

CUMBERLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AND
FAYETTEVILLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 11, 2006, 8:00AM
SPECIAL MEETING

PRESENT: Chairman Billy R. King
 Commissioner Talmage S. Baggett
 Commissioner J. Breeden Blackwell
 Commissioner Jeannette M. Council
 Commissioner John Henley
 James Martin, County Manager
 Juanita Pilgrim, Deputy County Manager
 Amy Cannon, Asst. County Manager for Finance
 Grainger Barrett, County Attorney
 Marsha Fogle, Clerk to the Board
 Members, Fayetteville City Council
 Mayor Tony Chavonne
 City Manager Roger Stancil
 City Attorney Karen McDonald
 City Staff
 County Staff

INVOCATION: Commissioner Talmage S. Baggett

1. Approval of Agenda

The respective Boards approved the agenda.

2. Update on Metro Government Study

Commissioner Breeden Blackwell noted that he and the Mayor signed and mailed a letter to Mr. Harry Hayes, Local Government Program Manager, Carl Vinson Institute of Government, The University of Georgia, requesting his assistance in determining the feasibility of metro government in Cumberland County. Some of the information Mr. Hayes would provide is:

In what ways could your office work with the NC School of Government on this project;

What level of support would you need from the staffs of Fayetteville & Cumberland County;

How long would the project take;

How much would you anticipate the project would cost;

What would be the deliverables from the project?

Mr. Hayes is to respond regarding the cost of such a study to determine the feasibility of metro government.

3. Presentation on public transportation by Jerome Brown, City of Fayetteville

Mr. Brown reviewed the population density by census tract. He noted that transportation is being provided in the most dense areas.

He suggested that the urban areas be divided into zones with super stops and park and ride sites. In addition he suggested that in the less populated areas a "subscription" service could be utilized, i.e., patrons would call in for service. This type of service is very similar to what is provided by the Human Relations Department.

He offered to options for consideration:

Option A: 18 hour service with an estimated cost of \$14.1 million

Option B: 12 hour service with an estimated cost of \$10.9 million

He said that with either option a dedicated funding source must be identified. Some funding options:

- General fund appropriation
- Sales Tax
- Property Tax
- 5 Cent Vehicle Registration fee and/or 5% vehicle rental fee
- Hydro Levy

Mr. Brown said that federal and state monies are available and the amount is generally based on the amount of service that is provided.

In response to a question, Mr. Brown indicated it seems likely that a Transportation Authority would be formed to run the system.

Commissioner Council said she did not believe the county has the money to address the transportation issue at this time and she does not see a dedicated revenue stream based on other pressing needs.

A committee from the City and county officials will meet to discuss the issue.

- 4. Discussion of joint process for prioritizing Parks and Recreation Master Plan projects and funding strategies

The consensus of the two Boards was to direct the Parks and Recreation Board to prioritize the list of projects in the five-year plan for review by the two Boards.

City Councilman Charles Evans noted some problems with assuring all children have access and can play ball. The Youth Athletic Program is set up by district; each child is supposed to play in his/her particular district (runs with the school districts). However, Mr. Evans stated this system is not working because coaches in other districts are drawing children out of their district into a different district, which in some cases leaves a district with not enough children to form a league.

The Parks and Recreation Department has formed a committee to look at the issue noted above and will keep the Council and Commissioners informed.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

Clerk