

**STATE OF NORTH )  
CAROLINA )  
 )  
COUNTY OF STOKES )**      **OFFICE OF THE  
COMMISSIONERS  
STOKES COUNTY  
GOVERNMENT  
DANBURY, NORTH  
CAROLINA  
MONDAY OCTOBER 28, 2019**

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 October 28, 2019 at 6:00pm with the following members present:

Board of Commissioners Present: Chairman Andy Nickelston, Vice Chairman Jimmy Walker, Commissioner Ronnie Mendenhall, Commissioner Rick Morris, and Commissioner Jamie Yontz

County Administration Present: County Manager Jake Oakley, Assistant County Manager/Clerk to the Board Shannon Shaver, Finance Director Julia Edwards, and County Attorney Ty Browder

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Nickelston called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order.

**INVOCATION**

Vice Chairman Walker delivered the Invocation

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Nickelston lead the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance and invited those in attendance to join.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chairman Nickelston noted that Item H. on the Discussion Agenda would need to be moved to the top of the Discussion Agenda due to the Sheriff will need to leave the meeting and needs to be in attendance for this item. The Board had no issues with this. Commissioner Mendenhall moved to to approve the agenda with the noted change to the order of the Discussion Agenda.

Commissioner Yontz seconded the motion. The motion Passed.

**COMMENTS - Managers/Commissioners**

Commissioner Morris welcomed those in attendance and those watching at home through YouTube. He thanked those who continue to read his blog and noted that he wanted to make an exception to a statement he made earlier regarding that he would not do business using Facebook. He noted that he would begin sharing his blog post on Facebook but other than that he would

continue with his original proclamation that he would not use social media to conduct local government business.

Vice Chairman Walker welcomed those in attendance and those watching at home. He noted that he agreed with Commissioner Morris on using any social media for government business, and reminded anyone wishing to get in touch with him that he answers emails and prefers to be contacted by phone as he likes to discuss things.

Commissioner Yontz welcomed those in attendance and watching at home and apologized for missing the last meeting due to that he had the flu and encouraged everyone to take care of themselves since it is that time of year.

Commissioner Mendenhall welcomed those in attendance and those watching at home and noted that he always appreciates those who take their time to participate in local government.

Chairman Nickelston welcomed those in attendance and those watching at home and noted that he hoped everyone finds their time spent well and feels they have learned something when they walk out the door.

County Manager Oakley welcomed those in attendance and those watching at home.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chairman Nickelston opened the floor for public comments and noted that one individual had signed up to speak.

(Public Comments began at 6:10 pm and ended at 6:13 pm)

Ellen Peric  
1095 Wheeler Smith Road  
Lawsonville, NC 27022

RE: Arts Update

### **Apple Gallery - November**

**The Stokes County Arts Council is featuring the Photography work of Shane Sargent at The Apple Gallery.**

Shane's passion for photography began with the love of traveling and capturing the places and things along the way from childhood to present. For the past 8 to 10 years, he has been working on his skills as a photographer and striving for uniqueness in a crowded field. Shane has worked with many local and regional businesses to produce photography to market their brands through social media and advertising. His photography was recently featured on "Your Shot," a National Geographic community page for photographers around the world.

His exhibit, on display throughout November, features nature landscapes and tourist attractions in the region.

Opening Reception is Nov 1<sup>st</sup> 5:30 pm

### **4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday – Paint Night – October 29**

Join Artist Craig Richards as he teaches how to capture the colors of Fall in a way that will

maximize the impact of color and light. Watch as your painting transforms into crisp air and woodland color.

Time: 6-8pm

Location: The Arts Place Artist's Loft

Instructor: Craig Richards

Fee: \$30

### **Wood to Art – Nov 1<sup>st</sup> through the 10<sup>th</sup>**

We are excited to announce our first annual Wood To Art event sponsored by The Arts Place of Stokes and Stokes County Arts Council.

