



The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, November 21st, 2022 at 10:00 am in the Board Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, 348 South Main Street, Sparta, North Carolina.

Present: Chair Bill Osborne, Commissioner Mark Evans, Commissioner Bobby Irwin, Commissioner Mechelle Luffman, Commissioner John Irwin, County Manager, Michael Carter, County Attorney, Heather Klein, Clerk to the Board, Drew Todd.

Commissioner Mechelle Luffman made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

Alleghany County Board of Commissioners

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County Commissioners
Bill Osborne
Bobby Irwin
Mark Evans
Mechelle Luffman
John U. Irwin, Jr.

County Manager
Michael L. Carter

Clerk to the Board
Drew Todd

County Attorney
Heather R. Klein

AGENDA

Monday November 21st, 2022
10:00 am

- 10:00 Meeting called to order
Pledge of Allegiance
Invocation
Approval of agenda
Motion on minutes from 11/7 (pages 1-3)
- A. 10:05 **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; please use the sign-up sheet provided.
- B. 10:20 **Presentations to the Board**
- i. Retirees Recognition – Chair Bill Osborne
 - ii. Departing Commissioners Recognition – Vice-Chair, Bobby Irwin
 - a. Commissioner Mark Evans
 - b. Commissioner Bill Osborne
 - iii. Library Report – Joan Sherif, Bobby Fender
 - iv. StormReady certification – Phil Hysell, NWS (page 4)
 - v. Facilities update – David Spicer, Public Works Director
 - vi. Finance update – April Hamm, Finance Officer
- C. 10:40 **General Business**
- a. Duncan Recreation property use – Commissioner Bobby Irwin (pages 5-6)
 - b. Resolution Regarding a Building Reuse Grant for Project WRAP – Bryan Edwards (page 7)
 - c. Daymark lease revised – Drew Todd (pages 8-10)

- d. Delinquent Tax Collection Agreement with the Town of Sparta – County Manager, Michael Carter (pages 11-12)
- e. LSVFD Rescue Services funding request – Morgan Reed (page 13)
- f. Bid for County surplus property – Drew Todd (page 14)
- g. Recreation line-item transfer - April Hamm (page 15)

D. 11:00 Consent Agenda (pages 16-22)

- i. Rita Miller, Tax Administrator
 - a. License Plate Agency month end report
 - b. October auto refunds
 - c. Real and personal property releases
 - d. Collections monthly totals report
 - e. NCVTS Finance Report
 - f. Delinquent taxpayer contracts

E. 11:15 County Manager Comments

F. 11:20 County Commissioner Comments

Request for Closed Session Pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11.(a)-(6) personnel

G. 11:30 Adjourn

Commissioner Bobby Irwin made a motion to approve minutes as presented. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

Presentations to the Board

Retirees recognition

Chair Bill Osborne recognized retirees from several departments.

Departing Commissioners recognition

Commissioner Bobby Irwin recognized Commissioner Mark Evans and Commissioner Bill Osborne as departing Commissioners.

90 S Main bids

David Daniel explained the certified bid tab for the 90 S Main Street project. He said the hope is that the project could get started end of January into February with a 210 calendar-day duration.

Library update

Bobby Fender, Debbie Brewer and Joan Sherif gave a report on the Alleghany County Public Library.

StormReady

Phil Hysell highlighted StormReady, explained how Alleghany County is prepared for hazardous weather and recognized Daniel Roten for his work.

Facilities update

David Spicer, Public Works Director said we have received the final shipment of flooring for the lower level of the Admin building and should begin after Thanksgiving. He said his department has been working with City Electric for warranty light replacement. He said he hopes the temporary tipping floor project will begin in the next 2-3 weeks. He gave an update on cardboard and comingled recycling. He said he is working on another compactor for recycling. He said they have been working on the heating system at the Courthouse and that court had to be moved to the Courthouse Annex on Friday. He said we are looking forward to the beginning and ending of the 90 S

Main project. He said all ambulances are up and running at EMS. He gave an Animal Control update.

Financial update

April Hamm, Finance Officer gave the Financial update. She said the audit will be reported at the mid-month December meeting.

