

**PASQUOTANK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
FEBRUARY 5, 2018**

The Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners met today in a regular meeting on Monday, February 5, 2018 in Courtroom C in the Pasquotank County Courthouse.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cecil Perry, Chairman
Dr. William R. Sterritt, Vice-Chairman
Jeff Dixon
Lloyd E. Griffin, III
Joseph S. Winslow, Jr.
Frankie Meads
Charles H. Jordan

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Rodney Bunch, County Manager
R. Michael Cox, County Attorney
Hartley Askew, Assistant Clerk to the Board

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Cecil Perry. Commissioner Lloyd Griffin gave the invocation and Caleb White, Senior at Pasquotank County High School led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Chairman Perry welcomed everyone present.

1. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

Chairman Perry asked if there were any amendments to the agenda. Finance Committee Chairman Bill Sterritt recommended the agenda be amended to add the following items recommended by the Finance Committee today: 1) Approval for pay grade/step for EMS Paramedic; 2) Resolution approving financing terms with Xenith Bank; and 3) Appointments to Board and Committees.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Charles Jordan to amend the agenda to add items #1 and #2 above to the Consent Agenda and add item #3 to New Business. The motion carried unanimously.

2. COMMENTS FROM SHEILA SIMPSON:

Chairman Perry recognized Sheila Simpson of Delta Sigma Theta who came to thank the Board for all they do for the area, and to offer the sororities help if ever needed.

3. PUBLIC HEARING ON BUSINESS INVESTMENT PROGRAM GRANT AGREEMENT WITH ALBEMARLE THEATERS, LLC:

Chairman Perry declared the meeting to be a public hearing on the Business Investment Program Grant Agreement with Albemarle Theaters, LLC.

Chairman Perry recognized Andy Meads of 213 Dancers Bay Road who came to express his concerns about how we choose to allocate our local tax money. He said he owns the Gateway Theater building, and understands the enthusiasm of a multi-plex theater in our small town. Mr. Meads thinks we are heading down a slippery slope. He said it would be easier to understand if it were a technical company bringing in 50 or more high paying jobs, but not a retail or entertainment business with only three full time positions. He apologized for the condition of the local theater, but the previous owner refused to invest in the business. Under new ownership they are committed to undergo a facelift. They just completed their digital projectors with 3-D projection and plan to refurbish the bathrooms to handicap standards, install a new concession area, implement online sale systems, and update the theater seating. They are also looking into installing a third screen in the future. He said they would have done these renovations sooner; however the investor he had was discouraged from doing so by the City of Elizabeth City last year. Mr. Meads said they plan to keep tickets the same price or close to it. Mr. Meads said there is a theater in Edenton in a 100 year old building with \$4.00 movies and 3-miles away there is a 10-plex theater with all of the amenities that foreclosed in 2012. According to a theater auditor that he spoke with, if you are determined to allocate the tax money to this business then there should be a claw-back clause in place to recoup previous taxes for when they fail to comply with the employment clause. He asked the Board to research theater bankruptcies if they wish to do

our County justice. Mr. Meads asked the Board to help Gateway Theater instead, as they are set on making it the best entertainment for your dollar.

Chairman Perry recognized Wayne Harris, Director of Elizabeth City Pasquotank County Economic Development Commission. He said he is here to support the efforts to bring a Cineplex to our area. It has been his experience that one of the main amenities cited as missing from our area, in attempt to recruit key personnel and improve morale, is a theater. He said the County has received letters of support from the USCG, ECSU, COA, and Sentara, which are four of the economic engines in the Elizabeth City area. He said he is sympathetic to Andy Meads' point of view, but he thinks with the improvement they have planned there will be a market for both theatres. He said when it comes to business looking at the area when you are on short list retail opportunities become important. He knows it is not traditional economic development to provide tax money to various retailers, but the fact is there are people who will not want to live here if there is not a state of the art Cineplex and if they don't have retail amenities without driving 50 miles. He does not feel it would cannibalize the local market. He asked that in the name of helping recruit for businesses, the Board approve this agreement.

