

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF STOKES)
)

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS
STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT
DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA
AUGUST 27, 2007

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, State of North Carolina, met for regular session in the Commissioners' Chambers of the Ronald Wilson Reagan Memorial Building (Administrative Building) located in Danbury, North Carolina on Monday, August 27, 2007 at 6:00 pm with the following members present:

Chairman Leon Inman
Vice-Chairman Jimmy Walker
Commissioner Ron Carroll
Commissioner Ernest Lankford
Commissioner Stanley Smith

County Personnel in Attendance:
County Manager K. Bryan Steen
Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins
Finance Director Julia Edwards

Chairman Leon Inman called the meeting to order.

Vice Chairman Walker delivered the invocation.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-GOVERNING BODY-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

PUBLIC HEARING- Proposed Water Rate Increase – Danbury Water System

Chairman Inman opened a Public Hearing for the proposed Water Rate Increase.

There were no public comments.

Chairman Inman closed the Public Hearing.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Inman entertained a motion to approve or amend the agenda for the August 27, 2007 meeting.

Vice Chairman Walker moved to approve the Agenda as submitted. Commissioner Lankford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Inman entertained a motion to approve or amend the following items on the

Consent Agenda:

- Minutes of June 4, 2007
- Minutes of June 5, 2007
- Minutes of August 10, 2007
- Minutes of August 13, 2007

Commissioner Carroll noted the following corrections:

June 4th minutes

Page #6 – Change the wording – **most increase...** to **most needed increase...**

June 5th minutes

Page #14 - Change **indefinite...** to **indefinitely**

Page #15 – Change that **limit** action... to that **limited** action

August 10th minutes

Page #2 – Change **law no more that...** to **law anymore than**

Commissioner Smith noted the following correction:

June 4th minutes

Page # 5 – Change Truck #**31**... to Truck #**310**...

Single Family Rehabilitation Program # 9

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Ordinance Amendment #9.

To amend the General Fund, the expenditures are to be changed as follows:

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
General Fund				
205.4970.180	Professional Services	\$00.00	\$64,000.00	\$64,000.00
205.4970.440	Misc. Contractual Services	\$00.00	\$336,000.00	\$336,000.00
	Totals	\$00.00	\$400,000.00	\$400,000.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate Single Family Rehabilitation Program Funding for Stokes County.

This will result in a net increase of \$400,000.00 in the expenditures and other financial use to the County’s annual budget. To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following revenues will increase. These revenues have already been received or are verified they will be received in this fiscal year.

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
General Fund				
205.3301.000	Single Family Rehabilitation Program	\$00.00	\$400,000.00	\$400,000.00
	Totals	\$00.00	\$400,000.00	\$400,000.00

NCDOT Request for Road Addition to the NC Secondary Road System – Meadow View Drive and Oak View Drive in Meadow Oak Estates

County Manager Bryan Steen presented information regarding a request from NCDOT for addition to the North Carolina Secondary Road System – Meadow View Drive and Oak

View Drive in Meadow Oak Estates at the August 13th meeting.

Commissioner Lankford moved to approve the Consent Agenda as amended.

Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – INFORMATION AGENDA

Comments – Manager & Commissioners

Chairman Inman noted that Comments from the Manager and Commissioners would be a regular item on the information agenda at each regular meeting.

County Manager Steen presented a brief overview of the following:

- YVEDDI – Proposed 2007/08 Transportation Program was not placed on the Agenda due to the Public Hearing not being properly advertised by YVEDDI – Per Charlie Walker-YVEDDI, the item will be advertised and scheduled for the September 10th meeting
- NCACC Annual County Commissioners' Conference
 - Summary of State Budget Highlights
 - New tax options available to Counties
 - Preparing to work with the new Governor
 - Different approaches to funding the construction of schools such as adequate public facilities ordinance and associated fees
 - Lease purchase agreement for construction of schools
 - High performance buildings for schools
- Recreation Advisory Council met on August 20th and will be conducting an inventory of recreational opportunities in Stokes County and programs provided by YMCA; a survey will also be conducted to receive input from citizens regarding what recreational opportunities are needed in the County

Vice Chairman Walker, who also attended the Annual Commissioners' Conference, noted the following:

- Very worthwhile sessions
- Sessions on cooperative efforts between local governments such as Planning/Zoning, Utilities, etc
- The ETJ (for cities and towns) does not expand as areas are annexed, less ETJs in North Carolina today than ever before
- Information regarding utilities – possibly forced to look at options in future - NC has more small water systems than any other State – many systems are very old and in need of major renovations and repairs

Vice Chairman Walker, who serves on the Recreation Advisory Council, requested that the Recreation Advisory Council be added to the September 24th agenda to start a discussion regarding the current inventory of recreational programs in the County and reviewing a survey conducted by the Council of what recreational programs are needed and wanted in the County.

