

Horses

From A1 legal it should remain so. Pierce indicated the need for horses was different 300 years ago than today.

"In today's society of modernization, horses are regarded as a hobby or a passion, and not as a necessity," she said. "A horse pasture will generate a certain amount of air and water pollution in the town limits. We do not need further pollutants."

She said the horses would bring an influx of mosquitos, horseflies and other insects.

Michael Fields then spoke saying he agreed with Pierce.

"This is not about horses. They are noble, mostly gentle animals. I have no quarrel with them," he said. "I do have issues with someone who directly affects the safety, security and property values of the residence I have."

Fields said he believed there was legal precedent to remove the horse pasture should the board choose to do so.

He went on to say a person who lives in town should be sensitive to his neighbors.

Matt Connelly was the next to speak and said he does not believe horses should be allowed in residential areas of the town. He also asked if there were requirements for keeping horses and if so, were they being met.

Minnie Outlaw also

spoke, saying she would like to be a part of the solution if there was one.

"If there is a way we could walk away with both sides being happy, I'd like to be a part of that," she said. "If there's a discussion or what have you that I can participate in, I'd be open to that."

She said she was concerned about her property's value due to the horse pasture.

Lillian Faulk then spoke, saying her only concern was the health and well-being of the people in the area. She said her concern was not for the animals, but people.

Barbara Eley then expressed her opposition to the horses being kept on Winwood Drive. She said if there was no ordinance stopping people from putting horses in a residential area, there should one be put in place.

She also said she had concerns of environment, health concerns and smell of the horses.

"I want to be proud of where I live. You all should be too. How would any of you be happy with this situation if you lived with a horse pasture out your back or front door," Eley closed.

The first to speak in favor of the horses was Earl Hoggard, whose horse pasture is in question. While the land is owned by Wayland Spruill, the horses

kept there are Hoggard's.

Hoggard said he had lived here all his life and developed his love of horses at a young age in a horse pasture in Windsor.

As an adult his interest was renewed a few years ago and he began keeping two horses outside of town approximately 15 minutes from his home. He said the two trips daily was taking quite a bit of time so he began looking for a closer place to keep them.

Hoggard said he found the two acres on Winwood Drive and contact Spruill. He went to the town of Windsor to make sure it was possible for him to keep the horses there and then proceeded with leasing the property and moving his horses.

"I thought everything was good," he said.

Hoggard said he and his brother were burying posts on the property when he first spoke to Pierce.

"I had the posts a lot closer than they are now," he said. "We decided to move the posts in 20 feet from each property line."

Hoggard said he learned about the petition going around when a neighbor asked him about it. He said he stopped work and went back and checked with the town and Spruill to make sure he was clear to continue.

He said he went door-to-door in the neigh-

borhood to talk about his intentions. He said there had been some incorrect information given about the horse pasture and horses in general.

Hoggard then described his horse pasture and the precautions he has taken to make sure they are well cared for, as well as the property.

He addressed two concerns which have been expressed - manure and bugs. He said two horses would not produce enough manure in two acres to become a nuisance and said he feeds his horses a supplement which would keep bugs from being drawn to them.

"I'm here to answer any questions. I'll give my phone number out to anyone," he said. "Please don't take false statements from people who have never had horses before."

The next person to speak was Dr. Abby Sutton, a local retired veterinarian. She said there were no requirements for shelter for horses because they were considered open-air animals.

"Manure-wise, they will of course make manure, but two and a half acres is enough to break down any manure there is," Dr. Sutton said.

She said manure was not an issue as far as smell because it can only be smelled close by and once it dries there is no smell.

She also addressed disease.

"There is no communicable disease a horse has that you can get," Dr. Sutton said.

She said Hoggard was doing a good job of taking care of his horses and she knew that first hand.

"I think you have zero concern for how he's going to take care of the horses," she said. "There again, I don't see any reason to legislate against a problem you don't have."

She said there was no qualified, scientific, medical reason not to keep horses in town.

Ann Lunsford also addressed the board expressing her support for horses being allowed in town. She said she has had horses for many years.

"There is a long tradition of horses in our community," she said. "I do not want to see an ordinance on horses that would effect our barn."

Phil Lunsford also spoke and said he didn't want to see the government regulate something that wasn't necessary.

"I don't like regulations and ordinances unless there's a compelling reason," he said.

Following the discussion, Earl Hoggard asked what the next steps would be for the commissioners.

Mayor Hoggard said the board would discuss it at their next meeting.

Windsor Town Administrator Allen Castelleo said if the board were to consider an ordinance, it would require a public hearing which would be duly advertised.


The board took no action on the issue following the public input session.

Thadd White can be reached via email at twhite@ncweeklies.com.

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Voting

From A1 len Castelleo said he had not received answers to his questions from the board of elections, but was certain the two were "tied together."

Castelleo said he had done extensive research and he felt if the board continued with their earlier decision to end One-Stop voting, absentee votes would not be allowed.

Wilson made a motion to rescind the earlier decision and Commissioner Camille Rascoe offered a second. It passed without objection.

The board also revisited their earlier decision to award Tripp Brothers a contact to pave streets in town.

Castelleo said once he reviewed the documents again, he realized each of the two bidders - Tripp Brothers and Rose Brothers - had submitted individual bids on street paving.

"If we award the low bid on each street, it will save the town around \$18,000," Castelleo said.

Commissioner David Overton asked if the two bidders had objections and Castelleo said they did not. Wilson made the motion to change the acceptance of bids and Whitaker offered a second. The motion passed unanimously.

Thadd White can be reached via email at twhite@ncweeklies.com.

Powellville

From A1 ward to celebrating with our community," Taylor said.

Various performances are scheduled for the gymnasium.

"We are looking for-

ward to celebrating with our community," Taylor said.

Sarah Hodges Stalls can be reached via email at shstalls@ncweeklies.com.



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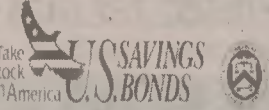
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