Chairman Perry recognized Steve Hansford of 4005 Amstel Court who came tonight to say he does not think the theater is a bad idea, but he has several questions about its' operations and taxes. Mr. Hansford's main question is what happens when we need money for the school system. Will the County then raise taxes? He said we just had a tax raise last summer. Why would the tax payer step up to help the theater when they aren't even paying full taxes? He is concerned the County will need money and ask the tax payers to fill in the gap. He said there is ripple effect and asks that the Board considers the tax payer. He believes we need to renegotiate the terms of the agreement. He said if they really want to put the theater here, they ought to support the community, and not the community supporting them.

Chairman Perry recognized Russell Haddad, of 1039 Consolidated Road who came on behalf of Chancellor Conway of ECSU in show of support for the theater. He came to give the perspective of the students. They are continuously looking for more things for students to do on and off campus. They have 1,400 students right now and are hoping for 1,700 for the fall of 2018. The theater is another tool to help get them to that number. The students always compare things here to those in Virginia, and they want that same atmosphere and amenities here. The college wants students to participate in the community and even stay here after they earn their degree. ECSU is in support of this project.

There being no further comments, the public hearing was closed.

County Manager Bunch made a few clarifying statements regarding taxes and so forth. The BIP could cost up to ten million dollars. The grant figures that were used to determine the taxes paid were based on a more conservative figure of seven million. The actual taxes that will be received based on seven million dollars are \$522,650 for the ten year period. He said someone mentioned the grant is \$280,100. Over a ten year period, it will not be costing the County tax dollars. The County will over that period receive and keep \$242,550. He said there was also a question about the investor ceasing operations, and still getting money. Manager Bunch said if for some reason operations stop, the grant will cease. He said it is true that you are giving them a grant to help them start this, and do something the community is asking for. It is not a cost of tax dollars.

Commissioner Griffin asked how many employees will the theater have, and what is the current tax rate on the property. Manager Bunch said there will be three full-time positions and up to 15 part-time positions. The current taxes on the property for that acreage are \$1,635 annually.

Commissioner Meads expressed his concerns with giving a new business a tax break, when a business that has been here for 30 years doesn't get one.

Motion was made by Jeff Dixon, seconded by Joe Winslow to approve the BIP Grant Agreement with Albemarle Theaters, LLC. The motion carried 6 to 1, with Frankie Meads voting against the motion.

4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

The Board considered the following consent agenda:

a. Approval of Minutes of January 8, 16, 17 and 26, 2018 Commissioner Meetings

b. Approval of Tax Releases, Tax Refunds and Solid Waste Fee Releases

The Finance Committee has recommended approval of the following tax releases, tax refunds and solid waste fee releases:

Tax Releases

		County	City
1.	Johnny Allen Sawyer	222.15	
2.	Tony & Cordellia G. Spence	144.00	

Tax Refunds

		County	City
1.	Dianne Marie Rico	107.78	92.88

Solid Waste Fee Releases

		Parcel ID #	Reason for Release
1.	Helen C. Creef Lf. Est.	P140-46A	Vacant
2.	Melvin R. III & Joan B. Daniels Etal	P127-10A	Vacant
3.	Melvin R. III & Joan B. Daniels Etal	P127- 10	Vacant
4.	Rudolph & Eva B. Felton	P89-84	Vacant
5.	Henry Foskey Heirs	32-A-12	Vacant
6.	Henry Foskey Heirs	10-L-194	Vacant
7.	James Hurdle	P8A-47	Vacant
8.	C F H Holding LLC	P90-33	Vacant
9.	C F H Holding LLC	P90-30	Vacant
10.	Michael Gray Tr. of Daniel Saunders Irrov.	P38-24	Vacant
11.	William Alvin Norfleet	P120-179	Vacant
12.	Glenn B. Pendleton	P36-24	Vacant
13.	Donald E. & Linda Perry	P119-114	Vacant
14.	Horace C. Pritchard Etal	P141-217	Vacant
15.	Horace F. Pritchard	P140-183	vacant
16.	M. H. Stevenson Jr.	P36-40A	Vacant
17.	Bell Taylor Heirs	26-D-1	Vacant
18.	James R. Carolyn H. Waters	P36-73	Vacant

c. Adoption of Resolution Opposing Hunting of Waterfowl on Sundays

Attorney Hood Ellis presented the following resolution at the Board’s January 8, 2018 Finance Committee meeting. The Finance Committee recommended adoption of the following resolution opposing hunting waterfowl on Sundays in Pasquotank County:

