

Board of Supervisors - May 12, 2022 Regular Meeting

The Wise County Board of Supervisors met in a Regular Meeting on Thursday, May 12, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m. in the School Board Education Center located at 628 Lake Street, Wise. The following members were present:

Honorable J. H. Rivers – Chairman

ABSENT

Honorable John T. Schoolcraft – Vice-Chairman

Honorable Randy Carter

Honorable Fred Luntsford

Honorable Robert R. Adkins

Honorable James Lawson

Honorable Steve Bates

Honorable Tim Boardwine – members of said Board and

Michael W. Hatfield – County Administrator

Karen T. Mullins – County Attorney

Annette Underwood – Executive Secretary

PRAYER

Randy Carter led in prayer.

PLEDGE

All led in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Randy Carter, seconded by John Schoolcraft, to approve the minutes of April 4, 2022, as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

AGENDA

A motion was made by Tim Boardwine, seconded by John Schoolcraft, to approve the agenda as presented to include items in red. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: PUBLIC HEARING – SECONDARY SIX YEAR PLAN & SECONDARY SYSTEM CONSTRUCTION BUDGET

A public hearing was duly advertised for this date to receive citizens' comments regarding the proposed Wise County Secondary Six-Year Plan and Secondary System Construction Budget.

Joey Mullins, Assistant Resident Engineer for VDOT, presented said Plan with a brief overview of each proposed project.

There being no public comments regarding said Plan, the public hearing was closed.

IN RE: PUBLIC HEARING – REZONING OF PROPERTY ON MORRISON ROAD, NORTON

A public hearing was duly advertised for this date to receive citizens’ comments regarding a request from Richard and Logan Sturgill for a rezoning of 3.95 acres located at 8250 Morrison Road, Norton to a R-1, single family residential.

Mr. and Ms. Richard Sturgill voiced their support for the rezoning of 8250 Morrison Road, Norton as requested by Richard and Logan Sturgill.

There being no further public comments, the public hearing was closed.

IN RE: PUBLIC HEARING – SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR OLD COEBURN DRAGSTRIP

A public hearing was duly advertised for this date to receive citizens’ comments regarding a request from Forrest Lunsford, on behalf of Twin River Raceway, LLC, for a Special Use Permit for 26+ acres located at 11210 Riverview Road, Coeburn for the purpose of operating the old Coeburn dragstrip.

There being no public comments regarding the Special Use Permit, the public hearing was closed.

IN RE: COUNTY BUDGET FY 2022/23 PRESENTATION

County Administrator Hatfield provided a power point presentation on the proposed County FY 2022/23 budget as follows:

DRAFT BUDGET UPDATE SUMMARY

- Revenues \$59,628,142.45
- Expenditures \$59,628,142.45
- Balanced Budget \$ 0.00

REVENUES - CHANGES FROM FY 2022

- General property taxes up due to reassessment
- Coal related taxes level
- Slight sales tax increase
- Overall local revenues up 1.7%
- American Rescue Plan anticipated to be able to replace shortfall in local revenues.
\$1,855,080.81
- Tax rate – There is no projected increase in the tax rate

EXPENDITURES - CHANGES FROM FY 2022

- School Debt up \$432,649
- CNW up \$22,232
- Health insurance increase of 9% - \$234,300 (Employee portion no change)

- DSS up \$310,000
- Legal fees for law suite \$75,000
- Airport up \$83,070 due to runway closure
- Increase in several other departments (Mandated or required)
- Minimum wage goes from \$11.00 to \$12.00 January 1, 2023
- 5% COLA included for all County employees
- Total required increases \$1,175,412

EXPENDITURES - ADDITIONAL INCREASE REQUESTS FROM FY 2022

• Minimum wage	\$ 43,808
• Comp Board 5% COLA	\$ 90,691
• County 5% COLA	\$301,002
○ Combined County wages increase	\$435,501
• Schools 5% COLA	<u>\$458,995</u>
Subtotal	\$894,496

SIGNIFICANT EXPENDITURES

GENERAL FUND BUDGET AMOUNTS OVER \$1M

- \$16,521,071 – Wise County Schools –Local Funds
- \$13,868,354 – Social Services – (Approx. \$11.5M funded by State & Federal)
- \$ 7,988,813 – Law Enforcement & 911 (Approx. \$2.8M funded by state)
- \$ 3,288,990 – Landfill & Collection costs – All local Funded
- \$ 2,403,808 – Regional Jail – All local funded
- \$ 1,335,259 – Commonwealth Attorney (\$872K funded by state)
- \$ 1,092,490 – Clerk of the Circuit Court (\$678K funded by state)

OTHER INFORMATION

- Wise County School Board
 - The School Board is requesting between \$12.6M and \$13.4M in funding
 - Staff recommends level funding increased by the cost of the 5% raises
- Continued effort to decrease costs in all county departments in the coming year
- Spending will be scrutinized during the budget cycle to minimize the amount of American Rescue Plan Funds required

PUBLIC EXPRESSION

Walter Crouse, a resident of the Hurricane section of Wise County, voiced his frustration on the State Budget not being finalized. He also had complaints about the following to mention a few:

- The school did not need special activity buses
- Our highway roadsides need mowing and ditch cleaning
- Need equipment to crush bottles
- Water rates need to be reduced from 1500 gallon to 1000 gallon

- Need to get recycling going again

There being no further public comments, the public expression period was closed.