General Business

Duncan Recreation property use

Commissioner Bobby Irwin and County Attorney, Heather Klein explained the county is under the PARTF grant for 25 years past 2005 but the property has to remain public use and the process is to have the Board of Commissioners approve the change in use, take it back to NC Parks then have public comment before finally changing the use of the property.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin made a motion to approve the proposed plan for the Duncan Recreation property with possible adjustments. Commissioner Mechelle Luffman seconded. Vote 5:0.

Resolution Regarding a Building Reuse Grant for Project WRAP

Commissioner Bobby Irwin made a motion to approve the Resolution Regarding a Building Reuse Grant for Project WRAP. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0. County Manager, Michael Carter clarified this money would be contemplated in the next budget.

Daymark lease

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve the Daymark lease with the County Attorney signature line added. Commissioner Mechelle Luffman seconded. Vote 5:0.

Delinquent Tax Collection Agreement with the Town of Sparta

County Manager, Michael Carter explained the proposed Delinquent Tax Collection Agreement with the Town of Sparta and said the County is required by statute to collect these taxes. He recommended adding a signature line for the County Attorney.

Commissioner Mechelle Luffman made a motion to approve the Tax Collection Agreement. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

LSVFD funding request

Jason Decker explained the funding request by Laurel Springs Fire & EMS. Commissioner Bobby Irwin recommended Mr. Decker meet with County Manager, Michael Carter to look at creative ways to help fund the request.

Commissioner Mark Evans made a motion to approve \$1,500 for the initial emergency needs. Commissioner Bobby Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

Surplus Property bid

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve the surplus property bid. Commissioner Mechelle Luffman seconded. Vote 5:0.

Recreation line-item transfer

Commissioner Bobby Irwin made a motion to approve the Recreation line-item transfer. Commissioner Mark Evans seconded. Vote 5:0.

Consent Agenda

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Bobby Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

County Manager comments

County Manager, Michael Carter thanked Dana Phillips for coming and invited him to say a few words.

Dana Phillips gave an update on the Earthquake recovery funding.

County Manager, Michael Carter thanked Commissioner Mark Evans and Commissioner Bill Osborne for the support and encouragement.

County Commissioner comments

Commissioner Mark Evans said he is thankful and encouraged everyone to take some time to remember how truly blessed we are.

Commissioner John Irwin said the DSS fuel supplement program distributed \$44,000 within the county for crisis fuel intervention. He said the LIEAP program has been reinstated for senior fuel intervention. He said A-1 kerosene is over \$7/gallon. He said employees at the food closet are working 30 hours/day. He said there are 179 municipalities on the NC Department of Treasury “watch list.” He said the everyday county worker is not recognized but when they make a mistake, they are crucified. He said it is nice to recognize the dedicated workers who have retired.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin said we are all aware of the price of fuel and said we need to be on a watchful eye to help as many people as we can. He said he had spent a lot of time in Raleigh over the past few weeks working on some new programs with the Community Colleges. He said Richmond Community College is the first in the state to offer a 911 certification. He said they also approved members of fire departments and rescue squads between ages 15-18. He said it’s been an honor to serve with Mark and Bill and personally thanked them.

Commissioner Mechelle Luffman gave kudos to the Board of Elections and volunteers helping out during the election. She encouraged the public to come to any kind of open house the Chamber hosts such as the one she attended at the Sparta Candle Company. She thanked Bill and Mark and said until you sit at the table, you don’t realize how much time being a Commissioner really takes. She congratulated Commissioner

Bobby Irwin and said she looks forward to serving with Timmy Evans and Greg Walker.

Chair Bill Osborne thanked department heads and said County Manager, Michael Carter has met every challenge head-on. He said it has been rewarding and a great experience to serve as Commissioner. He said Larry Prince gave him a lot of encouragement when he needed it. He wished everyone Happy Holidays. He said he was given some good advice not to use the words “I” and “me” as often as he did “we.” He said he wished the new Commissioners well and things in Alleghany County are going in the right direction.

Request for Closed Session

Commissioner Bobby Irwin made a motion to go into closed session to include April Hamm. Commissioner Mark Evans seconded. Vote 5:0.

Chair Bill Osborne said there was no action taken during closed session.

Adjourn

Commissioner Mark Evans made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Bobby Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Drew Todd
Clerk to the Board

Bill Osborne
Chairman