

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA )  
 )  
COUNTY OF STOKES )  
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OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS  
STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT  
DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA  
MONDAY NOVEMBER 26, 2018

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, State of North Carolina, met for a regular session in the Commissioners' Chambers of the Ronald Wilson Reagan Memorial Building (Administration Building) located in Danbury, North Carolina on Monday, November 26, 2018 at 6:00 pm with the following members present:

Chairman Ronnie Mendenhall  
Commissioner James D. Booth  
Commissioner Ronda Jones  
Commissioner Ernest Lankford

County Personnel in Attendance:  
Acting County Manager /Clerk to the Board Shannon Shaver  
County Attorney Ty Browder  
Finance Director Julia Edwards  
Support Services Supervisor Glenda Pruitt  
Economic Development Director Will Carter  
Assistant Tax Collector Cheryl Hill

Chairman Mendenhall called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance.

#### **INVOCATION**

Commissioner Lankford delivered the invocation.

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT-GOVERNING BODY-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Mendenhall invited those in attendance to join the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chairman Mendenhall entertained a motion to approve or amend the November 26<sup>th</sup> Agenda.

Chairman Mendenhall requested to add an item to the Discussion Agenda regarding a request from FTCC to issue a proclamation recognizing Dr. Green's work at Forsyth Tech and in Stokes County.

Commissioner Jones moved to approve the amended November 26<sup>th</sup> Agenda.

Commissioner Booth seconded the motion.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for discussion/questions/comments.

With no further discussion the amended November 26<sup>th</sup> Agenda was approved.

#### **COMMENTS - Manager/Commissioners**

Commissioner Jones commented:

- It is a special night along with my other two colleagues here.
- This will be our last official meeting.
- It is a strange feeling.
- Obviously it is quite bittersweet.
- I would like to wish a belated Happy Thanksgiving to you guys.
- Would like to recognize that we have two young ladies here from South Stokes High School for their Civics class.
- They came up and took a photograph for proof that they were here.
- They are here to learn tonight and I thought that was special and wanted to share that with you.
- Lastly, I wanted to talk about an article I read in the paper on Thanksgiving about opioid deaths.
- We are actually losing 10,000 more people a year to alcohol related deaths.
- The totals were 70,000 to opioids, and 80,000 to alcohol.
- The number of women alcoholics has sky rocketed.
- I just wanted to mention this as we and the whole country have been focused on the opioid epidemic, that there are other issues.
- It seems we get focused on one thing or another and meanwhile something else is going out of control.

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Welcome everybody.
- Thank you for being here tonight.
- As my colleague said, this is our last official meeting.
- We will have to approve the minutes at another meeting.
- It has been a good eight years.
- It has been an honor and a blessing from the Lord.
- When I came on Board, I served with Leon Inman, and Jimmy of course, who is not here tonight because of a motorcycle accident.
- When I came on Board we were building schools.

- We found a way to build them in an economic downturn when no one else was building.
- We are getting ready to open the new addition to the jail.
- This was needed due to overcrowding and will produce revenue for the county.
- I can't say enough about the garage.
- We got the garage for a little over a million dollars and the owner financed it for us over 10 years at a low interest rate.
- We rented the upstairs and that is paying the payment for the building.
- In three or four more years this will be paid for without using any taxpayer money.
- We built the early college and now the trades building is underway.
- At the early college kids can graduate in 5 years, some complete it in 4, with a high school diploma and an associate's degree.
- Now they will be able to work as an apprentice and get a license for these important jobs.
- This group of County Commissioners has moved this county forward, while being conservative.
- We are leaving with a good fund balance; way more than we had when I came on Board.
- We were able to do all the things I have mentioned as well as save the hospital three times.
- Some people say the hospital is not worth saving.
- If it closed they would understand how important it is and it would leave a lot of people unemployed in our county.
- If a hospital closes it can take up to three years to get all the licensing back.
- My charge to the new group of Commissioners is to keep doing things, while being conservative, and not raising taxes.
- We are at about 33% fund balance; which is a lot more than we started with.

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- I would like to say to the two Commissioners to my right that I have enjoyed serving with you.
- I have had the opportunity to serve the great people of this county for twelve years.
- I am glad the good Lord gave me the opportunity to be a public servant.
- A public servant serves others and not themselves.
- I have tried my level best to make good decisions for the whole county.
- I have had the opportunity to work with three different Boards in my twelve years.
- As we go through time, conservative principles look after the people by providing resources and not wasting money.
- Commissioner Booth mentioned some of the things that we have done and I am proud of those.
- I am thankful the good Lord gave me the wisdom to be a public servant and that he knew that it was time for me to retire.
- I need to spend more time serving him than serving the public.
- I feel good about that.
- With that in mind I will read one more Ethics for Life.
- "For what shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world and lose his soul."
- We need to think about this, that Jesus Christ came and gave his life so that I could live.

- I am thankful that he has given me the opportunity to retire and stay home and let my wife look after me.
- I have enjoyed serving with all of you.
- I hope to be around for several years to see things go along that we started.
- We can have progress without putting the burden on the taxpayers.

