



**Town of Indian Trail**  
**Minutes of Town Council**  
**July 26, 2011**  
**Civic Building**  
**6:30 P.M.**

The following members of the governing body were present:

Mayor: John J. Quinn

Council Members: Robert Allen, Gary D'Onofrio, Jeffrey Goodall and Darlene Luther.

Staff Members: Town Manager Joe Fivas, Town Clerk Peggy Piontek, Town Attorney Keith Merritt, Planning Director Shelley DeHart, Economics Development Coordinator Kelly Barnhart, and Events Coordinator/PIO Rebecca Jones.

Press/Media: Mike Gates of the Union County Weekly and Heather J. Smith of the Enquirer Journal.

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Mayor Quinn called the meeting to order, asked Art Spur to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance and asked Council for a motion to move up Public Comments before the interviews.

Jeffrey Goodall made a motion to approve moving items 5 & 6 to front of meeting. Council voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

**ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

Jeffrey Goodall made a motion to approve adding a brief discussion on methodology for Council to decide going forward for tonight's interviews as item 3c.  
Council voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA**

Jeffrey Goodall made a motion to approve the agenda  
Council voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

**a. Public Comments**

Shirley Howe, 6205 Clearwater Drive, Indian Trail, NC expressed her thoughts on filling the open Council seat, advising it takes time to learn all that is required and suggesting they seriously consider the one applicant that has the experience of two terms, can hit the ground running and who has not registered for election thereby keeping that playing field even. Ms. Howe expressed concern about the applicants being harassed or intimidated by anyone on the Council, requesting that a Council Member call for a Point of Order and move to stop such unethical and rude conduct during an interview.

Jonathon Bear, 5517 Rogers Road, Indian Trail, NC offered his observations and recommendation for the vacant Council seat. He feels that the priority of the Council is expediting the appointment of Council person to a temporary seat rather than ensuring the ABC Board fill a required long term Public Safety Position. He provided his recommendation that the Council choose a candidate that demonstrates strong moral and ethical moorings, one with integrity who will act according to the general will of the citizens and not to special interests.

**b. CONSENT AGENDA**

a. Approval of July 12, 2011 minutes

Darlene Luther made a motion to approve Consent Agenda  
Council voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

**3c Methodology for Council on tonight's interviews.**

Mr. Goodall handed out 7 sample questions that can be used or each individual is free to ask whatever question they prefer, recommending that each interview be limited to 20 minutes in an effort to keep the meeting going forward. He suggested 5 minutes per Council Member with each candidate, asking open ended questions let the candidates speak not Council. He handed out score sheets, and went through the grading process of 1-5 with 5 being the highest. Each candidate will be given a grade by each Council Member and at the end of the tabulation the candidate with the most points is selected.

Mayor Quinn asked why he didn't get any questions or score sheet. Mr. Goodall replied he is not in the decision making process. Mayor Quinn inquired if Mr. Goodall going to repeat this for all the applicants? He feels it is unfair that the first applicant is permitted to hear this information and not the rest of the applicants. Mr. Goodall replied

he is doing this for the benefit of the audience, staff and the Council Members who will be making the decision whether or not these recommendations will be adopted to keep this moving proficiently otherwise we will be here until 2-3 in the morning.

Mayor Quinn confirmed that he would not be receiving a copy of the documents being passed out. Mr. Goodall replied it's up to the Council, but in order to save time and keep things moving at 20 minutes per candidate, he would recommend that the four Council Members spend 5 minutes listening to each candidate. If you have to make a tie breaking vote you can base it upon the responses that you will hear. Mayor Quinn advised he will be asking questions as well. Mayor Quinn commented that Mr. Goodall has apparently worked out this format in advance because he hasn't asked for a motion that they would actually approve it.

Mr. D'Onofrio commented this is the first time he's seeing these questions and read them for the benefit of the audience. He stated that he has no problem with them and if we're asking all the candidates the same question that's fine. He agrees, in the interest of fairness, you need to limit it to a certain amount of time for each person.

Robert Allen made a motion to approve this format with the Mayor is excluded from the interview process and should there be a disruption he would expect security to handle it.

Mayor Quinn stated the motion has been made to exclude the Mayor from the process and he has no intention to abide by an illegal, unethical, unconstitutional ruling and will participate in the interview process as he has been elected to do and represent the taxpayers to the best of his ability.

Council voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

## **INTERVIEWS**

### 1) Michael Louis Alvarez

All four Council Members asked Mr. Alvarez several questions which he answered, topics included: the 2011 citizen survey, the direction the Council is going, why is he interested in serving, what is the role of local government, what this Council has done correctly and incorrectly, if outvoted how he would handle that, and the three bond referendums.

Mayor Quinn attempted to ask Mr. Alvarez a question. Mr. Goodall informed him he was out of order and asked the Town Attorney for input.

Mr. Merritt advised that if Council desires they can make a motion to appeal the procedure ruling of the preceding officer and to rule him out of order.

Jeffrey Goodall made a motion to appeal the procedure ruling of the preceding officer and to rule Mayor Quinn out of order.

Council voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

2) David W. Drehs

Mayor Quinn explained the Council's motion on excluding him from the interview process.

All four Council Members asked Mr. Drehs several questions which he answered, topics included: the 2011 citizen survey, contacted by Mayor, why is he interested in serving, what is the role of local government, what are four things he would like to see happen, quality of life in Indian Trail, ideas/thoughts on Economical Development and jobs for Indian Trail, worldwide army assignments an advantage, #1 challenge for Indian Trail, the three bond referendums and does he see potential in the movie theatre.

