

February 1, 2021

Due to the COVID-19 virus pandemic, the Board of Commissioners of Franklin County, North Carolina, met for their Regular Meeting at 7:00 P.M. via an electronic meeting (Zoom) with the following Commissioners present: Chairman Michael Schriver, Vice-Chairman David Bunn, Harry L. Foy, Jr., Cedric K. Jones, Sr., Mark Speed, Kelli London and Danny Pearce.

The public was not allowed to physically attend this meeting; however, the meeting was livestreamed on YouTube at <http://franklincounty.today>. Citizens were also able to view or listen to the meeting via Zoom.

Chairman Schriver called the meeting to order and asked the Board to consider approval of the consent agenda.

Commissioner Foy made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bunn and duly carried approval with all present voting “AYE.”

The items approved are as follows.

I. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. January 19, 2021 Minutes
- B. Annual Report of Unpaid Taxes that are liens on Real Property
- C. Budget Ordinance Amendment #10 (Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 159-15, the County Finance Officer is requesting a budget ordinance amendment in the amount of \$6,607 pertaining to the General Fund operations of the County; \$10,832 pertaining to the Drug Enforcement Special Revenue Fund; \$83,500 pertaining to the Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund operations of the county.)

Item 1-C



Finance Office  
 Jamie Holtzman, Finance Director  
 113 Market Street  
 Louisburg, NC 27549  
 Phone: 919.498.3182

**Amendment to the Franklin County Budget Ordinance  
 2020/2021  
 Amendment No. 10**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Franklin County Board of Commissioners pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes 159-15, the following amendment be made to the annual budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021.

**SECTION 1** of the Franklin County Budget Ordinance, pertaining to the General Fund operations of the County, shall be amended as follows:

Increase/(Decrease) Appropriations:

Rescue and Ambulance Services	\$ 2,179
Aging	4,428
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 6,607</b>

Increase/(Decrease) Revenues:

Proceeds from Insurance Claims	\$ 2,179
Aging Donations	4,428
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 6,607</b>

This Amendment:

\* appropriates additional funds to the Rescue and Ambulance Services Budget for repairs to an ambulance.

Funding Source: Proceeds from Insurance Claims

\* appropriates grant funds to Aging Department budget for senior meals.

Funding Source: Novozymes North America

**SECTION 6** of the Franklin County Budget Ordinance, pertaining to the DEA Special Revenue Fund shall be amended as follows;

Increase/(Decrease) Appropriations:

Law Enforcement Equipment State Funds	<u>\$ 10,832</u>
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Total	\$ 10,832
<u>Increase/(Decrease) Revenues:</u>	
State Controlled Substances	\$ 10,832
Total	\$ 10,832

**This Amendment:**

\* appropriates State funds received to the Drug Enforcement Special Revenue Fund for the Sheriff Department to expend on needed items.

Funding Source: NC State Control Substances Tax

**SECTION 8** of the Franklin County Budget Ordinance, pertaining to the Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund operations of the County, shall be amended as follows:

<u>Increase/(Decrease) Appropriations:</u>	
Operating Expenditures	\$ 83,500
Total	\$ 83,500
<u>Increase/(Decrease) Revenues:</u>	
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ 83,500
Total	\$ 83,500

**This Amendment:**

\* appropriates funds to Operating Expenditures for completion of Task Order 2 that was approved by the Board of Commissioners at the January 19, 2021 meeting.

Funding Source: Appropriated Fund Balance Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund

**SECTION 2:** Copies of this amendment shall be made available to the Budget Officer and the Finance Director for direction in carrying out this project.

ADOPTED THIS 1ST DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2021.

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MICHAEL S. SCHRIVER, CHAIRMAN

\_\_\_\_\_  
KRISTEN G. KING, CLERK

**2. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

This was the time set aside by the Board of Commissioners to allow individuals five minutes to address the Board on issues concerning the county.

Members of the public who would like to make public comments MUST register by emailing [publiccomments@franklincountync.us](mailto:publiccomments@franklincountync.us) before 12:00 pm (noon) on Monday, February 1, 2021. You must include your name, address, comment topic, phone number you will be calling from and email address. You will be recognized (by video or phone call using the instructions listed at the beginning of this agenda) for comments in the order that you registered. The time limit for each speaker shall be five minutes with a total time limit set aside for informal public comments totaling 30 minutes. Vulgarity and abusive comments will not be tolerated.

