

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

Monday, November 22, 2021

7:00 P.M. Regular Session

MINUTES

Place: Commissioners' Chambers, Second Floor, Durham County Government Administrative Complex, 200 East Main Street, Durham, North Carolina

Present: Chair Brenda Howerton, Vice-Chair Wendy Jacobs and Commissioners Nida Allam, Nimasheena Burns and Heidi Carter

Presider: Chair Brenda Howerton

Opening of Regular Session - Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Adjustments

Chair Howerton announced that there were no agenda adjustments.

Announcements

Monica Toomer, Clerk to the Board read the following announcements:

1. **Thanksgiving Holiday** – Durham County Government will close most offices in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday on both Thursday, November 25th and Friday, November 26th. All offices will reopen with their normal hours of operation on Monday, November 29th.
2. **NAIA Football in Durham County** – The 2021 & 2022 NAIA Football Championship and Senior Classis will be held at Durham County Memorial Stadium on December 17th and 18th. Game tickets are available by visiting www.durhamncsports.com
3. **North Carolina Collection Open** – The NC Collection located on the 3rd floor at the Durham County Main Library is now open. Their hours are Mondays 9:30am – 7:30pm; Tuesday – Saturday 9:30am – 5pm and Closed on Sundays.

For more information and to browse the collection online please visit www.durhamcountylibrary.org

4. **DCo Public Health COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic Hours** – The COVID-19 Vaccine is available that the DCo Department of Public Health located on 414 E. Main Street during the following hours:
 - Monday, Wednesday and Thursday – 9am – 4pm
 - Tuesday – 9am – 6pm
 - Friday – Closed for Select Events

Appointments and walk-ins are welcome, and the 1st, 2nd and 3rd booster shots are available as well. Please note that the clinics are closed daily between the hours of 11:30am and 1pm.

For more information, please visit www.dcopublichealth.org/COVIDVaccines or call 919-560-9217

5. **Welcome Baby Annual Coat Drive** – Donate gently used and new coats sizes newborn – 7/8 at Cooperative Extension or the following library locations: Main, Bragtown, North, East and South Regional.

Donation are accepted now through January 7, 2022 during their normal business hours. For more information, please visit www.welcomebaby.org

6. **Blasting on Site of the New Northern High School** – Residents and those who work near the site of the new Northern High School should be aware that East Coast Drilling and Blasting will be conducting construction blasting on site at 4616 N. Roxboro Rd, Monday – Friday between 3:30 – 4pm until further notice.

Weather may impact the times and all updates will be available on the Durham County Twitter and Facebook pages.

7. **It's Your County; Get Involved!** – Durham County Government has over 40 active advisory boards referred to as Boards and Commissions that citizens of Durham County may volunteer to participate by applying for a vacancy. A description of the boards as well a list of vacancies can be found at <https://bit.ly/BoardsDCo>.

If you need additional information, please contact the Clerk's Office at 919-560-0025 or email us at BoardsandCommissions@dconc.gov.

8. **Work for Durham County Government** – Looking for a satisfying career in public service? Join Durham County's local government team and make a difference in your community today. Please visit www.careers.dconc.gov

Commissioners shared the following additional announcements:

- The Racial Equity Commission was accepting applications and residents were encouraged to apply.
- Josh Stein, North Carolina Attorney General would present the NC Dogwood Award to Major Elijah Bazemore, Durham County Sheriff for his work coordinating the “Medical Assistance Treatment” (MAT) program at the Detention Center.
- The Durham Rescue Mission accepted turkeys and hams to provide families in need of a meal for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Minutes

Commissioner Burns moved, seconded by Vice Chair Jacobs to approve the October 4, 2021 Work Session and October 25, 2021 minutes.

The motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

Chair Howerton asked the Board if they requested to pull or comment on any items on the Consent Agenda.

Vice Chair Jacobs requested to pull Item 21-0706.

Hearing no additional comments, Chair Howerton entertained a motion for approval.

Commissioner Allam moved, seconded by Commissioner Carter to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda except Item 21-07056.

The motion carried unanimously.

