

POLK COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING
December 5, 2016 - 7:00 P.M.
R. Jay Foster Hall of Justice, Womack Building
Columbus, NC
MINUTES (A)

PRESENT: Chairman Gage, Vice-Chairman Holbert, Commissioner Bradley, Commissioner Gasperson and Commissioner Owens. Also in attendance were County Manager Pittman, County Attorney Berg, Clerk to the Board Fehrmann, staff, media and citizens.

1. Call to Order of the Public Hearing Regarding the Proposed Amendment to the Polk County Zoning Map, Rezoning of Multiple Use District; Certain Area as Equestrian Village District – Chair Gage called the public hearing to order. Cathy Ruth, County Planner, presented the amendment. She explained Tryon International Equestrian Center has purchased 2 additional parcels and would like to expand the original plan for the Equestrian Village District. The Planning Board recommends the proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance require a minimum 25 foot front yard setback from the right-of-way. A copy of the amendment is hereby incorporated by reference into these minutes.
2. Citizen Comments – There were none.
3. Commissioner Comments – Commissioner Gasperson inquired as to the process of plan approval for fire safety and if a ladder fire truck would be required? Fire Marshall Arledge said he does reviews all plans and ensures fire safety requirements are met and a ladder truck is not a requirement. Commissioner Owens asked Arledge if we currently have access to a ladder truck. He replied Polk County has a mutual aid agreement with both the Forest City and Rutherford Fire Departments and they each have a ladder truck we could call on if we needed to. Commissioner Owens also questioned Ms. Ruth on the timing needed if more rezoning was required and she stated typically it would take 2 – 3 months.
4. Motion to Adjourn the Public Hearing – Commissioner Owens moved to adjourn the public hearing, seconded by Vice-Chairman Holbert and the motion carried unanimously.
5. Call to Order of Regular Meeting – Chairman Gage called the regular meeting to order.
6. Invocation – Commissioner Gasperson gave the invocation.
7. Pledge of Allegiance – Commissioner Owens introduced Mr. Tarry S. Bradley, Vietnam Veteran, U.S. Air Force who then led the pledge.

8. Consent Agenda – Approval of the November 21, 2016 regular meeting minutes. Vice-Chairman Holbert moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Commissioner Owens and the motion carried unanimously.
9. Approval of Agenda – Commissioner Owens moved to approve the agenda as written, seconded by Vice-Chairman Holbert and the motion carried unanimously.
10. Citizen Comments – There were none.
11. An Amendment to the Polk County Zoning Map, Rezoning of Multiple Use District; Certain Area as Equestrian Village District – Commissioner Gasperson moved that the written recommendation of the Planning Board regarding Plan Consistency be made part of the record of this proceeding and that the Board of Commissioners find that the proposed amendment to the Polk County Zoning Ordinance and map, with the recommendation of the Planning Board of the minimum front yard setback from the right-of-way of 25 feet, is consistent with the Polk County 20/20 Vision Plan for the reasons set forth in the whereas clauses of the proposed amendment to the Polk County Zoning Ordinance, seconded by Commissioner Bradley. Vice-Chairman Holbert said he feels the 25 foot setback is more consistent with the rest of the County and he agrees with the amendment. Chairman Gage said he would like to leave it as it is currently to provide the most flexibility. With a motion and second on the floor, the motion carried 4-1 (Gage opposed).
12. 2016 Polk County Financial Audit Presentation – Tonya Marshall, Audit Manager at Gould Killian CPA Group, P.A. presented the annual report, a copy of which is hereby incorporated by reference into these minutes.
13. Parking Location for Polk County Transportation Vans – County Manager Pittman stated the County closed on the purchase of the bus garage property Friday, December 2, 2016. He said he is investigating security issues at the property and is awaiting the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) to give their formal consent. He does not for see any issues in getting the approval, and once received, the vehicles will be removed from the parking spaces in downtown Columbus.
14. Presentation of Plaques –Chairman Gage presented Eric and Timothy Pack, sons of the late Commissioner Tom Pack a commemorative plaque in honor of their father's service to Polk County. County Manager Pittman presented outgoing Commissioners Gage and Holbert with their plaques.
15. Commissioner Comments – Commissioner Owens read Romans 12:6-8 and wished the incoming Board the very best. Commissioner Owens spoke fondly of the late Commissioner Pack and of Packs many contributions to Polk County. Vice-Chairman Holbert thanked the citizens and his fellow Commissioners, and wished the incoming Board the best of luck. Chairman Gage thanked everyone for being there, the citizens for allowing him to serve and conveyed gratitude for the opportunity to work with the Commissioners. He thanked the County Manager, Attorney and staff for their guidance and professionalism. He encouraged the new

Board to continue to run good meetings, use their expertise, and is excited to see the next generation of leaders.

16. Adjournment – Commissioner Owens moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Vice-Chairman Holbert and the motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

POLK COUNTY BOARD
OF COMMISSIONERS

Ange' High
Clerk to the Board

Tommy W. Melton
Chairman