The Board discussed the information presented regarding the Recreation Advisory Council. Vice Chairman Walker also noted that the Advisory Council did not have a clear understanding of what the Board of Commissioners desired regarding recreational opportunities in Stokes County.

Commissioner Lankford and Commissioner Carroll both noted that the Board would need ample time to review the information received from the Advisory Council including (as previously requested) a detailed breakdown of the current County funding allocation to Stokes Family YMCA before meeting with the Council.

The Board discussed possible dates for a presentation from the Recreation Advisory Council and the current makeup of the Advisory Council. Chairman Inman requested the Clerk to provide the Board with member information regarding the current Recreation Advisory Council.

The Board unanimously agreed to schedule the Advisory Council on the September 24th agenda, as long as information was received in time for the Board to have sufficient time to review the information. Vice Chairman Walker requested the Clerk to notify the Advisory Council of the tentative date of September 24th.

Manager Steen stated that the County had met with CenterPoint for their quarterly review. Manager Steen noted that the following:

- Information regarding the recent 45-hour issue (consumer needed placement in a facility -no beds available) with a consumer that had involved Stokes County Sheriff's Department revealed that CenterPoint CEO Betty Taylor had actually intervened with the State to help get the consumer into a facility
- Triumph will be staying in Danbury
- New Consumer Advisory Committee will be trying to bring mental health issues to the table
- Discussion of Consumer Collaborative Committee's role
- Discussion of Consumer and Family Advisory Committee which hopes to help identify problems and help meet the needs of children in the County
- Possible state incentive grant (up to possibly \$100,000) relating to drug and alcohol fatal accidents, to provide new assessment and early intervention to reduce the number of fatal accidents related to drugs and alcohol
- Met with representatives from Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center, Forsyth Memorial Hospital, CenterPoint, and Northwest Community Care Network to further discuss the mental health coordinator position (have already met with Stokes Emergency Responders and Stokes County Mental Health Association)
- DSS Director Spencer and I will continue to work on the coordinator position

Manager Steen requested approval from the Board to schedule a joint meeting with the Planning Board on September 27th at 6:00 pm to discuss recently adopted legislation regarding telecommunication towers that affects Stokes County and the Stokes County Planning/Zoning Ordinance for wireless telecommunications. Mr. Rusty Monroe, Stokes County Telecommunications Consultant, will inform both Boards of the new regulations. The Board had no issue with the joint meeting and directed the County Manager to confirm the meeting time of September 27th for a joint meeting with the Planning Board.

Chairman Inman, with consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to advertise the joint meeting with the Planning Board for Thursday, September 27th - 6:00pm.

Manager Steen informed the Board of the following Budget Memorandums that the had recently approved:

- Veterans Services – Transfer of \$45 from postage to dues/subscriptions in order for the Veterans Services Officer to join the NC Association of Veterans Services Officers
- Health Department – Transfer of \$440 from Office Supplies to Equipment –Non Capitalized for an emergency purchase of a refrigerator which stores vaccines- refrigerator quit over the weekend

Manager Steen requested direction from the Board regarding scheduling a demonstration by the NWPCOG - Mobile Job Center at the first meeting in October.

The unit can travel from place to place - taking applications, writing resumes, etc. Manager Steen noted this would be a good opportunity for officials from King, Danbury, and Walnut Cove to also see what is available. Chairman Inman suggested possibly having the demonstration at the League of Governments' meeting scheduled for October 18th, which will be hosted by the County. The Board unanimously agreed to have the mobile unit at the League of Governments' meeting in October.

Manager Steen noted that the NC Department of Health & Human Services is replacing paper checks with electronic payments for child support this October.

Manager Steen reiterated the Stokes County Mental Health Association will be sponsoring Community Fun Day at Central Park in King on September 7th.