*21-0676 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 22BCC00052 Social Services to Recognize \$236,683.22 from the City of Durham to Administer the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS in the Eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area of Durham County and for the County Manager to Amend the Contract between the City of Durham, Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS, and Durham County Department of Social Services

21-0691 Approval of 2022 Board of County Commissioners' Meeting Schedule

21-0692 Trademark Properties Listing Agreement Amendment

21-0696 A Request to Petition NCDOT to Remove Akzo Boulevard (SR 2602) from the Secondary Road Maintenance System

*21-0698 Property Tax Releases and Refunds for October 2021

Consent Agenda Item #21-0676

**Durham County, North Carolina
2021-2022 Budget Ordinance
Amendment Number 22BCC00052**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2021-2022 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

| <u>Fund Name</u> | <u>Current Budget</u> | <u>Increase/Decrease</u> | <u>Revised Budget</u> |
|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| <u>GENERAL FUND</u> | | | |
| <u>Expenditure</u> | | | |
| Human Services | \$114,687,120.25 | \$236,683.22 | \$114,923,803.47 |
| <u>Revenue</u> | | | |
| Intergovernmental | \$79,278,390.23 | \$236,683.22 | \$79,515,073.45 |

All ordinances and portions of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved November 22, 2021

Consent Agenda Item #21-0698

Due to property valuation adjustments for over assessments, listing discrepancies, duplicate listings and clerical errors, etc. The attached report details releases and refunds for the month of September 2021.

Releases and Refunds – October 2021

Releases & Refunds for 2022

| | | |
|-------------------|----|-------------|
| Personal Property | \$ | 0.00 |
| Real Property | \$ | <u>0.00</u> |
| Total | \$ | 0.00 |

Releases and Refunds for 2021 Taxes

| | | |
|--------------------|----|------------------|
| Real Property | \$ | 4,187.32 |
| Personal Property | \$ | 11,361.02 |
| Motor Vehicle | \$ | 0.00 |
| Solid Waste | \$ | 0.00 |
| Stormwater Utility | \$ | 156.00 |
| VTS Refunds | \$ | <u>19,709.88</u> |
| Total | \$ | 35,414.22 |

Releases & Refunds for Prior Years

2016 - 2020

| | | |
|--------------------|----|-------------|
| Real Property | \$ | 0.00 |
| Personal Property | \$ | 109,929.04 |
| Solid Waste | \$ | 0.00 |
| Stormwater Utility | \$ | 0.00 |
| VTS Refund | \$ | <u>0.00</u> |
| Total | \$ | 109,929.04 |

Grand Total \$ 145,343.26

Public Hearings

21-0697 Public Hearing – Unified Development Ordinances Text Amendment, Updates for Applications and Permits (TC2100004)

Michael Stock, Planning Manager stated the Text Amendment TC2100004 was to establish within the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) the official application procedures for street naming, street closing and annexation requests processed by the Planning Department, relocate and update the statutory development agreements application procedures and update certain zoning map change procedures.

The Board inquired about the Planning Commission question regarding population density. Mr. Stock responded the population density was based on state laws, hard to determine and rarely fluctuated based on density. Sarah Young, Planning Director added there were more issues with distance than density. The Board recommended reviewing the type of signage and where the signage was located for

improvements.

Chair Howerton opened the public hearing,

With no public comments, Chair Howerton closed the public hearing.

First Motion:

Commissioner Burns moved, seconded by Commissioner Allam to adopt an ordinance amending the *Unified Development Ordinance*, incorporating revisions to Article 2, Review Authority; Article 3, Applications and Permits: Article 12, Infrastructure and Public Improvements.

The motion carried unanimously.

Second Motion:

Commissioner Allam moved, seconded by Commissioner Burns to adopt the appropriate Statement of Consistency pursuant to NCGS §160D-605.

The motion carried unanimously.

Directive: Vice Chair Jacobs recommended for Planning staff to review the type of signage and where the signage was located for improvements.

Other Business

21-0672 Annual Reporting Updates from Downtown Durham, Inc and the Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce

Andrew Miracle, Economic Development Officer introduced Geoff Durham, President and Chief Executive Officer at the Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Durham introduced Angelique Stallings, Vice President of Community Investment at the Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Stallings shared a brief overview of the upcoming Chamber events, incentives and collaborations.

Ryan Regan, Vice President of Economic Development at the Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce shared the *Economic Development 2020-21 Annual Report* which highlighted the following: Jobs, Investments, Job Creation, Trends and Projections.