Chairman Mendenhall commented:

- I feel like the lone ranger.
- I want to say thank you to each of my fellow three Commissioners.
- I consider my time working with you an honor and a privilege.
- I have learned a lot in these past two years working with you.
- I appreciate you working with me as Chairman.
- We have worked well together.
- To all those in the audience tonight, I appreciate you being here.
- This is government.
- It is for the people to come out and partake in it.
- I try at every meeting to thank those who come out.
- We each try our best to serve the citizens of Stokes County the best way we can.
- I thank the Lord for the wisdom he provides in helping us to do that.
- For those of you who may not know how this will work tonight, this is our last regular meeting with this group.
- After the closed session, I will recess the meeting and we will come back on Thursday, November 29, 2018 at 6:30 pm.
- We will approve the minutes and have a special recognition ceremony for Commissioner Jones, Commissioner Booth, and Commissioner Lankford.

Acting County Manager / Clerk to the Board Shannon Shaver commented:

- Thank you all for the opportunity to work with you and learn from you.
- I appreciate that and all that you have accomplished since you have been on the Board.
- It has been an honor to work with you in this capacity.
- I want to share a little bit of good news I received from Pam Tillman from LifeBrite.
- I received an email before the meeting that they have a new nurse practitioner who is being processed through HR today for the Pine Hall position.
- Policies are almost complete for the state survey, so things are moving along nicely in becoming a rural health center.
- She will be back in December to give an update as promised.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chairman Mendenhall noted that the Board of Commissioners will hear Public Comments but will not respond to Public Comments and that each speaker will be allowed three (3) minutes.

The following spoke during Public Comments:

Ellen Peric  
1095 Wheeler Smith Rd.  
Lawsonville, NC 27022

**RE: Arts Update**

**The Apple Gallery – November**

Stokes Arts welcomes Hal Tenny to the Apple Gallery this November with his exhibit, "Art Created With Math."

Tenny is a digital artist that creates 2d and 3d fractal images. His art is created with software that processes mathematical formulas into visual art in the form of fractal imagery. His art was featured prominently in the Marvel Film , "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2."

This exhibit includes a wide variety of fantasy, science fiction, and abstract fractal art prints.

An artist meet and greet and reception was held on Friday, November 8

**The Jayebird Gallery at Hanging Rock State Park – Nov /Dec**

The Stokes County Arts Council presents the works of artist Anthony Miller at The Jayebird Gallery at Hanging Rock State Park. His exhibit of digital art will be on display in November and December.

Miller's interest in digital art began in 2005, when he discovered the ability to draw as one would with pencil or paint, only in a computerized environment. His work is primarily fantasy oriented with painted landscapes, cartooning, and explorations of the abstract psyche.

Born in Baltimore, Maryland, Miller and his family relocated to North Carolina in 2006, finally settling in Walnut Cove in 2013. Diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome at age 5, Miller says, "My personal interests and thought processes were a complete mystery to everyone around me. I discovered that I had a knack for drawing and decided to start cultivating that skill from 1998 onwards. My parents began to homeschool me in middle school and have allowed me to cultivate my interest in art, teaching me to draw with more finesse and better style."

Miller is currently studying toward earning a degree in Digital Effects and Animation at Forsyth Technical Community College.

An opening reception and artist meet and greet was held on Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Veteran's Day Celebration – Nov 11th**

The American Legion Post 290 and the Stokes County Arts Council hosted a Veteran's Day Celebration on Sunday, November 11 at King Central Park.

The festivities began at the park amphitheater with a patriotic music prelude presented by the West Stokes High School Band under the direction of Ms. Lorena Schakel, followed at 2 p.m. with the Posting of Colors by the American Legion Post 290 Honor Guard. Legion Commander Clif Kilby introduced guest speaker Lieutenant Colonel David Durham before the program moved to the Stokes Veteran's Memorial site at the park for the tile dedication, laying of the wreath, and special music provided by Mr. Ken Bloom.

Veteran's Day is an official United States public holiday, observed annually on November 11 that honors military veterans who have served in the United States Armed Forces. It coincides with other holidays, including Armistice Day and Remembrance Day, celebrated in other countries that mark the anniversary of the end of World War I, as major hostilities of World War I were formally ended at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918, when the armistice with Germany went into effect. The United States previously observed Armistice Day until it was renamed Veteran's Day in 1954.

Additional participants included in this year's Veteran's Day Celebration include Boy Scout Troop 409, American Legion Post 290 Chaplain Don Adams, Gary Thomas, with King Mayor Jack Warren, and Representative Kyle Hall were invited to provide the celebration's welcome and opening remarks.

#### **Soup in a Bowl – Nov 17<sup>th</sup> was held at HRSP Bathhouse 12pm to 3pm**

The 4th annual Stokes Soup in a Bowl was held Saturday, November 17, 2018 at Hanging Rock State Park, continuing a simple concept of service. "We want attendees to fill up on soup, take home a handcrafted bowl, and help support the food ministries of East Stokes Outreach, King Outreach, and Northern Stokes Food Pantry." "It's just another opportunity for our organization to use the arts in service of Stokes County people, especially before the holidays", said Eddy McGee. The event raised \$2,000.00 per food pantry and a truckload of canned goods to be delivered.

For \$25 per person, attendees chose their own handcrafted soup bowl, soup, beverage, and dessert, and heard musical entertainment, with all proceeds being divided between the three outreach ministries. Local artists and elementary school students have been busy making and glazing handcrafted soup bowls.

