

Minutes
Regular Meeting
Hertford County Board of Commissioners
County Commissioners' Meeting Room
Monday, June 18, 2012
7:00 P.M.

Present: Curtis A. Freeman, Sr., William F. Mitchell, Jr., Johnnie R. Farmer, Howard J. Hunter, III, and Ronald J. Gatling

Absent: None

Also Present with the Board: Loria D. Williams, County Manager; Charles L. Revelle, III, County Attorney; John P. Rankins, Assistant County Manager; and Shelia W. Matthews, Clerk to the Board

Chairman Curtis A. Freeman, Sr., called the meeting to order.

The invocation for the meeting was provided by Assistant County Manager John P. Rankins.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No one spoke during the Public Comment Period.

AMBULANCE FRANCHISES

On a motion by Hunter and a second by Gatling, the Board voted unanimously to approve granting of ambulance franchises to the following for FY 2012-2013 as presented by Loria D. Williams, County Manager:

- Bertie Ambulance Service, Inc.
- Hertford County Emergency Services
- Med-Ex Medical Transport Service, Inc.
- White Oak Medical Transport Service, Inc.

BUDGET/FIRE DEPARTMENTS

Brittany Barnes, Vice-President of the Hertford County Firefighters Association, was present to request additional \$8,000 in funding for the fire departments. She asked the Board to take this request into consideration during the budget process.

COUNTY PROPERTY/TAX FORECLOSURES

A bid offer had been made on tax foreclosure property in the name of American Health & Human Services, Inc. (PIN #5993-41-7007) in the amount of \$2,500. On a motion by Hunter and a second by Farmer, the Board voted unanimously to reject the bid offer due to the fact that the bid was too low (\$7,600 owed on property). The bid deposit will be returned to the bidder.

Commissioner Hunter requested that the foreclosure list be updated because he had researched some parcels that showed houses being on them when, in fact, there was no houses on the parcels. Tax Collector Gay Sumner advised to look at the property record cards and not just the photos on GIS.

COMMISSIONERS

On a motion by Hunter and a second by Mitchell, the Board voted unanimously to amend the agenda to move Agenda Item #7581 "Request for Approval of Acquisition of Property" after Agenda Item #7574 "Discussion on Hertford County Judicial Center".

TAX

On a motion by Mitchell and a second by Hunter, the Board voted unanimously to approve a refund in the amount of \$200 for a privilege license for a Specialty Market Operator or Specialty Market Merchant issued in error according to G. S. 105-53. This refund was issued to William J. Boone, III, P. O. Box 33, Winton, NC, 27986, for the Nothing Fancy Market.

On a motion by Hunter and a second by Gatling, the Board voted unanimously to approve the order for the Tax Collector to collect 2012 taxes per G. S. 105-321(b) as follows:

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF HERTFORD

To the Tax Collector of the County of Hertford

You are hereby authorized, empowered, and commanded to collect the 2012 taxes set forth in the tax records filed in the office of the Tax Assessor and in the tax receipts delivered to you, in the amounts and from the taxpayers likewise therein set forth. Such taxes are hereby declared to be a first lien upon all real property of the respective taxpayers in the County of Hertford, and this order shall be a full and sufficient authority to direct, require, and enable you to levy on and sell any real or personal property of such taxpayers, for and on account thereof, in accordance with law.

Witness my hand and official seal, this 18th day of June, 2012.

On a motion by Gatling and a second by Hunter, the Board voted unanimously to recess Regular Session to go into a meeting of the Governing Board of the Tunis Sewer District.

TUNIS SEWER DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD

The County Manager informed the Board that the County had been notified 45 days ago that the new deadline had been set for October, 2013, instead of 2015, which equates to contracts needing to be awarded by September, 2012. There has been an extension requested. Some easements are still needed and are currently being pursued by the County Manager.

There were many questions posed from citizens present.

On a motion by Hunter and a second by Farmer, the Board voted unanimously to authorize condemnation of the required area of ten listed properties listed on the June 13th memo from County Manager Williams if there is a failure to obtain negotiated easements.

On a motion by Hunter and a second by Mitchell, the Board voted unanimously to return to Regular Session.

REGULAR SESSION

On a motion by Hunter and a second by Mitchell, the Board voted unanimously to recess Regular Session to go into a scheduled Public Hearing on the FY 2012-2013 Rural Operating Assistance Program (ROAP) Contract as follows:

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

This is to inform the public of the opportunity to attend a public hearing on the proposed Rural Operating Assistance Program (ROAP) application to be submitted to the North Carolina Department of Transportation no later than June 20, 2012, by the County of Hertford. The public hearing will be held on June 18, 2012, at 7:15 P.M. at the Hertford County Commissioners Meeting at 701 N. King Street, Winton, NC. Hertford County will provide auxiliary aids and services under the ADA for disabled persons who wish to participate in the hearing. Anyone requiring special services should contact Ms. Loria Williams, County Manager, as soon as possible so that arrangements can be made.

