

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF STOKES

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OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS
STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT
DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA
JANUARY 10, 2005

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, State of North Carolina, met in regular session in the Council Chambers of the Ronald Wilson Reagan Memorial Building (Administrative Building), located in Danbury, North Carolina, on Monday, January 10, 2005 at 7:00 pm with the following members present:

Chairman John Turpin
Vice-Chairman Leon Inman
Commissioner Sandy McHugh
Commissioner Joe Turpin
Commissioner Jimmy Walker

County Manager Richard Morris
County Attorney Jonathan Jordan
Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins

Chairman John Turpin called the meeting to order.

Vice Chairman Leon Inman delivered the invocation.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-GOVERNING BODY-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman John Turpin opened the meeting by inviting the citizens in attendance to join the Board with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION PLAN (CTP) – FISCAL YEAR 2005-2006

Chairman John Turpin called the Public Hearing for the Proposed Community Transportation Plan – Fiscal Year 2005-2006 to order.

There were no public comments concerning the proposed Community Transportation Plan – Fiscal Year 2005-2006.

Chairman John Turpin closed the Public Hearing.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT –GOVERNING BODY-APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman John Turpin entertained a motion to approve or amend the minutes of the December 28th meeting.

Commissioner McHugh moved to approve the minutes of the December 28th meeting.

Commissioner Joe Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ed Gambill
1650 Mountain View Road
King, NC 27021
Re: Cable Franchise

Mr. Gambill, Stokes County Citizen, presented Board members a handout concerning the Rejection of Proposed Franchise Agreement Presented by Time Warner Cable. (A copy will be retained in the Clerk to the Board's office.) Mr. Gambill noted that the proposed cable franchise agreement does not speak to the needs of the County, contains more information about insurance, hold harmless, etc. than programming, the lack of concern of public safety, and concerns pertaining to access channels and public government channel. Mr. Gambill urged the Board of Commissioners to vote against the proposed cable television franchise agreement.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – PROPOSED COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION PLAN – FISCAL YEAR 2005-2006

Mr. Charlie Walker, YVEDDI, presented the following information concerning the proposed Community Transportation Plan – Fiscal Year 2005-2006:

- Period of Performance – July 1, 2005/June 30, 2006
- State and Federal Funding
- Administrative Expenses = \$298,914
- Capital Budget Summary = \$350,058

- Capital Budget reflects purchase of (2) 24 passenger buses
- Technology Expense for replacement of computers - \$18,498

Mr. Walker requested the following:

- Motion to submit plan
- Approval of Transportation of Understanding
- Tentatively approval of Administrative Funds – 15% match plus Coordinators Salary 35% match for a total of \$18,954.00

The Board discussed the purchase of the 24 passenger buses, transportation needs of Stokes County citizens (32,000 trips last year in Stokes County), types of transportation needs in Stokes County, and collection of delinquent accounts.

Chairman John Turpin entertained a motion to approve the submission of the proposed Community Transportation Plan – Fiscal Year 2005-2006.

Commissioner McHugh moved to approve the submission of the proposed YVEDDI Community Transportation Plan for Fiscal Year 2005-2006.

Vice Chairman Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman John Turpin entertained a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2005-2006 CTP Transportation Memorandum of Understanding.

Commissioner McHugh moved to approve the YVEDDI Fiscal Year 2005-2006 CTP Transportation Memorandum of Understanding.

Vice Chairman Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

(copy of Transportation Memorandum of Understanding will be retained in the Clerk to the Board's office)

Commissioner McHugh noted that funding for the Administrative Funds – 15% match plus Coordinators Salary 35% match for a total of \$18,954.00 could not be considered until the upcoming fiscal year 2005/06 County budget.

