

**THE ANSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS** convened for their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 1, 2018 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  
Jim Sims  
Jarvis Woodburn

Commissioners absent: Harold Smith

Staff members present: Rita James, Interim County Manager  
Denise Cannon, Clerk to the Board  
Larry Newton, Tax Assessor  
Cary Garner, Finance Officer

Other: Scott Forbes, County Attorney

Chairman Baucom called the meeting to **Order**, welcoming all who are present. Chairman Baucom asked Elder Ted Ward to deliver the **Invocation**. In addition, Mr. Ward gave an update on Anson County Veterans Services and invited the Commissioners and the public to the Anson County Memorial Day Service May 25, 2018.

#### **Approval of the Agenda by Commissioners:**

Chairman Baucom added budget amendment 8H and moved agenda item 5B to closed session. Vice-Chair Streater moved to approve the agenda with the requested changes, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant, motion carried unanimously.

#### **Public Hearing:**

##### **Rezoning**

Vice-Chair Streater made a motion to open the public hearing for rezoning, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Newton addressed the Board about a rezoning request from Mr. Steven Kelly. Mr. Kelly is requesting a zoning change on 19.36 acres zoned LI Light Industrial to R-20 Residential. The property is undeveloped and fronts Country Club Rd. Property is located approximately 900' north of the intersection of Thomas Rd and Country Club Rd. Mr. Newton stated that the Anson County Planning Board met and held a public hearing concerning this request. No one from the public was in attendance to voice an objection to the change in zoning. The change would be changing the current Light Industrial to R-20 Residential. The adjacent property to the South is already zoned R-20 Residential and the property to the north is LI Light Industrial. Mr. Newton stated that this rezoning request does not materially endanger public health or safety, that the use meets all requirements, conditions and specifications in our Anson County Ordinance, the use will not substantially injure the value of adjoining or abutting property, and the change in zoning remains in harmony with the 2021 Anson County Comprehensive Use Plan.

Chairman Baucom opened the floor for public comments.

No one offered any comments.

Vice-Chair Streater moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Sims, motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Sturdivant made a motion to approve the rezoning of Parcel: 64910074 from Light Industrial to R-20 Residential, seconded by Commissioner Sims, motion carried unanimously.

### **Public Addresses:**

**Andy Koepfel** appeared before the Board to request the Board to support a resolution for the proposed Wadesboro bypass. Mr. Koepfel discussed a proposed interstate highway through Anson County, citing that it is the missing link between Marshville and the Rockingham/Hamlet bypass. Mr. Koepfel feels this bypass would benefit Wadesboro, by having exits with gas stations, convenience stores, and possibly hotels or a national manufacture therefore creating more jobs. Commissioner Woodburn stated this process is very preliminary and is in the early stage of discussion. Mr. Koepfel feels Anson and surrounding counties voices can be heard if the counties unite with this resolution. Vice-chair Streater asked Mr. Koepfel, who does he represent or work for, with Mr. Koepfel replying that he is a commercial realtor. Mr. Koepfel said this will make traffic lighter in Wadesboro, but the downtown Wadesboro area would still have a reasonable level of vitality to serve the needs of the people in that area.

Mr. Koepfel feels overall Anson County would be a better county with the interstate highway. The Board took no action at this time.

**Onnie Gregory**, a resident of Lilesville, appeared before the Board to express her concerns about the air pollution caused by nearby mining companies, W.R. Bonsal Company/Old Castle and B.V. Hedrick. Ms. Gregory stated her area is having issues with dust and pollution, with zero visibility on roadways. Ms. Gregory said she has called and addressed her concerns with personnel of both companies, and feels that if the companies would run their water trucks, it would help immensely. Ms. Gregory added that this issue is concerning and affecting residents on Usrey and Hailey Ferry roads, also Gumsprings church and fellowship hall. Chairman Baucom asked Commissioner Sturdivant, the Health Department and the County Attorney to collaborate and look into this matter.

**Patricia Soon** appeared before the Board and shared her concerns about the traffic hazards in her area. Ms. Soon stated that cars and trucks traveling 109 North and South at the caution light are causing hazardous situations for residents. Ms. Soon stated that the speed limit is 20-35, but traffic is exceeding the limits and going 55-60, thus potentially creating a hazardous situation for residents entering the highway. Ms. Soon provided an example whereby an elderly neighbor was almost hit by a high-speed car as she was leaving her driveway. Ms. Soon requested law enforcement to come observe the issues. Chairman Baucom stated the Board will ask Sheriff Reid to speak and coordinate with Chief Spencer about her concern.