In addition to the Stokes County Arts Council, the event is supported by Hanging Rock State Park and others.

#### **Black Friday at The Arts Place – Friday Nov 23<sup>rd</sup>**

We had record sales for one day at The Arts Place on Black Friday. The first 20 customers in the door at 7am received a \$10 gift card – which they all promptly spent along with a lot more. Our sales (minus the gift card giveaway) were \$1800 for the day. Freezing rain didn't stop Saturday sales from being great either. Looks a lot like Christmas at The Arts Place.

### **Decembersongs –Nov 30<sup>th</sup> Friday 7pm**

The Stokes County Arts Council will host Decembersongs Holiday Concert on Friday, November 30, 2018 beginning at 7pm at The Arts Place of Stokes. The concert will include critically-acclaimed songwriters Amy Speace, Rod Picott, and Doug & Telisha Williams (of Wild Ponies). Advanced General Admission Tickets are \$25 per person, and are available at [brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com). Stokes County Arts Council Member Advanced Tickets are \$20 per person/ Day of Tickets are \$30 per person.

### **Rod Cate Book Signing and Speaking Engagement-Saturday, Dec 1st**

At age 15, South Stokes student Rod Cate went from athlete to quadriplegic in the blink of an eye. GET BACK UP is a motivational book written to inspire you to put aside life's sometimes devastating twists and turns and stay focused on your quest for an incredible life.

Join Stokes Arts in welcoming Rod back to North Carolina and South Stokes High School on Saturday, December 1st at 5pm. He will share parts of his book with the audience with a book signing reception to follow.

### **Christmas in Historic Danbury – Sunday, Dec 2 2-5pm**

The Stokes County Arts Council, Town of Danbury, Stokes County Historical Society and Artist's Way Bakery will host "Christmas in Historic Danbury". Local artists will be featured in the Apple Gallery with an opening reception from 2 pm. to 5 pm for local artist Frank Duncan. In addition to the gallery reception, there will be tours of the Stokes County Museum from 2 pm to 5 pm with special guests Julie Morgan (special reading) and Mike Davis (heritage wood carving), music and dance at Artist's Way, and entertainment at The Arts Place of Stokes. The event concludes with a tree lighting ceremony and presentations from Town of Danbury on the steps of the old courthouse.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Chairman Mendenhall entertained a motion to approve or amend the following items on the Consent Agenda.

### **Minutes**

Minutes of November 13, 2018 – Regular Meeting

## **Budget Amendments**

### **Budget Amendment # 37– Economic Development**

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #37.

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

Account Number	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	CURRENT BUDGETED AMOUNT	INCREASE (DECREASE)	AS AMENDED
	Economic Development			
100.4920.180	Professional Services	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 33,000.00
	Contingency			
100.9910.000	Contingency	\$ 29,393.00	\$ (15,000.00)	\$ 14,393.00
	Total	\$ 47,393.00	\$ -	\$ 47,393.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To transfer fund for consulting with Stokes County Economic Development. Approved November 13 board meeting.

This will result in a net increase of \$0.00 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			
				\$ -
				\$ -
	TOTALS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -



### **Budget Amendment #38 – Finance**

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #38.

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

Account Number	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	CURRENT BUDGETED AMOUNT	INCREASE (DECREASE)	AS AMENDED
	Finance			
100.4130.440	Misc. Contractual Serves	\$ 71,450.00	\$ 7,400.00	\$ 78,850.00
	Total	\$ 71,450.00	\$ 7,400.00	\$ 78,850.00
This budget amendment is justified as follows:				

To appropriate funds for a fitness check for the financial software. To assist financial staff on efficiency and effectiveness in using the financial software.

This will result in a net increase of \$7,400.00 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			
100.3831.450	Interest-Bank	\$ 275,000.00	\$ 7,400.00	\$ 282,400.00
	TOTALS	\$ 275,000.00	\$ 7,400.00	\$ 282,400.00

**Budget Amendment #39 – Administration**

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #39.

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

Account Number	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	CURRENT BUDGETED AMOUNT	INCREASE (DECREASE)	AS AMENDED
	Administration			
100.4120.000	Salaries & Wages	\$ 175,001.00	\$ 860.00	\$ 175,861.00
	Social Services			
100.5310.000	Salaries & Wages	\$ 2,411,540.00	\$ 4,316.00	\$ 2,415,856.00
	Sheriff's Department			
100.4310.000	Salaries & Wages	\$ 1,936,944.00	\$ 2,713.00	\$ 1,939,657.00
	Contingency			
100.9100.100	Leave Contingency	\$ 49,517.00	\$ (7,889.00)	\$ 41,628.00
	Total	\$ 4,573,002.00	\$ -	\$ 4,573,002.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To transfer funds from leave payoff contingency for retired, resigned, terminated and comp time over limit payoff as of 11/09/18.

This will result in a net increase of \$0.00 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			
				\$ -
				\$ -
	TOTALS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

## **Budget Amendment #40 – Social Services**

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #40.

