

CUMBERLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AUGUST 30, 2005 – 6:30 PM
SPECIAL MEETING
TOWN OF LINDEN

PRESENT: Chairman John Henley
Vice Chairman Billy King
Commissioner Talmage Baggett
Commissioner Breeden Blackwell
Commissioner Jeannette Council
Commissioner Kenneth Edge
Commissioner Diane Wheatley
James Martin, County Manager
Amy Cannon, Assistant County Manager
Cliff Spiller, Assistant County Manager
Grainger Barrett, County Attorney
Sara VanderClute, Public Information Officer
Nancy Roy, Planning/Inspections Director
Tom Cooney, Utility Department Director
Bobby Howard, Solid Waste Director
Thanena Wilson, Community Development Director
Ann Hymes, Deputy Clerk to the Board
Mayor Leo Kelly – Town of Linden
Commissioner Frances Collier
Commissioner Barbara Denning
Commissioner Ronnie Maness
Commissioner Charles Powers
Sue Giles, Linden Town Clerk

The purpose of this Special Meeting is to allow the Town Board of Linden to discuss any governmental concerns with the Board of Commissioners.

The Chairman of the Board of Commissioners and the Mayor of Linden called their respective Boards to order.

Linden Water & Sewer District

Mayor Kelly inquired about the status of the Linden Water & Sewer Project. He said they may want to extend the water system to Dusty Lane located off of Route 401. Tom Cooney, Public Utilities Director, said the project is not feasible at this time for the district because the average income in northern Cumberland County is too high to qualify for state or federal grants. He noted that construction costs have risen and some residents are opposed to the higher cost. He added that Linden residents have lower household income levels that may allow the Town to be eligible for state or federal grants. Mayor Kelly said the Town would apply for grants to provide service to a smaller area next to the Town. Chairman Henley indicated that the County might be able to assist with a smaller project from its water and sewer fund.

Cape Fear Valley Hospital Privatization Impact on County Residents

Chairman Henley addressed the conversion of Cape Fear Valley Medical System from a county-owned hospital to a private non-profit system. It will offer health care services comparable to services as other regional hospitals. Expansion of the Cape Fear North project on Andrews Road will continue. The new facility will allow for health care in the northern part of Cumberland County. All citizens will be provided access regardless of their ability to pay. All seven of the County Commissioners will continue to serve on the hospital board. Eight others will be appointed by the County, and five will be appointed by the hospital board. Regarding the Emergency Department, actions are being taken to improve patient care and reduce wait time.

Widening of Highway 401

Nancy Roy, Planning/Inspections Director, stated that federal/state transportation funds have been allocated for a design feasibility study regarding widening Highway 401. At this point, that is all that is scheduled.

Garbage Pick-up

Mayor Kelly asked if the Jernigan solid waste collection site could provide a bin for mattresses and white goods. Bobby Howard, Solid Waste Director, said he would be pleased to do so. There is adequate room at the site for two bins. When they become full, they will be replaced with two more bins. The Mayor said they would continue efforts to educate the community to use the boxes rather than dump articles on the side of roads.

County Beautification

Mayor Kelly inquired about entrance ways into Cumberland County and how the County plans to promote this. Chairman Henley said representatives of the Joint Appearance Commission made a presentation at the board's budget meeting about landscaping projects and entrance ways to Fayetteville. The Joint Appearance Board made a request for county funding but they did not have a specific plan either for design or for maintenance (watering plants, etc.). The Commissioners are receptive to the idea; however, the Board is waiting for a detailed plan from the Joint Appearance Commission.

Enforcement of Inspections and Zoning Ordinances

Mayor Kelly said Linden is in the process of adopting a zoning ordinance and asked if the County would enforce it without cost to the town. Nancy Roy, Planning & Inspections Director, said the County could enter into an Interlocal Agreement with the Town of Linden to enforce zoning provisions, minimum housing codes, dilapidated and abandoned homes ordinances, etc. An Environmental Court has been formed by Fayetteville, Cumberland County and district court officials. This will include Linden. The court will hear environmental cases to include zoning and building code violations. A specially assigned judge, Judge Kim Tucker, will hear the cases. The Environmental Court will begin on September 1st.

MIA (Municipal Influence Area) for the Town of Linden

Mayor Kelly discussed the possibility of Linden adopting an MIA. It was noted that Spring Lake's MIA extends to Highway 401 and Elliott Bridge Road. It was noted that an MIA customarily identifies an area likely to be annexed into a municipality over a period of time and addresses application of that municipality's development standards in that area. It was also noted that the issue of utility service areas is somewhat separate from that of MIAs. Ms. Roy and Mr. Barrett noted that the 2030 Comprehensive Plan process is an excellent opportunity for all towns to identify any MIAs, but will require negotiation. There was also discussion concerning whether an MIA offers any protection from annexation. Attorney Grainger Barrett stated that only a resolution of intent to annex can protect an area from annexation by another city. Mr. Barrett suggested that Ms. Speicher, the Linden Planner, discuss these items at greater length with the Town.

The respective meetings were then adjourned.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 7:35 pm

Ann Hymes, Deputy Clerk to the Board

CUMBERLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AUGUST 30, 2005 – 7:45 PM
TOWN HALL MEETING
LINDEN, NC

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The purpose of the meeting is to allow residents in the Linden area to discuss any concerns they may have with the Board of Commissioners. One area resident, Mr. Bill Tew, was in attendance. He had no concerns to discuss with the Board.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 7:45 PM

Ann Hymes, Deputy Clerk to the Board