Frank Winstead, 145 Victoria Ct, Youngsville, NC

- Government Priorities

Michelle Graham, 302 Sunset Avenue, Louisburg, NC

- Animal Control issues

Scott Strickland, 40 Sheila Lane, Louisburg, NC

- Animal control issues
- Covid-19 vaccinations/related traffic concerns
- Owens park restroom improvement request

Michael Selig, 302 Sunset Ave., Louisburg, NC

- Animal control issues

**3. UPDATE: COVID-19**

Health Director Scott LaVigne provided an update on the pandemic. At this time there have been 4,652 lab confirmed cases of Covid-19 in Franklin County over the life of the pandemic. Thirty percent of those occurred in the month of January 2021. He stated 41

deaths have been reported thus far and that a few small outbreaks are being managed at this time.

Relative to Covid-19 vaccine distribution, Mr. LaVigne stated 5,300 total doses had been delivered in the county. He reminded everyone the Health Department does not get to choose who gets the vaccine and stated it must be given to anyone who is registered, eligible and has an appointment. He did confirm an overwhelming majority of the vaccine had been provided to Franklin County residents. Mr. LaVigne thanked volunteers, staff and community partners for their assistance in vaccine distribution and shared the following information pertaining to the number of vaccines that have currently been distributed.

- Week of December 28, 2020 – 34 vaccinations administered mostly to staff
- Week of January 4, 2021 – 441 vaccinations administered
- Week of January 11, 2021 – 1,200 vaccinations administered
- Week of January 18, 2021 – 2,619 vaccinations administered

Mr. LaVigne commented on the vaccination event recently held at Triangle North Executive Airport and the subsequent traffic jam that resulted along Highway 401. He stated most travelers in line were not attending the clinic but were instead regular through traffic. He said the event was planned in such a way to handle the projected numbers, but traffic flow changed with a steady stream of cars coming into Franklin from Wake County.

Since the event, officials from Emergency Services, the North Carolina Department of Transportation and the Sheriff's Office have all met to create ways to reroute traffic to avoid future traffic issues. Despite traffic concerns, Mr. LaVigne stated the vaccination event at the airport was a huge success and that the process for appointments has now been refined.

Mr. LaVigne stated only 900 "first doses" are slated for the week. Supply is awaited from both the federal level and manufacturer level he said.

Chairman Schriver then shared (read aloud) an email with the Board from a local couple who were thankful and complimentary of the Covid-19 vaccination process.

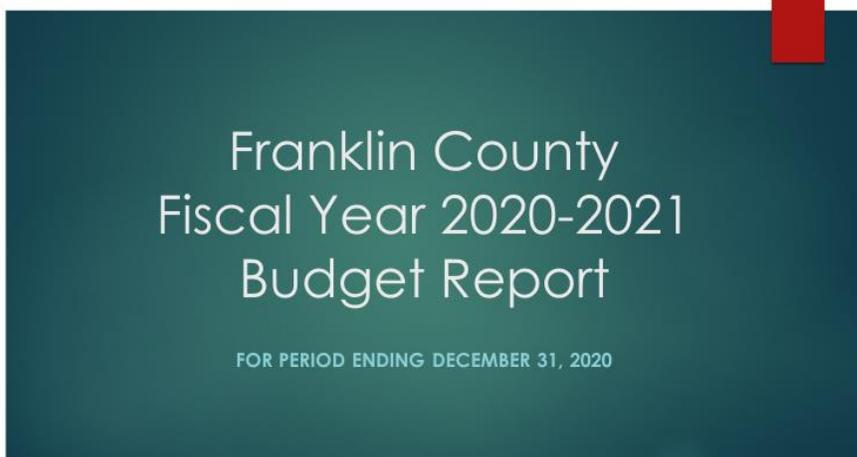
No action was requested or taken.

#### 4. YEAR TO DATE BUDGET REPORT

Finance Director Jamie Holtzman presented an update on the Revenues and Expenditures for the General Fund, Solid Waste Fund and the Water and Sewer Fund as of December 31, 2020 for the current 2020/2021 Fiscal Year. A financial comparison to the same time period as last Fiscal Year 2019/2020 was also given.

Mrs. Holtzman's presentation follows.

No action was requested or taken.



## GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES

- ▶ General Fund Expenditures totaled **\$39,161,327** or **46.04%** of the budget.
- ▶ General Fund Revenues totaled **\$56,107,230** or **62.11%** of the budget.

## General Fund Expenditures

- ▶ Most Departments are currently at **48%** or less of their expenditure budgets for the end of December.
- ▶ Debt Service Department is only at 51% and half of the debt payments are not coming due until after January 1<sup>st</sup>.

## General Fund Revenues

### Property Taxes

- ▶ Current Property Tax collections at the end of December total **\$40,588,149** representing **83.66%** of the total \$48,516,088 that is budgeted.
- ▶ Delinquent Property Taxes collected total **\$396,133** representing **89.2%** of the total \$444,000.

