report to further the conversation and get the ball rolling.

Alderman Gist asked if there would ever be a bus to the airport from Chapel Hill or Carrboro.

Patrick McDonough said they are looking into it.

Alderman Coleman asked Steve Stewart to put this on a “To Do List” for the new transportation planner.

FURTHER DISCUSSION OF THE CHARTER AMENDMENT REGARDING THE FILLING OF BOARD VACANCIES

The purpose of this agenda item was, per a note from Gerry Cohen, Director of Bill Drafting, to get some further clarification/confirmation of exactly what the Board of Aldermen is requesting of the legislature.

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALEX ZAFFRON AND DULY SECONDED BY JOAL HALL BROUN TO REQUEST THAT THE TOWN ATTORNEY RE-DRAFT THE PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT AS FOLLOWS:

1. The charter amendment should not apply to the mayor's office at all because a vacancy in the mayor's office was not the issue that gave rise to the present discussion. Also, North Carolina law already adequately addresses such situations.
2. We should modify our proposal to make it consistent with past policy in prohibiting special elections from occurring in the summer time when many people in our community are out of town.
3. The current state laws regarding the filling of four or more vacancies should not be modified by the charter amendment.
4. The timing of special elections should be designed to be as expedient as possible (consistent with other North Carolina law), but if the timetable would put the special election within 30 days of a regular primary or general election date, then the special election should be held at the same time as the general election, or if the timing will not allow that, then in any case the special election should be as timely as possible.
5. To include the changes proposed by the town attorney, not inconsistent with the above revisions.
6. No elections for two-year terms.

VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE: FIVE (BROUN, CHILTON, COLEMAN, GIST, ZAFFRON), NO: TWO (O'DONNELL, HERRERA)

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALEX ZAFFRON AND SECONDED BY JOAL BROUN TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION AT 8:28 P.M TO DISCUSS ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY. VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE: ALL

Mayor

Town Clerk