

GREENE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

DECEMBER 2, 2022 CALLED MEETING

Call to Order: Chairman Usry called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Roll Call: Commissioners Deering, Smith, Lindsey, Filice, and Chairman Usry were present. Also present was County Manager Byron Lombard.

Discussion on LOST Negotiations, Consideration of a Resolution Seeking Local Legislation for a HOST Referendum: The Board received background information that the Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) mediation was held November 30th and that the County and Greensboro failed to come to an agreement on a distribution certificate of the LOST. County Manager Lombard gave additional information regarding the purpose of LOST, mediation efforts, statistics supporting the County's position, and a proposed best and final offer prepared for the Board's consideration. The best and final offer called for the County's share of LOST to go up from 68% to 72% and go up 2% each year, ending at 82% for the final five years, netting just under 80% of the LOST proceeds over the 10-year period. Greensboro Mayor Corey Williams and Katrina Breeding addressed the Board, with Mayor Williams making a plea that the County accept a lower share of the LOST than that proposed in the County's best and final offer. Commissioner Filice began the discussion contending that the numbers support the County receiving 85% of the LOST proceeds, and that the number should go up from there. There was additional discussion amongst the Board, with general consensus that the County's best and final offer was a fair offer and supported by the numbers. It was also noted that the County's growth projections show that the Cities shouldn't see their actual LOST proceeds go down under the ramped-up approach as proposed. Commissioner Lindsey motioned to approve the Best and Final Offer letter prepared for the Local Option Sales Tax negotiations, and to submit the correspondence to the City of Greensboro. Commissioner Smith seconded. Motion carried 4-1, with Commissioners Deering, Smith, Lindsey and Chairman Usry voting in favor and Commissioner Filice voting against.

The Commissioners were also advised that should LOST negotiations fail and the tax lapse at the end of 2022, the Board's desire to pursue a Homestead Option Sales Tax (HOST) referendum requires that steps be undertaken to seek local legislation. To that end, a resolution was prepared to pursue a HOST referendum, with language included that voids the action in the event a LOST agreement is reached. Commissioner Smith motioned to adopt Resolution Number 2022.12.2 seeking Local Legislation to authorize a Homestead Option Sales Tax Referendum in Greene County, and to waive the reading of the resolution. Commissioner Filice seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment: Chairman Usry adjourned the meeting at 8:51 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sylvia V. Hill, County Clerk

The above minutes were adopted and approved this day 13th day of December, 2022.

Gary Usry, Chairman

Jeffery L. Smith, Vice-Chairman

Angela Walker Deering, Commissioner

Dee Lindsey, Commissioner

Ernie Filice, Commissioner