

APRIL 1, 2002

The Board of Commissioners of Commissioners of Franklin County, North Carolina, met in Regular Session at 7:30 P. M. in the Commissioners Meeting Room located in the County Administration Building with the following Commissioners present: Chairman John R. Ball, Vice Chairman Robert L. Swanson; Commissioner Harry L. Foy, Jr., Commissioner Edward G. Strickland, Commissioner George T. Wynne.

Upon motion by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Strickland with all present voting "AYE" duly carried the following Consent Agenda Items approved:

Minutes of meeting held on March 18, 2002
Road petition for Ray Denton Road addition to State Highway System
Proclamation proclaiming April 15-28, 2002 as Litter Sweep in Franklin County
Budget Ordinance Amendment Number Eleven

Proper notice having been given this is the time and place set for a public hearing to receive comments on the County's application for Rural Operating Assistance Program funds in the amount of \$78,518. These funds will be used in human services programs to provide transportation assistance to elderly and disabled, general public transportation and Work First participants.

Chairman Ball declared the public hearing open and recognized Social Services Director, Nicki Griffin who made comments. Mrs. Griffin stated that these funds would be divided equally among each agency and each agency declares its own eligibility.

Chairman Ball called for further comments and hearing none declared the public hearing closed.

Upon motion by Commissioner Wynne, seconded by Commissioner Swanson, with all present voting "AYE" duly carried the proposed use of the Rural Operating Assistance Program funds in the amount of \$78,518 for the fiscal year July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003.

Proper notice having been given this is the time and place set for a public hearing to receive comments on the levy of a one-half percent (1/2%) local sales and use tax. This local sales and use tax is a transfer from the State to the County and will not result in an increased tax for the consumer.

Chairman Ball declared the public hearing open and called for public comments. The following individuals spoke:

Bob Winters, 211 Lake Royale, Louisburg, NC

It is his understanding that this was to expire, however it keeps going on

Chairman Ball called for further comments and hearing none declared the public hearing closed.

Upon motion by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Ball, voting "AYE" Commissioner Strickland, Commissioner Wynne, voting "NO" Commissioner Foy duly carried the adoption of resolution entitled "RESOLUTION LEVYING THE THIRD ONE-HALF CENT LOCAL GOVERNMENT SALES AND USE TAX AND PRESCRIBING THE METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION OF THE PROCEEDS WITHIN FRANKLIN COUNTY".

The following individuals made public comments:

Roger Moulton, 3288 NC 561 Hwy, Louisburg, NC

Member of Planning Board; recent actions with respect to the Board in rezoning and other activities have gone against the Planning Board; feels that the Planning Board is wasting their time if Board goes against their recommendations; if this continues, the Planning Board will have one less member

Bob Winters, 211 Lake Royale, Louisburg, NC

Until he has cell phone coverage at his house, there is no reason to stop cell towers; agrees they are ugly, but there is no reason for a moratorium

A public hearing was conducted for a rezoning request by Mr. Gerald Wrenn to rezone approximately 18 acres on NC 39 in Harris Township. The Board tabled the matter at that meeting. At the Board meeting held on March 4, 2002, upon the recommendation of the Planning Department Staff, the Board voted to give Mr. Wrenn an additional thirty days to auction off his salvage. Mr. J. D. Medlin, associate of Mr. Gerald Wrenn, has requested that Mr. Wrenn be granted additional time in which to conduct this auction. Planning Director, Matt Livingston stated that Mr. Wrenn's request for an extension is in no way related to the request for rezoning. Mr. J. D. Medlin stated that an extra two weeks is needed in order to move larger items from the property.

Upon motion by Commissioner Foy, seconded by Commissioner Strickland, with all present voting "AYE" duly carried approval of an extension of two weeks after May 11, 2002 to auction off the equipment located at 3136 Highway 39 South.

County Manager Self made comments regarding establishing a moratorium on consideration of applications for telecommunications towers. Mr. Self stated this would not affect the emergency communications tower. Planning Director, Matt Livingston commented that one cell tower has been approved and he feels that the tower could be finished in three months and not the six months as stated in the resolution. If it appears that it will take longer than three months, Mr. Livingston will come back to the Board with this request.

Upon motion by Commissioner Wynne, seconded by Commissioner Swanson, with all present voting "AYE" duly carried approval of resolution to place a three-month moratorium on new cell tower approval in Franklin County.

Upon motion by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Wynne, with all present voting "AYE" duly carried the following appointments made to the Solid Waste Task Force:

Betty Edwards

Mary Jane Jennings

Reappointed three-year terms expiring March, 2005

Monica Rascento

Appointed to three-year term expiring March, 2005

Additional agenda items:

County Manager Self stated that the Inspections Department changed from 800MHZ radios to two-way cell phones. The pagers are no longer needed either and have been turned in and that cost is being saved.

The Town of Louisburg utilizes the same system and has approached the County about obtaining them. They would bear the cost of removing the radios from our vehicles in a neat and professional manner. Mr. Self recommended declaring the radios surplus and authorize the negotiation and sale to the Town of Louisburg.

Upon motion by Commissioner Strickland, seconded by Commissioner Swanson, with all present voting "AYE" duly carried recommendation the radios be declared surplus and authorized the negotiation and sale to the Town of Louisburg.

County Manager Self stated that the County has a policy on utility improvement reimbursements entitled "Franklin County Policy on Reimbursement for Extension or Improvement to County-owned Utility System". The County utility system is being subsidized by the General Fund and needs to be as frugal and conservative as possible. The current policy allows developers to pay the capital cost to extend utilities to their development and over a period of years, receive reimbursement. We will be facing a growing number of subdivisions in the coming years and this policy could cause a financial drain on the utility fund. Mr. Self recommends that the Board rescind the policy. He also stated that this would not affect anyone who has already signed an agreement and would only affect future agreements. Mr. Self said that he would bring a better policy to the Board in the future.

Upon motion by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Wynne, with all present voting "AYE" duly carried rescinding the policy entitled "FRANKLIN COUNTY POLICY ON REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXTENSION OR IMPROVEMENT TO COUNTY-OWNED UTILITY SYSTEM".

Commissioner Swanson reported that at the North Carolina County Commissioner's Board of Directors meeting last week, that all counties were voicing opinions concerning money held by the State and were even considering suing the State. Commissioner Swanson said that this will be discussed at the next Board of Director's meeting and that some counties are worse off than Franklin County.

Commissioner Foy reported that at the Rescue Association's meeting on March 28, 2002, the question was asked how far along are we in upgrading the communication system. Assistant County Manager, Angela Harris, stated that a meeting will be held on April 11, 2002 and a recommendation will be made to the Board at that time. Mrs. Harris also stated that a study is being conducted at this time.

County Manager Self has spoken with Tax Supervisor, Jim Wrenn?? Mr. Self also reported that advertisements were placed in the Wake Weekly, Franklin Times and News and Observer for a replacement for Jean Gordon and he has received several applications already. Mr. Self also asked that Assistant County Manager, Angela Harris be appointed Deputy Clerk so that she can sign documents since he was appointed Clerk to the Board.

There being no further business to come before the Board, adjournment recorded at 8:30 P. M.

JOHN R. BALL, CHAIRMAN RICHARD SELF, CLERK