Manager Steen noted that he had scheduled the following meetings to discuss joint ventures between the cities and towns in the county:

- Manager of the City of King – September 5th
- Presentation at the regular Board Meeting - Town of Walnut Cove – September 4th
- Presentation at the regular Board Meeting – Town of Danbury to be scheduled later in September

Commissioner Smith updated the Board with the following information regarding the Regional Tourism Initiative:

- Recently attended the Steering Committee Meeting in Elkin
- Vintage Marketing has been employed on a contractual basis for advertising and promotion
- Membership currently includes 8 northwestern counties in NC, 2 southwestern counties along with the City of Galax in Virginia
- Any other participants have to be on board by the end of September
- Vintage Marketing posed the brand name to be “The Cascade Highlands”
- Steering Committee approved the brand name as “The Cascade Highlands”

- Will continue to work on tag lines at the next steering committee meeting

Commissioner Lankford updated the Board regarding the old Prison Camp location.

Commissioner Lankford noted that plans for clean up are currently underway at the location with removal of the mobile units and inventorying possible space at the location.

Commissioner Lankford noted that several avenues are being investigated for possible grants.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – DISCUSSION AGENDA

Appointments

Chairman Inman presented the following appointment:

- Jury Commissioner to serve on the Jury Commission in compliance with NCGS 9-1 which had recently been requested from Clerk of Superior Court Jason Tuttle
- Mr. Lynwood Shelton has served on the Commission for several years and does wish to be considered for re-appointment

Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins noted that the appointment has been advertised according to the Board's guidelines.

Commissioner Lankford nominated Lynwood Shelton for re-appointment to serve on the Jury Commission.

Nominations can be considered at the September 10th meeting.

Proposed Leasing of County Property

County Manager Bryan Steen presented the following information regarding the leasing of a portion of the old Health Department to Northwest Child Development:

- Received a request from Cindy Tuttle, Director of Stokes Partnership for Children on August 10th that CEO Tony Burton-NW Child Development had expressed interest in leasing space within the Danbury area for the "More at Four Program"
- Interested location – 1070 Hospice Drive, Danbury, NC 27016 – near Stokes Reynolds Memorial Hospital (county facility)
- Cindy Tuttle who also serves as Chairman of the Recreation Advisory Council has indicated that the YMCA (YMCA currently operates the recreation program in the entire building) does not have a problem allowing the requested portion of the building to be used for the "More at Four Program"
- Review of space was conducted and a rental rate for the square footage with utilities, excluding telephone/internet access, is estimated at \$600 per month
- Minor changes to the facility will be needed to comply with program requirements which will be paid by NW Child Development
- Space is anticipated to be needed by October

Commissioner Lankford noted that the issue was discussed at the last Stokes Partnership for Children meeting. Commissioner Lankford noted the following:

- State has appropriated an additional \$59 million dollars for the "More at Four Program" which will provide an additional 15-18 slots
- Current waiting list for the "More at Four Program" in Stokes County

- Area needed most is in the northern part of the county
- Board members have been checking with local churches in the northern part of the county, currently none have expressed interest in housing the program

Vice Chairman Walker confirmed that at the last Recreation Advisory Council, there was no opposition to allow the “More at Four Program” to share the facility. Chairman Inman, with full consent of the Board, authorized the County Manager to begin developing a proposed contract for this Board to approve in content and form for the next meeting and also inform Northwest Child Development of the Board’s intentions.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – ACTION AGENDA

Proposed Water Rate Increase – Danbury Water System

County Manager Bryan Steen reiterated the need for the water rate increase for the Danbury Water System, which was presented to the Board by Danbury Town Mayor Jane Priddy- Charleville at the August 13th meeting.

Commissioner Lankford requested information from Mayor Priddy-Charleville who was in attendance for the meeting regarding the Non-User (Sale of Water) rate increase. Mayor Priddy-Charleville noted that the issue was scheduled to be discussed at the next council meeting.

The Board continued discussion of the water rate increase for the Danbury Water System.

Chairman Inman entertained a motion regarding the following proposed water rate increase for the Danbury Water System:

TOWN OF DANBURY	Current Rate
Residential/Small Business (per bi-monthly billing cycle)	\$13.50 minimum per month up to 3,000 gallons \$2.60 per 1,000 gallons usage from 6,000 to 10,000 gallons \$3.95 per 1,000 gallons usage over 10,000 gallons
Institutional/Industrial (including all quasi-governmental offices)	\$28.00 minimum per month up to 3,000 gallons \$3.40 per 1,000 gallons usage from 3,000 to 10,000 gallons \$3.95 per 1,000 gallons usage over 10,000 gallons
Availability Charges (effective 11-1-94)	1/2 minimum monthly charge
Non-User (Sale of Water)	\$11.20 base charge plus \$5.60 per 1,000 gallons sold
TOWN OF DANBURY	Proposed Rate
Residential/Small Business (per bi-monthly billing cycle)	\$20.00 minimum per month up to 3,000 gallons \$5.75 per 1,000 gallons usage above 3,000 gallons
Institutional/Industrial (including all quasi-governmental offices)	\$20.00 minimum per month up to 3,000 gallons \$5.75 per 1,000 gallons usage above 3,000 gallons
Availability Charges	1/2 minimum monthly charge
Non-User (Sale of Water)	\$25.00 base charge plus \$30.00 per 1,000 gallons sold

Chairman Inman entertained a motion to approve the proposed Resolution as submitted by Tax Administrator Oakley.

