

THE ANSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS convened for their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, June 5, 2018 beginning at 6:00 P.M. in the Board Room, Suite 209, of the Anson County Government Center.

Commissioners present: Anna Baucom, Chair
Vancine Sturdivant
Jim Sims
Jarvis Woodburn

Commissioners absent: Ross Streater
Harold Smith
Bobby Sikes

Staff members present: Rita James, Interim County Manager
Denise Cannon, Clerk to the Board
Cary Garner, Finance Officer
Jeff Waisner, Parks & Recreation Director

Other: Scott Forbes, County Attorney

Chairman Baucom called the meeting to **Order**, welcoming all who are present. Chairman Baucom asked Reverend Dr. Sarah Kalish to deliver the **Invocation**.

Approval of the Agenda by Commissioners:

Chairman Baucom added four additions to the consent agenda; (1) Circle G Arena Fireworks request; and (2) Uptown Wadesboro Fireworks requests; and (3) Wastewater Treatment Plant budget amendment; and (4) Council on Alcoholism budget amendment. Chairman Baucom also added one item to Commissioners Concern. Commissioner Sims moved to approve the agenda with the requested changes, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant, motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing:

New DSS Building

Commissioner Woodburn made a motion to open the public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Sims, motion carried unanimously.

Lula Jackson, Anson County Department of Social Services Director, informed the Board that the DSS project is on schedule with the project timeline and stated that this hearing is to allow the public the opportunity to become aware of the project's progress and offer any comments. Ms. Jackson introduced Mr. Chris Stuede, Project Architect and Mr. Mike Barnes, Civil Engineer Regional Director, all of Moseley Architect firm. Mr. Stuede reviewed the schematic design for the proposed building along with a PowerPoint presentation. Mr. Stuede discussed the roofing, the quality of materials, easy to maintain, and an attractiveness for its surroundings. Mr. Stuede also informed the Board that currently they are looking at several components associated with the building such as security, mechanical systems, electrical systems, lighting, finishes, etc. Mr. Stuede reviewed the layout of the schematic design, with in-depth explanations of the interior and exterior spaces and layout. Mr. Barnes presented the layout of the building including site location, parking, and access roads. Mr. Barnes addressed the Board as to the building having two entrances, one on Hwy 74 and the other on Anson High School Road side.

Mr. Freeman, Superintendent of Anson County Schools stated the Anson County School System is in the process of having their phase I study completed, with potentially locating a middle school on their nearby property and may need additional acreage. Mr. Freeman explained that he has conversed with the North Carolina Department of Transportation and the Hwy 74 access roads was for emergencies only, and suggested that the county do a feasibility study on the traffic flow, with a possibility of being denied due to the bottleneck of traffic coming from Wilmington to the western part of the state. Mr. Freeman said he would follow up with County Manager James and Mr. Lawrence Gatewood. Commissioner Woodburn mentioned that they have noticed an increased in truck traffic on White Store and Anson High School Roads.

Mr. Stuede stated that they are at the end of the design and development phase and moving forward to the two-month construction documents phase.

Commissioner Sims asked Mr. Gatewood for funding clarification. Mr. Gatewood stated that the estimated cost of the entire project is 5-5.5 million dollars, with 55% of that cost being funded by the Department of Human Services.

Chairman Baucom opened the floor for public comments.

No Citizen or another person offered any comments on the matter.

Commissioner Woodburn moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Sims, motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Sturdivant made a motion to approve to continue the new Department of Social Services project, seconded by Commissioner Woodburn, motion carried unanimously.

Public Addresses:

Ray Allen, Wadesboro Interim Town Manager, addressed the Board about the uptown revitalization grant, which the town received from the North Carolina Department of Commerce in 2016. Mr. Allen stated the town received \$94,000, and of that, \$26,000 was spent on the new town clock and \$25,000 was spent on the new “way finding” signs, along Hwy 74 and throughout town. Mr. Allen noted that \$43,000 is remaining for a vacant parcel at the corner of Greene and Wade that has been used for public events over the last few years. Mr. Allen asked the Board to consider conveying the two parcels owned by Anson County to the Town of Wadesboro and in return, the Town of Wadesboro can negotiate with the private property owner for the third parcel, to get all parcels under one ownership, in order to promote development. Chairman Baucom said the Board would take this matter under advisement.