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

Account Number	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	CURRENT BUDGETED AMOUNT	INCREASE (DECREASE)	AS AMENDED
<b>Social Services</b>				
100.5310.000	Salaries and Wages	\$ 2,415,856.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 2,427,856.00
100.5310.090	Social Security	\$ 160,699.00	\$ 740.00	\$ 161,439.00
100.5310.091	Medicare Tax	\$ 37,583.00	\$ 175.00	\$ 37,758.00
100.5310.100	Retirement	\$ 195,796.00	\$ 935.00	\$ 196,731.00
100.5310.101	401K	\$ 13,981.00	\$ 120.00	\$ 14,101.00
100.5310.110	Group Insurance	\$ 470,308.00	\$ 3,920.00	\$ 474,228.00
100.5310.111	Dental Insurance	\$ 26,561.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 26,786.00
100.5310.130	Unemployment	\$ 16,450.00	\$ 120.00	\$ 16,570.00
100.5310.171	Term Life	\$ 4,184.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 4,219.00
<b>Contingency</b>				
100.9910.000	Contingency	\$ 14,393.00	\$ (6,860.00)	\$ 7,533.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 3,355,811.00</b>	<b>\$ 11,410.00</b>	<b>\$ 3,367,221.00</b>

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate funds for the new position Community Social Service Assistant approved November 13 board meeting.

This will result in a net increase of \$11,410.00 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
<b>General Fund</b>				
100.3301.202	DSS-Federal	\$ 2,667,061.00	\$ 10,740.00	\$ 2,677,801.00
100.3301.203	DSS-State	\$ 156,773.00	\$ 670.00	\$ 157,443.00
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>\$ 2,823,834.00</b>	<b>\$ 11,410.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,835,244.00</b>

Tax Administration**STOKES COUNTY TAX ADMINISTRATION RELEASE REPORT FOR OCTOBER, 2018****REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY RELEASES LESS THAN \$100 PER NCGS 105-381(b)**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
SCALES, OBEDIAH C SCALES, DOROTHY	1150 PREACHER SCALES RD SANDY RIDGE, NC 27046	853955-2018-2018	\$67.34
MYERS, MELISSA ROBERTS MYERS, MICHAEL	3919 LLOYDS CT, MCLEANSVILLE, NC 27301	302339-2018-2018	\$69.56
WHITT, TRAVIS DALE WHITT, CHERYL DENISE	309 CEDARDALE LN, KING, NC 27021	300606-2018-2018	\$52.54
WRIGHT, LAUREN M	488 QUAKER CHURCH RD, SILOAM, NC 27047	8556-2018-2018 8556-2017-2017 8556-2016-2016 8556-2015-2015	\$55.23 \$55.13 \$54.76 \$51.38
THOMAS, TIMOTHY DOUGLAS DEER RUN FARM	285 THOMAS RD, KING, NC 27021	10368-2018-2018 10368-2017-2017	\$44.45 \$61.59
AIR WORKS INC	3381 NC 66 HWY S, KING, NC 27021	9413-2018-2018 9413-2017-2017	\$46.05 \$47.90
DOTSON, EMSY H DOTSON, DARLENE	1140 VILLAGE DR, WALNUT COVE, NC 27052	285585-2018-2018	\$60.16
BULLINS, JESSE DEAN	1194 HOWARD BULLINS RD, MADISON, NC 27025	9341-2018-2018	\$55.55
TOTAL AMOUNT			\$721.64

## STOKES COUNTY TAX ADMINISTRATION REFUND REPORT FOR OCTOBER, 2018

### REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY REFUNDS MORE THAN \$100 PER NCGS 105-381(b)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	<u>LEDGER</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>REASON</u>
MCCOY, ETTA BEVINS	1055 CLIFF VIEW DR KING, NC 27021	40756461	100.3100.113	\$84.27	VEHICLE SOLD
			209.3100.112	\$10.87	
			211.3100.001	\$5.44	

### Stokes County Animal Control – DataMax Animal Control Collections

TO: Stokes County Board of Commissioners

FROM: Jake M. Oakley

RE: DataMax Animal Control Collections

DATE: November 7, 2018

In accordance with N.C.G.S 105A-1, the County can utilize DataMax Collection Services for Stokes County Animal Control fines. It has been verified with DataMax that the County will not be required to setup a separate account for Animal Control Citation Debt Setoff since the County already has a Capital Management Account for Debt Setoff. Please see the N.C. General Statute below.

#### 105A-1. Purposes

The purpose of this Chapter is to establish as policy that all claimant agencies and the Department of Revenue shall cooperate in identifying debtors who owe money to the State or to a local government through their various agencies and who qualify for refunds from the Department of Revenue. It is also the intent of this Chapter that procedures be established for setting off against any refund the sum of any debt owed to the State or to a local government. Furthermore, it is the legislative intent that this Chapter be liberally construed so as to effectuate these purposes as far as legally and practically possible. (1979, c. 801, s. 94; 1997-490, s. 1.)

Commissioner Jones moved to approve the Consent Agenda.

Commissioner Lankford seconded.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for any discussion/questions/comments.

With no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

## **INFORMATION AGENDA**

Chairman Mendenhall noted there were no items on the Information Agenda at tonight's meeting.