Come and see the creations of local and surrounding county craftsmen in their 10 day pop up event.

From hand crafted writing pens, earrings, dining tables, hutches and everything in between, you will not be disappointed in this show of talent.

This installation includes work from artists Angela and Mark Mabe from March Legend Furniture, Aaron and Sarah Gibbons, Stephen Honeycutt, Matt Parker, Carl Rintleman, and Chris Davis.

There will be an **opening reception on Friday November 1<sup>st</sup>** at 5:30pm until 7:30 pm. The artists will be present to talk about their work and creating commission pieces.

Work will remain for sale in The Arts Place of Stokes until Sunday November 10th.

### **Barn Quilt Class – November 3rd**

Instructor Sarah Maddox guides you through the painting process, no prior painting experience is necessary. Light snacks will be provided. Registration includes all materials – Birchwood Quilt Square and paints.

12:30-4:30pm - CLASS IS FULL

(New November date has been added: November 17, 2019)

Location: The Arts Place

2 x 2 barn quilt square \$65

3 x 3 barn quilt square \$95

### **Beginning and Intermediate Wheel Throwing – Begins Nov 5<sup>th</sup> to Dec 10th**

Join us for Beginner & Intermediate Wheel Throwing at The Arts Place. This six week course begins Tuesday, November 5th and runs through Tuesday, December 10th.

Beginner level students learn how to prepare the clay, center the clay on the wheel, create cylinders, bowls, mugs, and plates.

Intermediate level students will focus on making lids to fit jars and teapots with knobs for each as well. You will also learn how to make sets of wares.

Instructor Anne-Gaillard Duddy has an MFA in Ceramics and has been creating beautiful, award-winning pottery for over a decade.

Registration is \$150 and includes all materials. Space is limited.

**Parking Lot Update:** The guardrails look fantastic and this week we also got the lines painted. With handicap there is a total of 42 spaces – not counting the spaces at Artist Way.

**Tony Brown Celebration:** An absolute success for us and The North Carolina Arts Council – what a way to celebrate “Come Hear NC 2019” the year of music.

Spread the Word- Soup in a Bowl is November 23rd

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

All attachments presented on the Agenda are available in the attachments of the Agenda on the County Website and are available upon request from the Clerk, with the exception of the minutes approved which are located on the County Website under the minutes tab.

Minutes

Budget Amendments

Tax Administration

Commissioner Mendenhall moved to to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Morris seconded the motion. The motion Passed.

## **INFORMATION AGENDA**

### **FTCC Update**

Dr. Janet Spriggs provided an update to the Board regarding FTCC and the relationship with Stokes County.

### **Fire Marshal -ISO Ratings/Fire Prevention Month**

Fire Marshal Scott Aaron presented the Board with information on the improved ISO Ratings at two Fire Departments and spoke to the Board about Fire Prevention Month.

## **DISCUSSION AGENDA**

### **Propane Vehicles**

Commissioner Morris and Sheriff Marshall presented the Board with information on propane vehicles. After some discussion by the Board this item was placed back on the discussion agenda at the next meeting with a request to invite Hall Oil and Propane to answer questions.

### **Stokes County Health Department -Annual Health Report and Vaccine Fee Schedule**

Health Director Tammy Martin presented the Board with the Annual Health Report and Vaccine Fee Schedule. There was a request for the Vaccine Fee Schedule to be moved to the Action Agenda at the next meeting. After some discussion by the Board the Vaccine Fee Schedule was

placed on the Action Agenda at the next meeting.

### **LKC Engineering**

Bill Lester and Mark Lacey with LKC Engineering presented the Board with information on the RFQ they submitted to Stokes County which was recommended by Water Committee to the Board. After some discussion by the Board this item was placed on the Action Agenda at the next meeting.

