

Planning Commission/Town Council Workshop

Meeting Notes

Tuesday, March 25, 2014 – 6PM

Springdale Town Hall – 2915 Platt Springs Road

1. Living in Springdale

- a) What are the positive things people say about living in Springdale?

Police and sanitation service. Safe place to live, low crime rate. Convenient location, close to downtown with very little traffic and congestion. People who live here want to live here, with a sense of community.

- b) What are the negative perceptions about living in Springdale?

Infrastructure is a concern, with waterlines failing. Water and sewer rates are too high. Taxes/high franchise taxes. Lexington County Fire Services with a poor ISO rating. Lack of stores. Negative perception of the schools, middle and above. "Speed trap."

2. New residential development

- a) What do we currently have to attract people to move into Springdale?
(housing, shopping, location, affordability, etc.)

See section above.

- b) What do we have (or not have) that deters people from moving into Springdale?

Need more development similar to Parrish Plantation. Land has not been available. Need incentives to maintain current housing with families that want to live here. Aging community will lead to more rental properties. Need recreation facilities in the town.

3. Doing business in Springdale

- a) What are the positive things people say about doing business in Springdale?

No comments.

- b) What are the negative perceptions about operating a business in Springdale?

There are a lot of hoops to jump through. Permits and license fees are an obstacle. Sign standards can be a problem. "Don't want to become Knox Abbot Drive." Need to reach a happy medium. Need to be realistic about the type of businesses we want to recruit. Need to make Springdale more than something that is a drive thru on the way to Columbia.

4. New business development

- a) What do we currently have to attract businesses to locate in Springdale?

High traffic, excellent location, available land.

- b) What do we have (or not have) that deters people from operating a business in Springdale?

Fire ratings are an issue, license fees are a deterrent. Design Overlay District standards could be too strict. Opening a business should not be burdensome process.

5. Where do we go from here?

- a) As a Town, do we tend to be more reactive or proactive when it comes to growing and developing our community?

We haven't been very proactive. Not on the forefront of innovation. We need a catalyst to spur development.

- b) Why is that the case?

No comments.

6. Public Comment

Springdale has no identity. Everyone thinks it is West Columbia. A festival could help to create an identity for Springdale. "Old people in Springdale can't afford more taxes." Building permit standards are too strict. Turning away business in overlay district.