**RESOLUTION
OPPOSING SUNDAY HUNTING OF WATERFOWL**

WHEREAS, the coastal areas of northeastern North Carolina are desirable for hunting of migratory waterfowl; and

WHEREAS, waterfowl hunting is a vital part of the life, heritage, and culture of the region and contributes to the State’s economy, promotes tourism, and provides recreational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 559 and Senate Bill 624 introduced in the North Carolina Legislature would empower the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission to adopt permanent rules regarding Sunday hunting of migratory birds; and

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation to allow Sunday waterfowl hunting would have serious adverse consequences on the coastal areas of northeastern North Carolina by significantly reducing the total number of hunting weeks and severely impacting North Carolina's waterfowl resource; and

WHEREAS, Sunday hunting for waterfowl is not comparable to Sunday hunting for other game species due to their migratory nature; and

WHEREAS, States that do not allow Sunday hunting receive Compensatory Days from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to bring the State up to the same number of allowed hunting days; and

WHEREAS, if Sunday hunting were permitted, North Carolina would lose these important Compensatory Days thereby significantly reducing the total number of waterfowl hunting weeks and decreasing the time-frame of its waterfowl season; and

WHEREAS, Sunday hunting will intensify hunting impact in a reduced timeframe causing serious consequences on the resource by taking away a rest period that is vital to the migratory waterfowl that frequent North Carolina's coastal areas; and

WHEREAS, allowing Sunday hunting will severely reduce access to our waterfowl resource, cause economic harm to coastal counties, and jeopardize the future of waterfowl hunting in North Carolina.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners opposes any legislation that would allow Sunday hunting of migratory waterfowl in North Carolina.

Adopted this the 5th day of February, 2018.

d. Approval to Sell Surplus Property Located Near the Entrance of Riverview Acres
The Board had previously proposed to accept an offer of \$4,400 from Robert W. White for 1) Pin # 8869 03427180 (0.09 acres), 2) Pin # 8869 03423072 (0.28 acres), and 3) Pin # 8869 03424039 (0.30 acres). The offer has been advertised and no additional bids were received during the 10-day upset bid period. The Board can now approve the sale of the property for \$4,400. The title will be transferred by a quitclaim deed.

e. Approval of Resolution Authorizing Execution of Public Beach & Estuarine Access Grant Contract
Pasquotank County has been approved for the Public Beach & Estuarine Access Grant in the amount of \$80,000 to renovate a section of the boardwalk behind College of the Albemarle. The Board needs to adopt the following Resolution authorizing Execution of the Public Beach & Estuarine Access Grant Contract whereby it approves the County Manager and the Clerk to the Board be authorized to sign and execute the contract:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LOCAL GOVERNMENT EXECUTION OF
PUBLIC BEACH & ESTUARINE ACCESS GRANT CONTRACT**

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE Board of Commissioners of Pasquotank County, North Carolina.

A regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Pasquotank County was held in the Pasquotank County Courthouse, the regular meeting place, on February 5, 2018. There were seven commissioners present.

The Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners was advised that a proposed contract between Pasquotank County and the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for Public Beach & Estuarine Access grant funds was presented for the project known as Pasquotank River Boardwalk Renovation Project at College of the Albemarle and discussed; that, under the terms of the said contract, Pasquotank County will pay a total of \$9,000 (\$8,500 cash and \$500 in-kind) as its local share of the total project costs.

BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners:

- 1) That a contract between Pasquotank County and the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality be and the same is hereby approved.
- 2) That the County Manager and the Clerk be and they are hereby authorized to sign and execute the said contract for and on behalf of Pasquotank County and forward the same to the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality.
- 3) That upon final execution, a copy of said contract be filed with the minutes. Upon motion of _____, seconded by _____, said resolution was passed unanimously.

I, Lynn B. Scott, Clerk of Pasquotank County, North Carolina do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of so much of the proceedings of the Pasquotank County Board of Commissioner at a meeting held on February 5, 2018 as related to the contract between Pasquotank County and the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, relative to the Pasquotank River Boardwalk Renovation Project at College of the Albemarle for Pasquotank, North Carolina.

