

CUMBERLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2004 – 6:30 PM
SPECIAL MEETING
TOWN OF LINDEN

PRESENT: Chairman Jeannette M. Council
Vice Chairman John Henley
Commissioner Breeden Blackwell
Commissioner Talmage Baggett
Commissioner Kenneth Edge
Commissioner Billy King
Commissioner Ed Melvin
Juanita Pilgrim, Deputy County Manager
Cliff Spiller, Assistant County Manager
Sara VanderClute, Public Information Officer
Nancy Roy, Planning/Inspections Director
Tom Cooney, Utility Department Director
Thanena Wilson, Community Development Director
Bobby Howard, Solid Waste Director
Ann Hymes, Deputy Clerk to the Board
Mayor Leo Kelly – Town of Linden
Commissioner Frances Collier
Commissioner Ronnie Maness
Commissioner Charles Powers
Commissioner David Raynor
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 Project

Mayor Kelly stated that Tom Cooney recently met with Linden representatives and provided an update and answered questions relating to the Linden Water and Sewer Project. Mr. Cooney said that Phase One of the County plan was adding water to churches and approximately 300 homes in the Linden area. The cost of this project would be approximately \$2 million. The project is not eligible to receive funds from federal grants because of income ceiling limitations so it would have to be paid for with borrowed money. A revised plan is being created that would cost about \$1 million and serve approximately 200 homes. If a 40-year low interest loan was obtained from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, each household would pay about \$45 per month. There has been some

opposition in the Palestine Road area. More than 200 residents have signed a petition opposing the project. Commissioner Baggett said before the project is approved, the County would hold a bond referendum to see if a majority of landowners want the water project and are willing to pay the cost. Mr. Cooney said once the revised plan is finalized, he will return to Linden and share the information with the residents first-hand.

Mutual Items of Interest

Linden Commissioner Powers expressed concern about the lack of agency and program assistance for Linden residents, especially older adults. He said many need transportation assistance to go to the hospital or to the doctor's office. Nancy Roy said the Community Transportation Program will transport those who qualify for the program. Commissioner Baggett noted transportation to the Veterans Hospital is available to veterans. Chairman Council noted that once Cape Fear Valley North is built, that facility will also help alleviate some of the problems.

Thanena Wilson said that until July 1, 2004, Community Development was not authorized to work in the Town of Linden. Plans are now being made to start marketing programs so people in the area will know what services are available. A public meeting will be held at 7:00 PM on October 12, 2004, at the Linden Fire Department. Citizens are encouraged to attend. Applications will be taken at that time.

The respective meetings were then adjourned.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 7:15 PM

Ann Hymes, Deputy Clerk

CUMBERLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2004
7:30 PM
TOWN HALL MEETING
LINDEN, NC

PRESENT: Chairman Jeannette M. Council
Vice Chairman John Henley
Commissioner Talmage Baggett
Commissioner Breeden Blackwell
Commissioner Kenneth Edge
Commissioner Billy King
Commissioner Ed Melvin
Juanita Pilgrim, Deputy County Manager
Cliff Spiller, Assistant County Manager
Sara VanderClute, Public Information Officer
Nancy Roy, Planning/Inspections Director
Tom Cooney, Public Utilities Director
Thanena Wilson, Community Development Director
Bobby Howard, Solid Waste Director
Ann Hymes, Deputy Clerk to the Board

The purpose of the meeting is to allow the residents in the Linden area to discuss any concerns they may have with the Board of Commissioners.

Announcement: Thanena Wilson announced the Community Development Department will conduct a public meeting on Tuesday, October 12, 2004, at the Linden Fire Department. The meeting is scheduled for 7:00 PM. The purpose of the meeting is to receive input from the community in identifying their eligible Community Development needs and to assist in developing projects that will help the citizens in the Linden area. Staff will be available to take applications at that time.

Speakers

Terry Samperton, 9525 Big Bay Road, Linden, NC inquired about the 401 North Auction property on Ramsey Street that was an item of discussion at last year's meeting. He stated that the property is still unkempt and asked the amount of fines the owner has paid in the past year. Nancy Roy replied that the owner has not been fined. Some progress on the owner's part has been made. The County will inspect the property.

Terry Samperton inquired about the 401 North Dump located behind the 401 North Auction. He asked how often the dump is inspected. Bobby Howard stated that he has an officer who inspects the area. It is inspected by a state

inspector as well. Mr. Samperton asked how many fines the owner has paid. Mr. Howard replied none in the past year. He has not received any complaints about the dump.

Terry Samperton addressed the water runoff problems coming from Tarheel Specialties, Inc. on Ramsey Street. The water runoff remains a serious erosion problem. Additionally, the owner is parking large vehicles along the fence which Mr. Samperton feels is decreasing the value of his property.

Robert Jackson, 8796 Hawkins Road, Linden, expressed his concerns about the Linden Water and Sewer Project. He said his well was inspected recently and works fine. The public water system is something he does not want or need. He asked who will make the final decision on the project. Commissioner Baggett said that before the project is approved, the County will hold a bond referendum to see if a majority of the landowners want the water project and are willing to pay the cost.

Tracy Brooks, resident of Riverfield Farms, provided photographs of water damage to his property. He put sandbags against his privacy fence but water from Tarheel Specialties is causing the fence to fall. Tom Cooney said last year he visited the property and referred the problem to Storm Water Services to see what, if any, actions could be taken. He suggested Mr. Brooks seek legal advice from a Real Estate Attorney.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:10 PM.

Ann Hymes, Deputy Clerk