**Commissioner Vancine Sturdivant** shared that the 2018 Anson County Toys for Tots fundraiser will be an adult prom, scheduled for June 29 at 6:30 pm, at Lockhart-Taylor Center. Commissioner Sturdivant invited all Board members and the public to this special event, noting that Toys for Tots provided service to over 3,700 kids last year.

### **Appearances:**

**Laurie Abounader**, Regional Ombudsman Centralina Council of Governments (Area on Aging), presented the 2017 annual report of Anson County Joint Community Advisory Committee. Ms. Abounader explained and discussed the volunteers and their duties on the joint advisory committee, recognizing audience members, Ms. Betty Wallace and Ms. Patsy McLaurin. Ms. Abounader praised Anson County members for doing 100% of their facility visits and attend every meeting, yielding perfect attendance. Ms. Abounader said so many facility residents do not receive visitors (approximately 75%), so when the volunteers visit the residents, it means the world to them and it shows that someone cares. Ms. Abounader shared that there is a need for a secure locked facility to house patients with dementia and/or Alzheimers type illness, noting that she has talked

with the three facilities, they know about the concerns, and may be looking at strategies associated with the issue.

Commissioner Sims made a motion to re-appoint Phyllis Dunlap, Gilda Galilher, Betty Lou Horne, Patsy McLaurin, and Rebecca Wallace to the JCAC Committee (3-Year terms), seconded by Vice-Chair Streater, motion carried unanimously.

**Dr. Fred Thompson**, Anson County Health Department Director presented the 2018 County Health Rankings Report. Mr. Thompson gave a highlighted presentation on health outcomes and health factors in all one hundred counties, noticing that Anson's health outcome is ranked 90, compared to last year's ranking of 89, observing Anson's health factor is the same as last year, 87. The Board discussed in depth with Dr. Thompson the issue of disconnected youths (people ages 16-24, not working or in school). Dr. Thompson feels that there is a dedicated group of individuals in the Anson community that are aware of these issues and is working on them every day. Dr. Thompson shared that Ms. Savage, public health educator is working on several health programs and has started implementing them into the schools and community.

**Scott Rowell**, Anson County ACTS Director, addressed the Board on the ACTS facility project. Mr. Rowell stated a feasibility study was started in 2014, completed, and reviewed by the Board in 2016, and is currently awaiting funding. Mr. Rowell said if DSS takes part of the land, then the study might have to be re-done, at the county's expense, due to the shrinkage of the parcel of land. Mr. Rowell said he has heard from the Strategic Prioritization Office at Department of Transportation and that the project has scored lower than last time, because the calculation methodology has changed in the scoring process. Mr. Rowell stated that he would get contact information and pass it on to the County Manager.

### **Administrative Matters:**

Commissioner Sturdivant moved to approve the increase in Anson County Animal Shelter "pull" fees, from \$10 per animal to \$20 per animal, Commissioner Woodburn second, motion carried unanimously.

### **Consent Agenda:**

Commissioner Woodburn made a motion to approve the consent agenda as follows: board minutes, property tax releases/refunds/adjustments, DSS budget amendment, ACTS budget amendment, EMS budget amendment, Sheriff's Office budget amendment, courthouse maintenance budget amendment, Emergency Management budget amendment, seconded by Commissioner Sturdivant. Motion carried unanimously.

## **Closed Session:**

Motion by Commissioner Sims, seconded by Commissioner Woodburn, 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 Woodburn, seconded by Vice-Chair Streater to come out of closed session, motion carried unanimously.

In regular session, Commissioner Sims made a motion that the County Manager and the County Attorney rectify the Lee issue, seconded by Vice-Chair Streater, motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Sims made a motion to join in the litigation against opioid manufactures and adopt a resolution of support, seconded by Commissioner Woodburn. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chair Streater made a motion to give Bernice Bennett a bonus of \$44 for every year of service and be allowed to buy her computer back for \$1, after IT, Mr. Gullede has cleaned it, seconded, by Commissioner Sturdivant. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chair Streater made a motion to re-new the contract with Anson Rescue for (3) three years, seconded by Commissioner Sikes, motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chair Streater made a motion to re-new the auditor's contract with Belinda Johnson for (1) one year, seconded by Commissioner Woodburn, motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chair Streater made a motion to compensate Interim County Manager James \$103,750, including travel, seconded by Commissioner Woodburn. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chair Streater made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Woodburn, motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Denise Cannon  
Clerk to the Board