



The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 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, and County Attorney Donna Shumate.

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

Commissioner Bill Osborne made a motion to approve minutes from 4/15 and 4/22. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 5:0.

### AGENDA

Monday, May 6, 2019

6:30 pm

- 6:30 Meeting called to order
  - Pledge of Allegiance and invocation
  - Approval of agenda
  - Motion on minutes from 4/15/19 and 4/22/19 (pages 1-9)
  
- A. 6:35 **Public Hearing for Financing for Public Building Construction and Improvement** (pages 10-11)
  
- B. 6:45 **Chamber of Commerce Spotlight Business**
  - i. Alleghany High Country Realty
  
- C. 6:55 **Public Comments/Agenda Items:** Citizens are encouraged to comment at this time on any item(s) specifically listed on this meeting's agenda. Guidelines for public comment are posted in the meeting room.
  
- D. 7:05 **Presentations to the Board**
  - i. Jim Brown, Recreation Director
    - 1. Slide estimates for Duncan Rec (pages 12-15)
    - 2. Alleghany Fairgrounds use policy (pages 16-22) (Board action requested)
  - ii. Karen Evans, Finance Officer
    - 1. Audit contract amendment (pages 23-26)
    - 2. Purchasing program/agent proposal
  
- E. 7:30 **General Business**
  - i. Final offer to purchase and contract with supporting documents – 136 N. Main Street (pages 27-41) (Board action requested)
  - ii. Resolution supporting an application to the LGC for its approval of a financing agreement – 2019 Public Building Construction and Improvement Project (pages 42-44) (Board action requested)

- iii. Fire tax next steps (Board action requested)
- iv. Future of Animal Shelter

- F. 8:00 **Consent Agenda** (Board action requested)
  - i. Cherry Lane VFD Fire Fighters Relief Fund Board of Directors appointment(pages 45-46)
  - ii. Reimbursement Resolution (pages 47-48)
- G. 8:10 **2019-2020 Budget presentation**
  - i. Set budget calendar
- H. 8:40 **Public Comments:** Citizens are encouraged to comment at this time on any item(s) requiring the attention of the Commissioners. Guidelines for public comment are posted in the meeting room.
- I. 8:50 **County Manager Comments**
  - i. Transfer Station Facility Compliance Inspection Report (pages 49-54)
  - ii. 2019 Q1 Closed Landfill Methane Monitoring Data Summary (pages 55-56)
  - iii. Liability and property and Workers comp reports (pages 57-62)
  - iv. Vaya Health Quarterly Report (pages 63-67)
  - v. April Building permit report (page 68)

J. **County Commissioner Comments**

K. **Request for closed session pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11.(a)(3)**

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.

L. **Adjourn**

**Public Hearing**

County Manager Mike James explained the improvements to be made with the proceeds from the LGC loan and its terms.

**Chamber of Commerce Spotlight Business**

Katee Hettleman gave a Chamber of Commerce update.

Katee Hettleman introduced Greg Miller, Broker-in-Charge at owner of Alleghany County Realty.

Greg Miller highlighted Alleghany High Country Realty.

**Public Comments/Agenda Items**

No comment.

**Presentations to the Board**

Slide estimates for Duncan Rec

Jim Brown, Recreation Director gave an update on summer ball registrants.

Jim Brown gave some options for “spicing up” the pool.

Jim Brown said improvements to Duncan Recreation were important to citizens according to the surveys he received.

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to proceed with the purchase of 2 slides from the Outdoor Recreation fund. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

#### Alleghany Fairgrounds use policy

Jim Brown explained the proposed Fairgrounds use policy changes.

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to approve the \$25 per day camping rate. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

Jim Brown said he has decided not to demolish the stables at the Fairgrounds because they are being used for storage.

#### Audit contract amendment

Karen Evans explained the proposed audit contract amendment.

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

#### Purchasing program/agent proposal

Karen Evans explained the proposed purchasing program/agent.

Karen Evans said there is an employee who is interested in taking this role on in addition to his current responsibilities.

Josh Greene explained the potential savings for Alleghany county if we go to bulk purchasing with a purchasing agent.

Karen Evans explained the purchasing cut-off imposed this month.