## **DISCUSSION AGENDA**

### **Wellness Center Presentation**

Chairman Mendenhall noted that this project has been in the works for over a year, and that Commissioner Lankford and Commissioner Walker have been gathering information along with our County Manager Jake Oakley and Economic Development Director Wil Carter. They have visited numerous facilities, and we have now gotten information from Architect Perry Peterson.

Chairman Mendenhall turned the floor over to Commissioner Lankford, Architect Perry Peterson, and Economic Development Director Will Carter.

Commissioner Lankford presented the following information to the Board:

- As our Chairman mentioned, we have been gathering information on what is needed in a Wellness Center for Stokes County.
- At a doctor's appointment recently I had to answer five pages of questions related to wellness.
- Insurance companies and Medicare are very concerned with wellness programs.
- We see a major need for this Wellness Center in this location of the County.
- The western part of the county already has a YMCA, which is located in King.
- This is too far away for people to travel.
- We felt like if we could get a facility in the center of the County, which is the Meadows area, this would work well for everyone.
- We already have the land in this area.
- It would be an ideal location.
- We are hoping we can make this happen.
- We have been working on this for about a year.
- In the past five months, we have visited five different facilities in three different counties, which were Rockingham, Guilford, and Forsyth.
- One of the facilities that we looked at in Forsyth County fit what we thought we would need in Stokes County.
- At this time, Perry Peterson and Will Carter have information to present on the Wellness Center

Architect Perry Peterson presented the following information to the Board:

- It is my job as an architect to take this idea and turn it into a building that everyone can use.
- The other thing I have to do is try and project how much this building will cost.
- The first thing everyone asks when they see something nice is how much will it cost.
- The projected costs and details of the building are:

- Gross Building Area- 19,186 square feet (sf)
- Statement of Probable Cost
- Building
- \$158 per sf Subtotal
- Building Total 19,186 area x \$158 = \$3,031,388
- Site Work
- Site Work Total \$403,000
- Building/Site Summary
- Building- \$3,031,000
- Site Work \$403,000
- 5% Contingency \$170,000
- Total- \$3,604,000
- Other Costs (Fees, Surveying, Internet)
- Other Costs Total \$331,000
- Total Project Probable Cost \$3,935,000

Architect Perry Peterson provided a 3D presentation of the Stokes Wellness Center:

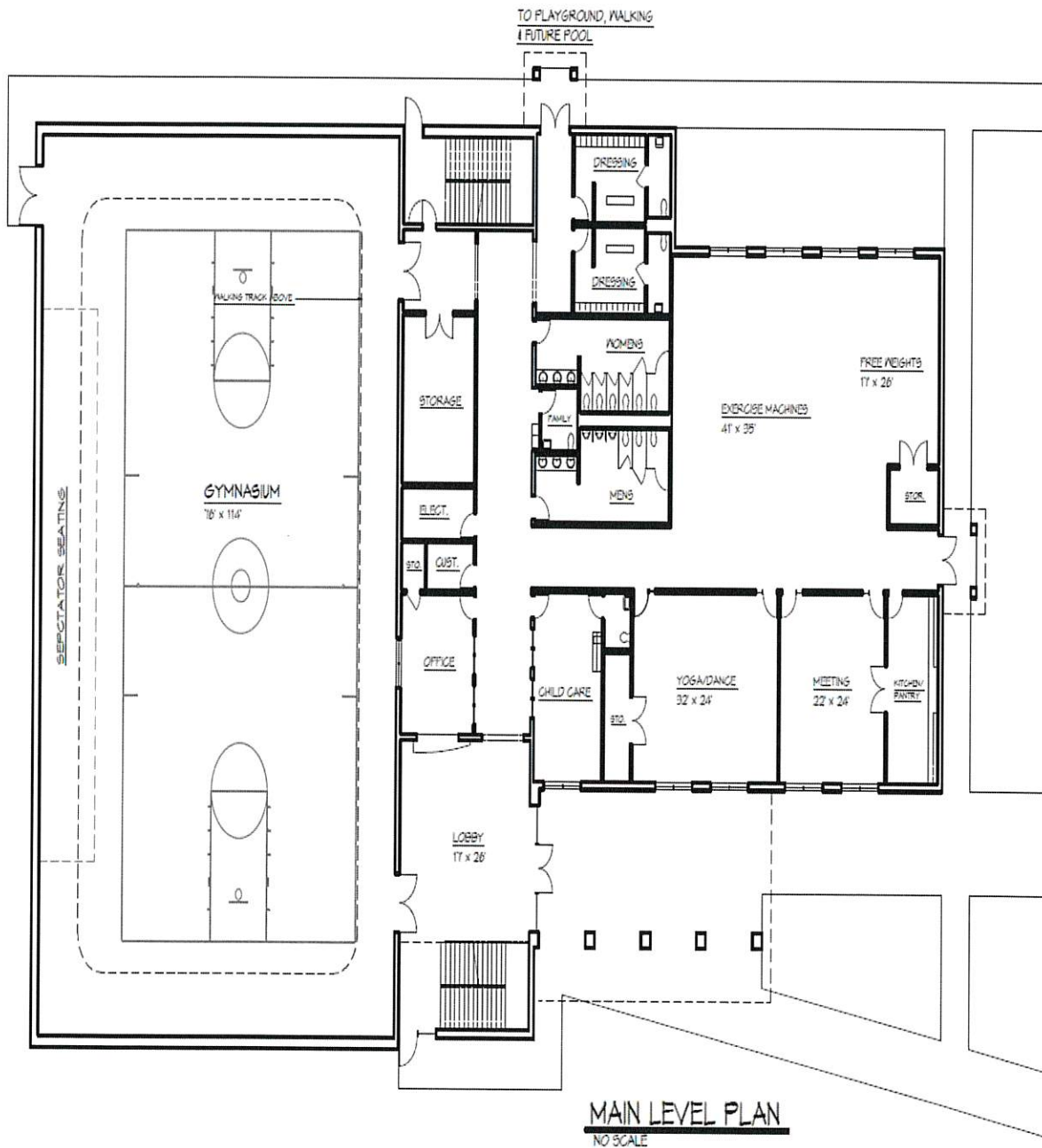
- A large amount of land has been left towards the back so that down the road if there does need to be addition to the building there will be the land to do it on.
- There is a hallway leading to the back of the building that would make this possible.
- We are not only building what we want to do today but are hopefully planning ahead for the future.
- You may want to add a swimming pool or more exercise space.
- There are a tremendous amount of things that could happen.
- There would be a high school sized gym with a walking track above it.
- There could be many activities going on at once.
- There are windows on the top level as well, so as you are walking you can view what is going on outside.
- The floor plan for the facility has a lobby that 50 or 60 people could comfortably be in at once.
- The other thing that the lobby offers, is a reception area that is built to act as kind of a gate keeper so that one or two people can basically run the building.
- This design would eliminate having a large staff to run the building.
- This is centrally located so they can keep an eye on what is going on in the facility.
- There will also be a spectator and child care area.
- The building will be multiuse with a yoga, dance, and exercise studio.
- It could also double as another large meeting room.
- There is a door to the parking lot for convenience if there were to be caterers coming in for events or meetings.
- There is a large space for exercise equipment.
- We envision this being a large room with lots of windows.
- There will be an area for free weights.
- For the number of people, there is a fairly large amount of restrooms.
- Also as required by code there is a family restroom.