The Board asked how many new companies located to Durham during the pandemic. Mr. Durham responded ten (10) of the largest companies located to Durham during the pandemic. The Board asked for a revised slide of the companies and jobs in Durham County to show which companies were new and which companies were existing and/or expanded. Mr. Regan responded he would provide the information to the Board. The Board inquired about the role of transportation, public housing and how the Chamber would be involved. Mr. Durham replied the Chambers would provide additional density for housing and continued involvement with Regional Transportation Authority and partners for best transportation in Durham. The Board questioned the next industry locating to Durham. Mr. Regan responded electric vehicles and electric batteries industry could be next due to Durham's engineering talent and environmental sustainability. Mr. Durham added Agricultural Technology was reappearing in Durham as well.

Nicole Thompson, President and Chief Executive Officer at Downtown Durham Inc. shared the *Downtown Durham, Inc. FY 20-21 Update* which highlighted the following: About Downtown Durham Inc., Downtown Growth: Office, In the Pipeline: Office, Downtown Growth: Residential, In the Pipeline: Residential, Downtown Growth: Merchants, In the Pipeline: Merchants, Net Growth During COVID-19: Merchants, Taking Care of Downtown: The Ambassadors, Happening in Downtown: The Streeter, Third Friday, The Holidays, Support Downtown Businesses: SpendaBull, Partners in Progress and 2022 Focus.

The Board asked about black and brown businesses and diversity in downtown businesses. Ms. Thompson responded Downtown Durham Inc. (DDI) provided information and best locations for black, brown and women owned businesses; adding DDI worked with local partners and resource providers to help business owners and assisted with Pop Up retail locations in downtown. The Board inquired about affordable office space and rent for retail/restaurants in downtown. Ms. Thompson replied a few locations provided small and affordable office spaces and rental information was difficult to receive; adding; downtown did not see a decrease in rental prices during the pandemic. The Board asked if the master plan would include the public sector and discussion around a sustainable environment in downtown. Ms. Thompson replied yes, it would include all public owned land and would provide different uses for land and properties. She continued to say that DDI would work with the Durham Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development to provide more information on a sustainable environment in downtown.

Directive: Vice Chair Jacobs asked for Ryan Regan to provide the Board with a revised slide of the companies and jobs in Durham County to show which companies were new and which companies were existing and expanded.

Board and Commission Appointments

Willie Darby, Senior County Attorney announced the voting results.

The Board made the following appointments (incumbents are identified with an (i). Individuals who are recommended by a Board are underlined.) Individuals listed in bold print were appointed.

Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee

Angela Holmes (Allam, Burns, Carter, Howerton, Jacobs)

Durham County Women's Commission

Teniqua Coates-Singh (Allam, Burns, Carter, Howerton, Jacobs)

Durham Workforce Development Board

CJ Broderick (Allam, Carter, Howerton, Jacobs)

Denita Johnson (Allam, Burns, Carter, Howerton, Jacobs)

Cherelle James (Burns)

Historic Preservation Commission

Matthew Bouchard (Allam, Burns, Carter, Howerton, Jacobs)

Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee

Gracie Rogers (Allam, Burns, Carter, Howerton, Jacobs)

Items Pulled from the Consent Agenda

*21-0706 Nighthawk Security Contract Amendment of \$412,323 for Additional Security Posts at the Durham County Courthouse and Detention Center

Vice Chair Jacobs stated she received questions from residents about the contract and asked Claudia Hager, Interim County Manager to provide more information. Interim County Manager Hager stated the funding for the contract was coming from the Sheriff's budget and Nighthawk Security would staff the screening post at the Courthouse and the Detention Center. She added the contract was an approach to address the law enforcement vacancies and Nighthawk Security provided services to the County over several years. Interim Manager Hager stated the Sheriff hoped the contract was a short-term solution and Nighthawk Security has assisted other department with vacancies. Clarence Birkhead, Sheriff stated the contract would allow for Nighthawk Security to work along with the Sheriff Department and allow for the Sheriff's Office to reallocate staffing resources to deal with current staffing vacancies.

Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Allam to approve Consent Agenda Item 21-0706.

The motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session

Chair Howerton stated the board was requested to adjourn to Closed Session for the following:

- To consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged; pursuant to G. S. 143-318.11(a)(3).

Commissioner Burns moved, seconded by Commissioner Allam to adjourn into the Closed Session.

The motion carried unanimously.

Reconvene to Open Session


Chair Howerton announced the Board met in Closed Session and provided direction to staff.

Adjournment

Commissioner Allam moved, seconded by Vice Chair Jacobs to adjourn the Regular Session meeting at 10:28 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Macio Carlton', written in a cursive style.

Macio Carlton
Deputy Clerk to the Board