

Draft

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING May 2, 2022

ALEXANDER COUNTY
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

PRESENT: Ronnie Reese, Chairman
 Marty Pennell, Vice-Chairman
 Kent Herman
 Josh Lail
 Larry Yoder

STAFF: Rick French, County Manager
 Jamie Starnes, Clerk to the Board

The Alexander County Board of Commissioners held a regular meeting on Monday, May 2, 2022 in Room 103 of the CVCC / Alexander Center in Taylorsville, North Carolina.

CALL TO ORDER

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

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Reese gave the invocation and Commissioner Herman led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

*****SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS*****

Keys to the County were presented to recent retirees Leeanne Whisnant, Consolidated Human Services Director, for 33 years of service and Greg Cronk, Information Technology Director, for 23 years of service.

Members of the Board thanked Ms. Whisnant and Mr. Cronk for their dedication to Alexander County.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Commissioner Yoder made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Commissioner Herman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one spoke during the Public Comment Period.

SALE OF REAL PROPERTY – SEALED BIDS FOR LIBERTY LANE

David Moose, Compliance & Procurement Specialist, reported that a bid opening was held on April 22, 2022 where two sealed bids were received for a vacant tract on Liberty Lane, approx. 3 acres in size, purchased by the County in 1991. The apparent high bidder was Joey Thompson who submitted a bid of \$21,559. Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 160A-270, the Board must either award the sale of this property to the apparent high bidder or reject all bids and refuse the sale.

Commissioner Lail made a motion to accept the bid of \$21,559 for the Liberty Lane property submitted by Joey Thompson. Commissioner Yoder seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

SALES TAX REPORT

Rick French, County Manager, stated that a total of \$4,522,477 has been collected in sales tax revenue through April 2022 (\$1,278,215 is new sales tax for economic development, public education, and community colleges). This amount is 70.67% of the \$6,399,835 budgeted with 66.67% of the budget year expired and an increase of 13.78% over last year.

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS #89 & #90

Rick French, County Manager, reviewed the purpose of Budget Amendments #89 & #90 as follows:

Budget Amendment #89 – To increase the Health Department’s Communicable Disease budget due to addendum #546 to the State agreement for communicable disease pandemic recovery and to increase the Environmental Health budget for State funding exceeding the original budget by \$792.

Budget Amendment #90 – To increase the Planning Department budget to hire a planning employee with an estimated start date of 6/1/22.

Commissioner Yoder made a motion to approve Budget Amendments #89 & #90. Vice-Chairman Pennell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS & REAPPOINTMENTS

Rick French, County Manager, requested the following appointment and reappointment:

Consolidated Human Services Advisory Committee – appoint Crystal Adams to fill a vacancy that expires 6/30/2023.

Council on Aging – reappoint Paulette Huffman for 3 years.

Commissioner Yoder made a motion to approve the appointment and reappointment. Commissioner Herman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Rick French, County Manager, advised that staff was working on the proposed 2022-2023 budget, which should be presented to the Board very soon.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes from the April 18, 2022 Regular Meeting.
- B. Tax Release Requests (\$3,306.55) and Tax Refunds (\$903.39) for March 25 – April 21, 2022.

Commissioner Yoder made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Lail seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION – N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(4, 5, & 6) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, CONTRACTUAL, & PERSONNEL

Chairman Reese made a motion to enter into Closed Session at 6:17 PM to discuss economic development, contractual matters, and personnel issues pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(4, 5, & 6). Commissioner Yoder seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Commissioner Yoder made a motion to adjourn at 7:56 PM. Commissioner Herman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ronnie L. Reese, Chairman

Jamie M. Starnes, Clerk to the Board