Mr. Walker updated the Board concerning the proposed Transportation Grant for a county garage facility. Mr. Walker noted that at the time of the proposal, the cost of construction per sq. ft. was \$45 versus present day estimated cost of \$124-\$135. YVEDDI is negotiating with NCDOT for a smaller office not using metal, but still build the bay out of metal in order to obtain the full allocation. Mr. Walker will keep the Board updated with grant process.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – PROPOSED CABLE TELEVISION FRANCHISE AGREEMENT – TIME WARNER CABLE

Mr. David Harris, Piedmont Triad Council of Governments, noted the following concerning the proposed cable television franchise agreement – Time Warner Cable:

(County Attorney Jonathan Jordan and Buck Yarborough –Time Warner was present for the agenda item)

- Non-exclusive franchise agreement
- Term of 15 years
- State of the art system
- Franchise fee totaling (5%) five percent of Grantee's Gross Revenues
- No cost access to cable will be provided to all accredited schools, public Buildings and libraries for the term of the franchise agreement
- Not required to furnish free cable to the following facilities: Danbury Library, Emergency Operations Center, Family Health, and County Jail due to being over 150 ft from the cable system. Time Warner has agreed to install free cable to the above facilities at an estimated cost of \$10,000 to \$15,000
- Time Warner will reimburse (in the future) the County up to \$4,000 for documented expenses for the purchase of necessary hardware and software for an access channel
- No cost to the subscriber associated with the access channel
- The additional \$10,000 to \$15,000 for cable and \$4,000 for access channel will not be passed on to the subscriber
- Nothing in the proposed franchise agreement that will cost subscribers of Stokes County nor raise their rates
- Time Warner will not be allowed to sell without the approval of the County
- Time Warner can reorganize internally
- Federal requirement is that all cable operators provide advance weather warnings
- Consideration of the proposed agreement – January 24, 2005

The Board discussed terms of the agreement, access channels, programming, and cable advertising (not allowed by federal statute). The Board unanimously agreed to this being the first reading of the proposed Cable Television Franchise Agreement – Time Warner Cable.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – NORTHWESTERN REGIONAL LIBRARY – UPDATE

Director John Hedrick and Branch Supervisor/Technology Coordinator, Joan Sherif, Northwestern Regional Library, presented and discussed the following handouts to the Board:

- Danbury Public Library –Highlights 2003-2004
- King Public Library – Highlights 2003-2004
- Walnut Cove Public Library – Highlights 2003-2004
- Northwestern Regional Library –NC Live

Others in attendance:

Walnut Cove Librarian Betty Smith
 Walnut Cove - Assistant Librarian Marcie Bullins
 Danbury Librarian Nora Lawson Lankford
 Walnut Cove Library Board Member Thomas Grubbs
 Walnut Cove Library Board Member Charlotte Hairston
 Walnut Cove Library Board Member Mike Hartwig
 Walnut Cove Library Board Member Joel Young
 King Library - Assistant Librarian Ann Nichols

Director Hedrick expressed gratitude to the Board of Commissioners for their continued support.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – WALNUT COVE LIBRARY EXPANSION PROJECT – UPDATE

Walnut Cove Librarian Betty Smith presented an overview of the Walnut Cove Library Expansion Project.

Ms. Smith noted the following:

- Challenged bid of \$100,000 with the understanding that the Town of Walnut Cove and Stokes County would make appropriate amounts to be included in the \$400,000 of valid pledges
- At present - \$103,000 from 50 pledges
- Pledge of \$100,000 from the Town of Walnut Cove
- 4,211 card carrying members
- Small grant from Bill Johnson Trust
- Need for expansion
- Shared parking with Walnut Cove Volunteer Fire Department
- Campaign to sell brick pavers
- Less funding requested than funding give to Danbury and King Libraries
- Need for repairs to the building (built in 1979)
- Expansion will include renovations of present Library
- Projected cost of \$500,000

Ms. Smith requested a \$200,000 pledge from the County of Stokes, which could be divided over the next 4 to 5 years.

Chairman John Turpin requested the County Manager to present funding amounts given to the Danbury and King branches and the feasibility of the \$200,000 request at the January 24th meeting.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT – PROPOSED LAW ENFORCEMENT VEHICLE PURCHASES

Support Services Supervisor Danny Stovall requested the approval to purchase (10) ten new 2005 Ford Crown Vic Police Interceptors from Capital Ford in Raleigh, NC at a cost of \$20,460.00 each. Mr. Stovall noted that Capital Ford has been awarded the state contract for Law Enforcement Vehicles. Sheriff Mike Joyce and Vehicle Maintenance Supervisor Elwood Mabe was also in attendance.

