

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Public Hearings and Regular Meeting
February 5, 2024 - 5:00 PM
R. Jay Foster Hall of Justice - Womack Building
Columbus, NC
MINUTES

PRESENT: Chairman Yoder, Commissioner Beiler, Commissioner Moore, and Commissioner Overholt. Also in attendance were County Manager Pittman, County Attorney Berg, and Clerk to the Board Tipton. Absent: Vice-Chairman Melton.

1. Public Hearing

A. Call to Order the Public Hearing - Chairman Yoder. The purpose of the Public Hearing was to receive citizen input on the proposed text amendment by a citizen to add Automobile, truck, farm equipment & farm implement sales and service to the Neighborhood Commercial Zoning District as a permitted use.

B. Citizen Comments.

One citizen spoke during public comment period.

C. Commissioner Comments.

The Commissioners discussed the difference between Special Use and Permitted Use and the potential impact this request could make on the entire Neighborhood Commercial zoning district if approved as a permitted use.

D. Adjourn Public Hearing.

Commissioner Moore moved to adjourn the Public Hearing, seconded by Commissioner Beiler and the motion .
Absent: Melton

E. Call to Order the Public Hearing - Chairman Yoder. The purpose of the Public Hearing was to receive citizen input on the proposed updated Polk County Watershed Ordinance amendments, as requested by North Carolina Environmental Quality, Water Supply Watershed Program.

F. Citizen Comments.

One citizen spoke during citizen comment and requested that the vote on this item be tabled until the next meeting to allow the citizens more time to review the document.

G. Commissioner Comments.

The Commissioners discussed the request to table the vote for this item until the February 19th meeting.

H. Adjourn Public Hearing.

Commissioner Overholt moved to adjourn the Public Hearing, seconded by Commissioner Beiler and the motion carried unanimously.
Absent: Melton

2. Call to Order the Regular Meeting - Chairman Yoder.

3. Invocation - Chairman Yoder.

4. Pledge of Allegiance - Commissioner Moore.

5. Approval of Agenda

A. Items may be added or removed at this time.

Commissioner Beiler moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Moore and the motion carried unanimously.
Absent: Melton

6. Consent Agenda - Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

A. Approval of January 16, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes.

B. Tax Refund Request in the amount of \$435.55.

C. NCDOT Drug and Alcohol Policy for Polk County Transportation Authority.

Commissioner Moore moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Commissioner Overholt and the motion carried unanimously.
Absent: Melton

7. Citizen Comments on Agenda Items.

There were none.

8. Proposed text amendment by a citizen to add Automobile, truck, farm equipment & farm implement sales and service to the Neighborhood Commercial Zoning District as a permitted use - Cathy Ruth, Polk County Planning and Economic Development Director.

There was further discussion on the difference between Special Use and Permitted Use.

Commissioner Overholt moved to confirm the request is consistent with the Polk County 20/20 Vision Comprehensive Plan, and further moves to enact the text amendment as a Special Use as recommended by the Polk County Planning Board and incorporating the Planning Board's Consistency statement,

seconded by Commissioner Moore and the motion carried unanimously.
Absent: Melton

9. Proposed updated Polk County Watershed Ordinance amendments, as requested by North Carolina Environmental Quality, Water Supply Watershed Program - Polk County Planning and Economic Development Director.

During the Public Comment period of the Public Hearing, a request was made by a citizen to table the vote to allow citizens more time to read through the ordinance in case there were items they did oppose. Attorney Berg explained that if the vote is tabled until the February 19, 2024 meeting, and there are portions of the update to the Watershed Ordinance that citizens do not agree with, there are no actions the Board can take to rectify that. The updates are state mandated. Commissioner Moore moved to table the vote until the February 19, 2024 Board of Commissioners Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Overholt and the motion carried unanimously.
Absent: Melton

10. Polk County Schools - Brandon Schweitzer, Ed. D., Director of Operations.

A. Request to transfer \$187,141 from the County's Capital Reserve Account to reimburse Polk County Schools for Capital Expenses.

Motion to approve the budget amendment in the amount of \$187,141.

Dr. Schweitzer, Polk County Schools, presented a multi-part submittal to request the transfer of \$187,141 from the County's Capital Reserve account to reimburse Polk County School's for capital expenses paid to date.

Commissioner Beiler moved to approve the budget amendment in the amount of \$187,141, seconded by Commissioner Moore and the motion carried unanimously.
Absent: Melton

11. Polk County Board of Elections Building Update - Cliff Marr, Elections Director.

Cliff Marr, Elections Director, reported that an open house and ribbon cutting was held earlier to present the new elections building to the public. He went on to thank the Commissioners and county departments involved with the renovation.

12. Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items.

There were none.

13. Volunteer Board Applications

A. Applications for Consideration: Lisa Krolak - Planning Board (White Oak Township); Brian Metcalf - Fire Rescue Advisory Committee; Stephen King, Gwendolyn Ryan, Neal Waldrop - Recreation Advisory Board.

Commissioner Beiler moved to approve the applications as presented, seconded by Commissioner Overholt and the motion carried unanimously.
Absent: Melton

14. Chairman and Commissioner Comments.

The commissioners collectively thanked those in attendance.
Absent: Melton

15. Closed Session

- A. Commissioner Moore moved to go into closed session for the purpose of personnel, seconded by Commissioner Overholt and the motion carried unanimously.
- B. Commissioner Overholt motioned to return to open session, seconded by Commissioner Moore and the motion carried unanimously.

Upon returning to open session Commissioner Moore moved to approve the appointment of a relative by blood to Sheirff Wright, as a part-time as needed employee at the Polk County Sheriffs Department pursuant to N.C.G.S 153A-103, seconded by Commissioner Overholt and the motion carried unanimously.
Absent: Melton

16. Adjournment

Commissioner Moore moved to adjourn, seconded by and the motion carried unanimously.
Absent: Melton

Attest:

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS

Kristy A Tipton
Clerk to the Board

Myron Yoder
Chairman