- There are dressing rooms.
- We are not doing any kind of showering facility because that requires a whole different level of supervision.
- If you decided to do a swimming pool, there would need to be some showers.
- Our goal was to keep the building under 20,000 square feet while providing as much program space as possible.
- The numbers I provided for the cost are probably some of the highest I have ever done in my career.
- The \$3.9 million does not include exercise equipment but everything else you would expect in a turnkey project would be included.
- There are of course numerous grant opportunities available I am sure.
- Some of which have been discussed during our planning sessions.

















Economic Development Director Will Carter presented the following information to the Board:

- I am requesting that upon the Board's approval that the Board moves this item to the Action Agenda at tonight's meeting to approve the Capital Project Ordinance appropriating funds for the Wellness Center in the amount of \$4.2 million, with \$2 million from the general fund, and \$2.2 million from financing along with the approval of Budget Amendment #43.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for discussion/questions/comments.

Commissioner Jones commented:

- This looks beautiful.
- I have several questions.
- Will the track be rubberized?

Architect Perry Peterson responded:

- At this point we are not that far along to know.
- It will be made to be easy to walk on.
- It may end up being rubberized.
- There are some cushioned floors that are easy to walk on.
- We are at a very schematic state so the detailed decisions will be made at a later date.

Commissioner Jones continued:

- My other concern is low level lighting.
- We keep building these big buildings and if we are not careful we are going to lose our stars.
- That is one of our pluses in this county.
- I am hoping whoever comes in can be sure that doesn't happen.

Architect Perry Peterson responded:

- A lot of what is being done now is a cut off type lighting which is LED lighting and shines down so you don't have the typical light spilling out around the building.
- We have choices.
- We can limit the height which will also help.
- We can do less fixtures.
- I am glad that you brought this up so we can note that down.

Commissioner Jones continued:

- I am kind of surprised we have this on here tonight to sign our names on.
- It is a lot of money.
- Of course I am not against the project.
- I understand it is our last meeting.
- I am curious about the USDA loans and other funding.
- I want to be sure we are going to do all we can concerning grants to keep this off the taxpayers.

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Just like Commissioner Lankford said, this has been going on for over a year.
- We even had a committee looking at it at one time.
- All along the way I have had a lot of questions.
- I have been saying show me what you are talking about and how it can be done.
- I appreciate you showing us this tonight.
- After seeing this, I was expecting the cost to be way above what was presented here tonight.
- I think the need is here in Stokes County.
- We have built a good fund balance and even with taking this \$2 million out, we would still be leaving it in good shape.
- It would really benefit the early college.
- I feel it would be good for economic development in the county.
- I have been asking about how we can sustain this building?
- We pay \$117,000.00 to the YMCA out of our budget.
- With the way this is designed, with it being able to be ran by 2 people, that amount would cover it.
- With the fact that we are funding half of the money up front, it should make us a better candidate for grants.
- It is looking good.

