

THE ANSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS convened for their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 7, 2017 beginning at 6:00 P.M. in the Board Room, Suite 209, of the Anson County Government Center.

Commissioners present: Anna Baucom, Chair
Ross Streater, Vice Chair
Bobby Sikes
Vancine Sturdivant

Commissioners absent: Harold Smith
Jim Sims
Jarvis Woodburn

Staff Members Present: Megan Garner, County Manager
Denise Cannon, Clerk to the Board
Beth Dunn, HR Manager
Cary Garner, Finance Officer
Larry Newton, Tax Assessor

Chairman Baucom called the meeting to **Order**, thanking those present. Reverend Bernice Bennett of Harris Chapel AME Zion Church in Morven, NC, delivered the **Invocation**.

Approval of the Agenda by Commissioners:

Chairman Baucom asked if there were any additions, deletions, or changes to the agenda. County Manager Garner asked to have the Governing Body budget amendment and Property Tax Release and Refunds added to the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Streater added Mr. and Mrs. Barry Stebbin to appearances. Commissioner Sturdivant made a motion to approve the agenda, Commissioner Streater seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing (Quasi-Judicial):

Commissioner Sikes made a motion to open the public hearing for Premiere Fibers. Commissioner Sturdivant seconded, motion carried unanimously. Vijay Amirtharaj is requesting a variance, recommended by the Anson County Board of Adjustments that would allow the construction of a new building and the existing

buildings to exceed the 45' maximum height restriction allowed by the Light Industrial Zoned District. The variance is specific to the property identified as Premiere Fibers, 10056 US Hwy. 52 N, Ansonville, NC 28007. The variance states that the new building will not exceed a maximum height of 70'. All building codes must be met before a final or a certificate of occupancy will be issued by the Anson County Inspections Department. Chairman Baucom asked for any questions. Commissioner Sturdivant thanked Mr. Amirtharaj for the tour and employing so many. Chairman Baucom asked for any opposition to the variance. Chairman Baucom again asked did anyone have any questions, comments, or concerns. Mr. Jeff Boothby said this is a wonderful asset to the county, creating more jobs. Mr. Boothby thanked Mr. Amirtharaj for continuing to have a great facility. Commissioner Streater made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Sikes, motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Streater made a motion to approve the variance for Premiere Fibers, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant, motion carried unanimously.

Public Addresses to the Board:

Jeff Boothby, TDA gave an update on the Uwharrie Regional Tourism Board. He is waiting on two other counties to give approval. Anson County has already approved it through the TDA Board, funding the \$5,000 a year membership, which will allow Anson County to market to over six million people in the Carolinas, thus focusing on cross county tourism opportunities. Mr. Boothby told the Board about an event called May Paddle Day, which will kick off the warmer part of the paddle season, with a free public event to get folks excited about paddling down the river. Mr. Boothby asked if anyone had any questions, Chairman Baucom said the board appreciates all that is being done.

Brian Johnson, informed the Board that the Anson Charter School was approved unanimously by the NC Charter Advisory Board. There is one last step before they forward their paperwork for final approval, which is likely. He noted that on the agriculture front, he meets with John Marek, and will keep him updated.

Mr. and Mrs. Stebbin, addressed the Board concerning the littering problem in Anson County. Mr. Stebbin feels there has not been any follow-thru. Attorney Forbes corrected the information, citing research has and is being done through legislative process, while being in the guidelines of the state system. Chairman Baucom acknowledged the littering problem, and feels it is getting worse. Mr. Stebbin suggested he can go into the schools to educate the children on littering. Chairman Baucom explained that attorney Forbes is

working on getting the limits of the fines and this issue is a priority for the Board. Attorney Forbes explained the warrant process for any citizen that wishes to pursue charges on a person that has littered. Chairman Baucom agreed with Ms. Stebbin noting that Anson County is beautiful.

Scott Collier, SPCC talked about the Leadership Anson Volunteer Day. Leadership Anson is in its 21st year, and this in one of the largest classes they have had in years. The class of 20 participants had the opportunity to hear from a panel of local leaders, including Commissioner Sturdivant, Leon Gatewood, Karen Baucom, and Chris Sanford, adding that Commissioner Sturdivant was the highlight of the day. The Board thanked Mr. Collier for doing a great job with a great program.

Old Business:

Interlocal Agreements for Utilities

Attorney Forbes stated a draft will be ready for the March Board meeting for approval/disapproval.