WITNESS my hand and the corporate seal of the said County of Pasquotank, North Carolina this the 5th day of February, 2018.

f. Approval for Contribution to Albemarle Area United Way

The Finance Committee on August 7, 2017 voted to recommend extending the Albemarle Area United Way Lease for space at the Edgewood Center in the amount of \$450 per month for a five year period. The Finance Committee also voted 6:1 to begin September 1, 2017 making a contribution of \$100 per month to the Albemarle Area United Way. The Board of Commissioners met September 18, 2017 and voted to extend the lease agreement. I did not include for consideration that the Board will make monthly contributions in the amount of \$100 per month to the Albemarle Area United Way. The Board needs to approve the \$100 per month contribution retroactive to September 1, 2017 to expire September 1, 2022.

g. Approval for Pay Grade/Step for EMS Paramedic

The Finance Committee has recommended that Lauren Williams be placed on Pay Grade 19, Step 4 @ \$39,137. The Paramedic position is assigned Pay Grade 19. Step 4 is the equivalent of 2 years' experience (1/2 of Ms. Williams experience in emergency medical service prior to employment with Pasquotank County).

h. Adoption of Resolution Approving Financing Terms with Xenith Bank

The Finance Committee is recommending approval of the following resolution authorizing the county to enter into an agreement with Xenith Bank for financing \$490,000 for the purchase of financing one bookmobile, five patrol cars and equipment, one pick-up, one ambulance chassis/remount and one vehicle for the inspections department and related licensing and titling. The financing rate is 1.99% with a \$500 loan origination fee.

Resolution Approving Financing Terms

WHEREAS: The County of Pasquotank (the "County") has previously determined to undertake a project for the financing of vehicles and equipment, (the "Project"), and the Finance Officer has now presented a proposal for the financing of such Project.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, as follows:

1. The County hereby determines to finance the Project through Xenith Bank, in accordance with the proposal dated January 29, 2018. The amount financed shall not exceed \$490,000, the annual interest rate shall not exceed 1.99%, and the financing term shall not exceed five (5) years from closing.

2. All financing contracts and all related documents for the closing of the financing (the "Financing Documents") shall be consistent with the foregoing terms. All officers and employees of the County are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver any

Financing Documents, and to take all such further action as they may consider necessary or desirable, to carry out the financing of the Project as contemplated by the proposal and this resolution. The Financing Documents shall include a Financing Agreement and Deed of Trust and a Project Fund Agreement as BB&T may request.

3. The Finance Officer is hereby authorized and directed to hold executed copies of the Financing Documents until the conditions for the delivery of the Financing Documents have been completed to such officer's satisfaction. The Finance Officer is authorized to approve changes to any Financing Documents previously signed by County officers or employees, provided that such changes shall not substantially alter the intent of such documents or certificates from the intent expressed in the forms executed by such officers. The Financing Documents shall be in such final forms as the Finance Officer shall approve, with the Finance Officer's release of any Financing Document for delivery constituting conclusive evidence of such officer's final approval of the Document's final form.

4. The County shall not take or omit to take any action the taking or omission of which shall cause its interest payments on this financing to be includable in the gross income for federal income tax purposes of the registered owners of the interest payment obligations. The County hereby designates its obligations to make principal and interest payments under the Financing Documents as "qualified tax-exempt obligations" for the purpose of Internal Revenue Code Section 265(b)(3).

5. The County intends that the adoption of this resolution will be a declaration of the County's official intent to reimburse expenditures for the project that is to be financed from the proceeds of the Xenith Financing described above. The County intends that funds that have been advanced, or that may be advanced, from the County's general fund, or any other County fund related to the project, for project costs may be reimbursed from the financing proceeds.

6. All prior actions of County officers in furtherance of the purposes of this resolution are hereby ratified, approved and confirmed. All other resolutions (or parts thereof) in conflict with this resolution are hereby repealed, to the extent of the conflict. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Approved this 5th day of February, 2018.

