

**Open Work Session  
Road Name Change  
October 18, 2016**

Mr. Jack Lenox, Director of Planning, Zoning and Community Development, and Mr. Dave Mathers, 911 Address Coordinator, came before Council. Mr. Lenox said it has been a while since the Council has received a request like this. Mr. Mathers said they received a request from Sherwood Ford to change the name of George Drive, which is a very small road, north of Columbia Road. The County Code stipulates that a petition needs to be signed to change a road name and since Sherwood Ford owns all the property adjacent to George Drive in the County, they have 100 percent signatures on the petition. They would like to submit their request to Council to change the name of George Drive to Sherwood Ford Drive. Mr. Kilmer asked if there is any mail delivered on George Drive, to which Mr. Mathers said there are not any addresses on George Drive. Mr. Cannon clarified that Sherwood Ford owns property on both sides of the street, to which Mr. Mathers responded, yes, and the property in the rear as well. Mr. Joe Holloway asked if the County can give Sherwood Ford the street and then they can maintain it, to which Mr. Mathers responded that may be an option. Mr. Joe Holloway said he understands why Sherwood Ford wants to change the name of the road as they are a big business in town. He wonders where the County is headed in naming a street after a business. He asked if it would be a better option to name the street Ford Drive or Sherwood Drive. Mr. Creamer said the County already has a Sherwood Drive. Mr. Mathers said this would not be setting a precedent as this has been done before. The lane that used to be Comptek Lane, when Filtronic Comptek was in town, was later changed to Tri-County Way. Mr. Dodd asked what does it cost the County to make the change, to which Mr. Mathers responded the only cost to the county would be maintenance of the street sign. The property owner would pay the cost of installing the sign and advertising the road name change. Mr. Joe Holloway asked if the 911 address complicates anything, to which Mr. Mathers responded, no, there are no addresses to change. Mr. Dodd said not many people know where the street is, so he does not think it is going to be a big deal. Mr. Kilmer said, in driving by, you would think it is private property; some people may think it is Sherwood Ford's property when you drive back there. Mr. Joe Holloway asked if they brought up turning the street over to Sherwood Ford since they own both sides, to which Mr. Mathers responded, he has not heard any discussions about that. Mr. Lenox said they could make that offer to Sherwood Ford. Mr. Joe Holloway said that may be something to consider if the County Executive is in favor of it. Mr. Creamer said the County would have to abandon the street and close it. Mr. Joe Holloway said that may make their property more valuable. Mr. Dodd said he does not see much use for the road. Mr. Creamer said those are separate parcels on the other side of the road that could be sold to someone else in the future, who may need access to a street. Mr. Cannon asked if there is a George family that would be upset if the name of the road was changed. Mr. Mathers said the George Drive name would remain on the opposite end of the street in the City of Salisbury. Mr. Matt Holloway clarified that one section of George Drive would be changed, to which Mr. Mathers responded, yes. Mr. Joe Holloway said the road looks like it is in the City of Salisbury, but it is not. Mr. Dodd said he does not have a problem with changing the name. Mr. Creamer said Council can hold a public hearing on the road name change on November 1<sup>st</sup> at 6 p.m.

*Signatures are on the next page.*

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John T. Cannon, President



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Matt Holloway, Vice President



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Ernest F. Davis, District 1



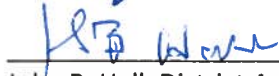
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Marc Kilmer, District 2



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Larry W. Dodd, District 3




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John B. Hall, District 4



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Joe Holloway, District 5



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Matthew E. Creamer, Council Administrator