Mitchell Huntley appeared before the Board with his concerns about a youth Center. Mr. Huntley shared that Wadesboro is considered one of the 10 worse cities in North Carolina. Mr. Huntley asked about funding and opportunities for a youth center. The Board discussed how youth opportunities are integrated through the school system, the Health Department, and Parks & Recreation. Mr. Huntley feels that the surrounding counties have facilities and activities for youths, but Anson County does not. Commissioner Sims shared that Anson County Parks and Recreation has great programs; Commissioner Sturdivant agreed and mentioned Field of Dreams, but noted a perceived lack of participation.

Jeff Waisner stated that youth participation has declined even though programs are offered.

Steven Lear addressed the Board with his concerns about the holly bushes and shrubs around the gazebo in uptown Wadesboro. Mr. Lear requests that the Board consider cutting the bushes down, a one-time labor project, in place of continuing maintenance and landscaping.

Commissioner Sturdivant invited everyone present to the 2018 Toys for Tots fundraiser, an adult prom scheduled for June 29, 2018.

Appearances:

Calvin Vaughn, Chief court Counselor/NCPDS appeared before the Board to request additional office space for his expanding staff. Mr. Vaughn explained the Juvenile justice has been in the same location for many years and during that time, the current location has experienced leaks, unproductive workweeks due to network access, inability to meet with families due to size of space and confidentiality issues. Mr. Vaughn stated that G.S. 7A-302, that each county shall provide the necessary space for operation. Mr. Vaughn also shared with the Board the Raise the Age legislation change will be implemented on December 1, 2019, thus, the addition of staff members. Mr. Vaughn shared that his staff is currently occupying office space in the basement of the Law Enforcement Center, alongside Anson County Sheriff's Office Detectives, which is a conflict of confidentiality. Mr. Waisner stated that several locations were considered, along with a current county owned property, but may continue confidentiality conflicts and issues. Commissioner Woodburn made a motion to authorize the County Manager, Mr. Waisner, and Mr. Vaughn to work together to identify a location, run the numbers and bring back information before the Board so the Board can move forward, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Waisner addressed agenda item number 7, courthouse maintenance. Chairman Baucom shared that she spent time in the courthouse during jury duty and thinks the courthouse needs several cosmetic repairs. Mr. Waisner stated that the outside is in need of touch up repairs as well. Mr. Waisner said he and his staff would get right on it the next morning.

Dana Stoogenke, Rocky River Rural Planning Organization presented to the Board a presentation of updates on transportation projects for Anson County. Ms. Stoogenke shared with the Board a PowerPoint illustrating and explaining the proposed bypass through Anson County. Ms. Stoogenke said she asked the North Carolina Turnpike Authority to do a study on the impacts of a bypass (toll vs. non-toll). Commissioner Sims feels that the bypass could cut off access to some major roads and local business. County Attorney Forbes asked about the lifespan of the project. Ms. Stoogenke said she would get back with him. Ms. Stoogenke said she is twenty percent funded by jurisdictions and eighty percent funded by North Carolina Department of Transportation. Ms. Stoogenke said that the RPO does not make decisions, the jurisdictions come to them and they facilitate the discussions. Commissioner Woodburn stated that the RPO is asking the Board get as much factual information possible in order to inform the citizens.

Chuck Horne, Anson County Economic Development Partnership shared with the Board that Mr. Marek is doing a great job and Southeast Regional Partnership is doing great things as well. Mr. Horne stated he is requesting access the balance of the funds approximately \$250,000, and the second request is to get on the same reimbursement schedule as the school system and community college. Commissioner Sims made a motion for Economic Development Partnership to receive the full fund balance due, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant, motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Sims made a motion for Economic Development Partnership receive a monthly disbursement of the local option sales tax article on the same schedule as the community college and school system, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant, motion carried unanimously.

