

## **NORTH CAROLINA**

### **WAYNE COUNTY**

The Wayne County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, February 19, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners Meeting Room in the Wayne County Courthouse Annex, Goldsboro, North Carolina.

Members present: Roland M. Gray, Chairman; Atlas Price, Jr., Vice-Chairman; Wilbur E. Anderson; John M. Bell; C. Munroe Best, Jr.; J. D. Evans and Efton M. Sager.

Members absent: None.

#### **Work Session**

During the scheduled briefing and prior to the regularly scheduled meeting, the Board of Commissioners held a work session to discuss the items of business on the agenda.

#### **Invocation**

Commissioner C. Munroe Best, Jr. gave the invocation.

#### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Commissioner C. Munroe Best, Jr. led the Board of Commissioners in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

#### **Special Recognition**

The Board of Commissioners recognized the following employees for their service to the County of Wayne and presented service pins to those in attendance:

- Twenty-five years – Diana S. Beason and L. Ray Smith
- Twenty years – Teresa M. Gardner and Lois A. Smith
- Fifteen years – Deborah C. Adcock, Shawn K. Harris and Stephen Potter
- Ten years – Richard G. Blizzard; Leroy Bunn, Jr. and Robert Golimowski
- Five years – Ralph R. Ball, III; Michael S. Biggins; Kristina B. Brake; Barbara S. Fields; Vernon Worth Heath, Jr.; Robert W. Houston; Richard P. Merritt; Russell W. Rice; Brenda J. Smith and Christopher S. Smith
- One year – Terece N. Artis, Rhonda R. Baker, Ray Bravo, William J. Cornell, Kenneth E. Davis, Lillian J. Fenner, Blake T. Ferrell, John J. Hachten, Paul E. Kelly, Zachary Kinlaw, Bridget A. McDonald, Vicki E. Morris, Megan N. Newell, Larry E. Paul, Justin Scally, Allison Speight, Lisa W. Steward and Alan Stubbs

#### **Board of Commissioners' Committee Reports**

Commissioner John M. Bell stated North Carolina's Eastern Region was requesting support from the region in its development plans for the Morehead City port.

#### **Upcoming Appointments**

The Appointment Committee announced the following persons are under consideration for appointment or reappointment:

- Mount Olive Planning Board – Rex Hatch
- Wayne County Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee – Carroll Goodridge
- Commissioners' Council for Older Adults – Hilda Gibbs, Stephanie Widener Rose, Eryn McAuliffe, Peggy Seegars, Judy Pelt, Pam Holt, June Monk and Dr. Marlee Ray

### **Appointment – Wayne County Council on Aging**

Upon motion of Commissioner Wilbur E. Anderson, the Board of Commissioners unanimously reappointed Gloria D. Flowers to the Wayne County Council on Aging. Mrs. Flowers' term will expire March 18, 2011.

### **ParkEast Elevated Water Tank Capital Project Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2007-2008 and Budget Amendment**

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Atlas Price, Jr., the Board of Commissioners unanimously approved and authorized the ParkEast Elevated Water Tank Capital Project Ordinance for fiscal year 2007-2008 and budget amendment for the project, attached hereto as Attachment A.

### **Jeffreys Building Renovation Presentation and Authorization to Put Project out for Bid**

Emergency Services Director Joe Gurley and Raymond Layton with Peterson, Eure and Associates reviewed the plans for the renovations to the Jeffreys Building.

The first floor of the Jeffreys Building will house Human Resources, Emergency Medical Services and a training room. The current Emergency Medical Services station on Center Street in Goldsboro will be moved to the first floor of the Jeffreys Building. The open area will be enclosed as a bay for Emergency Medical Services vehicles.

Environmental Health, Inspections and Planning will be located on the third floor. An office cubicle system will be used for staff on the third floor, which will also include work rooms and /or conference rooms. The offices will be configured for the convenience of the public.

The county has received a driveway permit at the Jeffreys Building from the North Carolina Department of Transportation. The county is waiting approval of the architectural plans by the City of Goldsboro. It is anticipated the actual construction process will take eight months.

County Manager W. Lee Smith, III stated \$800,000 has been budgeted for the Jeffreys Building renovation. Due to the construction timeframe, the construction project and furniture purchase could be in separate budget years.

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Atlas Price, Jr., the Board of Commissioners unanimously approved and authorized the first and third floor renovations of the Jeffreys Building be put out for bid with Alternate G-1 (cubicle partition system and additional electrical trade work) and Alternate G-2 (masonry restoration).

### **March 2008 as Fall Prevention Month Proclamation and Presentation**

Emily Best, a member of Girl Scout Troop 711, is working on her Girl Scout Gold Award project which is fall prevention. She stated one in three adults over 55 years of age fall every year. Often adults in this age range, who experience a second fall, do not have a full recovery. Wayne County has 12% of its population over 65 years of age. There are many contributing factors to falls, such as diet and lack of exercise.

Commissioner C. Munroe Best, Jr. stated Girl Scouts are a valuable resource for our community.

Upon motion of Commissioner C. Munroe Best, Jr., the Board of Commissioners unanimously proclaimed March 2008 as Fall Prevention Month, attached hereto as Attachment B.

## **Partnership for Children of Wayne County Presentation**

Don Magoon, Executive Director of the Partnership for Children of Wayne County and Kim Best, Director of Community Services for the Partnership for Children of Wayne County, updated the Board of Commissioners on the organization's services and programs.

The Partnership for Children provides or connects families with early care and education, health and family support services needed for young children. The major focuses are child care (quality, accessibility and affordability), health services for young children and family support (information and resources for parents). Better quality childcare improves school readiness and has a lasting impact on a child's success in school. Child care in Wayne County also had a direct economic impact of \$120,076,487 in 2006.