(Chairman Nickelston called a short recess at 7:35 pm)

### **Finance options FY 19-20 Equipment Purchase**

(Chairman Nickelston called the meeting back to order at 7:50pm)

Support Services Supervisor Glenda Pruitt presented the Board with finance options for FY 19/20 Equipment Purchases. After some discussion by the Board this item was placed on the Action Agenda at the next meeting.

### **Sales Tax Referendum**

County Manager Jake Oakley presented the Board with information regarding the sales tax referendum and presented the Board with a letter and information requested from the Board of Education. There was some discussion by the Board and due to not having time to review the letter prior to the meeting the consensus of the Board was to place this item back on the Discussion Agenda at the next meeting on November 12th.

### **Fiddlers Lane -Request for Addition**

County Manager Oakley presented the Board with information related to a request from the NC D.O.T. regarding a road being added to the state maintenance system. The NC D.O.T. has requested that this be acted on as soon as possible. After some discussion by the Board and full consensus of the Board this item was moved to the Action Agenda at tonight's meeting.

### **Animal Control Advisory Board - Revised Ordinance Request**

County Manager Jake Oakley presented the Board with a request for a revision of the Animal Control Ordinance received from the Animal Control Advisory Board. After some discussion by the Board this item was moved to the Action Agenda at the next meeting.

### **PTRDC Appointment Request**

County Manager Oakley presented the Board with a request from the PTRDC regarding the appointment of Commissioner Morris.

Chairman Nickelston opened the floor for nominations.

Commissioner Mendenhall nominated Commissioner Morris and moved that the floor be closed for nominations.

Vice Chairman Walker seconded.

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

With no further discussion the motion carried unanimously and this item with full consensus of the Board was placed on the Action Agenda at the next meeting for final approval.

### **Court House Parking Lot-Change Order**

County Manager Oakley presented the Board with information related to the change order for the Court House parking lot and Budget Amendment #41. County Manager Oakley requested that due to the time sensitive nature that this item be moved with Budget Amendment #41 to the Action Agenda at tonight's meeting.

After much discussion by the Board this item was moved to the Action Agenda at tonight's meeting.

### **County Employee Christmas Meal**

Assistant County Manager/Clerk to the Board Shannon Shaver presented the Board with a proposed date and information for the County Employee Christmas Meal.

After some discussion by the Board this item was moved to the Consent Agenda at the next meeting.

### **2020 Meeting Calendar**

Assistant County Manager/Clerk to the Board Shannon Shaver presented the Board with the 2020 Meeting Schedule.

After some discussion by the Board this item was moved to the Consent Agenda at the next meeting.

## **ACTION AGENDA**

### **Stokes County Water and Sewer Authority-Appointment Request**

Chairman Nickelston noted that Adam Stewart was nominated at the last meeting and opened the floor for any further nominations.

With no further nominations Chairman Nickelston entertained a motion to close the floor for nominations.

Vice Chairman Walker moved to close the floor for nominations.

Commissioner Mendenhall seconded the motion.

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

With no further discussion and full consensus of the Board the motion carried.

Chairman Nickelston polled the Board:

Commissioner Morris: Adam Stewart

Vice Chairman Walker: Adam Stewart  
Commissioner Yontz: Adam Stewart  
Commissioner Mendenhall: Adam Stewart  
Chairman Nickelston: Adam Stewart

Chairman Nickelston noted that Adam Stewart had been appointed to the Stokes County Water and Sewer Authority.

### **Walnut Cove Senior Center Advisory Council Appointment Request**

Chairman Nickelston noted that Amanda Dodson was nominated at the last meeting and opened the floor for any further nominations.

With no further nominations Chairman Nickelston entertained a motion to close the floor for nominations.

Vice Chairman Walker moved to close the floor for nominations.

Commissioner Mendenhall seconded the motion.

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

With no further discussion and full consensus of the Board the motion carried.

