



The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, February 5th, 2018, at 6:30 pm in the Board Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, 348 South Main Street, Sparta, North Carolina.

Present: Chair Mark Evans, Commissioner Bobby Irwin, Commissioner Tom Smith, Commissioner John Irwin, Commissioner Larry Prince, County Manager, Mike James, County Attorney Donna Shumate and Clerk to the Board Lauren Linker.

Chair Mark Evans called the meeting to order. Commissioner John Irwin not present at the time.

Chair Mark Evans led the pledge of allegiance and Commissioner Larry Prince gave the invocation.

Chair Mark Evans noted a couple changes on the agenda, omission of a spotlight business and the addition of closed session for Economic Development under NCGS 143.318.11(a) 4.

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to approve the agenda with these changes. Commissioner Smith seconded. Vote 4:0

AGENDA

Monday, February 5th, 2018

6:30 pm

- 6:30 Meeting Called to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation
Motion on Agenda for February 5th, 2018 Meeting
Motion on Meeting Minutes 12/4 Joint, 12/4 Organizational, 12/18
- A. 6:35 Spotlight Business, Solid Rock Food Closet – Larry Myers (Omission)
- B. 6:45 Public Agenda Comments
- C. 7:00 Nick Hawks, Chief Deputy
 - 1. Elementary School Resource Officer Grant Discussion
- D. 7:10 Rita Miller, Tax Administrator (Page 1-26)
 - 1. Request for Refund
 - 2. Report of Unpaid Taxes that are Liens on Real Property
 - 3. Release of 2007-2017 Property Tax on Abandon Cemetery
- E. Consent Agenda
 - 1. General fund budget amendment # 14 in the amount of \$4,550 (Page 27)
 - 2. General fund budget amendment # 15 in the amount of \$580 (Page 28-29)
 - 3. Addition of County Manager, Mike James to JCPC Board (Page 30)
- F. General Business

1. Social Service Car Purchase (Page 31-48)

G. Public Comments – 30 minutes

H. County Manager Comments

1. Note about Court Cost (Page 49-50)
2. General Fund Revenue Update State of NC (Page 51-55)
3. Joint Meeting Dates

I. Commissioners Comments

J. Closed Session

1. NCGS 143.318.11(a)(3) – Attorney Client
2. NCGS 143.318.11(a)(5)(i) – Acquisition of Real Property
3. NCGS 143.318.11(a)(4) – Economic Development (Addition)

K. Adjourn

Commissioner Tom Smith made a motion to approve the minutes from the 12/4 joint meeting with the Board of Education, the 12/4 organizational meeting and the regular 12/18 meeting. Chair Mark Evans seconded. Vote 4:0

Chair Evans opened the floor for public agenda comments. Seeing no one he closed that section.

Sheriff Bryan Maines introduced the President, Carson Smith and Executive Vice President, Eddie Caldwell of the NC Sheriff's Association.

President Carson Smith explained a little about the association and its importance to the county sheriff's in their daily jobs from education to legal assistance on topics.

Commissioner John Irwin came in at 6:36 p.m.

Executive Vice President, Eddie Caldwell explained the relationship between the Sheriff's Association and the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners. He noted that he personally had work with their leader for many years. He thanked the commissioners for allowing them to come introduce themselves. The board then thanked them for coming.

Nick Hawks explained that the school is seeking an elementary school resource through a state grant match where the state and school system pay the match money if the county would provide uniforms, equipment and a vehicle. The Board discussed the need for this position and

Commissioner Bobby Irwin made a motion to allow the sheriff's department to submit the grant application. Commissioner Prince seconded. Vote 4:1 (Commissioner John Irwin)

Tax Administrator, Rita Miller went over an odd request for refund. She explained that normally the tax office would never allow a refund, but explained the situation and her conversation with people at the school of government. Which brought them to recommend a refund regarding this one property.

Commissioner Prince made a motion to approve the request. Commissioner Smith seconded. Vote 5:0

Rita Miller explained the report of unpaid taxes that are liens on real property. She explained that she must report this information each February before the advertisements.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin made a motion to approve the request for advertising the week of April 18th. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0

Rita Miller went over a cemetery that had been discovered by a new land owner where he went to clear the property. Rita Miller explained the general statute on cemeteries and recommended the board release the outstanding tax bill on the property.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin made a motion to release the outstanding tax bills on the cemetery property. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 5:0

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Bobby Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0

Chair Mark Evans opened the floor for public comments. Seeing no one he closed that section.

County Manager Mike James explained a document received from the administrative office of the courts. The board discussed the issue and decided to keep letting the judges make the final decision on waiving court fees.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to leave it up to the judge's discretion to waive court cost. Commissioner Bobby Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0

County Manager Mike James noted the tax information in the agenda packet was just informational. Then he went over the joint town meeting dates. He noted some of the budget dates coming in the year. He noted by next meeting there will be live streaming the meetings.

Commissioner Larry Prince reminded the citizens to buy local.

Commissioner John Irwin encourages people to file for office and to come to the board meetings, especially the budget meetings. He said he was glad the budget meetings would be live streamed.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin reminded everyone of the agriculture dinner coming up. He then updated everyone on the veteran brick sale and noted they were about halfway to their goal.

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to enter into closed session under NCGS 143.318.11(a)(3) – Attorney Client, NCGS 143.318.11(a)(5)(i) – Acquisition of Real Property and NCGS 143.318.11(a)(4) – Economic Development. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0

Chair Mark Evans called the board back to regular session and stated no decisions were made during closed session.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 5:0

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren Linker
Clerk to the Board

Attest:

Mark Evans
Chair