The More at Four program is a state-funded community-based, voluntary pre-kindergarten initiative designed to prepare eligible at-risk four year old children in North Carolina for success in school. Wayne County has 630 More at Four slots with 216 slots in the Wayne County Public Schools. There are 561 children on the waiting list in Wayne County.

## **North Carolina Association of County Commissioners Centennial Proclamation**

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Atlas Price, Jr., the Board of Commissioners unanimously recognized the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners in celebration of its centennial celebration, attached hereto as Attachment C.

## **2007 Farm Bill**

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Atlas Price, Jr., the Board of Commissioners unanimously approved and authorized a letter be sent to Wayne County's state and federal legislators supporting the 2007 Farm Bill as recommended by the North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation.

The Board of Commissioners discussed the need for the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners and North Carolina League of Municipalities to become involved in planning for both urban and rural development.

## **Consent Agenda**

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Atlas Price, Jr., the Board of Commissioners unanimously approved and authorized the following items under the consent agenda:

1. Utilities Reduction Specialists contract to audit sales tax and use tax through the tax period ending June 30, 2008, attached hereto as Attachment D
2. Received bids for the rehabilitation of houses in the 2006 Community Development Block Grant-Concentrated Needs Project, attached hereto as Attachment E and awarded the following:
  - a. Contract No. 06-01 Julia Coley to Harvey's Home Improvement for \$28,210
  - b. Contract No. 06-08 Shirley Bass to Harvey's Home Improvement for \$29,785
  - c. Contract No. 06-09 Tanya Bass to Harvey's Home Improvement for \$10,950
  - d. Contract No. 06-06 Minnie Newkirk to NS Weeks Construction, Inc. for \$9,785
3. Budget amendment – Sheriff's Office

## **Board of Commissioners Comments**

Commissioner C. Munroe Best, Jr. thanked Nona Wynn Robbins for her letter praising the Community Development Block Grant program for enabling her mother to have a happy and healthy life in her new home.

Commissioner J. D. Evans stated the meeting between the Board of Commissioners and Board of Education was a good joint meeting. The staff presentations were good. He commented on education in Wayne County. A correct and thorough analysis of test scores should enable us to know how well our students are doing in respect to other school systems similar in characteristics and population. The type of school system must be first defined. Better communication with constituents, better cooperation with constituents and total commitment to achieve goals and objectives can be done by creating a purpose for developing policies and formulating a plan with procedures for accomplishment; thereby, resulting in relevant programs and activities and improved relationships resulting in responsible government.

Commissioner John M. Bell stated North Carolina's Eastern Region is in jeopardy of losing funding from the state. Wayne County needs to support continued funding.

Commissioner Wilbur E. Anderson stated the Board of Commissioners is concerned about education in Wayne County and this is the reason for the joint meetings with the Board of Education. Each board needs to be aware of the mandates for both boards. The boards need to decide if money goes for programs or facilities. The education issue does not have an easy solution. He was concerned about the effect of local supplements on teacher salaries.

Commissioner Efton M. Sager stated the Education Committee of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners has discussed regional schools. The county is making progress. The State of North Carolina is examining its funding sources. As the State has cut back on education funding, counties have had to pick up the funding deficits and this has caused local funding of capital projects to fall behind.

Chairman Roland M. Gray stated the meeting yesterday between the Board of Education and Board of Education was good.

### **County Manager's Comments**

County Manager W. Lee Smith, III stated education in Wayne County can be made better. He recommended narrowing the focus of educational programs, which would increase accomplishments. Education cannot be all things to all people at all times.

### **Closed Session**

At 10:25 a.m., upon motion of Commissioner Wilbur E. Anderson, the Board of Commissioners unanimously declared itself in closed session to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged and to discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the public body

At 11:55 a.m., upon motion of Commissioner C. Munroe Best, Jr., the Board of Commissioners unanimously declared itself in regular session.

### **County Manager W. Lee Smith, III Contract**

Upon motion of Commissioner C. Munroe Best, Jr., the Board of Commissioners unanimously approved a contract between Wayne County and W. Lee Smith, III for W. Lee Smith, III to continue as Wayne County Manager.

### **Board of Commissioners' Information**

The Board of Commissioners was advised of the following personnel changes:

1. Sheriff  
Name of Employee – David Melvin Crisp, Jr.  
Date of Employment – February 4, 2008  
Classification – Non-sworn Bailiff, Part-time  
Salary – \$9.54 per hour

2. Social Services  
Name of Employee – Mary Holly Steed  
Date of Employment – October 8, 2007  
Classification – As needed contract employee, Part-time  
Salary – \$12.00 per hour
3. Sheriff  
Name of Employee – Lounes I. Blackman  
Date of Employment – February 4, 2008  
Classification – Bailiff, Special Deputy, Part-time  
Salary – \$9.54 per hour
4. Emergency Services  
Name of Employee – Thomas Vick, Jr.  
Date of Employment – February 4, 2008  
Classification – Telecommunicator, Part-time  
Salary – \$10.56 per hour
5. Health  
Name of Employee – Katie Biggers  
Date of Employment – January 1, 2008  
Classification – Medical Lab Technician, Part-time  
Salary – \$18.09 per hour
6. Emergency Services  
Name of Employee – Sandra Lugo  
Date of Employment – February 4, 2008  
Classification – Telecommunicator, Full-time  
Salary – \$25,231 per year
7. Emergency Services  
Name of Employee – James Thompson  
Date of Employment – February 4, 2008  
Classification – Telecommunicator, Full-time  
Salary – \$25,231 per year
8. Emergency Services  
Name of Employee – Thomas Thompson  
Date of Employment – February 4, 2008  
Classification – Telecommunicator, Full-time  
Salary – \$25,231 per year