### **General Business**

Final offer to purchase and contract with supporting documents – 136 N. Main Street

There was discussion about whether to accept the final offer to purchase the old post office building.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to accept the offer. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 3:2 (Aye: Chair Mark Evans, Commissioner Larry Prince, Commissioner John Irwin, No: Commissioner Bill Osborne, Commissioner Bobby Irwin)

#### Resolution supporting LCG application

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

#### Fire Tax next steps

County Manager Mike James explained HCCOG's process for mapping our fire districts, fire tax rates around the state and that the next step is to decide whether we are going to pay HCCOG for their mapping services.

Commissioner John Irwin confirmed citizens would have the opportunity to speak about the districts after they are mapped.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin confirmed that each fire district could opt for different fire tax rates.

County Manager Mike James explained we are asking each fire department for a letter from their accountant/bookkeeper to ensure they are complying with GAAP and an updated copy of their form 990.

County Manager Mike James explained another option is to have one fire tax across the entire county. County Manager Mike James said right now, we are paying roughly \$.03 in fire tax.

Commissioner John Irwin explained that if a huge budget constraint presented itself, the volunteer fire departments and the Rescue Squad are not guaranteed any appropriations as things stand now.

Jennifer Robinson spoke about the potential losses for Cherry Lane Fire Department if a fire tax is imposed.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to move forward with mapping of the fire districts. Commissioner Bill Osborne seconded. Vote 5:0.

#### Future of the Animal Shelter

Josh Greene explained the problems going on with the Animal Shelter including budget constraints.

Chair Mark Evans asked Josh Greene to compile some budget numbers for options for the Animal Shelter.

#### **Consent Agenda**

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

#### **Budget Presentation**

The board set the schedule for budget meetings as follows:

5/23 at 3:00 pm

6/3 at 3:00 pm (budget public hearing during the commissioners meeting that night)

6/5 at 9:00 am

6/11 at 3:00 pm

6/18 at 9:00 am

6/24 at 4:00 pm (proposed adoption of the budget ordinance)

County Manager Mike James explained circumstances impacting the remainder of the 18/19 budget.

County Manager Mike James explained some challenges facing the county's 19/20 budget.

County Manager Mike James went over personnel requests for the 19/20 budget.

County Manager Mike James explained items removed from original budget requests.

#### **Public Comments**

Jeff Smith gave an update on the draw down in June to benefit Sparta Lights. He also spoke about the Pumpkin Festival scheduled for 2019.

#### **County Manager comments**

County Manager Mike James explained the follow up Transfer Station report.

County Manager Mike James explained the Closed Landfill Methane report.

County Manager Mike James explained the insurance summary reports.

County Manager Mike James said Vaya's quarterly report is available for inspection.

County Manager Mike James went over the April building permit report.

County Manager Mike James said Social Services had an audit for their special assistance line item and received a 100% score.

County Manager Mike James said the ribbon cutting is Friday at 3:00 pm for the renovations to the Fairgrounds.

County Manager Mike James said the meeting with Vaya and Partners is Thursday at 2:00 pm.

County Manager Mike James said June 7-8 will include Fiber Fest, Music on Main, Bark in the Park and Extreme Midget Wrestling and shuttles from the Fairgrounds to Music on Main.

### **County Commissioner comments**

Commissioner John Irwin apologized for not doing his due diligence when voting on Streetscape.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin said he would like to see a change to the consent agenda to give the commissioners more time to deliberate over and ask for more information on certain items.

Commissioner Bill Osborne said he was glad the board decided to move forward with Duncan Recreation.

Commissioner Bill Osborne said the fire tax needs to be explained thoroughly so everyone understands it.

Chair Mark Evans encouraged the public to come ask about the fire tax or any other topics.

### **Request for closed session pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11.(a)(3)**

Commissioner Bobby Irwin made a motion to go into closed session and include Karen Evans and Josh Greene. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

Chair Mark Evans said no action was taken while in closed session.

### **Adjourn**

There was a motion and a second to adjourn. Vote 5:0.

Respectfully submitted,

Drew Temple,  
Clerk to the Board

Mark Evans,  
Chairman