Artellia Burch, Community Blood Center of the Carolinas Donor Recruiter presented her organization to the Board. Ms. Burch stated that her organization is the primary blood supplier in this region and all the blood stays local, providing blood to Atrium Health. Ms. Burch said that there is a critical blood shortage as the summer approaches, noting that the footprint in Anson County is scarce. Ms. Burch asked the Board for help to get the word to churches, entrepreneurs, and civic organizations. The Board advised Ms. Burch to present her organizational needs and appear before the school Board to get student participation.

Carol Smith, Director, Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center presented various activities and events happening at the center. Ms. Smith shared with the Board a program called summer fun day camp. Ms. Smith explained the children will have various activities and will be provided breakfast, lunch, and dinner. The camp dates are June 18-July 26, and open to all children ages 5-16

years of age, 9am until 1:00pm, Monday thru Thursday. A child can be sponsored for \$40. Ms. Smith requested the Board to provide through Parks and Recreation someone that could monitor/supervise the children at play, from 5pm until 8pm onsite at the Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center. Ms. Smith further dialoged with the Board on ideas and solutions for evening observation and supervision for the children.

Appointments:

Commissioner Sims moved to approve to re-appoint Lula Jackson, Caroline Goins, and Kristina Forbes to the Centralina Workforce Development Board, Commissioner Woodburn second, motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Sturdivant made a motion to appoint Alexandra Harrington, as general public member to the Board of Health, seconded by Commissioner Woodburn, motion carried unanimously.

County Manager's Report:

Commissioner Sturdivant and Interim County Manager James introduced Roshunda Terry as the new Anson County Cooperative Extension Director.

Chairman's Report:

Chairman Baucom shared her concerns with the cosmetics of the courthouse and asked for repair work. Chairman Baucom mentioned the County's zoning, and is hearing that not being zoned impedes our progress. Chairman Baucom acknowledged the good work County Manager James, but the Board needs to pursue the recruitment of a County Manager. Chairman Baucom said the Memorial Day service was very well done with the exception of traffic interference during the ceremony. Chairman Baucom instructed County Manager James to contact Veterans Services to ensure proper paperwork is completed and submitted for the road closure for the Veteran's Day ceremony. Chairman Baucom feels that the Board needs to refocus back on the Agri-Civic Center project.

Consent Agenda:

Commissioner Woodburn made a motion to approve the consent agenda as follows: board minutes, property tax releases/refunds/adjustments, 2019 Anson County Holiday Schedule, Surplus items/ Resolution, Capital Project Ordinance, 911-budget amendment, Environmental Health budget amendment, Circle G request for fireworks, Uptown Wadesboro request for fireworks, Wastewater Treatment Plant budget amendment, and Council on Alcoholism budget amendment, seconded by Commissioner Sims. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioners Concerns:

Commissioner Woodburn shared his concerns with the landscaping and upkeep at the old hospital location on Morven Road. County Manager James stated she would contact Parks & Recreational Director, Jeff Waisner to discuss the Board's concern.

Commissioner Sturdivant shared her concern with the shrubbery at the enter/exit of the Dollar General, Wadesboro. Commissioner Sturdivant feels it is a traffic hazard and is blocking the view of drivers attempting to enter the highway.

Closed Session:

Motion by Commissioner Sturdivant, seconded by Commissioner Sims, to go into closed session for Personnel pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6) and North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3). Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Sturdivant, seconded by Commissioner Woodburn to come out of closed session, motion carried unanimously.

In regular session, Commissioner Sturdivant made a motion to recess until June 19, 2018 at 6:00 pm, seconded by Commissioner Woodburn, motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Denise Cannon
Clerk to the Board