

MINUTES OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'
REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 18, 2019 AT 5 P.M.

BE IT REMEMBERED: That the Board of Commissioners met in regular session on June 18, 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; Eric Hardy, Performance Management Director; Rachael Nygaard, Strategic Partnership Director; Tim Love, Business Officer; Nathan Pennington, Planning Director; Stoney Blevins, Health and Human Services Director; Sheriff Quentin Miller; 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 requested for a moment of silence and gave thanks to all the people who work at schools for the great job they do.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Belcher motioned to add **Resolution Formally Accepting Offer to Purchase Ferry Road Property** to the agenda under **Old Business** to approve the Consent Agenda as presented and the remainder of the agenda.

Commissioner Whitesides seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- Approval of June 4, 2019 Pre-Meeting Minutes
- Approval of June 4, 2019 Special Meeting Minutes
- Approval of June 4, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes
- Resolution Awarding a Service Firearm to a Retiring Deputy of the Buncombe County Sheriff's Department
 - Scott Childers Flanagan
 - Isaac McLemore
- Resolution Approving Pyrotechnic Experts for Firework Displays
- State Lottery Application Project–Buncombe County Schools/Fairview Elementary School Additions & Renovations
 - Application
- Task Order 19-24 with SCS Engineers, P.C. in the Amount of \$33,027
- Resolution Setting Fees and Costs for Fiscal Year 2020
 - Resolution
 - More Information
- FY2019 Consent Agenda Budget Amendment Summary
 - Capital Fund Project Ordinances
 - Project Closures
 - Ordinance
 - Grants Fund Project Ordinances
 - Soil and Water - Rainbow Mountain Grant
 - Ordinance
 - Sheriff's Office - Sheriff's Contributions/On Track Grant
 - Ordinance
 - General Fund Budget Amendments
 - Project Development Financing Woodfin Debt Service Transfer
 - Amendment
 - General Fund Revenue Re-categorization
 - Amendment

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Commissioner Whitesides motioned to withdraw the **Uherka Rezoning Request** from the agenda. Commissioner Edwards seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- **Henning Rezoning Request**

Joshua Freeman, Planning Manager, presented the request, stated that the request was consistent with the comprehensive plan and was unanimously approved by the Planning Board. The two parcels (2121 US 70 Hwy and 1 Old Buckeye Cove Rd) would move from R-3 Residential to NS-Neighborhood Service.

The Chairman opened the hearing at 5:14 p.m.

The hearing was closed at 5:15 p.m.

Commissioner Belcher moved to adopt the plan consistency statement. Vice Chair Beach-Ferrara seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

Commissioner Belcher moved to approve the rezoning request. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

- **Johannessen Rezoning Request**

Joshua Freeman, Planning Manager, presented the request, stated that the request was consistent with the comprehensive plan and was unanimously approved by the Planning Board. The one parcel (67 Rutherford Rd) would move from R-3 Residential to CS-Commercial Service.

The Chairman opened the hearing at 5:18 p.m.

The hearing was closed at 5:19 p.m.

Commissioner Belcher moved to adopt the plan consistency statement. Commissioner Pressley seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

Commissioner Belcher moved to approve the rezoning request. Commissioner Whitesides seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

- ~~**Uherka Rezoning Request**~~

OLD BUSINESS

- **Resolution Formally Accepting Offer to Purchase Ferry Road Property**

Michael Frue, Senior Staff Attorney, stated that resolution would approve the offer and provide an extension of the inspection period for the project of 120 days.

Commissioner Fryar moved to approve the resolution as presented. Commissioner Pressley seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- **FY2020 Budget Adoption**

Avril Pinder, County Manager, stated that the net decrease of the general fund would go from \$334,517,752 to an amount of \$334,454,722.

Jennifer Barnette, Budget Director, explained the Budget Ordinance and the Capital Projects Ordinance through a PowerPoint presentation.

Commissioner Fryar provided his PowerPoint presentation and stated the County spends money generously and needs to look out for taxpayers. He also questioned commissioner pay.

Don Yelton questioned the amount money given to the schools and to the sheriff.

Jerry Rice stated that the budget keeps rising without thinking about the natives and he would like to see a flat tax rate.

Commissioner Belcher thanked Commissioner Fryar for presentation and commitment.

Vice Chair Beach-Ferrara expressed support for the budget and the Early Childhood Education & Development Committee and staff.

Chairman Newman noted the Board making priorities for Affordable Housing and Early Childhood Education. He thanked the working groups, staff and expressed his support for the sheriff department and fire districts.

Commissioner Whitesides stated that everything has increased in cost but the tax rate has remained the same. He suggested that the County needed to look out for public safety for citizens, schools and quality services.

Commissioner Edwards stated her appreciation for staff and Avril Pinder, County Manager, for being patient with her as a new commissioner. She also thanked Tim Love, Business Officer, for streamlining the fire district process.

Commissioner Pressley stated that the Board didn't have to raise property taxes. He also stated that he was proud of Avril Pinder, County Manager and staff for keeping the tax rate flat.

Commissioner Belcher moved to approve the FY2020 Budget Ordinance with no increase to commissioners' salary. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion and it passed 6-1. (NOES-Commissioner Fryar)

NEW BUSINESS

- **FY2019 Budget Amendment Summary**

Jennifer Chilton, Budget Director, explained each of the budget amendments outlined in the amendment summary and identified individually below.

- **Occupancy Tax Special Revenue Fund Amendment**

Commissioner Whitesides moved to approve the budget amendment as presented. Vice Chair Beach-Ferrara seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- **Economic Development Incentives Transfer**

Commissioner Edwards moved to approve the budget amendment as presented. Commissioner Whitesides seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- **Home & Community Care Block Grant and County Aging Services Funding Plan**

Stoney Blevins, Health and Human Services Director, stated that the department would like to appoint Land of Sky as the administrator of the Home & Community Care Block Grant funding and recommended the funding plan.

Vice Chair Beach-Ferrara moved to approve the appointment and funding plan. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Commissioner Fryar moved to reappoint **Matt Kern** to the **AB Tech CC Board of Trustees**. Commissioner Edwards seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

Chairman Newman moved to appoint **Joanna Knowles** to the **Buncombe County Child Protection Team/Child Fatality Prevention Team**. Commissioner Whitesides seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

Commissioner Edwards moved to appoint **Meredith Switzer** to the **Homeless Initiative Advisory Committee**. Commissioner Pressley seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Robert Randolph stated that he was proud of the initiative for the homeless and affordable housing.

Jerry Rice questioned the money being spent, the tax increase as it relates to reappraisals and the assistant managers hiring process.

Don Yelton expressed happiness that he will find out the cost of each library and wants to see more transparency.

Chairman Newman acknowledged Jim Holland, Assistant County Manager, is retiring and thanked him for his service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made the following announcements:

- *No Pre-Meeting or Meeting on July 2*
- *July 16 @ 12 p.m. - Commissioners' Pre-Meeting at 200 College Street, 1st Floor Conference Room in downtown Asheville.*
- *July 16 @ 5 p.m. - Commissioners' Regular Meeting at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville.*
- *July 27 @ 11 a.m. - Special Picnic at Buncombe County Sports Park, 48 Apac Drive in Candler*

The meeting was adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

LAMAR JOYNER, CLERK
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BROWNIE NEWMAN, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS