

Town of Ayden/Pitt County
Joint Board of Commissioners Meeting

Ayden Community Building
548 Second Street
Monday, April 2, 2007
6pm
Minutes

Board of County Commissioners Present:

Beth Ward, Chairman
Eugene James, Commissioner
Tom Coulson, Commissioner
Jimmy Garris, Commissioner
Melvin McLawhorn, Commissioner
Tom Johnson, Commissioner
Kenneth Ross, Commissioner

Board of County Commissioners Absent:

Mark W. Owens, Jr., Vice Chairman
David Hammond, Commissioner

Pitt County Staff:

Scott Elliott, Manager
JoAnne Burgdorff, County Attorney
Trish Staton, Clerk to the Board

Ayden Commissioners Present:

Mayor Stephen Tripp
Commissioner Mary Alice Davenport
Commissioner Donald Skinner
Commissioner Louise Pritchard
Commissioner Leonard Gibson

Ayden Staff Present:

Adam Mitchell, Town Manager
Sherry Howell, Town Clerk
Chris Padgett, Planning Director
Chris Tucker, Financial Director
Robert Sutton, Public Works & Utilities Director

Mayor Steve Tripp called the meeting to order and welcomed the Board of Commissioners and staff on behalf of the Town of Ayden. Mayor Tripp said it is important to know the direction both boards are going in so they can work together and not duplicate. He spoke about both boards representing the same citizens.

Chairman Beth Ward called the meeting to order for the Board of Commissioners. She asked Commissioners and staff to introduce themselves.

The following items were presented;

Ayden Infrastructure Improvements Projects – Ayden Town Manager Adam G. Mitchell

Mr. Mitchell said the Town is planning on bringing utility services to areas east and west of the Town. He said the cost of the water and sewer infrastructure expansion and repair would be \$7 million dollars. He spoke about developers planning single-family homes as part of the expanded area. He said the project should be completed by summer 2008. He said the town may request county commissioners to approve expanding the town extraterritorial jurisdiction a mile past the newly annexed area.

Ayden Arts and Recreation Community Center/Pitt Community College Partnership

Mr. Mitchell spoke about repairs and upgrades to the Ayden Arts and Recreation building with hopes of bringing Pitt Community Colleges classed to the location. The cost would be \$500,000 for repairs and upgrades.

Ayden Elementary School/Middle School Traffic Problems

Mr. Mitchell spoke about improving traffic congestion on N.C. 102 and Jolly Road during school arrival and departure times. He asked for the County's support with the Department of Transportation officials to move forward on the project.

Greenville Southwest Bypass Update

Mr. Chris Padgett, Ayden Planning Director, spoke about town concerns about the proposed location of the Southwest Bypass. He said Town officials had a public hearing to gather input. He said town commissioners plan to adopt a resolution asking the Department of Transportation to address the concerns.

Ayden School Support

Mayor Steve Tripp spoke about support for the town's local public schools. He said the Town has dedicated 1 cent of its local property tax to school projects for the past two years.

Ayden Industrial Development Efforts

Mr. Mitchell thanked the Board for working to bring CMI Plastics, Inc. to Ayden's Minges Corporate Park. He spoke about being grateful they will be in Ayden. He asked the Commissioners for their continued support in bringing new industry to Worthington Industrial Park and Minges Corporate Park. The town is working on economic development through its Small Town Main Street Program and Creative Communities Initiative.

Update on Sales Tax Legislation, EMS Service

Scott Elliott, Pitt County Manger, spoke about seeking Senate Bill 237 and House Bill 327. He said they are identical measures that were introduced by the local legislative delegation to allow Pitt County to have the one cent sales tax for capital improvements. He also mentioned Senator Jenkins Senate Bill 653. He said this bill does allow for dollars to be used for K-12 construction needs, other capital infrastructure, roads and mental health. A request has been made to amend this for community college capital needs.

Mr. Elliott gave an update on EMS. He said the proposed contract for AmbuMed of North Carolina to provide emergency service is being negotiated. He said the non-profit contracts are ready and the County will be finalizing them. Mr. Elliott spoke about aggressive billing and collections being implemented.

Chairman Beth Ward, thanked Ayden staff and Commissioners for their presentations. She said it is good to see the Town planning for the future.

Meeting adjourned at 8:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Staton
Clerk to the Board