

Minutes
Richmond County Board of Commissioners
1401 Fayetteville Road, Conference Room, Rockingham, NC
REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, September 1, 2020 5:30PM

The Richmond County Board of Commissioners met for a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, September 1, 2020 at 5:30 P.M. with the following present: Chairman Kenneth R. Robinette; Vice-Chairman John B. Garner; Commissioners Don M. Bryant, Jimmy L. Capps, Ben T. Moss, Jr. and participating: remotely: Commissioners Tavares Bostic, Rick Watkins and County Attorney Bill Webb

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robinette at 5:30 P.M.

ITEM NO. 1 Invocation by Commissioner Ben Moss

Invocation was given by Commissioner Moss

ITEM NO. 2 Approval of Agenda - Decision

By a motion of Commissioner Garner, seconded by Commissioner Bryant

Commissioner Jimmy Capps voted yes; Commissioner Ben Moss voted yes; Commissioner Rick Watkins voted yes; Commissioner Tavares Bostic voted yes; Commissioner Don Bryant voted yes; Vice- Chairman John Garner voted yes and Chairman Kenneth Robinette voted yes and by unanimous vote. Motion carried.

ITEM NO. 3 Open Forum for Public Comments - 5:30 - 6:00 PM

No one signed up to speak

ITEM NO. 4 Public Hearing on Proposed Text and/or Map Amendment(s) to the Richmond County Zoning Ordinance - Tracy Parris, Planning Director - Discussion

Chairman Robinette opened the Public Hearing at 5:31PM

RZM 2020-1

Rezoning of parcels on Airport Road from Rural-Residential to Heavy Industrial

Tax ID# 738900312008(portion); Tax ID# 738900128199;

Tax ID# 738900516305(portion); Tax ID# 738738900256448(portion),

Tax ID# 738900213025

Tracy Parris, Planning Director read the request(s) to the board.

Lee Quick

660 Ghio Road

Hamlet, NC 28345

Letter stating that he is not in favor of rezoning this property

Martie Butler

Richmond County Economic Developer and REDC

Letter from Mrs. Martie Butler requesting that the properties be rezoned as heavy industrial.

RZM 2020-2

Rezoning of parcels on Lassiter Road from Rural Residential to Heavy Industrial

Tax ID#745302763105

Tracy Parris, Planning Director presented and read the request(s) to the board.

Ed and Sandra Snyder

577 Midway Road

Rockingham, NC 28379

Emailed request to have public hearing reschedule until property owners can meet in person.

Vulcan Materials Company

Rockingham Quarry

353 Galestown Road

Rockingham, NC 28379

Letter stating that they support the proposed rezoning which presents an opportunity for Vulcan to continue our investment and hiring in Richmond County.

Chairman Robinette closed the Public Hearing at 5:51PM

Meeting will be held remotely on Thursday, September 3, 2020 @ 10:00AM for the Board of Commissioners to vote on the proposed Text and/or Map Amendment(s) to the Richmond County Zoning Ordinance

ITEM NO. 5 Request for Board Consideration of Approval of the Engineering Agreement for Hanger at RC Airport - Bryan Land, County Manager - Decision

By a motion of Commissioner Moss, seconded by Commissioner Bryant

Commissioner Jimmy Capps voted yes; Commissioner Ben Moss voted yes; Commissioner Rick Watkins voted yes; Commissioner Tavares Bostic voted yes; Commissioner Don Bryant voted yes; Vice- Chairman John Garner voted yes and Chairman Kenneth Robinette voted yes and by unanimous vote. Motion carried.

ITEM NO. 6 Request for Board Consideration of Approval of Budget Amendment for Coronavirus Relief Funds-Round 2 Budget - Bryan Land, County Manager - Decision

By a motion of Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Capps

Vice-Chairman John Garner voted yes; Commissioner Jimmy Capps voted yes; Commissioner Don Bryant voted yes; Commissioner Ben Moss voted yes; Commissioner Rick Watkins voted yes; Commissioner Tavares Bostic voted yes; Chairman Kenneth Robinette voted yes and by unanimous vote. Motion carried.

