



The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, July 17, 2017, at 10:00 am in the Board Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, 348 South Main Street, Sparta, North Carolina.

Present: Chair Mark Evans, Commissioner Bobby Irwin, Commissioner Tom Smith, Commissioner John Irwin, Commissioner Larry Prince, County Manager, Mike James, County Attorney Donna Shumate and Clerk to the Board Lauren Linker.

Chair Mark Evans opened the meeting led the pledge of allegiance and Commissioner Larry Prince gave the invocation.

Chair Mark Evans and County Manager, Mike James discussed addition to the agenda. The addition is a closed session under Economic Development 143-318.11A (4).

AGENDA

Monday, July 17, 2017

10:00 AM

- 10:00 Meeting Called to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation
Motion on Agenda for July 17, 2017 Meeting
Motion on Minutes from June 13th, 19th, and 22nd
- A. 10:05 Spotlight Business, Alleghany Meat Center, Steve Edwards
- B. 10:15 Public Agenda Comments
- C. 10:25 Bryan Cassell, 8th Annual NCACC Youth Summit
- D. 10:35 Rita Miller, Tax Administrator – (Page 1-8)
1. Auto Refunds-VTS System - **Action Requested**
 2. Auto Releases- Old System - **Action Requested**
 3. Real Releases - **Action Requested**
 4. Real Refunds - **Action Requested**
 5. Tax Collection Report
 6. Enforced Collection Report
 7. Payment Agreement Report
 8. Settlement of 2016 Property Tax– **Action Requested**
 9. Abatement of 2006 Delinquent Property Tax– **Action Requested**
 10. Order to Collect 2017 Property Tax – **Action Requested**
- E. 10:45 Joe Ward, Chamber of Commerce
1. Commissioner Chamber Board Appointment
- F. General Business
1. Resolution: Release from and amendment to certain declaration of covenants, conditions and restrictions. – **Action Requested**
 2. Agriculture Advisory Board Appointment: Bob Woodward, Bobby Davis, Bobby Evans, Susie Gambill – **Action Requested**
 3. Farmland Preservation Board Appointment: Alvin Dixon, Bettie Upchurch, Roger Williams, Aaron Ray Tompkins– **Action Requested**
 4. Jury Commissioner Appointment – **Action Requested**
 5. Animal Shelter Contract– **Action Requested**
 6. Fuel Oil Bids – **Action Requested**
 7. Resolution: Declaration of Surplus Property– **Action Requested**
- G. Public Comments—30 minutes

H. County Manager Comments

1. Buying Local Update
2. Bulk/Consolidated Purchases of Supplies
3. Courtroom Security Update

I. Commissioners Comments

1. John Irwin: Discussion on filling of vacant positions
Using county employees vs contract labor

J. Adjourn

Commissioner Tom Smith made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 5:0

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Tom Smith seconded. Vote 5:0

Chair Mark Evans opened the public agenda comments sections. Seeing no one he closed this section.

Bryan Cassell, 4-H representative explained what he will be doing at the 110th annual NCACC meeting.

The Board thanked Bryan Cassell for going and representing Alleghany County. They noted how excited they were to have younger people involved in the process of local and state governments.

Tax Administrator Rita Miller, went over the vehicle refunds from the vehicle taxing system.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve the vehicle refunds. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 5:0

Rita Miller went over the auto releases under the old system, the real property release and refunds.

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to approve the release and refunds. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0

Rita Miller next went over the tax collection report, enforced collection report and payment agreements report. She then went over the settlement of 2016 property tax

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve the settlement report. Commissioner Tom Smith seconded. Vote 5:0

Rita Miller next went over the abatement of 2006 delinquent property tax.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin asked if there was anything else that could be done to collect the taxes.

Rita Miller said the Tax Office had tried everything to collect, but after ten years there are no more enforceable ways to collect.

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to approve the abatement report. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0

Rita Miller then went over other personal property, not vehicles, that is ten years or older.

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to approve the report. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0

Rita Miller lastly went over the written order to collect 2017 property tax.

Commissioner Tom Smith made a motion to approve the order. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 5:0

Chair Mark Evans asked what the time line looks like for the Tax Office's new software.

Rita Miller explained that part of the installation would start this fall and it would be finalized in early 2019.

Chair Mark Evans asked about working on in house appraisals.

