

**October 16, 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.

Chairman Dunston asked the Board to consider approval of the Consent Agenda with the exception of Item 1-D concerning the retirement of K-9 Tango and a request to sell him to handler Wayne Daniels at the price of \$1.00. The issue was delayed so that staff can make certain all liability issues are completely eliminated.

## **1. CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- A. October 2, 2006 minutes
- B. Tax collection report
- C. Waiver of acreage fees for Braeburn Subdivision

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

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

No comments were made.

## **3. RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER**

Mattie May, Accounting Specialist, Franklin County Finance Department, was recognized for her selection as the Employee of the Quarter ending September, 2006. Mrs. May has been employed with the county since September, 1997 and selected for this recognition by a committee of her peers. This is the second time Mrs. May has been recognized for this achievement. She was first recognized in 2001. She received a certificate, a savings bond and a paid day off.

## **4. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

- A. Zoning Map Amendment: P.S. Tax Service, .78 Acres, Dunn Township, 2165 Old US Hwy 64, R-30 to Special Use-Neighborhood Business (SU-NB)

Franklin County Planning Director Pat Young notified the Board of the quasi-judicial proceeding required in this matter and stated all persons presenting facts must be sworn in.

Mr. Young was then sworn in and proceeded to brief the Board on the request. He stated Geraldine Harris-Holloway filed the request as operator of P.S. Tax Services, a professional tax service. Currently the business is only allowed to have one additional employee and she is examining the possibility of expanding the business. County staff recommended a special use – neighborhood business rezoning, but with limitations on uses. Mr. Young stated staff and the

Planning Board unanimously recommended the zoning map amendment at a meeting held September 12, 2006. He also said the action would conform to the character of the neighborhood and the future land use plan which identifies the area as future R-30.

At approximately 7:09 P.M., the public hearing was opened and closed with no comments.

Upon motion by Commissioner Foy to approve the zoning map amendment for P.S. Tax Service, .78 Acres, Dunn Township, 2165 Old US Hwy 64, R-30 to Special Use-Neighborhood Business (SU-NB), seconded by Commissioner Lancaster, with all present voting "AYE," the motion duly carried.

B. Special Use Permit: P.S. Tax Service, .78 Acres, Dunn Township, 2165 Old US Hwy 64, (Small Low-Impact Office, Travel Agency, Neighborhood Business)

Following approval of the zoning request, Mr. Young commented on a special use permit request by Geraldine Harris-Holloway (P.S. Tax Services) for a small, low-impact office (tax service), neighborhood business, and travel agency on approximately .78 acres on the north east corner of the intersection of Old US Highway 64 (SR 1770) and Cheves Road (SR 1731) in Dunn Township. Mr. Young stated the request had unanimous approval of the Planning Board during their September 12, 2006 meeting along with favorable support of staff.

Ms. Jane Williams was then sworn in to speak on behalf of the petitioner in the event of questions by the Board.

Soon after, upon motion by Commissioner Stone to adopt the special use permit for P.S. Tax Service, .78 Acres, Dunn Township, 2165 Old US Hwy 64, (Small Low-Impact Office, Travel Agency, Neighborhood Business), seconded by Commissioner Gupton, with all present voting "AYE," the motion duly carried.

C. Assessment of Community Development Needs/Intent to Apply FY 2006 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) – Concentrated Needs (CN) Program

Lastly, Chip Bartlett of Holland Consulting Planners, Inc. (HCP) was present for the first of two public hearings required regarding the assessment of Community Development Needs / Intent to Apply for the FY 2007 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) - Concentrated Needs (CN) Program.

The State of North Carolina, through the Division of Community Assistance (DCA) is currently soliciting applications for the FY07 cycle of available funding under the CDBG-CN program. The CDBG-CN program is intended to revitalize, through improvements, preservation or development, a contiguous residential area delineated by a distinct boundary. Bartlett stated up to \$850,000 is available on a competitive basis and the funds may be used for the funding of housing rehabilitation and/or clearance/replacement and water, sewer, drainage or street infrastructure improvements.

Holland Consulting Planners is working with the County Planning and Inspections and Public Utilities departments to identify areas in the County appropriate for development of a CDBG-CN application. CDBG-CN applications are due on February 1, 2007 and HCP has agreed to complete a CDBG-CN application on behalf of the County at no cost or obligation to the County. Bartlett added there is no specific target area set for applications

A requirement of the CDBG-CN program is that two (2) public hearings be held prior to the County's application to DCA, to ensure adequate public input. The first of these public hearings is intended to provide a generic overview of all CDBG fund categories available and to take input from the public and the Board on community development needs. The second is intended to provide a more detailed assessment of the proposed CDBG-CN project.

The requested first public hearing was advertised (i.e.: pursuant to North Carolina law) in The Franklin Times newspaper on Thursday, October 4, 2006.

At approximately 7:17 P.M., Chairman Dunston declared the public hearing open. The hearing was closed after receiving no public input. No action was required at that time.

## **5. ANIMAL SHELTER STATUS**

Walter Vick of LSV Partnership Architects/Planners presented a schematic design and status brief outlining where work is relative to the new animal shelter.

Mr. Vick began his presentation with visuals including a blueprint of the proposed building and a site plan for the shelter. He explained the plan in detail including the process of how animals are processed once they enter the shelter. He spoke in detail about a proposed state of the art air exchange system he said is necessary not only to filter out disease but to also recapture 75% of the heat generated and to better manage energy costs. Chairman Dunston asked if a sophisticated air exchange system was a requirement to which Mr. Vick responded the system mainly reflected good financial business, all the while ensuring the County is doing everything possible to prevent disease within the facility.