Countywide Zoning

Chairman Baucom feels this issue needs to be addressed. Attorney Forbes informed the Board that there would have to be new town or local meetings. Larry Newton noted that there are two comprehensive land use plans, the one dated 2002 was approved by the Board, and other dated 2009, which was an addendum to the original; the second was never approved. It was a summarization of the original which recommended the corridors such as 109, 742, 218, etc. be updated. Mr. Newton stated he would like to see an update to the original one, and does not recommend approving the second.

New Business:

NC State Health Plan: Beth Dunn, HR Manager, explained to the Board that a resolution is needed to enroll in the NC State Health plan. This will give the State Health Plan notification of intent to enroll July 1, 2017, saving Anson County over seven hundred thousand dollars. Commissioner Sturdivant made a motion to adopt a resolution for enrollment in the NC State Health Plan, Commissioner Sikes seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Economic Development Appropriation: Mr. Chuck Horne, on behalf of the Anson Economic Development Corporation (AEDC) made a request for a

\$20,000 appropriation of the sales tax on labor, to help cover some of the expenses of having an employee and being more heavily involved in economic development. Mr. Horne noted they are in the process to start raising private funds to help offset costs. Mr. Horne stated the funds will be used for travel reimbursements, office rent, admin assistant salary, payroll, etc. Commissioner Sturdivant made a motion to fund the Economic Development Appropriation, seconded by Commissioner Streater, motion carried unanimously.

Economic Development Incentive Policy: John Marek, Anson County Economic Development Director made a request for an Economic Development Incentive policy. County Manager Garner asked that one word in item (3) 2nd page in the policy be modified from “may” to “shall.” Commissioner Streater made a motion to approve the Incentive Policy, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant, motion carried unanimously.

Manager’s Report:

County Manager Garner reported that beginning March 6, 2017, the library will be changing their operating hours to Monday- Friday 9am to 5:30pm, and 12pm to 3pm on Saturday. County Manager Garner informed the Board that Anson County is applying for a one million dollar grant through the NC Tobacco Trust Fund Commission for the Agr-civic Center. A draft will be submitted February 15, 2017, with the final application submitted in March. County Manager Garner mentioned that the Anson County Chamber of Commerce will be hosting their first annual St. Patrick’s Day 5K, Friday March 17, 2017, beginning at 6:00 pm. County Manager Garner advised the Board that all the fire department financial statements, except for Morven are at their stations. County Manager Garner added that Morven was given notification several times and failed to submit, noting she will ask the Fire Marshal to follow up with them directly. County Manager Garner reminded the Board of their joint meeting this Saturday with the Board of Education.

Chairman’s Report:

Chairman Baucom shared that the UNC School of Government is asking for donations, \$250 - \$500, to help continue programs. County Manager Garner noted that Anson County pays \$3000 for annual dues, citing that this may be private fundraising. Chairman Baucom talked about the Census packet, she encouraged everyone to complete this and highlighted its importance. Chairman Baucom stated they have given away the last flag to Wadesboro

Park and asked if the Board wants to purchase more. Commissioner Streater asked the Clerk to get the prices for the flags. Chairman Baucom handed out Toys for Tots certificates and acknowledged that Anson County Toys for Tots has served over 3700 children, including churches, organizations and schools. Chairman Baucom stated that Anson County Toys for Tots is absolutely amazing, and noted that the entire Board participated. Commissioner Sturdivant thanked Attorney Scott Forbes and IT Manager Randy Gulledge for their participation and donation. Commissioner Sturdivant said that Faith Based Center of Hope will start recognizing children in the school system for good, disciplined behavior and present them with a gift, noting that Mr. Gulledge has donated gifts to Faith-Based Center of Hope for this project. Chairman Baucom stated that Twin Valley Country Club is an issue, specifically the golf course itself is in need of extensive repairs. Chairman Baucom suggested that the Board specifically invite representatives to come and talk about the issues they are facing in a future meeting. Chairman Baucom talked about a litter task force to organize, pick-up, clean up, and address penalties for people caught dumping trash along the roadway.

Consent Agenda:

Motion made to approve consent agenda by Commissioner Streater, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant. Motion carried unanimously.

Appointments:

Motion made by Commissioner Streater to appoint Anson County Clerk Denise Cannon to the JCPC Board, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner's Concern:

Commissioner Sturdivant shared that Anson County was in the Richmond County Daily Journal (1/12/2017), noting that a regular cafeteria worker in Anson County earns \$11.85 an hr. Commissioner Sturdivant said you should always take care of people from the bottom to the top. Commissioner Sturdivant also talked about the 2017 Anson County Holiday Schedule needs to be the same as the State Holiday Schedule, noting that some of the computers are on a State schedule.

Adjournment:

Motion made by Commissioner Sikes to recess until Saturday, February 11, 2017 at 8:30 am, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Denise Cannon
Clerk to the Board