Rita Miller said they had already begun working on their reevaluation plan and should have that ready to present later this fall.

Joe Ward, President of the Chamber of Commerce explained that he was there to request a Commissioner be selected to serve on the Chamber Board of Directors.

Chair Mark Evans noted he would like to nominate Commissioner Prince. Commissioner Smith seconded. Vote 5:0

County Manager Mike James explained the resolution for the migrant housing inside the city limits. He then went over what the project was and why they needed the facility. He then recommended the Board pass the resolution to change the zoning to allow the facility.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin asked if there needed to be public input.

County Attorney Donna Shumate said no there is no need and there would be multiple opportunities on the Town side since they would be making the decisions on the actual project.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve conditional upon to approval from the Town. Commissioner Tom Smith seconded.

Vote 5:0

Chair Mark Evans went over the history of the Agriculture Advisory Board appointments.

Linda Hash gave a brief oversight of each appointee.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin asked about merging the Agriculture Advisory Board and the Farmland Preservation Board.

Linda Hash explained the Boards were aware of the idea, but were not quite ready to move forward just yet.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve the appointments for the Agriculture Advisory Board. Commissioner Prince seconded. Vote 5:0

Linda Hash gave a summary of the Farmland Preservation Board and its make up. She then went over each of the appointees.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve the appointments. Chair Evans seconded. Vote 5:0

County Manager Mike James explained the jury commission position opening.

Commissioner John Irwin nominated Mildred Jones to be appointed to the Jury Commission.

The Board discussed the nominee and the person that had previously served.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to appoint Mildred Jones to the jury commission. Commissioner Prince seconded. Vote 5:0

County Manager Mike James went over the new animal shelter contract and recommended the Board adopted the contract.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin made a motion to approve the contract making sure both parties clarify number 7. Commissioner John Irwin seconded.

Chair Evans asked what would be happening after the first two years.

County Manager Mike James said after the first two years it is dependent on the Board.

Vote 5:0

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve the bid from Hometown Oil to provide the County with fuel oil. Commissioner Bobby Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0

County Manager Mike James went over the surplus sale resolution.

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to approve the surplus list. Commissioner Bobby Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0

County Manager, Mike James then went over the one bid received for the auctioneer of the surplus sale.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve the auctioneer of the surplus sale. Commissioner Prince seconded. Vote 5:0

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to approve F. G. Dillard as the contractor for the maintenance buildings bid.

Chair Evans declared a recess at 11:35 am.

Chair Evans called the Board back in session at 11:40 am.

Chair Evans opened the floor for public comments.

Terry Johnson spoke on the migrant housing project for seasonal workers.

County Manager Mike James went over the County buy local initiative. He then went over bulk buying options and then noted a courthouse security resolution that would be coming soon. He then went over the update for the backup PSAP and how the installation and startup had gone. He went on to talk about an opioid summit that was brought from the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners for each county to hold and looking forward at scheduling the event. He then went over the live streaming options for the Commissioner meetings and updating the cameras. Next, he suggested a public hearing on the beautification ordinance, formally known as the nuisance ordinance. He then explained a road closure the Board had agreed to in Roaring Gap and just noted they would need to hold a public hearing.

Commissioner John Irwin discussed making the Board aware of all employment positions and changes. He gave an example of the issues of hiring a county employee over contracting help. He spoke about having to pay for insurance and retirement versus contacting help.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin went over the health department final budget. He then discussed the different agencies overlapping and wanting to consider that. He went on to talk about a 2-3% decrease in each department's budget. He went over the road sign issue and what the public perception was from the newspaper, but that the ones involved completed community service and paid their fees to be able to not be charged. Next, he suggested a collaboration with all the committees in the county that do similar things.

Chair Mark Evans stated he was looking to put something together to get a round table discussion to allow the agencies to explain what they each do and help bring an understanding to everyone.

Commissioner Tom Smith made a motion to enter into closed session for economic development under NC GS 143-318.11 A (4) at 12:26. Commissioner Prince seconded. Vote 5:0

Chair Evans called the meeting back to regular session at 12:38.

County Manager Mike James explained a local business needs a 5% match to help them receive a grant.

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to approve a 5% match for the County to support project showtime. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren Linker
Clerk to the Board

Attest:

Mark Evans
Chair