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- I believe our other Commissioners have said pretty much everything.
- We have an aging population.
- We spend a lot of money on our children, which I am in support of.
- The Wellness Center will be good for the children as well but will also benefit our aging population which we have not spent much on in the past.
- It will provide an indoor environment for them exercise and congregate with one another.
- This is good for their physical and mental health.
- We currently have a fund balance of 33.3 %.
- If we take the \$2 million out it will leave the balance at 29.5%.
- When I came on this Board 12 years ago our fund balance was 8%.
- It was so low the County was broke.
- We could not even finance the Walnut Cove Library.
- When we completed out last budget we said we would not go below 25% and we have stuck to that.
- Just as Commissioner Booth stated, when you have matching funds it is easier to find grant money.
- I believe this is something that will help the people of the County.
- It will provide a service to the people.

Chairman Mendenhall commented:

- I have made a list of fourteen items that I would like to share on the positives surrounding the Wellness Center.
  - Most of them have already been spoken about.
  - If I repeat anything just bear with me.
  - 1. A Wellness Center is part of the process that helps to reduce insurance premiums. This has been addressed by two different speakers over the last few months.
  - 2. It will be a big boost to Economic Development in our County. Families and businesses prefer to move into areas that have a variety of activities to offer.
  - 3. It would offer physical activities from basketball, walking, yoga, and dance. On Election Day I had two people from the Walnut Cove area ask me if we were going to have a building that could accommodate yoga and dance.
  - 4. We already have the land.
  - 5. The location is in the center of the County.
  - 6. It certainly can serve all of the County, however it does give the people of the northern end something closer by that they are missing.
  - 7. Our County is extremely financially sound at this point. I give the credit to these Commissioners sitting beside me. It is going to be a challenge for the new Board members to continue this. I give kudos to three of you that are leaving for this accomplishment. They have done a tremendous job.
  - 8. Commissioner Lankford, Commissioner Walker, Economic Development Director Will Carter, and our County Manager Jake Oakley have visited several sites and answered a lot of the questions we had, especially with this presentation.
  - 9. I have known Perry Peterson for a long time. His architectural drawings are outstanding. When he gives you a price it is very close to the actual cost. He included the rising cost in the price. I have had the opportunity to work with him many times in the school system.
  - 10. One of my campaign promises was to improve Economic Development and this is a major step in that direction.
  - 11. When the YMCA was built in King, the County gave \$400,000.00 and every year since then has given \$117,000.00 with the YMCA contract.
  - 12. The Meadows Community is growing. We already have the FTCC Campus, the Trades Building is underway, as well as the Animal Shelter. This would just add to the growth of that area.
  - 13. It is usable by all ages.
  - 14. There is grant money available. We will have to dig in and get them.
- 
- This is a conservative Board.
  - However, if they see a chance to advance this county forward, they are going to take it.

Commissioner Booth commented:

- We have had Josh Carswell here from the USDA several times to speak about funding.
- With the amount we are putting in and the possibility of grants we can bring down the amount we have to borrow substantially.
- My fellow Commissioners know I have been asking lots of questions on this and do not make a decision off the cuff.
- With that being said, I feel confident in this being moved to the Action Agenda.

Commissioner Booth motioned to move the approval of the Wellness Center to the Action Agenda at tonight's meeting.

Commissioner Jones seconded.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for any further discussion/comments/questions.

With no further discussion and a 4-0 vote of the Board, the Chairman instructed the Clerk to add this to the Action Agenda at tonight's meeting.

### **Resolution for Dr. Gary Green with FTCC**

Chairman Mendenhall presented the following information to the Board:

- I received a request by email from Bill Green from FTCC requesting that the Board of Commissioners issue a proclamation recognizing Dr. Green's work at Forsyth Tech and in Stokes County.
- As many of you know, Dr. Green is retiring at the end of the year.
- They would like someone to present this at the retirement gathering to be held on December 12, 2018 at the college.
- December 31, 2018 will be Dr. Green's last day.

Commissioner Lankford motioned to move the proclamation to the Action Agenda at tonight's meeting.

Commissioner Jones seconded.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for discussion/questions/comments.

With no further discussion and a 4-0 vote of the Board, the Chairman instructed the Clerk to add this to the Action Agenda at tonight's meeting.

### **ACTION AGENDA**



**Stokes County Jail/Sheriff's Department Fingerprinting Machine Replacement Request with Budget Amendment #41 – Sheriff's Department**

Chairman Mendenhall entertained a motion regarding the replacement of the Stokes County Jail and Sheriff's Department Fingerprinting Machine and the approval of Budget Amendment #41.

The Stokes County Jail and Sheriff's Department Fingerprinting Machine Request was presented at the November 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, with I.T. recommending Motorola at a cost of \$36,200.00.

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #41.