## General Fund Revenues

### Sales and Use Tax

- ▶ Sales Tax received for the first five months is **\$5,630,004**. This represents **56.6%** of the total \$9,947,190 budgeted. The average distribution for the first five months is \$1,126,000 compared to the budgeted average of \$828,932.
- ▶ If this trend continues the County should finish the Fiscal Year above the revenue budget.

## General Fund Outlook

- ▶ As Departments continue to spend conservatively and key Revenues continue tracking well the County should end the Fiscal Year without needing the entire \$5,091,733 budgeted in Fund Balance.
- ▶ Expenses and Revenues will continue to be monitored closely for any changes.

## Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF)

- ▶ Franklin County received \$2,736,241 in Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF).
- ▶ A total of \$684,204 was distributed to the Towns as directed by funding guidelines
- ▶ \$1,623,581 was used for essential personnel salaries
- ▶ \$268,054 was used for Personal Protection Equipment (PPE)
- ▶ \$158,058 was used for cleaning and sanitizing
- ▶ \$2,344 was used for COVID testing site supplies

## Water and Sewer Fund

Total Revenues	\$7,786,674
Total Expenses	\$5,911,130
<b>Surplus (Deficit) through 12/31</b>	<b>\$1,875,544</b>

\*The Water and Sewer Fund has \$1,085,870 budgeted for debt payments that have not come due yet but will be reflected in final expenses.

## Water and Sewer Fund

- ▶ Water Fee collections are **\$3,964,671** at the end of December or **58.3%** of the \$6,794,522 budgeted.
- ▶ Sewer Fee collections are **\$1,941,067** or **67.15%** of the \$2,890,457 budgeted.
- ▶ Total of \$1,457,900 has been collected in Capacity Replacement Fees, almost three times the budget of \$540,000.

## Solid Waste Fund

Total Revenues	\$3,198,296
Total Expenses	\$2,263,835
<b>Surplus (Deficit) through 12/31</b>	<b>\$ 934,461</b>



## ► Questions?

### 5. OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Foy made a motion to reinstate the Animal Advisory Board. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pearce.

Commissioner Jones stated he felt more information was needed from staff before any action could be taken to reinstate the Board.

Commissioner Foy agreed to bring the topic back for further discussion and investigation by staff and retracted his motion. Commissioner Pearce agreed to retract his second to the motion as well.

### 6. BOARD, MANAGER AND CLERK'S COMMENTS

**County Manager Kim Denton:**

- Mrs. Denton stated the budget kickoff was conducted last week with county departments.
- Mrs. Denton also provided an update on the progress of Open Broadband in the county. She said the activation of LTE service is expected to occur within two weeks. She reminded the Board LTE service is something that allows signal to travel through trees and other objects versus line of sight. She said the server configuration is almost complete and that Open Broadband continues to solicit homes in the White Level area for the five GHz line of sight service. Currently there are 23 residential customers and three commercial customers. They have also started service in the Alert community from the Bible Broadcast tower. One residential customer has signed on thus far in Alert. Mrs. Denton continues to be optimistic that as the weather improves success will continue.

**Clerk to the Board Kristen G. King:** No comments were offered.

**Commissioner Foy:** Commissioner Foy inquired when the Board might return to in person meetings rather than electronic meetings due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Chairman Schriver stated he would continue an ongoing dialogue with the County Manager but felt in person meetings would likely return in April 2021.

**Commissioner Bunn:** No comments were offered.

**Commissioner Jones:** No comments were offered.

**Commissioner Speed:** No comments were offered.

**Commissioner London:** No comments were offered.

**Commissioner Pearce:** No comments were offered.

**Commissioner Schriver:** Commissioner Schriver commented on his excitement of the LTE service soon to be offered to underserved and unserved populations of the county by Open Broadband. Lastly, he commented on the recent budget kickoff conducted with department heads. He said opportunities will soon be available to each commissioner in order to receive their input on the budget process.

## 7. CLOSED SESSION

The Board was asked to conduct closed session pursuant to the following North Carolina General Statutes:

- A. NCGS 143-318.11 (a)(3) Attorney-Client Privileged Communication
- B. NCGS 143-318.11 (a)(4) Industry/Economic Development

Commissioner Speed made a motion to enter into closed session pursuant to the North Carolina General Statutes listed above. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pearce and was approved 6 to 1, with Commissioner Foy voting “NO.”

At 8:37pm, following closed session, Commissioner Bunn made a motion to enter back into open session. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jones and duly carried approval with all present voting “AYE.”

Commissioner Pearce then made a motion to call for a public hearing on February 15, 2021 regarding a possible incentive for Palziv North America. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bunn and duly carried approval with all present voting “AYE.”

At 8:38pm, Commissioner Bunn then made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Pearce. The motion duly carried approval with all present voting “AYE.”

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Michael S. Schriver, Chairman

Kristen G. King, Clerk to the Board