Chairman Nickelston polled the Board:

Commissioner Morris: Amanda Dodson  
Vice Chairman Walker: Amanda Dodson  
Commissioner Yontz: Amanda Dodson  
Commissioner Mendenhall: Amanda Dodson  
Chairman Nickelston: Amanda Dodson

Chairman Nickelston noted that Amanda Dodson had been appointed to the Walnut Cove Senior Center Advisory Council.

### **Fire Commission Vacancies**

Chairman Nickelston noted that Layn Wagner was nominated at the last meeting and opened the floor for any further nominations.

With no further nominations Chairman Nickelston entertained a motion to close the floor for nominations.

Commissioner Mendenhall moved to close the floor for nominations.

Commissioner Morris seconded the motion.

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

With no further discussion and full consensus of the Board the motion carried.

Chairman Nickelston polled the Board:

Commissioner Morris: Layn Wagner  
Vice Chairman Walker: Layn Wagner  
Commissioner Yontz: Layn Wagner  
Commissioner Mendenhall: Layn Wagner  
Chairman Nickelston: Layn Wagner

Chairman Nickelston noted that Layn Wagner had been appointed as a civilian member to the Fire Commission.

Chairman Nickelston noted that Steve Fagg was nominated at the last meeting to finish out the term of Amos Elvis and opened the floor for any further nominations.

With no further nominations Chairman Nickelston entertained a motion to close the floor for nominations.

Vice Chairman Walker moved to close the floor for nominations.

Commissioner Mendenhall seconded the motion.

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

With no further discussion and full consensus of the Board the motion carried.

Chairman Nickelston polled the Board:

Commissioner Morris: Steve Fagg  
Vice Chairman Walker: Steve Fagg  
Commissioner Yontz: Steve Fagg  
Commissioner Mendenhall: Steve Fagg  
Chairman Nickelston: Steve Fagg

Chairman Nickelston noted that Steve Fagg had been appointed to finish out the term of Amos Elvis as civilian member of the Fire Commission.

Chairman Nickelston noted that Donnie Mabe and Brad Mitchell were nominated at the last meeting and opened the floor for any further nominations.

With no further nominations Chairman Nickelston entertained a motion to close the floor for nominations.

Commissioner Mendenhall moved to close the floor for nominations.

Vice Chairman Walker seconded the motion.

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

With no further discussion and full consensus of the Board the motion carried.

Chairman Nickelston polled the Board:



Commissioner Morris: Donnie Mabe and Brad Mitchell  
Vice Chairman Walker: Donnie Mabe and Brad Mitchell  
Commissioner Yontz: Donnie Mabe and Brad Mitchell  
Commissioner Mendenhall: Donnie Mabe and Brad Mitchell  
Chairman Nickelston: Donnie Mabe and Brad Mitchell

Chairman Nickelston noted that Donnie Mabe and Brad Mitchell had been appointed to serve as Fire Service Members on the Fire Commission.

### **Fiddlers Lane -Request for Addition**

Chairman Nickelston entertained a motion on the item presented at tonight's meeting.

Commissioner Mendenhall moved to to approve the request from the NC D.O.T. to add Fiddlers Lane to the state road maintenance system with resolution.

Vice Chairman Walker seconded the motion. The motion Passed.

Abstain: Yontz

### **Court House Parking Lot -Change Order with Budget Amendment #41**

Chairman Nickelston entertained a motion on the item presented at tonight's meeting.

Commissioner Yontz moved to to approve the Court House Parking Lot Change Order and Budget Amendment # 41.

Commissioner Mendenhall seconded the motion. The motion Passed.

Ayes: Mendenhall, Morris, Nickelston, Yontz

Nays: Walker

### **CLOSED SESSION**

#### **Closed Session**

Commissioner Yontz moved to to enter Closed Session to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged pursuant to GS 143-318.11(a)(3).

Commissioner Mendenhall seconded the motion. The motion Passed.

#### **Adjournment**

With there being no further business to come before the Board Chairman Nickelston entertained a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Mendenhall moved to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner Yontz seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 pm.



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



**Andy Nickelston**  
**Chairman**