The programs included in the Rural Operating Assistance Program application are:

1. Elderly & Disabled Transportation Assistance (EDTAP) Program provides operating assistance for the public transportation of elderly and disabled citizens.
2. Employment Transportation Assistance Program provides operating assistance for the public transportation of persons with employment related transportation needs.
3. Rural General Public (RGP) Program provides operating assistance for the public transportation of persons living in non-urban areas of the county.

The period of performance for Rural Operating Assistance Program funds is July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013. The FY 2013 individual program totals are:

Program

Total

EDTAP	\$54,662
EMPL	\$11,250
RGP	\$57,753
TOTAL	\$123,665

This application may be inspected at the Hertford County Manager's Office, 701 N. King Street, Winton, NC from 8:30 – 5:00 PM Monday – Friday. Written comments should be directed to Ms. Loria Williams, Hertford County Manager, 701 N. King Street, Winton, NC 27986.

PUBLIC HEARING/AGING

Linda Blackburn, Director at the Office on Aging, was present to answer any questions and explained that the funds will be allocated among three organizations – Social Services, Aging, and CPTA.

On a motion by Hunter and a second by Gatling, the Board voted unanimously to leave the Public Hearing and return to Regular Session.

REGULAR SESSION

AGING

On a motion by Hunter and a second by Gatling, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Rural Operating Assistance Program (ROAP) application to be submitted to the North Carolina Department of Transportation as presented by Linda Blackburn, Director, Office on Aging.

On a motion by Hunter and a second by Gatling, the Board voted unanimously to recess Regular Session to go into a scheduled Public Hearing on the proposed FY 2012-2013 Hertford County Budget as follows:

**LEGAL NOTICE
HERTFORD COUNTY BUDGET HEARING
JUNE 18, 2012**

Pursuant to N. C. General Statute 159-11, notice is hereby given that the proposed 2012-2013 Hertford County Budget has been filed and is open for public inspection in the Office of the County Manager - Clerk to the Board - Hertford County Office Building Number One - King Street - Winton, NC, from 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday. A public hearing will be held by the Hertford County Commissioners on Monday, June 18, 2012, at 7:30 P.M. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room - Hertford County Office Building Number One - King Street - Winton, NC, to receive public comments on the proposed budget. By order of the Hertford County Board of Commissioners.

Curtis A. Freeman, Sr., Chairman, Hertford County Board of Commissioners

Shelia W. Matthews, Clerk to the Board

Loria D. Williams, County Manager, reviewed changes that had been made to the budget and answered questions posed from the audience.

On a motion by Hunter and a second by Mitchell, the Board voted unanimously to leave the Public Hearing and return to Regular Session.

REGULAR SESSION

COURTHOUSE

Mr. Pete Cayado, with Ware Bonsall Architects, presented the Revised Master Site Plan and the Revised Cost Estimates (Option 1 and 2). He also explained that the North Carolina Building Codes (which includes the new Energy Code) has changed since last year and is reflected in the Revised Cost Estimates.

On a motion by Farmer and a second by Hunter, the Board voted unanimously to accept a Deed of Gift from ASP Riversedge, LLC, of a 25.00 acre tract of land, designated as PARCEL A on a Preliminary Plat dated June 14, 2012, being the southwestern portion of PIN #6907-31-3402, with the Deed of Gift to contain a reversionary clause that title to the land will revert to the Grantor if the County has not begun construction of a courthouse on the site within one year of transfer of title.

On a motion by Farmer and a second by Gatling, the Board voted unanimously to purchase from ASP Riversedge, LLC, a 10.00 acre tract of land, designated as PARCEL B on a Preliminary Plat dated June 14, 2012, being located on the east side of Parkers Fishery Road, being a portion of PIN #6907-31-3402, for the sum of \$70,000.

The County Manager distributed copies in the audience of the following handouts: Existing and Proposed Debt Capital Projects and Effect on Tax Rate Spreadsheets and Courthouse Debt Service Schedules.

Commissioner Mitchell made a motion to postpone making a decision regarding construction of an Administration building on the Courthouse property until the July 2nd Meeting. The motion died due to lack of a second.

On a motion by Farmer and a second by Gatling, the Board voted to move forward with Option 2 presented by Mr. Pete Cayado. Option 2 is building a Government Center along with the Courthouse on the Riversedge property. Commissioner Mitchell was in opposition.

COUNTY MANAGER'S UPDATE

- Review of Solid Waste Budget
- Beginning to be charged for disposal of televisions
- Paving companies are looking into buying shingles now

- Recommending increasing household fee from \$115 to \$125

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

- Commissioner Gatling discussed Summer Program at the Middle School
- Commissioner Hunter recently completed the Cambridge Leadership Institute and highly recommends it and reminded the Board of the NCACC Annual Conference in Raleigh in August

On a motion by Gatling and a second by Hunter, the Board voted unanimously to recess Regular Session and go into a scheduled Closed Session as allowed under G. S. 143-318.11 (a) (3) to consult with the County Attorney, (5) to discuss acquisition of property, and (6) to discuss personnel matters.

CLOSED SESSION

Minutes of Closed Session are on file in the office of the Clerk to the Board.

REGULAR SESSION

On a motion by Farmer and a second by Hunter, the Board voted unanimously to recess until June 26, 2012, 9:00 A.M.