

**April 17, 2006**

The Board of Commissioners of Franklin County, North Carolina, met in Regular Session at 7:00 P.M. in the Commissioner's Meeting Room located in the County Administration Building with the following Commissioners present: Chairman Sidney E. Dunston, Vice-Chairman Lynwood D. Buffaloe, Commissioners Harry L. Foy, Jr., Raymond A. Stone, Jimmie R. Gupton, Donald C. Lancaster, and Robert L. Swanson.

## **1. CONSENT AGENDA**

Upon the motion by Commissioner Buffaloe, seconded by Commissioner Gupton, with all present voting "AYE", duly carried approval of the following consent agenda items:

- A. April 3, 2006 minutes.
- B. Franklin County Tax Collector's Report.
- C. Resolution authorizing the execution and delivery of a master lease agreement with Suntrust Leasing Corporation for Zoll software.

A Proclamation was added to the Consent Agenda, recognizing April 24-30, 2006 as "Historic Preservation Week" in Franklin County.

## **2. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

No comments made.

## **3. PUBLIC HEARING**

- A. Text Amendment: Article 11, Planned Building Group Regulations, Section 11-2: Business Planned Building Group Regulations, Parking.

Chairman Dunston declared the public hearing open. Planning Director Pat Young explained the amendment which would allow for flexibility for off-street parking spaces needed for a car wash facility. After detailed analysis, Mr. Young stated the current regulations were excessive and feels the amendment would be acceptable for safety purposes, traffic flow and economical use of property. No public comments were made and the hearing was closed. Upon the motion by Commissioner Foy, seconded by Commissioner Stone, with all present voting "AYE", duly carried approval.

- B. Close-out for the Franklin County FY03 CDBG program.

Jessie Miars, of Holland Consulting Planners, addressed the Board concerning the needs program which was concentrated in the Pilot community along old U.S. 64. Sixteen housing units were considered. Of those, 14 were dilapidated and received clearance, 2 units were rehabilitated and 6 were relocated into standard housing. Chairman Dunston declared the hearing open, and with no public comments the hearing was closed. Upon the motion by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Buffaloe, with all present voting "AYE", duly carried approval.

- C. ROAP (Rural Operating Assistance Program) to help with funding for Rural General Public, Work First Transportation and Elderly and Disabled Transportation.

County Manager Chris Coudriet commented on the annual process that allows the county to

be eligible for its operating assistance funds to assist transportation routes for senior centers, for those involved in social services and other transportation needs. The total amount is \$102,301.00 with applications due May 12, 2006. Chairman Dunston declared the public hearing open, and with no public comments the hearing was closed. Upon the motion by Commissioner Buffaloe, seconded by Commissioner Swanson, with all present voting "AYE", duly carried approval.

#### **4. FRANKLIN COUNTY HOMEBUILDERS' ASSOCIATION**

Executive Officer Rosemary Champion spoke to the Board, recognizing Timmy Smith as the current President of the Franklin County Homebuilders' Association. As Franklin County continues its effort to manage growth, Champion made a presentation to the Board to inform it of the economic benefits that the housing industry brings to the county. Champion presented a DVD that expresses the opinions of national and state homebuilders on the economic impact of the industry.

#### **5. ANIMAL CONTROL UPDATE**

Animal Control Manager Graham Stallings made a presentation to the Board concerning the status report on changes directed by the Board of Commissioners in December 2005. Stallings feels progress has been minimal due to budget constraints and lack of support by Franklin County's Health Department. Stallings has been employed for seven weeks as Animal Control Manager and stated he had been omitted from the budget process pertaining to animal control. Stallings reminded the Board of an Animal Control Task Force that was created with intentions for positive changes in animal services. Recommendations by the task force include building a new facility to house animals, maximizing adoption opportunities, establishing a public education plan for rabies vaccinations, providing low-cost spay and neuter services, making a transition from gassing to lethal injection and computerizing animal control records. Stallings says some goals have been met, but emphatically states progress is limited due to lack of resources and funding. Stallings expressed his belief that animal control is neither a top priority of the Health Department budget nor Health Director Phillip Tarte. Tarte disagreed, stating money originally allocated for an animal control vehicle was moved to provide for facility upgrades at the animal control shelter and other projects. When asked about budget priorities, Mr. Tarte stated that animal control had the same priority as all others within the Health Department. Humane Society President Ida Estep also commented on her dismay with the rate of progress in accomplishing the established goals. She agreed with Stallings and said animal control needs more support. She suggested the Animal Control Director report directly to the County Manager rather than to the Health Director. Commissioner Swanson made a motion to move Animal Control from the direction of the Health Department to the County Manager with a two-week transition period. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lancaster, with all present voting "AYE", duly carried approval.