Motion was made by Jeff Dixon, seconded by Joe Winslow to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

5. APPROVAL OF OAK RIDGE, PHASE II, SECTION A, FINAL PLAT:

Planning Director Shelley Cox explained that E.T. Hyman Surveying is requesting final plat approval of Oak Ridge, Phase II, Section A. This development consists of 22 residential lots ranging in size from 43,000 to 54,093 square feet and is located off of Mill Pond in Newland Township. The site is zoned R-25A, Residential and all of the required improvements have been installed according to the approved Preliminary Plat and the Pasquotank County Subdivision Ordinance. Under the current school districting, students generated from this development would attend Northside Elementary, Elizabeth City Middle and Pasquotank County High School. This development will be under Newland Volunteer Fire Department's jurisdiction. In July 2016, the Board of Commissioners granted a variance from the Subdivision Ordinance's fire hydrant requirements for this development due to the inability of South Mills Water Association to provide adequate water pressure in this area. Fire protection will be accommodated through the use of Newland Volunteer Fire Department's tanker trucks. This area is served by the South Mills water system. Full size hydrants will be installed to provide flushing for drinking water at an estimated 30 psi. The South Mills Water Association and NC Public Water Supply have reviewed and approved the proposed development. On-site septic systems are proposed to be utilized at this location. Albemarle Regional Health Services has evaluated the proposed lots and groundwater lowering devices along with 3'sand backfill trenches will be required for final septic approval.

The area requested for Preliminary Plat approval is located within Flood Zone X (not within the 100 year floodplain) according to FEMA Map 3720796600J effective October 5, 2004. A Low Density Stormwater Permit and an Erosion and Sedimentation Permit for this development has been issued by the NC Department of Environmental Quality. The County's stormwater

engineer Greg Johnson, has performed a final inspection of drainage improvements within Section A and determined that the development is in compliance with the County's Stormwater Design Manual. No Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 wetlands have been delineated at this location.

Ms. Cox added that the Preliminary Plat for this development was approved by the Board of Commissioners on July 12, 2017. Interconnectivity with Oak Ridge, Phase I has been provided to allow an alternative entrance into the subdivision. There is also a proposed stub out street within a future phase (Section C) that will provide access to adjoining property on the northwest side of this development. In accordance with Section 306.5 of the County's Subdivision Ordinance, the applicant has elected to provide a performance bond in lieu of completion of street paving. A recreation fee in the amount of \$11,000 has been collected for Oak Ridge, Phase II Section A, as required by Section 306.8 of the Subdivision Ordinance. The Oak Ridge, Phase II, Section A, Final Plat meets the requirements for compliance with the Pasquotank County Subdivision Ordinance and the County's Stormwater Design Manual. Staff recommends approval of this request.

Chairman Dixon brought up that Mr. Williams is having an issue meeting the State and County's requirements for fire hydrant flow rates. This is because the South Mills Water Association does not have enough water pressure to supply the required flow to the hydrants. The issue with the water pressure is something that needs to be addressed. Chairman Dixon suggested staff to start a discussion with South Mills Water Association about these concerns.

Motion was made by Jeff Dixon, seconded by Joseph Winslow to approve the Oak Ridge, Phase II, Section A, Final Plat. The motion carried unanimously.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE:

Vice-Chairman Sterritt reported that the Appointments Committee met this afternoon and would like to make the following recommendations:

EIC Board – Reappoint Albert Butts to an additional 4-year term.

Joint Community Advisory Committee – Reappoint Deborah Dinsmore to an additional 3-year term.

Tourism Development Authority – Appoint Jeannie Young to replace former member Jean Baker.

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Sterritt, seconded by Chairman Perry to also appoint Dr. Anthony Sharp to the COA Board of Trustees to replace Douglas Gardner, whose term will expire on June 30, 2018.

Commissioner Dixon stated that a motion to appointment someone to the COA Board of Trustees was not an item on the agenda nor was the agenda amended to add it and therefore the motion is out of order. Vice-Chairman Sterritt suggested the Board inform Mr. Gardner that his term will not be reappointed as soon as possible because the COA Board meets in two weeks and he was informed that Mr. Gardner is interested in serving as an officer on the board. Commissioner Winslow said it was his understanding that the Appointments Committee was to consider applications to replace Don McCabe who recently resigned from the COA Board due to health concerns. Chairman Perry advised Commissioner Winslow that he is the cause of everything that is being talked about.

Motion was made by Frankie Meads, seconded by Joe Winslow to accept the recommendations from the Appointments Committee for appointments/reappointments to the EIC Board, Joint Community Advisory Committee, and Tourism Development Authority. The motion carried unanimously.