Mr. Vick estimated construction costs at \$150 per square foot for a proposed 7200 square foot building at a total of \$1.25 million. The figure reflects a turnkey plan including paved parking areas. Mr. Vick suggested the animal shelter be built at the Franklin County Sheriff's Office on property already owned by the County. The land suggested has the least amount of contour change and is the most logical for this type of facility, leaving larger parcels available for future projects.

Commissioner Foy questioned present members of the Franklin County Humane Society if they maintained plans to help raise funds for the shelter. General consensus of the group was a commitment to do what it could to raise money and in-kind gifts, but the group stated it could not commit to a definite figure. The Humane Society said it needs more of a commitment from the Board of Commissioners before grants could be obtained and before successful fundraising efforts could be made.

Mr. Vick and County Manager Chris Coudriet agreed the next step in moving forward with the Board's desire to improve or build a new shelter is to appropriate \$17,000 to LSV Architects/Planners for work on the first phase or initial design of a detailed schematic before blueprints are drawn and brought back before the Board of Commissioners.

Upon motion by Commissioner Buffaloe to fund \$17,000, which represents 20% of the design discussed, seconded by Commissioner Swanson, with all present voting "AYE," duly carried.

## **6. BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #3**

Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 159-15, the County Finance Officer requested a

budget ordinance amendment in the amount of \$27,660 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007 to reflect grants received by the Health Department and to recognize the Board of Commissioner's action at the October 2, 2006 meeting regarding Northbrook Drive waste water extension.

Upon motion by Commissioner Stone to approve the budget ordinance amendment, seconded by Commissioner Gupton, with all present voting "AYE," the motion duly carried.

## **7. PRESENTATION OF THE 2007-2009 WORK FIRST PLAN**

Bill Wallace, Chair, Franklin County Board of Social Services and Chair, Franklin County Work First Planning Committee, presented the 2007-2009 Work First Plan. Nicki Griffin, Franklin County Social Services Director, was also in attendance. The mission of Work First is to prepare families for responsibility, independence, and employment, and in return ensuring self-sufficiency and good citizenship. The Work First plan identifies ways to carry out that responsibility in Franklin County which was designated to operate as a standard county by the Board of Commissioners at the August 21, 2006 meeting. According to Wallace, the Work First plan will be presented to the Board of Social Services on October 24, 2006.

Upon motion by Commissioner Swanson to approve the Work First Plan for the 2007-2009 biennium, seconded by Commissioner Gupton, with all present voting "AYE," duly carried.

## **8. BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

There are two vacancies on the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council to be occupied by representatives under age 18. The Board was asked to consider appointing Samantha Abernathy (Louisburg High School, 11<sup>th</sup> grade) and Trevor Rorie (Louisburg High School, 12<sup>th</sup> grade) for a two-year term expiring October, 2008.

Upon motion by Commissioner Stone to approve the appointments, seconded by Commissioner Buffaloe, with all present voting "AYE," duly carried.

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

This is the time set aside for the Board of County Commissioners, the County Manager, and the Clerk to the Board to report on various activities. The Board may also discuss other items of interest.

**Commissioner Foy:** Commissioner Foy commented that deputies are experiencing interruptions of handheld radio service and wanted to know if the county was in the process of upgrading its communication system. County Manager Chris Coudriet stated a committee is working on a preliminary design to improve the coverage areas and stated that committee is comprised of all disciplines of law enforcement.

**Commissioner Stone:** Commissioner Stone stated he attended a meeting on October 11, 2006 with the Soil and Water task force to discuss ways of improving soil and water quality.

**Commissioner Buffaloe:** Commissioner Buffaloe informed the Board about an upgrade that has been requested on trash compactors at county convenience centers. The request was made after the determination that some of the new machines were unsafe.

**Commissioner Swanson:** No report.

**Commissioner Gupton:** No report.

**Commissioner Lancaster:** Commissioner Lancaster commented on progress that is being made regarding the new shell building project by the Franklin County Committee of 100 at the Franklin County Regional Airport.

**Commissioner Dunston:** No report.

**County Manager Chris Coudriet:** Mr. Coudriet stated a contract should be awarded this week for inspection and design of removing asbestos from the Old Epsom School property. He stated the lowest bid was submitted by DI, Incorporated of Morrisville in the amount of \$3900. He expects a final design to be in place by November 28, 2006. In other business, Mr. Coudriet pointed out that quarterly reviews with county department heads would be occurring during the week assessing overall activity and status on budget. He also made reference to a meeting scheduled for Friday, October 20, 2006 with Hobbs, Upchurch and Associates, planning and utilities staff to discuss a final draft briefing on the water/sewer study. An attempt will then be made to link that information to the overall Burlington Mills plan that will come forward in late October or early November. The Manager also mentioned a special called meeting between the Franklin County Board of Commissioners and the Franklin County Board of Education regarding a memorandum of understanding for the Adequate Public Schools Ordinance. He said this is the final step before bringing the ordinance into full operation. Lastly, he mentioned he's been appointed to the National Association of Counties Telecommunications steering committee.

**Clerk to the Board Kristen King:** Mrs. King reminded the Board of an upcoming political forum sponsored by the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce. She also commented on a joint meeting between the Franklin County Board of Commissioners and the Franklin County Board of Education being planned for 6:00 P.M. on November 6, 2006. Finally, she mentioned participation by Franklin County employees at the North Carolina State Fair. She encouraged the Board to stop by and visit those employees at a booth sponsored by the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners.

At approximately 9:17 P.M., upon motion by Commissioner Stone to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Gupton, with all present voting "AYE," duly carried.

---

Sidney E. Dunston, Chairman

Kristen G. King, Clerk to the Board