



The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in special called Joint Town and Count meeting on Monday, April 22nd, 2019, at 6:30 pm in the Board Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, 348 South Main Street, Sparta, North Carolina.

Present: Chair Mark Evans, Commissioner Larry Prince, Commissioner Bill Osborne, Commissioner Bobby Irwin, Commissioner John Irwin, County Manager, Mike James, Town Manager Bryan Edwards, Mayor Wes Brinegar, Councilman Milly Richardson, Councilman Terry McGrady, Councilman Mike Parlier, Councilman John Brady, Councilman Chris Jones, Town Clerk Peggy Choate and Clerk to the Board Drew Temple.

Mayor Wes Brinegar called the Sparta Town Council meeting to order.

Cody Miller lead the Pledge of Allegiance and Commissioner Bill Osborne gave the invocation.

Chair Mark Evans called the Alleghany County Board of Commissioners meeting to order.

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

AGENDA  
Monday, April 22, 2019  
6:30 pm

- 6:30 Meeting called to order  
Pledge of Allegiance and invocation  
Approval of agenda
- A. 6:35 **Presentations to the Board**
  - i. Alleghany Lives – Reverend Phil Edwards
  - ii. Sparta Streetscape – Bryan Edwards, Ricky Brown
- B. 6:15 **Public Comments - Streetscape**
- C. 7:30 **General Business**
  - i. Discussion of County funding of Streetscape (County Commission action requested)
- D. 8:10 **Public Comments – other than Streetscape**
- E. 8:15 **Town Manager Comments**
- F. **County Manager Comments**
- G. **Town Council Comments**
- H. **County Commissioner Comments**
- I. **Adjourn**

### **Presentations to the Board**

Alleghany Lives – Reverend Phil Edwards

Reverend Phil Edwards recognized five charter members of Alleghany Lives.

Sparta Streetscape – Bryan Edwards, Ricky Brown

Ricky Brown and Bryan Edwards gave a presentation on Sparta Streetscape and updated funding information.

There was discussion between the Town Council, Board of Commissioners, Ricky Brown and Bryan Edwards about specifics of the project.

### **Public comments – Streetscape**

Approximately 25 residents spoke both in favor of and against the county funding a portion of the Sparta Streetscape project.

**General Business** – Discussion of County funding of Streetscape

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve \$432,000 in support of the Sparta Streetscape. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 5:0.

### **Public comments – other than Streetscape**

Karen Leys invited everyone to hear Jean Reece concerning Federal and State tax credits in the commissioners meeting room on Thursday.

### **Town Manager comments**

No comment.

### **County Manager comments**

County Manager Mike James thanked the citizens for their participation and the anonymous citizen who donated money for the AIM van to take county employees to the viewing last week.

### **Town Council comments**

Councilman Chris Jones thanked the county for electing the Board of County Commissioners.

Councilman Chris Jones commended Town Manager, Bryan Edwards for all the time he has put into this project.

Councilman John Brady thanked the commissioners.

Councilman Mike Parlier thanked the commissioners.

Councilman Milly Richardson said town taxpayers are skeptical of the full Streetscape and it is hard for them to pay their current taxes.

There was discussion between Town Manager, Bryan Edwards and Councilman Milly Richardson about sewer line concerns when the Streetscape project begins. Town Manager, Bryan Edwards said the sewer lines would not be touched during this project.

Councilman Milly Richardson said if the cost of this project balloons due to unforeseen circumstances, she expects the emphatic supporters of this project to pay the difference.

Mayor Wes Brinegar said this is a joint effort and thanked the commissioners for their support.

Mayor Wes Brinegar asked the citizens to stop arguing and to talk positively about the town and county.

Councilman Chris Jones said he is very optimistic for additional state funds when the state sees the cooperation between the town of Sparta and Alleghany county on this project.

Mayor Wes Brinegar said he hopes to see everyone supporting local merchants on Main Street.

**County Commissioner comments**

Commissioner Bobby Irwin thanked everyone for being so civil.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin thanked Bryan Edwards and the town council for all the work they've done.

Commissioner John Irwin said this town and county are worth keeping and worth working together for.

Mayor Wes Brinegar thanked the police presence.

Mayor Wes Brinegar recessed the Town Council meeting.

Chair Mark Evans thanked everyone for their civil debate. Chair Mark Evans thanked the police presence.

**Adjourn**

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Drew Temple,  
Clerk to the Board

Mark Evans,  
Chairman