Mr. Stovall detailed the following total project cost of \$241,698:

2005 Ford Crown Vic	20,375.00 x 10	203,750.00
60/40 Split Front Seat	85.00 x 10	850.00

Capital Ford 204,600.00

Light bars, push bars, sirens, cages and radios will be purchased from other companies and installed by Vehicle Maintenance Staff.

3% NC sales tax		6,138.00
Whelen LB542 light bar	829.00	8,290.00
Federal SK064 speaker	157.00	1,570.00
SE041 Control switch	55.00	550.00
FS039 Wig Wags	14.00	140.00
Go Rhino Push Bars	323.00	3,230.00
SS020 Lexan Screen	369.00	3,690.00
Shipping – Screen		390.00
GR199 Strobe Kit - Clear	62.00	1,240.00
GR008 Power Supply	97.00	970.00
VE013 Console	159.00	1,590.00
Kenwood VHF Radio	655.00	6,550.00
Vehicle Lettering	275.00	2,750.00

Total Project Cost 241,698.00

The Board discussed the state contract, smaller front wheel drive cars, the use of salvage parts for present day vehicles, and the use of older vehicles in other departments.

Chairman John Turpin entertained a motion to approve the purchase of (10) ten 2005 Ford Crown Vic Police Vehicles at a cost of \$241,698.

Commissioner McHugh moved to purchase (10) ten 2005 Ford Crown Vics for the Sheriff's Department.

Vice Chairman Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – ANIMAL CONTROL - BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #51

Finance Director Julia Edwards requested the approval of Budget Ordinance Amendment #51 which is necessary to amend the General Fund for appropriate funds from People for Paws for training. The appropriations are to be changed as followed:

Account Number	EXPENDITURES	Decrease	Increase
	Animal Control		
100.4380.311	Training		<u>\$598.00</u>
			\$598.00

This will result in a net increase of \$598.00 in the appropriations of the General Fund. To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following revenues will be increased.

Account Number	REVENUES	Decrease	Increase
100.3839.003	Animal Control-Miscellaneous		<u>\$598.00</u>
			\$598.00

Chairman John Turpin entertained a motion to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment #51.

Vice Chairman Inman moved to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment #51.

Commissioner Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – ELECTIONS - BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #52

Finance Director Julia Edwards requested the approval of Budget Ordinance Amendment #52 which is necessary to amend the General Fund to appropriate funds and transfer funds for the election cost and to correct Budget Ordinance Amendment #50 dated 12-28-2004. The appropriations are to be changed as followed:

Account Number	EXPENDITURES	Decrease	Increase
	Elections		
100.4170.010	Salaries & Wages- Overtime		\$625.00
100.4170.020	Salaries & Wages- Part time	\$4,000.00	
100.4170.190	Board Reimbursement		\$5,000.00
100.4170.310	Travel		\$500.00
100.4170.321	Postage		\$1,500.00
100.4170.340	Printing		\$14,000.00
100.4170.350	Maint. & Repairs – Equipment		\$1,200.00
100.4170.390	Precinct Officials	\$470.00	
100.4170.430	Rental of Buildings		\$25.00
100.4170.440	Misc. Contractual Services	\$500.00	
100.9910.000	Contingency	<u>\$17,880.00</u>	
		\$22,850.00	\$22,850.00

This will result in a net increase of \$00.00 in the appropriations of the General Fund.

Chairman John Turpin entertained a motion to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment #52.

Commissioner McHugh moved to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment #52.

Vice Chairman Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner McHugh moved to nullify Budget Ordinance Amendment #50 dated 12-28-2004.

Vice Chairman Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – DSS - PUBLIC ASSISTANCE -BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #53

Finance Director Julia Edwards requested the approval of Budget Ordinance Amendment #53 which is necessary to amend the General Fund to appropriate funds for Crisis Intervention. The appropriations are to be changed as followed:

Account Number	EXPENDITURES	Decrease	Increase
	Public Assistance		
100.5480.000	Crisis Intervention		<u>\$1,441.00</u>
			\$1,441.00

This will result in a net increase of \$1,441.00 in the appropriations of the General Fund. To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following revenues will be increased.

Account Number	REVENUES	Decrease	Increase
100.3301.202	Welfare Federal		<u>\$1,441.00</u>
			\$1,441.00

Chairman John Turpin entertained a motion to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment #53

Vice Chairman Inman moved to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment #53.