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

Account Number	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	CURRENT BUDGETED AMOUNT	INCREASE (DECREASE)	AS AMENDED
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>				
Sheriff's Department				
100.4310.510	Equipment	\$ 2,415,856.00	\$ 8,200.00	\$ 2,424,056.00
100.4310.511	Equipment-Non Capitalized	\$ 160,699.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 162,699.00
	Jail			
100.4320.510	Equipment	\$ 195,796.00	\$ 24,000.00	\$ 219,796.00
100.4320.511	Equipment-Non Capitalized	\$ 13,981.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 15,981.00
	Total	\$ 2,786,332.00	\$ 36,200.00	\$ 2,822,532.00
<b>CAPITAL RESERVE</b>				
201.4320.012	Jail	\$ 3,426.00	\$ (3,426.00)	\$ -
201.9810.000	Transfer to General Fund	\$ 613,287.00	\$ 3,426.00	\$ 616,713.00
		\$ 616,713.00	\$ -	\$ 616,713.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate funds for the purchase of two finger printing machines and routers for the Sheriff's Department and Jail

This will result in a net increase of \$36,200.00 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				
100.3982.960	Transfer from Capital Reserve	\$ 613,287.00	\$ 3,426.00	\$ 616,713.00
100.3831.450	Interest Bank	\$ 282,400.00	\$ 32,774.00	\$ 315,174.00
	<b>TOTALS</b>	\$ 895,687.00	\$ 36,200.00	\$ 931,887.00

Commissioner Jones moved to approve the replacement of the Stokes County Jail and Sheriff's Department Fingerprinting Machine at a cost of \$36,200.00 and the approval of Budget Amendment #41.

Commissioner Booth seconded.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for any discussion/questions/comments.

With no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

### **Charters of Freedom –Letter of Intent**

Chairman Mendenhall entertained a motion regarding the Charters of Freedom - Letter of Intent.

Commissioner Lankford moved to approve the Charters of Freedom - Letter of Intent to be signed by the Chairman.

Commissioner Jones seconded.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for any discussion/questions/comments.

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Have we received any information on the timeline once the Letter of Intent is signed?
- At the last meeting we decided the location and to use the white brick at no cost to the taxpayers.

Acting County Manager / Clerk to the Board Shannon Shaver responded:

- The original copy of the letter of intent came in the mail today.
- I will get that sent back tomorrow.
- I will touch base with Mr. Streater on the timeline.
- That is correct on the location and the white brick.

Chairman Mendenhall commented:

- We are really looking forward to this and being able to have our students come here and see the founding documents of our Country.
- It is going to be really beautiful.

Commissioner Jones commented:

- This is one of the most exciting things we have done.
- It is smart, fast, and no cost to the County.
- It is completed by a non-profit.
- It will last hundreds of years.
- It will be located in the center of the complex.
- It will be an eye catcher.

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- I am excited about the project.
- I am appreciative of the non-profit providing this to us.

With no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

### **Paving and Flag Pole Installation at the Charters of Freedom Site**

Chairman Mendenhall entertained a motion regarding the paving and installation of a flag pole at the Charters of Freedom site.

Commissioner Jones moved to approve the paving and installation of a flag pole at the Charters of Freedom site.

Commissioner Lankford seconded.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for any discussion/questions/comments.

With no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

### **Wellness Center**

Chairman Mendenhall entertained a motion regarding the Wellness Center.

Commissioner Booth motioned to approve the capital project ordinance appropriating the funds for the Wellness Center in the amount of \$4.2 million, with \$2 million from the general fund, and \$2.2 million from financing and the approval of Budget Amendment #43.

Commissioner Lankford seconded.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for any discussion/questions/comments.

Commissioner Jones commented:

- I just want to be sure that we will be seeking grant funding for this project.

Commissioner Booth commented:

- I want to echo what Commissioner Jones said regarding the grant funding.
- I know if Commissioner Walker were here that he would be in support of this.
- He has been working on this for over a year.
- We ask that you keep him in your prayers.

Chairman Mendenhall commented:

- That is absolutely right.
- He has been 100 percent behind this.

- He is not here tonight and is in the hospital due to an accident.
- We wish him a speedy recovery.

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- We want to go after the grant funding first before financing.
- Commissioner Walker would be totally on board with this.
- I wish he could be here tonight.

With no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

### **Resolution for Dr. Gary Green with FTCC**

Chairman Mendenhall entertained a motion regarding the Resolution for Dr. Gary Green, FTCC President.

Commissioner Lankford moved to approve the Resolution for Dr. Gary Green, FTCC President.

Commissioner Booth seconded.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for any discussion/questions/comments.

Commissioner Booth commented:

- We will not be on the Board as County Commissioners when this is presented but I would like to be there.

Chairman Mendenhall asked the Clerk to contact Sherri Bowen with FTCC and request an invitation be sent to the Commissioners.

With no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

### **Closed Session**

Chairman Mendenhall entertained a motion to enter 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(a) (6)

Commissioner Booth moved to enter 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(a) (6)

Commissioner Lankford seconded.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for any discussion/comments/questions.

With no further discussion, the Board entered into closed session.

The Board re-entered the open session of the November 26, 2018 meeting.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for any additional business in open session.

#### **Acting County Manager –Stipend**

Commissioner Jones made a motion to provide our Acting County Manager with a stipend in the amount of \$1,000.00 per pay period retroactive to November 19, 2018.

Commissioner Booth seconded.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for any discussion/comments/questions.

With no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

#### **Finance – Part Time Position Extended**

Commissioner Booth made a motion to extend the part time position in the finance and purchasing until June 30, 2018 with no change in the details.

Commissioner Jones seconded.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for any discussion/comments/questions.

With no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

## **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Mendenhall recessed the meeting until Thursday November 29, 2018 at 6:30 pm.

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**Shannon Shaver**  
**Clerk to the Board**

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**Ronnie Mendenhall**  
**Chairman**