After further discussion;

Motion was made by Jeff Dixon, seconded by Charles Jordan to delay consideration of an appointment to the COA Board of Trustees. The motion carried unanimously.

7. REPORTS FROM COUNTY MANAGER:

“Read for the Record and Fueling Education” – David Clegg, Attorney at Law for the County of Tyrell notified me that he is on the Executive Board of the Miss North Carolina Pageant. He was reaching out to inform us that the Miss North Carolina Pageant has received a generous grant from CITGO for their national reading program. CITGO is targeting students in K-2 in Title 1 schools and each child receives a book and a reading time with Miss North Carolina. Mr. Clegg would like the grant to fund visits in Northeastern North Carolina from February 26 – March 2. Mr. Clegg was asking that Pasquotank County consider hosting this event. I contacted Superintendent Cartner to inform him of the grant and ask that he consider hosting the event. I provided the contact information to Superintendent Cartner and he will follow-up.

The large printer in the GIS office for printing maps no longer works. Collin Flatness, IT Director has obtained a quote in the amount of \$1,497 for a refurbished printer to replace it. We have three old printers that have not performed as they should for some time. I have surplused the following printers so they can be traded in on the purchase of the refurbished printer:

HP Design Jet 500	Model C7770B	Serial #SG3856202Q
HP Design Jet 500	Model C7770B	Serial #SG2AG32030
HP Design Jet 500	Model C7770B	Serial #SG68SD306M

We will not know the value of the old printers that are traded until they are examined by the vendor.

Mike Cox and I had been talking about scheduling a department head meeting for the purpose of having a “Personnel Management Workshop”. The meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, January 31st. John Leidy was our speaker and he focused on two topics. First topic was discrimination in the workplace to include hiring, promotions, age, improper comments, family and medical leave act, retaliatory employment, fair labor standards, sexual harassment, etc. Second topic was exempt vs non-exempt employees. Discussion included classifications for exempt employees and overtime for non-exempt employees. Staff found the work session to be extremely informative.

Lobbyist Joe and Henri McClees met with Chairman Perry, Vice Chairman Sterritt, Finance Officer Sheri Small, myself, BOE Chairwoman Warden, Supt. Cartner, Asst. Supt. Lassiter, Finance Officer Cox last Friday to discuss the issue of class size for grades K through 3. Joe McClees requested the meeting to learn firsthand from us how Session Law 2016-94 and Session Law 2017-9 affect our public schools. School Administrators provided details on how they have already reduced personnel that included art teachers, P.E. teachers, a Spanish teacher, and eliminated chorus from the middle schools. Schools Finance Officer Cox will provide a more detailed cost analysis to Joe McClees. Mr. & Mrs. McClees said they felt much more knowledgeable of how the laws affect our schools and will be much better prepared to lobby legislators. They suggested that Chairwoman Warden and Supt. Cartner consider inviting local legislators to meet with them and share how the laws are affecting education in our school system.

8. REPORTS FROM COUNTY ATTORNEY:

County Attorney Mike Cox reported he attended the 2018 Attorney’s Conference February 1st – 2nd in Chapel Hill.

9. REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Meads reported the Code Council is working on regulations for “tiny” houses.

Commissioner Griffin reported the Airport Authority has adopted a sign ordinance. He mentioned the Vice-Chair of the Board is here tonight. Commissioner Griffin also touched briefly on the new tax laws that are to be in effect by February 15th.

Commissioner Dixon asked if any Board members had received an e-mail regarding an educational forum at the courthouse for North Carolina Coalition for Lobbying and Government Reform to discuss redistricting the school system. Manager Bunch responded that we have not received the e-mail, but our office has been contacted to reserve a courtroom for this event.

Vice-Chairman Sterritt reported that Commissioner Jordan, Chairman Perry, himself, and their wives attended the Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast at Elizabeth City State University. He also attended Mayor Parker’s inauguration. He encouraged County Commissioners to attend more events.

Commissioner Perry noted that because of the way the districts are drawn in our county, minorities are favored in only one district, making it difficult for a minority to be elected outside of the Southern Inside District. He hopes that this is taken into consideration in the future.

There being no further business;

Motion was made by Frankie Meads, seconded by Bill Sterritt to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:15

CHAIRMAN

ASSISTANT CLERK TO THE BOARD