MINUTES  
LENOIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
March 2, 2020  
The Lenoir County Board of Commissioners met in open session at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, March 2, 2020, in the Commissioners’ Meeting Room, Lenoir County Courthouse, 130 S. Queen Street, Kinston, NC.  
Members present: Chairman Linda Rouse Sutton, Vice-Chairman Roland Best, Commissioners, June Cummings, Preston Harris, Craig Hill, and Eric Rouse.  
Members Absent: Commissioner Daughety.  
Also present were: Michael S. James, County Manager, Joey R. Bryan, Assistant County Manager, Vickie Freeman King, Clerk to the Board, Robert Griffin, County Attorney, members of the general public and news media.  
Call To Order  
Chairman Sutton called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m.  
Mr. Harris offered the Invocation, and Mr. Best led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.  
Chairman Sutton read the from the NC Ethics Law statement.  
Public Information  
Ms. Sutton acknowledged the names, department, and years of service of county employees.  
Public Comments  
Mr. Bill Moxley shared his sentiment with the Board of Commissioners regarding the proposed lease for the LaGrange Library. He stated he felt the Town Manager cutting the lease agreement from five years to one year was not fair to the citizens of LaGrange and was hoping the Board of Commissioner would contact the Town Council of LaGrange in support of his findings.  
Upon a motion by Mr. Hill and a second by Mr. Best, the consent agenda was unanimously approved for Items 1-9.  
Additions/Deletions or Adoptions to the Agenda  
Consent Agenda  
1. Approval of February 17, 2019, Regular Meeting Minutes. King/Bryan  
2. Proclamation: Honoring Social Worker Month. Harrison  
3. Resolution Approving Releases and Refunds Listed to the Individuals Herein. Parrish
4. Resolution in Support of Proposed Intersection Improvements at the Board Intersection of Hwy 70 and Eason Road/Kennedy Home Road by the NC DOT.

5. Resolution Authorizing Lenoir County Health Department to Purchase in Brown Community Messaging with the Rangers Kinston LLC.

6. Resolution Declaring Total Loss Vehicle as Surplus and Authorize Receipt of Greene Funds.

7. Resolution Declaring Property as Surplus and Authorize Sale of Surplus Greene Property by Auction.


9. Resolution Approving Utility Easement Second Point of Delivery to the James City of Kinston.

New Business

10. Resolution Authorizing the Joint Lenoir County and North Carolina Global James Transpark Economic Development Agreement.
    Mr. James stated the county had evaluated the consolidation and development of a joint Economic Development Office for quite some time. The joint office would be staffed by Economic Development professionals responsible for the creation of a successful Economic Development program in Lenoir County and the GTP. As mentioned in earlier conversations, operational costs would be shared by the State of North Carolina (60%) and Lenoir County Government (40%). Upon a motion by Mr. Rouse and a second by Mr. Harris, Item No. 10 was unanimously approved.

    Mr. James stated the county has previously discussed the potential consolidation of redundant services being delivered in our community. The Managers from Lenoir County, City of Kinston, and the Town of LaGrange have been in recent discussion about pursuing a feasibility study for the consolidation of the Planning and Inspections Services provided by each organization. Each locality would pay a proportionate share of the total contract cost. Upon a motion by Mr. Rouse and a second by Mr. Harris, Item No. 11 was unanimously approved.

Appointments

Item No. 12 was a Resolution Approving Citizens to Boards, Commissions, Etc. Upon a motion by Ms. Cummings and a second by Mr. Rouse, Item No. 12 appointments were unanimously approved for Lenoir County Transit Venessia Hill and Tammy Esposito, Kinston-Lenoir County Tourism Development Matthew Young and Clara Jones, and Lenoir Community College Shawn Wilson
**Other Items**

Item No. 13 were items from Mike James, County Manager. Mr. James thanked the Board for their support of the consolidation process and reminded the Board of several upcoming events.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Upon a motion by Mr. Hill and a second by Mr. Best, a closed session was entered into at approximately 9:21 a.m. with the following cited: Number Four (4): To discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the public body.

**OPEN SESSION**

Upon a motion by Ms. Cummings and a second by Mr. Best, and unanimous approval, the Board, moved out of closed session at approximately 9:24 a.m. The meeting re-convened in open session at approximately 9:25 a.m.

Ms. Sutton stated the Board went into closed session to discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the public body. No action was taken

Meeting Adjourned at 9:26 a. m.

Respectfully submitted,          Reviewed by,

Vickie F. King                Joey R. Bryan
Clerk to the Board            Assistant County Manager