

**PASQUOTANK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
JUNE 1, 2020**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeff Dixon, Chairman
Lloyd E. Griffin, III, Vice-Chairman
Cecil Perry (*via Zoom*)
Frankie Meads
Charles H. Jordan (*via Zoom*)
Sean Lavin
Barry Overman

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Sparty Hammett, County Manager
R. Michael Cox, County Attorney
Sheri Small, Finance Officer
Lynn Scott, Clerk to the Board

Due to Governor Cooper's executive order limiting public gatherings to no more than ten (10) people, the meeting was streamed live to the Pasquotank County website. Citizens who wished to participate in the Public Comment portion of the meeting were asked to submit their remarks to the Clerk to the Board via email by 2:00 on Monday, June 1, 2020.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman Jeff Dixon. Vice-Chairman Lloyd Griffin gave the invocation and Commissioner Frankie Meads led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Chairman Dixon stated that due to the special circumstances of having remote participation, he will request a roll call vote for all motions.

Chairman Dixon asked the Clerk if any public comments were submitted. The Clerk replied, no.

1. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

Chairman Dixon asked if there were any amendments to the agenda. County Manager Hammett requested the agenda be amended to add the following item to New Business: (Item 8.C.-1) NEAAAT School Resource Officer Request.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Sean Lavin to amend the agenda to add item 8.C.-1 NEAAAT School Resource Officer Request to New Business.

Chairman Dixon	Yea
Vice-Chairman Griffin	Yea
Commissioner Perry	Yea
Commissioner Meads	Yea
Commissioner Jordan	Yea
Commissioner Lavin	Yea
Commissioner Overman	Yea

The motion carried unanimously.

2. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

The Board considered the following consent agenda:

a. Approval of Minutes of May 18, 2020 Commissioner Meeting

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Frankie Meads to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Chairman Dixon	Yea
Vice-Chairman Griffin	Yea
Commissioner Perry	Yea
Commissioner Meads	Yea
Commissioner Jordan	Yea
Commissioner Lavin	Yea
Commissioner Overman	Yea

The motion carried unanimously.

3. TAX RELEASES AND REFUNDS:

The Tax Office has recommended approval of the following Tax Release and Refund:

Tax Release

		County	City
1.	Joseph Thomas & Lynn Mathis Jenkins	2,920.00	2,489.00

Tax Refund

		County	City
1.	Craig Michael Edsall	100.40	100.42

Motion was made by Sean Lavin, seconded by Frankie Meads to approve the Tax Release and Refund as presented.

Chairman Dixon	Yea
Vice-Chairman Griffin	Yea
Commissioner Perry	Yea
Commissioner Meads	Yea
Commissioner Jordan	Yea
Commissioner Lavin	Yea
Commissioner Overman	Yea

The motion carried unanimously.

4. BUDGET AMENDMENTS:

The Finance Office has recommended approval of the following budget amendments:

Landfill-Operations

Increase	065.0240.4380.20	FEMA Funds	101,612.00
Increase	065.7420.5440.00	Contracted Services	22,237.00
Increase	065.7420.5440.02	Contracted Services-LCID	79,375.00

Landfill-Convenience Sites

Increase	065.0375.4745.19	Solid Waste Fees-19	24,000.00
Increase	065.7425.5353.00	Maintenance-Vehicles	24,000.00

Landfill-Convenience Sites

Increase	065.0600.4930.00	Insurance Proceeds	4,379.00
Increase	065.7425.5351.00	Maintenance -Building	4,379.00

Public Bldgs

Increase	010.0500.4831.00	Interest Earned	27,000.00
Increase	010.4190.5351.00	Maintenance -Buildings	18,000.00
Increase	010.4190.5351.01	Maintenance -Edgewood	9,000.00

Public Health

Increase	010.0180.4240.00	Conveyance Tax	25,000.00
Increase	010.5110.5620.13	Medical Examiner Fees	25,000.00

Public Health

Increase	010.0500.4831.00	Interest Earned	600.00
Increase	010.5110.5136.00	Stipends	600.00

Jury Commission

Increase	010.0500.4831.00	Interest Earned	325.00
Increase	010.4165.5121.00	Salary and Wages	300.00
Increase	010.4165.5181.00	FICA	25.00

Motion was made by Barry Overman, seconded by Sean Lavin to approve the budget amendments as presented.

Chairman Dixon	Yea
Vice-Chairman Griffin	Yea
Commissioner Perry	Yea
Commissioner Meads	Yea
Commissioner Jordan	Yea
Commissioner Lavin	Yea
Commissioner Overman	Yea

The motion carried unanimously.

