

The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in special session on Wednesday, June 24, 2015, immediately following the public hearing scheduled to begin at 6:30pm in the Board Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, 348 South Main Street, Sparta, North Carolina.

Present: Chair Tom Smith, Vice-Chair Karen Leys, Commissioner Larry Davis, Commissioner Mark Evans, Commissioner Bobby Irwin, County Manager Don Adams, and Clerk to the Board Karen Evans. County Attorney Donna Shumate was absent.

Chair Smith opened the special called meeting at 6:48pm.

Commissioner Irwin made a motion to approve agenda. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

#### AGENDA

June 24, 2015

Immediately following budget public hearing

1. Approval of Agenda
2. 2015/16 Fee Schedules
3. 2015/16 Budget Ordinance
4. 2015/16 Pay Plans
5. Reimbursement Resolution
6. Employee New Hire Policy
7. 2014/15 Year-End Budget Amendments
8. NCDOT Priorities
9. General Discussions

Chair Smith talked about items 2 through 6 go together.

County Manager Adams mentioned all of the information is available in draft form if the Board wants to proceed. Chair Smith agreed to proceed.

County Manager Adams provided information to the Board about the changes up to this point. He also provided fee schedules to the Board for 2015/16. He reviewed the changes to the budget at this point, reduction of capital in Social Services, addition of revenues for building inspections, reduction of fire inspections fees, added Social Worker Supervisor II position, increase the salary of the Planning Director/Inspector III. He reviewed the fee schedules; EMS, Alleghany in Motion, Building Inspections.

Commissioner Evans talked about his conversation with Toni Williams in Inspections about there will be a programing fee change. County Manager Adams said it will be around \$500. The County Manager explained if the Board wishes to proceed then there will be a budget amendment on July 20 for the \$500.

County Manager Adams continued reviewing the fees; Recreation, Solid Waste, Emergency Management.

Chair Smith asked about the additional fees for Emergency Management were already in place. County Manager Adams said yes they were already in place just never on the fee schedule.

County Manager Adams reviewed the proposed budget ordinance. He talked about the budget ordinance including the tax rate of 0.5125 cents per \$100.

Chair Smith asked if there are any questions.

Commissioner Leys asked about the inter-fund loan under the Budget Officer. County Manager Adams explained that this is between funds and cash flow needs throughout the year. They talked about all of the monies are in the same checking account. County Manager Adams talked about the restrictions for the Budget Officer, internal set of rules, departmental transfers in the General Fund, inter-fund transfers. They

discussed the balances of the capital project funds. He explained the use of the Courthouse Fund and Safety Fund in this budget.

Chair Smith asked for other questions. No one spoke.

County Manager Adams handed out pay plans full time and part time. He reviewed the full-time pay plan changes; Planning Director/Inspector III, Social Worker Supervisor II, Jail Administrative Assistant to Deputy, longevity change to 0.5. He further reviewed the part-time pay plan changes; Victims Advocate and changes to Recreation.

Chair Smith asked for other questions. No one spoke.

County Manager Adams provided copies of the proposed reimbursement resolution. He reviewed the resolution including it is for a maximum principal amount of \$276,883 for the capital listed in the Budget Message. He explained this allows us to start the process of purchasing the equipment prior to obtaining the loan.

Commissioner Evans asked when the County Manager comes back with the loan approval the Commissioners will see the loan details including the interest rate. County Manager Adams said that's correct.

Chair Smith asked for other questions. No one spoke.

County Manager Adams provided language for the new hire policy regarding retiree insurance effective for people hired on or after July 1, 2015. He read the proposed language including where the language would be inserted in the Personnel Policy. He said this has been approved by the County Attorney. Commissioner Evans talked about the current age for Medicare is 65 and that could change in future to whatever is applicable. County Manager Adams said yes that's correct.

County Manager Adams explained these are the items that needs to be approved in that order whenever the Board would like to proceed with the budget.

County Manager Adams presented budget amendment Economic Development Fund #2 in the amount of \$6,812 to budget for the transfer of the remaining monies for the security cameras. He explained that the cameras are being installed and the bill won't be received until after the end of this year.

Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve budget amendment Economic Development Fund #2 in the amount of \$6,812. Commissioner Leys seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

County Manager Adams talked about the NCDOT priorities and the previous discussion regarding submitting a project to the RPO. He reminded everyone that the goals are due to High Country Council of Government by July 8.

Chair Smith declared a brief recess at 7:16pm.

County Manager Adams presented copies of the NCDOT priorities. He reviewed the request can be one of the projects that has been removed or the Board can submit something new.

Chair Smith asked what the Board wants to do.

County Manager Adams explained if a project that had been kicked out is put back in then it will have local points. Commissioner Davis and County Manager Adams talked about the points assigned regionally and these have no local points. Chair Smith asked about the regional/division points and the reason to not submit the ones with the most points. County Manager Adams explained items are part of the master plan, long list of items that received the points, main thoroughfares, and points are scored numerous ways. Chair Smith asked since a project scored the most points would it be the one to submit. County Manager Adams explained that it scored the most points but it costs the most, and

if this is the goal to submit then Alleghany County needs to submit it for several years. The County Manager gave an example of costs for the roundabouts are a lot less and said that NCDOT would be more likely to push a smaller project faster.

Commissioner Davis talked about how dangerous the intersection of 113/221 is.

Commissioner Irwin said he doesn't understand why 93 isn't on the list. Commissioner Davis said 93 needs widening and 113 does, too.

County Manager Adams explained regionally none of these projects compete and not even close. He talked about getting projects done within Mike Pettyjohn's budget and the other projects are competing with major thoroughfares in larger counties. He reiterated that our statistics won't compare well. Commissioner Davis said population is figured into this too. County Manager Adams stated traffic counts are used. The County Manager explained how things are reviewed now.

Chair Smith mentioned that NCDOT likes the roundabouts. County Manager Adams said they are the ones who submitted these. Commissioner Davis stated there are none in Division 11.

Commissioner Evans said he agrees with Commissioner Davis about the 113/221 intersection being a bad spot. County Manager Adams explained if the Commissioners chose that one, there is a grave, the message from him then if not a roundabout then do something at that intersection. Commissioner Davis said that he has mentioned different light options there. Commissioner Leys talked about the fatalities at 113/221, and nice roundabouts in Jonesville and Pilot Mountain. Chair Smith mentioned there is a possibility of us seeing this done.

County Manager Adams gave an example of 93 has been on the list prior to him working here.

Commissioner Leys talked about taking advantage of the regional/division points too on selecting a goal. Chair Smith said that isn't something they would consider very much. Commissioner Evans said the costs of those project won't make it feasible.

Chair Smith asked for any other questions.

Commissioner Davis made a motion put the roundabout at 113/221 back on the priority list. Commissioner Irwin seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Chair Smith said traditionally we have waited until the next day after public comments with respect to the speakers regarding the budget adoption. He stated that he likes that tradition. He asked for comments about moving forward with the budget.

Commissioner Irwin said he will be here tomorrow at 10:00am.

Chair Smith recessed this special called meeting at 7:40pm until 10:00am on Thursday, June 25.

Respectfully Submitted,

Attest:

Karen Evans  
Clerk to the Board

Tom Smith  
Chairman