IN RE: CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Bob Adkins, seconded by Tim Boardwine, to approve the consent agenda as follows:

IN RE: RESOLUTION – RENEWAL SHENANDOAH CABLE TV FRANCHISE

Approved the Resolution Renewing the Shenandoah Cable Television Franchisee for a term of ten (10) years

RESOLUTION # 14 - 2022

(Said resolution is on file in the County Administrator’s Office)

IN RE: COUNTY PROPERTIES FOR SALE

A notice for a sealed bid sale of real estate properties was advertised on May 6, 2022, with the following properties being sold:

Approved the following properties to be sold:

- Home Economics Bldg. Lots 26-27, Block 26
16540 Tazewell Street, St. Paul, VA (Tax ID: 021310)
- Lots 14 thru 17, Block 51
3220 Deacon Dr., St. Paul, VA (Tax ID: 021307)
- Baum Hollow 0.63 ac
1705 Baum Hollow Road, Big Stone Gap, VA (Tax ID: 015771)

IN RE: COUNTY FY 2022/23 BUDGET – SET PUBLIC HEARING

Set public hearing (6-9-2022 @ 6:00 p.m.) on proposed County FY 2022/23 budget

IN RE: RESOLUTION COMPREHENSIVE AGREEMENT – UNION PRIMARY SCHOOL

Approved the Resolution on the Comprehensive Agreement for the Union Primary School addition & renovation

RESOLUTION # 15 - 2022

(Said resolution is on file in the County Administrator's Office)

The motion to approve the consent agenda was unanimously approved.

IN RE: RESOLUTION – SECONDARY SIX YEAR PLAN & SECONDARY SYSTEM CONSTRUCTION BUDGET

A public hearing was held on 5-12-2022 to receive citizens' comments on the proposed Secondary Six-Year Plan and Secondary System Construction Budget.

There were no public comments for or against the proposed Plan.

A motion was made by John Schoolcraft, seconded by Randy Carter, to adopt the Resolution Approving the Secondary Six-Year Plan as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

Resolution # 16 - 2022

(Said resolution is on file in the County Administrator's Office)

IN RE: REZONING – PROPERTY 8250 MORRISON ROAD – RICHARD & LOGAN STURGILL

A public hearing was held on 5-12-2022 to receive citizens' comments regarding a proposed rezoning of property located at 8250 Morrison Road.

There was no opposition to the proposed rezoning.

A motion was made by Bob Adkins, seconded by Steve Bates, to approve the request from Richard and Logan Sturgill for rezoning of 3.95 acres located at 8250 Morrison Road, Norton. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: SPECIAL USE PERMIT – 11210 RIVERVIEW ROAD- COEBURN DRAGSTRIP

A public hearing was held on 5-12-2022 to receive citizens' comments regarding a request from Forrest Lunsford for a Special Use Permit for 26+ acres located at 11210 Riverview Road, Coeburn for the purpose of reopening the old Coeburn Dragstrip.

There was no opposition to the proposed Special Use Permit.

A motion was made by Tim Boardwine, seconded by Bob Adkins, to approve the Special Use Permit as requested by Forrest Lunsford for reopening the Old Coeburn Dragstrip. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: BUDGET AMENDMENTS

A motion was made by Randy Carter, seconded by John Schoolcraft, to approve Budget Amendments #30 - #32 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: APPOINTMENT – PLANNING COMMISSION

A motion was made by Steve Bates, seconded by Bob Adkins, to table the appointment to replace Roger Mullins on the Planning Commission until next month. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: APPOINTMENT – HEART OF APPALACHIA TOURISM AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John Schoolcraft nominated Ked Meade to fill the unexpired term of Robert Bloomer on the Heart of Appalachia Tourism Authority.

Chairman Rivers made a motion that nominations cease, and Ked Meade be appointed by acclamation. John Schoolcraft seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: APPOINTMENT- BRISTOL HARD ROCK CASINO REGIONAL IMPROVEMENT COMMISSION

Chairman Rivers nominated Karen Mullins for appointment to the Bristol Hard Rock Casino Regional Improvement Commission.

Bob Adkins made a motion that nominations cease, and Karen Mullins be appointed by acclamation. John Schoolcraft seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

BOARD COMMENTS

Board members voiced their support for the re-opening of the old Coeburn Dragstrip. This being a recreational tool, will bring visitors to Wise County, which is good for businesses in our area.

Chairman Rivers asked Administrator Hatfield to revive the old plans for Innovation Highway to bring it back to the table for discussion.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Randy Carter, seconded by Tim Boardwine, to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. The motion was unanimously approved.

ATTEST:

WISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Michael W. Hatfield, Clerk

J. H. Rivers, Chairman

