



Chatham County, NC

Meeting Minutes

Board of Commissioners

Monday, September 30, 2024

6:00 PM Siler City Aging Services Building Located at 112 Village
Lake Road, Siler City, NC 27344

Special Meeting Agenda Between the Town of Siler City Board of Commissioners and the Chatham County Board of Commissioners

Present: 5 - Chair Mike Dasher, Vice Chair Karen Howard, Commissioner David Delaney, Commissioner Franklin Gomez Flores and Commissioner Katie Kenlan

CALL TO ORDER

Siler City Mayor Donald Matthews called the meeting to order of the Siler City Board of Commissioners.

CALL TO ORDER

Chatham County Chair Mike Dasher called the meeting to order of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners.

INTRODUCTIONS

Mayor Matthews called for an invocation and pledge of allegiance.

Commissioner Norma Boone led the invocation with the pledge of allegiance following.

The members of each board and staff introduced themselves.

BOARD PRIORITIES

[24-5552](#)

Receive a presentation on the Siler City Town Parks and Recreation Master Plan Implementation Report

Attachments: [Siler City Parks Rec \(Joint BOC Presentation\) 09.25.2024.docx](#)

Siler City Parks and Recreation Director Tylr Stinson presented an update on Siler City Parks and Recreation.

Stinson stated that the current parks and amenities included six parks, one gymnasium, a sports complex, aquatic facility, a veterans memorial, and a greenway.

Stinson shared updates on recent renovations at Washington Park, which included basketball court recently renovated, new single pickleball court, and new single shuffleboard court. Stinson shared updates on recent renovations at Boling Lane Park,

which included the additional of the James Larry Cheek Pavilion and maintenance of buffer.

Stinson stated that the approved master plan timeline and phases. Stinson updated those present on the Loves Creek Greenway facility amenities and future planning. Stinson shared future renovation plans for Ernest Ramsey Gym, Landrus Siler Park, and Boling Lane Park. Stinson shared details about the Bray Park Sports Complex, Paul Braxton Gym, and partnerships the Town has with other agencies.

[24-5555](#)

Receive a presentation on the Tax Reappraisal Program

Attachments: [Reappraisal Schedule of Values 2025 Presentation \(2\)](#)

Tax Administrator Jenny Williams and Jimmy Tanner with Tanner Valuation Group updated the Board of Commissioners on the Chatham County Reappraisal Program.

Williams and Tanner reviewed the following topics with the Board of Commissioners:

1. What is a reappraisal
2. What does "tax value" really mean
3. Where does "tax value" or "market value" come from
4. Equalization
5. Show real examples of the market
6. The new valuation notices and the appeal process

[24-5553](#)

Receive a presentation on the Chatham Reentry Program

Attachments: [Reentry Chatham 2024](#)

Chatham Diversion & Advocacy Programs Director Renita Foxx updated those present on the Reentry program, including recidivism, reintegration and how it affects the community.

Foxx stated the recidivism is the process of transiting from incarceration back into the community. In 2021, the Bureau of Justice Statistics stated that the North Carolina average is forty percent. The reentry programs is a proven method of reducing the recidivism rate across the country. The US Department of Justice states within one year of release, forty-three of formerly incarcerated people were rearrested. Reentry programs with individualized plans are cutting recidivism drastically.

Foxx shared the definition of reintegration which looks at how people leave incarceration and come back to a family, to a neighborhood, to a community, to a job that doesn't just pay the bills but gives them some sense of satisfaction and meaning. That goes beyond the support and assistance provided to those reentry society upon their release.

Foxx stated that Reentry Programs are based around key elements to break the barriers that most offenders face upon release. Reentry plans are to get the offender motivated and be productive members of society. Through hands on case management that is over seen by the Reentry Coordinator, efforts are focused on individual plans consisting of employment, workforce development, housing, health care, mental and substance abuse needs, education, transportation and self care. Services should be tailored to the unique needs and risk factors of an individual. Services should be holistic. Cognitive behavioral therapy benefits all facets of reentry population and post-release programming. Community supervision works best when it

includes robust support functions.

Foxx stated that the average cost to house one inmate is approximately \$30,000 per year. Reentry Programs can positively impact communities in many ways, by reducing recidivism, improving public safety, creating a more stable environment, saving money, improving neighborhoods and promoting social integration. Reentry Programs are essential for ensuring the successful rehabilitation and reintegration of individuals released from jails and prisons into their communities.

Foxx stated that on January 29th, 2024, Governor Cooper signed Executive Order 303, establishing whole-of government coordination to improve reentry for formerly incarcerated people in North Carolina. In the Executive Order, Governor Cooper laid out four overarching goals: Improve economic mobility of formerly incarcerated people, Improve mental and physical health, expand housing opportunities and Remove barriers to successful community reintegration. The Order also strengthens prison education by directing improved collaboration between all education, registered apprenticeship and workforce partners. To achieve the bold goals, the Executive Order established a Joint Reentry Council. The Joint Reentry Council is comprised of representatives from every cabinet agency, the North Carolina State Office of Human Resources, the North Carolina Office of State Budget and Management, the North Carolina Department of Justice, the North Carolina Post-Release Supervision and Parole Commission, and the Task Force for Racial Equity in Criminal Justice.

Foxx stated that establishing a Reentry Council which represents the entire county. Support from Department Adult Correction, funding with Lee County to support services and staff in Chatham. Establishing partnerships in the community to help move our community members forward with employment, vocational supports, housing and mental health and substance abuse. Examining our transportation needs to ensure individuals and families have the support needed to attend essential meetings such as probation, court and employment and community services. Our Reentry Council should represent all facets of how individuals reintegrate back into our community.

Foxx shared the action of the program:

Hired Diversion Specialist to support reentry coordination, hired Reentry Case Manager, database training, making community connections to move individuals forward, part-time office space in Siler City, created partnerships with employers to help ensure our participants reintegrate home safely with employment and support.

[24-5554](#)

Hold a general discussion on the TriRiver mergers

Attachments: [TriRiver Utility Mergers Presentation](#)

Town Manager Jack Meadows and County Manager Dan LaMontagne updated both boards on the status on the planned utilities mergers with the City of Sanford.

OTHER MATTERS OF COMMON INTEREST

The boards discussed future items and asked the Managers to discuss.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Vice Chair Howard, seconded by Commissioner Kenlan, that this be adjourned. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Chair Dasher, Vice Chair Howard, Commissioner Delaney, Commissioner Gomez Flores, and Commissioner Kenlan