3) Betty Howell 7:10

Mayor Quinn explained the Council's motion on excluding him from the interview process.

Mayor Quinn left meeting and returned approximately 15 minutes later.

All four Council Members asked Ms. Howell several questions which she answered, topics included: the 2011 citizen survey, contacted by Mayor, why is she interested in serving, what do she think of events, what is the role of local government,, ideas/thoughts on Economical Development and jobs for Indian Trail, thoughts on lack of hotels with DNC coming, top three priorities and why, what would she like to accomplish in the next 5 months, willing to serve on committee, thoughts on beautifying the area and her opinion on parks development.

Mayor Quinn attempted to ask Ms. Howell a question and Mr. Goodall called for a Point of Order. Mayor Quinn left the meeting and returned quickly.

4) Steven Carlton Long 7:30

Mayor Quinn explained the Council's motion on excluding him from the interview process.

All four Council Members asked Mr. Long several questions which he answered, topics included: 2011 citizen survey and based on that the direction of the town, how to fund doubling law enforcement, why interested in serving, ideas he has, handling of rejection if outvoted and the #1 challenge in Indian Trail.

5) Corey C. McManus

*Mr. McManus did not attend.*

6) Ash Minor

Mayor Quinn explained the Council's motion on excluding him from the interview process.

All four Council Members asked Mr. Minor several questions which he answered, topics included: 2011 citizen survey, #1 challenge for Indian Trail today, role of local government, what shouldn't government be involved in, how to strengthen identity and increase property value, ideal ratio of commercial vs. resident tax base, handling of rejection if outvoted, thoughts on beautification. Mr. Minor introduced his campaign treasurer.

Mayor Quinn left for approximately 15 minutes and then returned to the meeting.

Mayor Quinn attempted to ask Mr. Minor a question and Mr. Goodall called him Out of Order.

Mr. Goodall stated any questions asked by Mayor are out of order and not to be placed in the record.

Mr. Minor introduced his treasurer.

*7) Sandra Baucom Moore*

All four Council Members asked Ms. Moore several questions which she answered, topics included: 2011 citizen survey, willing to serve on other committees, if not running in November, why apply now, what ideas does she have for Indian Trail, Economic Development, what has the currently Council done correctly/incorrectly and why, handling of rejection if outvoted, impression of town, beautification an important initiative and her thoughts on the upcoming referendums. Ms. Moore explained that the 8 years she served is the proudest time of her life.

Mayor Quinn left the meeting.

*8) Randy Prather*

*Mr. Prather did not attend.*

*9) Michael Sailors*

All four Council Members asked Mr. Sailors several questions which he answered, topics included: 2011 citizen survey, direction of Indian Trail, his platform complimenting current Council actions, why interested in serving on Council, what would he like to see, what's the town's responsibility, what has this Council done correctly/incorrectly and why, handling of rejection if outvoted, thoughts on beautification.

Mayor Quinn reentered the meeting for approximately 5 minutes and then left again.

*10) Roger K. Stanton*

All four Council Members asked Mr. Sailors several questions which he answered, topics included: 2011 citizen survey, Councils roll in Economic Development and Job creation, role of local government, growth of government, ideas on progression with conservative approach, ten year vision to include housing, #1 challenge facing Indian Trail, 3 bond referendums specifically widening Old Monroe Road, handling citizens claiming he's not conservative.

Mayor Quinn reentered the meeting during the interview, having been gone approximately 35 minutes.

Council took and returned from a short break.

Mayor Quinn announced that Council will hold a Special Meeting on Wednesday, July 27th at 7:30 pm in the Civic Building and Thursday, July 28th at 8:15 pm in the Civic Building.

**BUSINESS ITEMS**

***a. Discussion & appointment of Candidate for open Council Seat***

Mr. Goodall explained the scoring procedure. The Town Clerk and Planning Director counted the votes and Ms. Piontek announced Mr. Roger Stanton as the candidate with the highest points.

Jeffrey Goodall made a motion to approve appointing Roger K. Stanton to the Town of Indian Trail Town Council Council voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

The Town Clerk swore in Mr. Stanton.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

*There were no items to discuss this evening.*

**MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mr. Fivas presented an award to Shelley DeHart. Steps Academy presented this award to her at their one year anniversary to the Planning Staff for the great assistance they provided them throughout the project.

**PLANNING REPORT**

*None*

**ENGINEERS REPORT**

*None*

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Roger Stanton offered his gratitude and thanks for the opportunity, he felt it was a fantastic format and was very comfortable with it.

Mr. Goodall and Mr. Allen had no comments.

Mayor Quinn welcomed Mr. Stanton and advised he looks forward to working with him in the future.

Ms. Luther expressed her congratulations and advised she'll be glad to serve with Mr. Stanton. She thanked everyone who applied stating it was an opportunity to get to know them and found the process interesting.

Mr. D'Onofrio thanked all the applicants and congratulated Mr. Stanton. He thought it was inspiring dialogue and several of the applicants received his highest marks. He believes everyone did very well. He wished all the ones

running for office the best of luck. Having gone through this process he feels the Town will be in good hands when he leaves in December.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Jeffrey Goodall made a motion to enter closed session NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3) To consult with the Attorney to protect attorney-client privileges.

NCGS 143-318.11(a)(4) To discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of business in the area served by this body.

Council voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Gary D'Onofrio made a motion to approve coming out of closed  
Council voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

**ADJOURN**

Roger Stanton made a motion to adjourn  
Council voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
*John J. Quinn, Mayor*

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Peggy Piontek, Town Clerk*