ITEM NO. 7 Request for Board Consideration of Approval to Change Date for November Board of Commissioners Meeting - Bryan Land, County Manager - Decision

By a motion of Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Garner

Commissioner Rick Watkins voted yes; Vice-Chairman John Garner voted yes; Commissioner Jimmy Capps voted no; Commissioner Don Bryant voted yes; Commissioner Ben Moss voted yes; Commissioner Tavares Bostic voted yes; Chairman Kenneth Robinette voted yes and by a 6 to 1 vote. Motion carried.

ITEM NO. 8 Request for Board Consideration of Approval of the Engineering Contract for Energy Way Industrial Complex - Bryan Land, County Manager - Decision

By a motion of Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Moss

Commissioner Tavares Bostic voted yes; Commissioner Don Bryant voted yes; Commissioner Ben Moss voted yes; Commissioner Rick Watkins voted yes; Commissioner Jimmy Capps voted yes; Vice-Chairman John Garner voted yes; Chairman Kenneth Robinette voted yes and by unanimous vote. Motion carried.

ITEM NO. 9 Request for Board Consideration of Approval for Transfer of Funds to REDC - Bryan Land, County Manager - Decision

By a motion of Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Capps

Vice-Chairman John Garner voted yes; Commissioner Jimmy Capps voted yes; Commissioner Don Bryant voted yes; Commissioner Ben Moss voted yes; Commissioner Rick Watkins voted yes; Commissioner Tavares Bostic voted yes; Chairman Kenneth Robinette voted yes and by unanimous vote. Motion carried.

ITEM NO.10 Monthly Report by County Manager Bryan Land

I will start out his evening with our Covid 19 report

As of today the numbers are as follows, we currently have 700 positive cases for Covid 19 . To date we have tested 8350 and of those 7302 have come back negative or inconclusive. 559 individuals have recovered. We currently have 129 active cases. We have had 12 deaths. Total tested quadrupled last month!

We all must remember to not become complacent and remember to utilize our 3 W's. (wear, wait 6', wash) as you are aware, Governor Cooper relaxed restrictions today entering phase 2.5 safer at home will begin Friday at 5pm. We will all be listening for Governor Cooper's guidance. Covid testing is Monday thru Friday from 8:00AM until 4:00PM Monday thru Friday - drive thru but referral needed. Covid Hotline is (910) 417-4947

Our solid waste report is as follows: we picked up 527 bags for a total of approximately 5 tons. Additionally, 16 tires were removed; we cleaned up 26 different roadways with Richmond County Staff and DOT forces. Our Solid Waste Enforcement Officer investigated 3 illegal dump sites and issued 3 citations or notices.

On the economic development front, the Tarlton Boat Plant project has been awarded to Myrick Construction by Global Packaging, they are currently in the demolition permit application stage. We are being advised that Myrick crews will start the project on or around September 14th. Shortly after the demo portion is completed, Global plans to construct a new warehouse on the site.

The 50k building expansion at Direct Pack that Southern Builders is construction is progressing rather nicely. The building is almost complete. I spoke with the contractor yesterday and the project is in the final dress up stage, final inspection is slated to take place prior to the end of September

Not sure if you guys saw any of the progress over the weekend but Barnes Pressure washing worked all weekend on the courthouse pressure washing project. Crews cleaned the building, sidewalks, retaining walls and all of the surrounding areas. It looks very nice. I was really impressed with the results

Beginning Thursday, we will be starting our flooring rehab project at our Solid Waste transfer station facility. This is a planned capital project that will require the transfer station to be closed September 3rd -7th. The transfer station will reopen on Tuesday the 8th of September at 8am.