Commissioner Joe Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – ADMINISTRATION – PROPOSED REGIONAL SEWER RATE INCREASE

County Manager Rick Morris presented the proposed rate increase for the Regional Sewer System:

Proposed Sewer Rate Increase		
	Old Rate	Proposed Rate
Residential Minimum Rate		
Up to 3,000 gallons	\$ 8.00	\$ 12.00
Rate per 1,000 gallons		
Over 3,000 gallons	\$ 2.42	\$ 3.00
Institutional Minimum Rate		
Up to 3,000 gallons	\$ 8.00	\$ 12.00
Rate per 1,000 gallons		
Over 3,000 gallons	\$20.38	\$ 25.00

Manager Morris noted the rate increase would allow at least \$20,000 per year to be allocated for a Capital Improvement Plan for the Regional Sewer System. This proposed rate increase would answer the findings of the Local Government Commission which noted signs of financial weakness because of current liabilities exceeded liquid assets (cash, investments, receivables). LGC suggested increasing the user fees and/or reducing expenses in order to improve the financial condition of the fund.

Manager Morris recommended a Public Hearing considering there has not been a rate increase in the last (10) ten years.

Chairman John Turpin entertained a motion to hold a Public Hearing for the Proposed Regional Sewer System rate increase.

Commissioner McHugh moved to hold a Public Hearing concerning the proposed Regional Sewer System rate increase at the first meeting in February.

Commissioner Joe Turpin seconded the motion.

Commissioner McHugh amended her motion to change the date for the Public Hearing to January 24, 2005.

Commissioner Joe Turpin amended his second to the motion.

The motion to hold a Public Hearing for the Proposed Regional Sewer rate increase on January 24, 2005 carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – CENTERPOINT BOARD – APPOINTMENTS

Chairman John Turpin noted two (2) existing vacancies on the Centerpoint Board of Directors. The following is criteria for the appointments:

- o A family member representing the interests of individuals in recovery from addiction.
- o A clinical professional from the fields of mental health, developmental disabilities, or substance abuse.

Vacancies have been placed on the County's webpage.

There were no nominations.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – ADMINISTRATION – PROPOSED OFFICE FOR JUDGE MARK BADGETT

County Manager Rick Morris informed the Board that the proposed move to the present Veterans' office for Judge Badgett would not be adequate space. Mr. Morris presented an updated drawing, which detailed renovations of (2) two vacant offices. This would give Judge Badgett an office of about 414 sq. ft. with renovations estimated at \$3400. Judge Badgett has reviewed and approved the suggested renovations. The move of the current Veterans' office to the front of the lower lobby will make accessibility for Veterans much better. County Manager Morris requested \$3400 for renovations for an office for Judge Badgett.

Commissioner Joe Turpin moved to approve \$3400 for renovations for an office for Judge Badgett.

Commissioner Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – ADMINISTRATION – KING BUILDING UPDATE

County Manager Rick Morris updated the Board after a recent visit to the King Building from representatives of Pro Clean who had given an estimate of about \$4000 to try to eliminate the mold problems at the King Building. Representatives of Pro Clean suggested that the following items be done prior to securing any further estimates on the mold problem at the King Building:

- o Place asphalt along the side of the building to keep out water (previous estimate \$2800)
- o Install additional guttering (to be done by County maintenance)
- o Take additional moisture readings after the above items have been completed
- o Place additional dehumidifiers in other areas of the building

County Manager Morris stated that estimates to complete the project to remove the mold could possibly be lower after the above items are completed.

Chairman John Turpin requested County Manager Morris submit a complete cost estimate for the above items at the January 24th meeting.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY- OPEN FORUM FOR CONGRESSWOMAN VIRGINIA FOXX

County Attorney Jonathan Jordan presented documentation detailing inmate medical expenses including liquidation of EMS Charges totaling \$257,203.98 for fiscal year 2003/04 for presentation to Congresswoman Virginia Foxx who is holding an open forum on January 14th in King.

