

**MINUTES OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'
REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 4, 2019 AT 5 P.M.**

BE IT REMEMBERED: That the Board of Commissioners met in regular session on June 4, 2019, in the Commission Chambers, 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville, North Carolina at 5 p.m. where and when the following business was transacted:

The Chairman called the meeting to order with the following members present:

Brownie Newman, Chairman
Jasmine Beach-Ferrara, Vice Chair
Joe Belcher, Commissioner
Amanda Edwards, Commissioner
Mike Fryar, Commissioner
Robert Pressley, Commissioner
Al Whitesides, Commissioner

Staff present: Avril Pinder, County Manager; Jim Holland, Assistant County Manager; Donald Warn, Finance Director; Jennifer Barnette, Budget Director; Rachael Nygaard, Strategic Partnership Director; Tim Love, Business Officer; Nathan Pennington, Planning Director; Jennifer Pike, Tax Collector; Sheriff Quentin Miller; Dane Pederson, Solid Waste Director; Josh O'Conner, Recreation Services Director; Lamar Joyner, Clerk to the Board; Michael Frue, Senior Staff Attorney; Brandon Freeman, Staff Attorney; Heather Hockaday, Attorney

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

The Chairman asked for a moment of silence for the victims of the Virginia Beach shooting and law enforcement that risked their lives to end the shooting.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Belcher motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as presented and the remainder of the agenda. Commissioner Whitesides seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- Approval of May 14, 2019 Special Meeting Minutes
- Approval of May 21, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes
- Resolution Approving Pyrotechnic Experts for Firework Displays
- Appointment of the Planning Director to the Metropolitan Sewerage District Board
- JCPC Certification 2019-2020 and the JCPC Funding Plan 2019-2020
 - Certification
 - Funding Plan
- Commissioners' Property Tax Release Report
 - Report
 - More Information
- Task Order 19-23 with SCS Engineers, P.C. in the Amount of \$65,008
 - Task Order
- FY2019 Budget Amendment Summary 6-4-19
 - Budget Transfer from 35 Woodfin Chiller to Detention Center A Cooling Tower
 - Ordinance
 - Roofing Projects and Allport Upper High Roof Budget Transfer
 - Ordinance

GOOD NEWS

- **Distinguished Budget Presentation Award**

Avril Pinder, County Manager, congratulated and thanked the Budget staff for receiving the award from the Government Finance Officers Association.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- **Economic Development Public Hearings – FY2020 Budget**

Rachael Nygaard, Strategic Partnership Director, stated that Carolina Small Business Development Fund and Center for Agriculture & Food Entrepreneurship are strategic partnerships that are part of economic development.

Tim Love, Business Officer, presented the remaining Economic Development partnerships that are included in the proposed FY20 Budget. The hearings for these projects do not require any vote or action from the Board but allow public comment on pre-existing economic development projects.

The Chairman opened the hearing at 5:15 p.m.

Jerry Rice expressed concern for the benefits of these projects and questioned if they will create jobs.

Don Yelton questioned where and how the money is being spent by the County. He also requested that staff make better presentations.

Smithson Mills of Blue Ridge Food Ventures was pleased with past County funding and requested new funding to assist in creating new jobs opportunities.

The hearing was closed at 5:23 p.m.

- **FY2020 Budget**

Avril Pinder, County Manager, briefly recapped the budget message that was presented at the Board meeting on May 21, 2019. The recommended FY2020 Budget totaled \$334,517,752 with a formal adoption on June 18, 2019.

The Chairman opened the hearing at 5:31 p.m.

Ruth O'Donnell requested additional funding to be put forward for the library budget.

Dawn Chavez requested Strategic Partnership funding for Asheville GreenWorks.

Pastor Hardaway expressed appreciation for funding of Project Lighten Up Summer Day Camp and extended an invitation to their radio-thon.

Michael Carter requested Strategic Partnership funding for the Skills, Training, & Education Program (STEP).

Jim Barrett requested Strategic Partnership funding for Pisgah Legal Services.

David Thompson expressed support for student resources and behavior support positions for Buncombe County Schools.

Pat Bryant expressed support for funding of employees and teacher assistants for Buncombe County Schools.

Leigh Ann Smith requested Strategic Partnership funding for Asheville GreenWorks.

Matilda Bliss requested funding for the bus system to expand hours and services areas.

Vickie Smith thanked the County for funding of Just Economics.

Laura Sexton requested Strategic Partnership funding for Asheville Buncombe Food Policy Council.

John Wingerter thanked the County for benefits for citizens using Medicare.

Jerry Rice stated that tax payers need relief and the local schools needed better teachers.

Don Yelton asked for the cost of each library and bus ridership numbers. He also stated that people who are incarcerated should be picking up trash.

Sharon Oxendine thanked the County for support of Western Women's Business Center.

Anthony Thomas requested Strategic Partnership funding for the YMI Cultural Center.

The hearing was closed at 6:15 p.m.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

Michael Frue, Senior Staff Attorney, updated the Board on the Ferry Road property sale offer.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Residential Solid Waste Franchise Collections Contract**

Dane Pederson, Solid Waste Director, recapped the Board on the second reading of the 5-year term franchise contract (with a 2-year extension option). The contract includes weekly waste pick-up, bi-weekly recycle pick-up, new carts, and performance measures.

Commissioner Whitesides moved to approve the second reading of the ordinance which would allow the County to enter into contract with Waste Pro as presented. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Communication Department's Recommendation for Commissioners' Chamber Filming Rule**

Cataldo Perrone, Communications Director, explained the updates to the policy and gave background on its original goal.

Daniel Walton of Mountain Express was concerned that policy went too far and should have more flexibility.

Don Yelton stated that equality is important for maintaining time intervals within the policy.

Jerry Rice suggested that meeting room be set up differently and wants full enforcement of the policy.

Commissioner Fryar requested more time and discussion before approving the policy. The Board agreed and will bring the item back at a future meeting.

- **Establishment of the Parks, Greenways, and Recreation Advisory Board for Buncombe County**

Josh O'Conner, Recreation Services Director, explained the creation and make-up of the advisory board.

The commissioners expressed their support for the establishment of board and the required diverse representation of future members.

David Nutter and Allison Glackin, Connect Buncombe, expressed their support for the board creation.

Chairman Newman moved to approve the establishment of the advisory board as presented. Commissioner Whitesides seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Don Yelton asked for the cost of each library, bus ridership numbers, and was disappointed with not receiving a hard copy of the budget document.

Jerry Rice questioned the filming policy and stated that he is just as important as the media.

Dewana Little, YMI Cultural Center, expressed her disappointment with the lack of funding and transparency by the Board.

Catherine Mitchell, River Front Development Group, Inc., expressed concern with the fairness of Strategic Partnership funding process.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made the following announcements:

- *June 18 @ 12 p.m. - Commissioners' Pre-Meeting at 200 College Street, 1st Floor Conference Room in downtown Asheville.*
- *June 18 @ 5 p.m. - Commissioners' Regular Meeting at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville.*

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

LAMAR JOYNER, CLERK
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BROWNIE NEWMAN, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS