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Attachment C - Code of Ordinances, Chapter 97 Street Name Changes

Huntersville, NC Code of Ordinances

CHAPTER 97: STREETS NAME CHANGES

Section

97.01 Purpose

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Cross-reference:

Streets and sidewalks, see Ch. 90

§ 97.01 PURPOSE.

To establish a procedure to allow interested parties to submit requests for street name changes and evaluation criteria for the review of such requests as either:

- (A) Recognizing a person, group, place or historic event as being noteworthy to the community and meriting a street being named after that subject; or
- (B) Addressing an existing street-naming issue that a local government agency has identified as a concern.

(Ord. passed 2-20-12)

§ 97.02 APPROVAL AUTHORITY.

Proposed name changes for public and private streets shall be submitted to Planning Department staff. After completion of application is verified, staff will request that the Board of Commissioners take action to set a public hearing.

(Ord. passed 2-20-12)

§ 97.03 EVALUATION CRITERIA.

- (A) The Board of Commissioners shall consider the following criteria when evaluating any resolution for a street name change under its respective authority:
 - (1) The delivery of personal, public and emergency services;
 - (2) The similarity to existing street names;
 - (3) Pronunciation and spelling;
 - (4) Any condition that may confuse the traveling public;
 - (5) Place, name association or history;
 - (6) The expense to abutting property owners; and
- (7) The expense to affected governmental agencies, including but not limited to, the town, the county, N.C. Department of Transportation, and the U.S. Postal Service.

(Ord. passed 2-20-12)

§ 97.04 AUTHORIZED SUBMISSION.

The Board of Commissioners, a department of the town, or any property owner along the subject street may initiate a request to change the name of that street. The term **PROPERTY OWNER** shall constitute the person(s), firm or corporation as listed in the county tax records and referenced by the deed description on the applicable parcel card. Where a lot is held in joint, common or other form of multiple ownership, all the owners having title or interest in the lot must sign the petition.

(Ord. passed 2-20-12)

§ 97.05 APPLICATION.

Any property owner, public body or agency authorized to request a street name change may complete an application form provided by the Planning Department and submit it to staff. In order to be processed, applications must include all requested information.

(Ord. passed 2-20-12)

§ 97.06 FEES.

The town may establish an application fee to help defray the expenses of processing the request, as well as a fee for the purchase and installation of new street signs. All applicants, except the Board of Commissioners or staff, must submit the application and sign fees with the application. If the proposed street name is not approved, the fee for new signs will be returned to the applicant in full.

(Ord. passed 2-20-12)

§ 97.07 PROCEDURE.

- (A) Prior to processing any street name change request, staff must confirm with the county that the name is available for assignment.
- (B) Applications to change a street name that are submitted by property owners must state the reason for the proposed change. Applications shall also include a list with the names and addresses of every person owning property abutting the road, and a petition in favor of the name change signed by the owners of 75% or more of the lots directly abutting the subject street.
- (C) If staff confirms the name is available and the petition is sufficient, staff shall request a public hearing and publish notice of the proposed street name change. Notice of the public hearing shall be published once in a newspaper of general circulation. The notice shall be published not less than ten days nor more than 25 days before the public hearing. Staff will also notify by first class mail all persons owning property abutting the road of the time and place of the public hearing.
- (D) At the time of the Board of Commissioners hearing, interested parties may sign up to speak to the proposed name change. The Board may elect to make a decision on the item at either the current or a subsequent meeting.
- (E) After renaming a road, staff shall notify the postmaster with jurisdiction over the road and the following agencies: Mecklenburg County GIS, Town Police Department and Fire Department.

(Ord. passed 2-20-12)