

CITIZEN PETITION

To:

Mayor Foy the Chapel Hill Town Council

From:

Jim Protzma

Date:

April 22, 2002

Subject:

Petition for Inquiry into Town Council Processes

It is difficult for ordinary citizens to keep up with all the activities going on with the Town Council. We rely on you to keep us informed. We rely on you to adhere to established processes for carrying out your business.

Later on tonight, you will be taking up some of that business when you discuss Weaver Dairy Road. From my vantage point, it appears you have moved this issue forward without managing the integrity of your own processes. It started with the procedural maneuver the Mayor used to get the issue on the agenda in the first place. And it got worse when you voted to take action during what was billed as a work session.

I am willing to acknowledge that my vantage point may not be the right one. Perhaps there are some secret processes I don't know about. Perhaps the rules for handling the Town's business have changed since I was on the Council.

Thus, I am here tonight to petition the Town Council to conduct a thorough inquiry into the process by which you are managing your work around this issue. Specifically, I request that you direct the Town Attorney to provide a complete and objective analysis of the legal and procedural decisions you have made. And if the Town Attorney does not believe he can offer an objective opinion on this matter, I request that you retain independent counsel to conduct this investigation.

You all work for us. And no matter how zealous you might be about this or that particular issue, we expect you to play by the rules. I look forward to the results of this inquiry. Thank you.