The Board discussed the following items to be presented to Congresswoman Virginia Foxx:

- o Inmate medical expenses – County's share
- o Medicaid – NC being one of only two states which shares in Medicaid cost
- o Illegal immigrations
- o Inmates being disqualified for Medicaid as soon as they enter jail
- o Road improvements
- o Available grants for Stokes County

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY– NCDOT – REQUEST FOR ADDITION – KAYLA RIDGE ROAD IN OAK CREST ESTATES – SECTION 2 – ENTRANCE ONTO SR 1758, TYLER ROAD

Chairman John Turpin presented the Petition for road addition to the State Maintained Secondary Road System (Kayla Ridge Road in Oak Crest Estates – Section 2 – Entrance onto SR 1758-Tyler Road) from the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

Chairman John Turpin entertained a motion to approve the Petition for road addition to the State Maintained Secondary Road System (Kayla Ridge Road in Oak Crest Estates – Section 2 – Entrance onto SR 1758-Tyler Road) from the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

Vice Chairman Inman moved to approve the Petition for road addition to the State Maintained Secondary Road System (Kayla Ridge Road in Oak Crest Estates – Section 2 – Entrance onto SR 1758-Tyler Road) from the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

Commissioner McHugh seconded the motion.

Chairman John Turpin noted the adding of additional roads means additional cost for maintaining roads (snow removal, patching, etc.) while there is still an estimated 100-150 unpaved roads in Stokes County.

The motion to approve the Petition for road addition to the State Maintained Secondary Road System (Kayla Ridge Road in Oak Crest Estates – Section 2 – Entrance onto SR 1758-Tyler Road) from the North Carolina Department of Transportation carried 4-1 with Chairman John Turpin voting against the motion.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT –GOVERNING BODY – VOTING DELEGATE DESIGNATION FORM LEGISLATIVE GOALS CONFERENCE – JANUARY 13/14, 2005

Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins requested the Board appoint Commissioner Sandy McHugh as the Voting Delegate for Stokes County at the Legislative Goals Conference to be held in High Point – January 13-14, 2005.

Chairman John Turpin entertained a motion to appoint Commissioner Sandy McHugh as the Voting Delegate for Stokes County at the Legislative Goals Conference to be held in High Point – January 13-14, 2005.

Commissioner Joe Turpin moved to appoint Commissioner Sandy McHugh as the Voting Delegate for Stokes County at the Legislative Goals Conference to be held in High Point – January 13-14, 2005.

Commissioner Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman John Turpin requested Commissioner McHugh pass along the topics discussed for Congresswoman Virginia Foxx at the Legislative Goals Conference.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – STOKES COUNTY WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY – REINSTATEMENT OF ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

County Manager Rick Morris informed the Board that the Articles of Incorporation of the Stokes County Water and Sewer Authority that had recently been suspended in error. The County received documentation from the North Carolina Department of Revenue stating the suspension was in error and the Articles of Incorporation had been reinstated.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – ADMINISTRATION – LEASING OF SPACE AT THE OLD PRISON CAMP

County Manager Rick Morris requested the Board's approval to allow a sub-contractor to lease space at the Old Prison Camp (125 x 125 sq. ft. area) to store telephone poles and related equipment. The subcontractor has offered \$200 per month for usage of the space for an estimated time of February 2005 to October 2005 with a possible extension to December 2005.

County Manager Morris presented a draft lease prepared by County Attorney Jonathan Jordan which included the subcontractor's insurance information.

The Board discussed the specific area that would be leased by the subcontractor.

Chairman John Turpin entertained a motion to approve the submitted lease agreement for space at the Old Prison Camp.

Commissioner McHugh moved to approve submitted lease agreement for space at the Old Prison Camp.

Commissioner Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION

Chairman John Turpin entertained a motion to enter into closed session to consider and take action with respect to the position to be taken by the County in negotiating the price or other materials terms of an agreement for the acquisition or lease of real property pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11 (a) (5).

Vice Chairman Inman moved to enter into closed session to consider and take action with respect to the position to be taken by the County in negotiating the price or other materials terms of an agreement for the acquisition or lease of real property pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11 (a)(5).

Commissioner Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The Board re-entered into the regular session of the January 10th meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman John Turpin entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner Joe Turpin moved to adjourn the meeting.

Vice Chairman Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Darlene Bullins
Clerk to the Board

John Turpin
Chairman