I visited Coleman's Creek training facility over the weekend. They hosted a long range sniper competition with competitors and spectators from all over the Country attended. They had a full slate of 30 teams competing. The skill level of the competitors was unbelievable, hitting 12" targets at distances over a mile! I saw tags from Oklahoma, West Virginia, Virginia and others. Coleman's Creek has been a nice addition to the Ellerbe area and provides an awesome experience for the outdoor enthusiast. We are thrilled to have them call Richmond County home!

I did want to briefly mention the I73/74 road project. The project hasn't received a considerable amount of publicity and is a project that isn't on everyone's radar but I wanted the Commissioners to understand the magnitude of this project going on right in our back yard. Total project cost should breach 150 million making the Richmond County project one of the largest roadway projects currently under construction in the South eastern United States. The project boast project quantities of over 330,000 tons of asphalt and 8 million cubic yards of excavation. Completion is slated for 2024 and crews are currently around 10% complete.

And last but not least I wanted to update the board on our census figures, as of yesterday Richmond County was 69th out of 100 with completion percentages. We are currently hovering around 51.4%. This is an increase of 4 spots compared to last month. I urge all of our citizens to please complete your census questionnaire, as it is an extremely important tool that is utilized with gauging the amount of funding we will receive in Richmond County. Door to door census takers have already started crossing the County. Currently NC stands to lose 1.5 trillion in federal dollars based on our states census completion rates. The website is 2020census.gov or you can call 844 330 2020 to complete.

I did also want to remind the board about our remote meeting on Tuesday September the 8th. at 10:00 am. for a CDBG application. We will be sending out a calendar invite.

ITEM NO.11 Request for Board Consideration of Approval for Award of Water Tank Maintenance Contract - Jerry Austin, Jr. - Public Works, Director - Decision

Open bids were taken on Tuesday, July 28, 2020. We recommend approval to Southern Corrosion, Inc. out of Roanoke Rapids, NC for \$2,108,388.00. A twelve year contract year by year to terminate we have to give a sixty day notice

By a motion of Commissioner Moss, seconded by Commissioner Garner

Vice- Chairman John Garner voted yes; Commissioner Jimmy Capps voted yes; Commissioner Don Bryant voted yes; Commissioner Ben Moss voted yes; Commissioner Rick Watkins voted yes; Commissioner Tavares Bostic voted yes; Chairman Kenneth Robinette voted yes and by unanimous vote. Motion carried.

ITEM NO.12 Consent Agenda - Decision

A) Approval of Draft Minutes of Regular Meeting on August 4, 2020 as Submitted by the Clerk For Review

B) Approval of Tax Releases And Tax Refunds for the Month of July, 2020

C) Approval of North Carolina Vehicle Tax System Refund Report for the Month of July 2020

D) Approval of Budget Amendment for WIC Client Services

E) Approval of Budget Amendment for ELC Enhancing Detection for Public Health Crisis Response

F) Approval of Budget Amendment for APS/CPS Assessments

G) Approval of Budget Amendment for Board of Election Grants

By a motion of Commissioner Moss, seconded by Commissioner Garner

Commissioner Don Bryant voted yes; Commissioner Ben Moss voted yes; Commissioner Rick Watkins voted yes; Commissioner Tavares Bostic voted yes; Commissioner Jimmy Capps voted yes; Vice-Chairman John Garner voted yes; Chairman Kenneth Robinette voted yes and by unanimous vote. Motion carried.

ITEM NO.13 Adjournment - Decision

By a motion of Commissioner Moss, seconded by Commissioner Bryant

Commissioner Don Bryant voted yes; Commissioner Ben Moss voted yes; Commissioner Rick Watkins voted yes; Commissioner Tavares Bostic voted yes; Commissioner Jimmy Capps, Vice-Chairman John Garner; Chairman Kenneth Robinette voted yes and by unanimous vote. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:11 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted by the Clerk

Dena R. Cook, NCCCC

Clerk to the Board

Richmond County Board of Commissioners