

Draft

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
WORK SESSION** February 20, 2012

**ALEXANDER COUNTY  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**PRESENT:** Ryan Mayberry, Chairman  
James "Burkie" Jennings, Vice-Chairman  
Judy M. Moose  
W. Darrell Robertson

**ABSENT:** Larry Yoder

**STAFF:** Chris Bowman, Sheriff  
Rick French, County Manager  
Russell Greene, Emergency Services Director  
David Icenhour, Economic Development Director  
Tod Jones, Chief Deputy  
Josh Mitchell, Solid Waste Director

The Alexander County Board of Commissioners held a work session on Monday, February 20, 2012 in the County Administration Building downstairs conference room, Taylorsville, North Carolina.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Mayberry called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Commissioner Jennings made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Commissioner Moose seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

**SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF PURCHASE ORDER  
FOR VEHICLES**

Sheriff Chris Bowman presented V-8 and V-6 gas mileage comparisons for the Dodge Charger, Chevy Caprice, Chevy Tahoe, and Ford Crown Victoria as well as Term Contracts for Dodge Chargers from Horace G. Ilderton Dodge LLC, Chevy Caprices and Tahoes from Bobby Murray Chevrolet, and Ford Explorers from Capital Ford of Wilmington LLC. He stated that he was opposed to using the Ford Taurus and preferred the V-8 Dodge Charger.

Therefore, he submitted a purchase order for 4 Dodge Chargers (2012 models) with the V-8 Police Package at a cost of \$21,930 each for a total of \$87,720. The term contract for the V-8 Dodge Charger includes a 3-year bumper to bumper warranty and a 5-year 100,000 miles power train warranty.

Chairman Mayberry pointed out that the V-6 Dodge Charger got 2 mpg better gas mileage than the V-8 model and cost \$394 less for a total savings of \$1,576 for 4 vehicles. He also noted that the Dodge website recommended the use of 89 octane fuel for V-8 models and asked if using 87 octane would void the warranty. Sheriff Bowman stated that he was not aware of such warranty voids.

After discussion and comparison, Commissioner Robertson made a motion to approve the purchase order as requested. Chairman Mayberry seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Commissioner Robertson stated that Iredell County currently operated 13 vehicles that ran on propane fuel, noting that the Board should consider this option for County vehicles in the near future due to the rising cost of fuel. Commissioner Jennings agreed and felt the County should operate as efficiently as possible.

Sheriff Bowman advised that the 1998 Ford used by the D.A.R.E Officer had numerous problems and would need to be replaced soon. He also stated that the Sheriff's Department was in need of a Tahoe to pull certain equipment.

## **MINIMUM HOUSING COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Commissioner Moose discussed efforts of the Minimum Housing Committee, especially the cleaning up of lots as well as burned out homes in the county.

Russell Greene, Emergency Services Director, stated that in 2010 and 2011 the Fire Marshal's Office conducted 53 fire investigations, 28 of which were residential structure fires. Only 7 of those remain partially cleared or have not received any repairs including structures on Walter Street, Drumstand Road, Old Bridge Road, Chigger Ridge Road, Automotive Lane, West Jay Drive, and Walker Foundry. He also noted the following locations of older burned out homes that were not currently on the map – Green Acres Lane, Paul Payne Store Road, Rink Dam Road, Hammer Road, Liberty Church Road, and Friendship Church Road. Mr. Greene also reported that Mt. Carmel Church owned two homes on Martin Luther King Drive that they had requested be burned.

Josh Mitchell, Solid Waste Director, reported that he had received 17 complaints so far this year. Of those, 14 have been taken care of. He provided photos of several of the cases while explaining that once a complaint is received, he attempts to speak to the property owner in person. If he does not succeed in speaking with the property owner, a letter is then mailed that explains the complaint and clean-up process.

Mr. Mitchell also briefly reviewed proposed changes to the Solid Waste Ordinance which would be considered at the March 12, 2012 Commissioners' Meeting.

Commissioner Robertson felt new signs were needed at all convenience centers encouraging citizens to bring correct change with them.

## **ROCKY FACE PARK UPDATE**

David Icenhour, Economic Development Director, gave an update on the Rocky Face Mountain Recreational Area, which included:

- ADA trail is in but still needs to be paved.
- Septic system is nearly completed.
- 3-mile trail is finished.
- Stairway leading to the 3-mile trail is currently under construction.
- Contracted completion date is April 30, 2012.

He informed the Board that there have been some problems with four wheelers and graffiti.

Mr. Icenhour also mentioned that he was working on a brochure which would include trail maps for the park and that there would be a system in place for the renting/reserving of the picnic shelter once the park opened.

## **BUDGET AMENDMENTS #29 - #31**

Rick French, County Manager, discussed the purpose of Budget Amendments #29 - #31 as follows:

Budget Amendment #29 – To transfer funds between departments for the allocation of annual insurance premiums for property & liability and workers' compensation.

Budget Amendment #30 – To transfer funds between departments for the allocation of annual insurance premiums for property & liability and workers' compensation.

Budget Amendment #31 – To transfer funds between departments for the allocation of annual insurance premiums for property & liability and workers' compensation.

Commissioner Jennings made a motion to approve Budget Amendments #29 - #31. Commissioner Robertson seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

**CLOSED SESSION – N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1 & 6) TO PREVENT THE DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION & PERSONNEL**

Chairman Mayberry made a motion to enter into Closed Session at 7:34 PM to prevent the disclosure of confidential information and to discuss personnel issues pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1 & 6). Commissioner Robertson seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further discussion, Commissioner Jennings made a motion to adjourn at 8:09 PM. Commissioner Robertson seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

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Ryan Mayberry, Chairman

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Jamie M. Starnes, Clerk to the Board