



Chatham County, NC

Meeting Minutes

Board of Commissioners

Tuesday, May 23, 2017

9:00 AM Agriculture & Conference Center - Meeting Rooms A & B

Budget Work Session

CALL TO ORDER

9:09 AM

Present: 5 - Chairman Jim Crawford, Vice Chair Diana Hales, Commissioner Walter Petty, Commissioner Mike Dasher and Commissioner Karen Howard

BOARD PRIORITIES

[17-2145](#)

Introduction & Review: Continuation, Expansion, Balance

Attachments: [Work Session Budget Presentation FY 2018 Day 1](#)

Lisa West, Budget Manager, gave a presentation to the Board. (Presentation attached)

[17-2146](#)

Enterprise Funds (Southeast, Water, Waste)

Attachments: [Work Session Budget Presentation FY 2018 Day 1](#)

Ms. West continued the presentation.

[17-2147](#)

Other Funds - Fire Districts and Special Revenue Funds

Attachments: [Work Session Budget Presentation FY 2018 Day 1](#)

Ms. West continued the presentation.

Vice Chair Hales asked about the Courthouse Clock Trust. Deputy County Manager Vicki McConnell stated it is funds to help repair the clock if the repairs are ever needed.

[17-2148](#)

Capital Improvements Program

Attachments: [Work Session Budget Presentation FY 2018 Day 1](#)

Ms. West continued the presentation.

[17-2149](#)

Chatham County Schools

Attachments: [Work Session Budget Presentation FY 2018 Day 1](#)

Chatham County Schools Superintendent Dr. Derrick Jordan continued the presentation.

Chatham County Schools Chief Financial Officer Tony Messer continued the presentation.

Dr. Jordan concluded the Schools' portion of the presentation.

Chairman Crawford asked if there was any progress with a second entrance at Northwood. Dr. Jordan stated there is some progress. They are still in discussions.

Chairman Crawford stated an article in the Chatham News and Record stated students were being subjected to political doctination at school. Dr. Jordan stated the schools have a policy that employees of the school must not use their position to either show support for or in any way indicate being against a political party or entity. He stated the two instances that were referenced were about an assignment sent home about illegal immigration. It was from a resource called Teaching Tolerance. The Teaching Tolerance resource is used by a number of teachers nationwide but it is backed by the Southern Poverty Law Center. They are two different sites. The Teaching Tolerance site is designed for teachers. It is designed to ensure students are equipped with information to allow them to be able to make informed decisions about their positions. It is not designed to force students to have a particular position.

Dr. Amanda Hartness, Assistant Superintendent for Academic Services & Instructional Support, stated the resource in question had statistics and facts about illegal immigration. The material that had an objection was a blog piece, an opinion piece, on the other website. The website Teaching Tolerance has an entire curriculum section called Teaching for diverse perspectives. What it seeks to do is provide primary text documents and historical documents that teachers can use in classrooms. One thing teachers are expected to teach is how to help students receive political information and news media and discover and decide for themselves which is appropriate text and which are not valid sources.

Dr. Jordan stated they will not support teachers or staff broadcasting their political opinion.

[17-2150](#)

Fees

Attachments: [Work Session Budget Presentation FY 2018 Day 1](#)

Ms. West continued the presentation.

[17-2151](#)

Revenues

Attachments: [Work Session Budget Presentation FY 2018 Day 1](#)

Ms. West continued the presentation.

LUNCH - 12:00 PM

[17-2153](#)

Administration Category

Attachments: [Work Session Budget Presentation FY 2018 Day 1](#)

Ms. West continued the presentation.

Vice Chair Hales asked if staff could look into electric vehicles for the County's fleet. Staff will bring back information to the Board at its retreat in January.

Commissioner Petty asked how much more work needs to be done on the 911 Memorial. Staff will look into it.

[17-2154](#)

Culture, Recreation, and Education Category

Attachments: [Work Session Budget Presentation FY 2018 Day 1](#)

Ms. West continued the presentation.

[17-2155](#)

General Government Category

Attachments: [Work Session Budget Presentation FY 2018 Day 1](#)

Ms. West continued the presentation.

Commissioner Petty stated there were power outages at voting sites last year and he wanted to know if staff looked into getting the sites UPS systems. The County Manager stated staff looked into it and she would find out the outcome.

[17-2116](#)

Vote on a request to approve Interlocal Agreement between Siler City and Chatham County for Yearly Option Payment and authorize the county manager and county attorney to make minor changes to the agreement before it is finalized.

Attachments: [FINAL INTERLOCAL Siler City ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AGREEMENT 5.15.17](#)

The County Manager stated staff would like the Board to approve the Interlocal Agreement with Siler City before it approves the option.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Hales, seconded by Commissioner Howard, that this Contract, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof, be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Chairman Crawford, Vice Chair Hales, Commissioner Petty, Commissioner Dasher and Commissioner Howard

[17-2186](#)

Vote on a request to Approve the Siler City CAM Megasite Option Agreement and authorize the county manager to sign the Agreement and authorize the county manager and county attorney to make minor changes to the option before it is finalized.