5. CONSIDERATION OF CONTINUATION OF ½ % DISCOUNT FOR EARLY PAYMENT OF TAXES:

The Board was asked to approve continuation of the ½ % discount for early payment of taxes in July and August. The discount encourages property owners to pay their taxes early, improves the County’s cash flow, and helps spread out the collection of taxes throughout the year instead of the majority of tax collections being concentrated during the month of December.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Frankie Meads to approve continuation of 1/2 % Discount for early payment of taxes.

Chairman Dixon	Yea
Vice-Chairman Griffin	Yea
Commissioner Perry	Yea
Commissioner Meads	Yea
Commissioner Jordan	Yea
Commissioner Lavin	Yea
Commissioner Overman	Yea

The motion carried unanimously.

6. NEAAAT SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER REQUEST:

Chairman Dixon noted that Dr. Harris, President of the NEAAAT, is available via Zoom for any questions regarding this item.

Mr. Hammett explained that NEAAAT has requested a School Resource Officer (SRO) and a vehicle. They have requested the County cover the cost of the vehicle and equipment for the SRO, at a total cost of \$52,000. He said there is no cost to the County in providing a School Resource Officer, as NEAAAT will reimburse 100% of the SRO position. He recommended approval of contracting with NEAAAT to provide an SRO.

Mr. Hammett offered two options for potential consideration in terms of NEAAAT’s request for the County to cover the cost of the vehicle and equipment: 1) Require NEAAAT to pay the total \$11,054 debt serve for 5-years and assign a new vehicle to the SRO at NEAAAT; or 2) The County covers the total \$11,054 debt service for 5-years and assigns an older, high mileage vehicle to the SRO at NEAAAT.

He said he spoke with Sheriff Wooten, and the Sheriff’s preference would be to assign the new vehicle to a Patrol Deputy and transfer an older, high mileage vehicle to NEAAAT. He indicated that is his department’s typical practice, due to the limited number of miles driven by SRO’s

versus Patrol Deputies. Mr. Hammett recommended approval for the County to cover the total \$11,054 debt service for 5-years and assign an older, high mileage vehicle to the SRO at NEAAAT.

Commissioner Meads asked if staff has found any other counties that do similarly for public charter schools. Mr. Hammett said yes staff has documents from several counties.

Commissioner Griffin said he still believes that other counties should contribute 40% of the cost.

Dr. Harris said he has spoken briefly with some of the other counties. He noted that state statutes would distribute all NEAAAT assets from the school directly to Pasquotank County only, should there be some dissolution of the school. Mr. Hammett said if an old vehicle is utilized for the SRO, the Sheriff's office would have a new vehicle for a Patrol Deputy. If the cost of the vehicle is split amongst the counties, the new vehicle would be used by the SRO officer.

Motion was made by Barry Overman, seconded by Sean Lavin to approve the County covering the total cost of a vehicle, with equipment, for the Sheriff's Office (\$52,000 - 11,054 debt service for 5-years), and assigning an older, high mileage vehicle to the SRO at NEAAAT.

Chairman Dixon	Yea
Vice-Chairman Griffin	Yea
Commissioner Perry	Yea
Commissioner Meads	Yea
Commissioner Jordan	Yea
Commissioner Lavin	Yea
Commissioner Overman	Yea

The motion carried unanimously.

7. PRESENTATION OF PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2020-21 COUNTY BUDGET:

County Manager Sparty Hammett presented the proposed county budget for FY2020-21. He read the budget message which indicated that the proposed budget does not include an increase in ad valorem taxes or in solid waste fees. He said after tonight's meeting, the public hearing will be advertised and a copy of the budget will be placed in the public library for inspection, as well as on the County's website.

Commissioner Meads questioned the appropriation for Intercounty Volunteer Fire Department. He thanked staff for keeping the budget flat. Commissioner Perry stated that he supports staff's proposed budget and thanked them for their hard work. Commissioner Overman thanked staff for presenting a flat line budget, with no tax increase. Commissioner Jordan also thanked staff.

Motion was made by Charles Jordan, seconded by Sean Lavin to call for a public hearing on the proposed 2020-21 County Budget at the June 15th Commissioner meeting.

Chairman Dixon	Yea
Vice-Chairman Griffin	Yea
Commissioner Perry	Yea
Commissioner Meads	Yea
Commissioner Jordan	Yea
Commissioner Lavin	Yea
Commissioner Overman	Yea

The motion carried unanimously.