Commissioner Lankford moved to approve the Resolution submitted by Tax Administrator Oakley to allow the release or refund of tax of less than one hundred dollars (\$100). Vice Chairman Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Restructure of Job Descriptions for the Tax Department

County Manager Steen also presented the job description for the part time Personal Property Listing Appraiser job reclassification that was submitted by Tax Administrator Jake Oakley at the August 13th meeting. Manager Steen reiterated the need for approval which would allow Administrator Oakley to proceed with the hiring process in order to have someone in place and trained by the first of the year for the listing period.

Commissioner Lankford requested to hold the agenda item until after closed session.

The Board had no issues with holding the agenda item until after closed session.

Appointments

Planning Board – Danbury and Meadows Townships- Three Year Term

Chairman Inman noted that Lewis Wood – Danbury Township and Patrick Flinchum – Meadows Township had both been nominated at the August 13th meeting.

Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins noted that there had not been any other applications for the appointment.

Chairman Inman entertained a motion.

Commissioner Lankford moved to appoint the following to serve on the Stokes County Planning Board:

- Lewis Wood – Danbury Township
- Patrick Flinchum – Meadows Township

Vice Chairman Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Voluntary Agricultural Advisory Board – Yadkin and Meadows/Sauratown Townships – Three-Year Term

Chairman Inman noted that Tony Mabe – Yadkin Township and David Hartman – Meadows/Sauratown Townships had both been nominated at the August 13th meeting.

Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins noted that there had not been any other applications for the appointment.

Chairman Inman entertained a motion.

Commissioner Smith moved to appoint the following to serve on the Stokes County Voluntary Agricultural Advisory Board:

- Tony Mabe – Covington Road – Yadkin Township
- David Hartman – Pine Hall Road – Meadows/Sauratown Townships

Commissioner Lankford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Stokes County Industrial Facilities and Pollution Control Financing Authority Board

Chairman Inman noted the following had been nominated at the August 13th meeting to serve on the Stokes County Industrial Facilities and Pollution Control Financing Authority Board:

- Jerry Rutledge
- Marvin Gentry
- Jasper Hedgecock
- Worth Hampton
- Bruce Younts
- Turk Tergliafera
- Gary Merritt

Vice Chairman Walker moved to appoint the following to serve on the Stokes County Industrial Facilities and Pollution Control Financing Authority Board:

- Jerry Rutledge
- Marvin Gentry
- Jasper Hedgecock
- Worth Hampton
- Bruce Younts
- Turk Tergliafera
- Gary Merritt

Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION

Chairman Inman entertained a motion to enter into Closed Session for the following:

- To consider the initial employment or appointment of an individual to any office or position, other than a vacancy in the Board of County Commissioners or any other public body, or to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, and fitness of any public officer or employee, other than a member of the Board of Commissioners or of some other public body pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(6)

Commissioner Carroll moved to enter into Closed Session for the following:

- To consider the initial employment or appointment of an individual to any office or position, other than a vacancy in the Board of County Commissioners or any other public body, or to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, and fitness of any public officer or employee, other than a member of the Board of Commissioners or of some other public body pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(6)

Vice Chairman Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The Board reconvened to the regular session of the August 27th meeting.

Restructure of Job Descriptions for the Tax Department

Chairman Inman entertained a motion regarding the part time Personal Property Listing Appraiser job reclassification.

Commissioner Smith moved to approve the Personal Property Listing Appraiser job reclassification submitted by the Tax Administrator. Vice Chairman Walker seconded the motion.

Commissioner Lankford questioned the hourly rate regarding the part time position. Clerk Bullins noted that the hourly rate would be the minimum rate of the salary according to the county's salary schedule for that position. Clerk Bullins noted that Administrator Oakley had a set amount of funding in part time salary allocated to the position which was approved in the 2007-08 Budget. The motion was unanimous.

Adjournment

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

Commissioner Lankford moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Darlene M. Bullins
Clerk to the Board

J. Leon Inman
Chairman