Attachments: [CAM Option Agreement 2017 \(Chatham County Mega Site\)](#)

The County Manager stated this is largely the same option that the Board approved last year. The County got a call from Golden Leaf last week that asked that Siler City request an extension for the CAM site. The last word the County got on Friday was that Golden Leaf was satisfied with everything. In order to meet the deadline the Board does have to consider the option today.

A motion was made by Commissioner Petty, seconded by Commissioner Howard, to approve this Contract, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof, and authorize the county manager to sign the Agreement and authorize the county manager and county attorney to make minor changes to the option before it is finalized. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Chairman Crawford, Vice Chair Hales, Commissioner Petty, Commissioner Dasher and Commissioner Howard

[17-2188](#)

Vote to Approve Sanford Wastewater Contract and authorize the county manager to sign the agreement and authorize the county manager and county attorney to make minor changes to the agreement before it is finalized.

Attachments: [Interlocal Agreement - Moncure - Wastewater](#)

The County Manager stated Golden Leaf requested that Sanford ask for an extension for the Moncure site to address a conceptual plan they submitted and was included in the grant award. The language of the grant award that holds them to that conceptual site plan including land they did not currently own and therefore the County could not option the property. There are several ways to address that. One is to go to Golden Leaf and ask them to accept a site plan that reflects the acreage that is owned. The second is for them to purchase additional land which is actually in the works but not finalized at this point. The actual Moncure Megasite Option has been placed on hold.

The County Manager stated in the meantime, Sanford has signed a contract to do the design work. The contractor has completed Phase One design and they have started Phase Two. This design work is necessary for the site to receive certification from the state. Even if the Golden Leaf grant doesn't come forward because of issues with the site, this work would still be necessary for it to receive certification. In this case, Sanford is willing to split the cost with the County. Sanford has already funded \$350,000 for Phase One for which they would like to be reimbursed one half. They would also like the County to sign the interlocal agreement and agree to reimburse them for costs moving forward. If the Board does approve the agreement the County Manager asks the Board to authorize the agreement not to be executed until the County has a signed water contract with Sanford.

The County Manager stated this agreement covers the full scope of the project. This is the agreement for the \$11 million of which the County's share is \$3.4 million. That assumes the Golden Leaf grant. If the Golden Leaf grant does not materialize then the County can stop the contract at any point or the Board could allow the contract to move forward through design so that the site could be certified by the state. The advantage is that Sanford splits the cost of that design work with the County.

A motion was made by Commissioner Petty, seconded by Vice Chair Hales, to approve this Contract, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof, and authorize the county manager to sign the agreement and authorize the county manager and county attorney to make minor changes to the agreement before it is finalized and the execution of this contract is contingent upon the execution of the water contract by Sanford. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Chairman Crawford, Vice Chair Hales, Commissioner Petty, Commissioner Dasher and Commissioner Howard

[17-2189](#)

Vote to Approve Sanford Water Contract and authorize the county manager and attorney to make minor changes to the agreements before they are finalized.

Attachments: [Final Water contract - clean \(00362016xAAD3E\) 5-19-17](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chair Hales, seconded by Commissioner Howard, to approve this Contract, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof, and authorize the county manager and attorney to make minor changes to the agreements before they are finalized. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Chairman Crawford, Vice Chair Hales, Commissioner Petty, Commissioner Dasher and Commissioner Howard

[17-2197](#)

Vote on a request to authorize the County Manager and Deputy County Manager to sign all documents relating to the closing on the bank property on West Street.

A motion was made by Commissioner Howard, seconded by Vice Chair Hales, that this Agenda Item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Chairman Crawford, Vice Chair Hales, Commissioner Petty, Commissioner Dasher and Commissioner Howard

[17-2156](#)

Human Services Category

Attachments: [Work Session Budget Presentation FY 2018 Day 2](#)

Ms. West gave a presentation to the Board. (Presentation attached)

Vice Chair Hales asked staff to work with Chatham Transit to research electric buses and charging stations.

Vice Chair Hales asked if staff could look into the DSS Food and Nutrition Program working with the Cooperative Extension program.

Commissioner Howard has a concern about transportation and child care for the FNS Employment and Training program.

[17-2157](#)

Natural Resource Management Category

Attachments: [Work Session Budget Presentation FY 2018 Day 2](#)

Ms. West continued the presentation.

[17-2158](#)

Public Safety Category

Attachments: [Work Session Budget Presentation FY 2018 Day 2](#)

Ms. West continued the presentation.

The County Manager stated a meeting with several Domestic Violence stakeholders was held last week. She asked the Board permission to advertise and fill the advocate position. The Board agreed by consensus.

[17-2199](#)

Tax rate

Attachments: [Work Session Budget Presentation FY 2018 Day 2](#)

The County Manager continued the presentation.

The Board looked at four options for funding additional items. The Board chose option four.

A motion was made by Commissioner Howard, seconded by Vice Chair Hales, to approve Option Four with a 62.81 tax rate. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Chairman Crawford, Vice Chair Hales, Commissioner Petty, Commissioner Dasher and Commissioner Howard

ADJOURNMENT