8. CONSIDERATION OF PURCHASE OF 125 HP SUBMERSIBLE WELL MOTOR:

Mr. Hammett stated that no action was taken by the Water Committee; therefore no action is required by the Board.

9. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

Commissioner Jordan reported that the Appointments Committee met on May 27th and has made the following recommendations:

- a) Highway 17 Association – Reappoint Jeff Dixon to an additional 1-year term.
- b) Home & Community Care Block Grant Advisory Committee – Appoint attached slate of recommended appointees.
- c) ABC Board – Reappoint Roy Daniels and Tommy Tilley to additional four-year terms.
- d) Airport Authority – Reappoint Steve Saunders to an additional 2-year term.
- e) COA Board of Trustees – Reappoint W. David Harris to an additional 4-year term.
- f) Juvenile Crime Prevention Council – Appoint attached slate of recommended appointees.
- g) Pasquotank County Library Board – Reappoint Anthony Sharp, Randy Cartwright, and Dorsey Harris to additional 4-year terms.
- h) Planning Board – Reappoint David McGuire, Robert L. Pippen, Jr., Hezekiah Brown, and William J. Kruse to additional 4-year terms.
- i) Senior Citizens Advisory Committee – Reappoint Betty Eason to additional 2-year term, and Rachel Reddick to additional 3-year term.
- j) Senior Tarheel Legislature – Reappoint David A. Boone and James Robertson to additional 2-year terms.
- k) Tourism Development Authority – Reappoint Arthur McPherson, Rhonda Twiddy, Andrew L. Montero, Abel Sutton, and Gwendolyn Sanders (City recommendation) to additional 2-year terms.
- l) Workforce Development – Reappoint Lloyd E. Griffin, III to an additional 2-year term.
- m) Pasquotank County Drainage Committee – 4-year term, after initial staggered terms. Consists of One voting member from the Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners; One voting member from Pasquotank County Soil & Water Conservation District; One voting member from the following five Pasquotank County Drainage Districts: Newland; Knobbs Creek; Upper Little River; Lower Little River; and Newbegun. (7 total)

Charles Jordan, Board of Commissioners – 1-year term to expire 06-30-21
Maurice Berry, Soil & Water Conservation – 2-year term to expire 06-30-22
Brian Stallings, Newland/Perquimans River – 3 year term to expire 06-30-23
Steve Harris – Hobbs Creek/Upper Pasquotank – 1-year term to expire 06-30-21
Kevin Brickhouse – Upper Little River – 2-year term to expire 06-30-22
Rodney Johnson – Lower Little River – 3 year term to expire 06-30-23
Bill Trueblood – Newbegun/Flatty Creek – 1 year term to expire 06-30-21
- n) Social Services Board – Appoint Joseph Winslow, Jr. to 3-year term.

Commissioner Griffin suggested changing the Pasquotank County Drainage Committees' term to a 3-year term instead of a 4-year term.

Motion was made by Sean Lavin, seconded by Charles Jordan to accept the recommendations from the Appointments Committee to approve the reappointments as presented, with the new appointments, items m-n to lay over until the next meeting to provide Board members an opportunity to review their applications and to allow for additional applications; as well as make the term for Pasquotank County Drainage Committee 3-year.

Chairman Dixon	Yea
Vice-Chairman Griffin	Yea
Commissioner Perry	Yea
Commissioner Meads	Yea
Commissioner Jordan	Yea
Commissioner Lavin	Yea
Commissioner Overman	Yea

The motion carried unanimously.

10. REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Jordan stated that he received a letter from a citizens concerned about shots being fired near her home. Mr. Hammett recommended this item, as well as “property maintenance” go before the Special Projects Committee at their next meeting.

Commissioner Meads reported that he attended a Dangerous Dog hearing.

Commissioner Griffin reported that the Albemarle Commissioner has moved forward with hiring a new director. The Workforce Development has been very busy with the current jobless situation. The Airport Authority is in the final stages of hiring a new manager.

Chairman Dixon thanked staff for putting together a budget that does not impose a tax increase.

There being no further business, Chairman Dixon asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Barry Overman to adjourn the meeting.

Chairman Dixon	Yea
Vice-Chairman Griffin	Yea
Commissioner Perry	Yea
Commissioner Meads	Yea
Commissioner Jordan	Yea
Commissioner Lavin	Yea
Commissioner Overman	Yea

The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 6:48 PM.

CHAIRMAN

CLERK TO THE BOARD