#### **6. BUDGET ORDINANCE AMMENDMENTS**

Upon the motion by Commissioner Buffaloe, seconded by Commissioner Gupton, the Board unanimously approved an amendment to the General Fund to reflect funding approved at the March 20, 2006 meeting of the Board of Commissioners and reappropriated the remaining solid waste project from the previous fiscal year.

The Board also gave their approval on an amendment to the General Fund to provide funding for the County operating the Franklin County Regional Airport. The estimated cost for the

remainder of the year is \$232,000 in operating costs. According to County Finance Director Chuck Murray this is a new appropriation from the county fund balance. Upon the motion by Commissioner Buffaloe, seconded by Gupton, the motion carried 6 to 1, with Commissioner Foy voting against.

Commissioner Stone made a motion to amend the agenda. Upon the motion, seconded by Commissioner Swanson, with all present voting "AYE", duly carried approval. Commissioner Stone then made a motion to ask the Finance Director, the County Manager and the Animal Control Director to confer and come up with an operating budget for the remaining two months of the fiscal year for the animal control functions and to present the budget at the Board's next meeting. Upon the motion by Commissioner Stone, seconded by Commissioner Swanson, with all present voting "AYE", the motion duly carried.

## **7. BOARD, MANAGER AND CLERK'S COMMENTS**

**Commissioner Foy:** None.

**Commissioner Stone:** Commissioner Stone attended the Board of Equalization and Review meeting and said activity is going well. \_

**Commissioner Buffaloe:** Commissioner Buffaloe stated the Airport meeting will be held Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2006 at 5pm. He also stated that fuel sales have been such that on the day the county took over airport operations, 8000 gallons of jet fuel were delivered and have had to order another tanker, therefore activity is going well. He stated the county is operating at about a 25-cent profit per gallon. He believes the airport has a real opportunity to be self sufficient.

**Commissioner Swanson:** Commissioner wanted to thank the Airport Committee for work done.

**Commissioner Gupton:** None

**Commissioner Lancaster:** None.

**Commissioner Dunston:** Commissioner Dunston appointed Mr. Dee Patel, owner of the Economy Inn, as the final member of the TDA. Upon a motion by Commissioner Stone, seconded by Commissioner Buffaloe, with all voting "AYE", the motion duly carried. The TDA now has a full nine member board.

**County Manager Chris Coudriet:** Mr. Coudriet reported the installation of a water line along Sid Mitchell Road is complete and is approximately 30 days ahead of schedule. He stated Veterans Services Manager Victor Alston will soon begin paying site visits to the Franklinton Senior Center and local libraries once a week to promote Veterans Services in the county. He also reported on the first meeting of the Tourism Development Authority. Patricia Glatt is the owner of the Louisburg Inn. She has been appointed to serve as Chairman of that committee. Danny Pearce will serve as Vice-Chair. The TDA plans to meet once a month, possibly the second Wednesday of every month at 8:30am at the County Administration Building. The next meeting is scheduled for April 26<sup>th</sup>. A school bond town hall meeting will be held at 6:00pm in the Board's chambers on Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2006. North Carolina Senator Doug Berger will host the meeting with panelists expected to speak to issues associated with the school bond.

He commented that County Assembly Day on May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2006 at the Sheraton Hotel in Raleigh. A dinner meeting will be held the same evening in honor of Regional COG manager Neil Mallory.

**County Clerk Kristen King:** Mrs. King reminded the Board about the District Regional Advisory Committee Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am until 1:00pm at the Millennium Hotel in Durham, North Carolina.

Commissioners rescheduled their next Board meeting from May 1<sup>st</sup> to May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2006 due to scheduling conflicts.

Upon motion by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Buffaloe, with all present voting "AYE", the meeting was declared adjourned.

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Sidney E. Dunston, Chairman

Kristen G. King, Clerk to the Board