

GREENE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

NOVEMBER 22, 2024 CALLED MEETING

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

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

Discussion on House Bill 581: The Commissioners received background information that the Statewide referendum regarding floating homestead exemption did pass and the related sales tax (FLOST) could be placed on a ballot referendum in 2025. However, the County would need to know whether either Greensboro or Union Point would be opting out of the homestead exemption before it could pursue the FLOST sales tax referendum. County Manager Lombard explained the various implications of House Bill 581’s provisions and assessment notice changes, adding that Greene County currently has a more generous homestead freeze that will remain in effect regardless. County Manager Lombard advocated against opting-out primarily due to the local freeze exemption already in effect. There was general consensus to reach out to City officials to see what they may pursue and next steps the County will need to make in the coming weeks and months. No action was taken.

Discussion on the Solid Waste Contract: The Commissioners received background information that there have been various struggles with the current solid waste vendor Waste Management. While the Board could cancel the contract in January upon the seating of a new Board, there was consensus to take the next year to evaluate what the County would like to put in a new RFP and associated solid waste contract to ensure better performance and improved solid waste services. No action was taken.

Discussion on SPLOST VIII: The Commissioners received background information that discussions had been held about SPLOST VIII, especially concerning the funding priorities and prospective projects. The Commissioners were also advised that Chairman Usry had met with the mayors about the next SPLOST and how the Board would choose to continue the funding method it had used for the past three SPLOST cycles, namely entering into an intergovernmental agreement with the City of Greensboro.

The SPLOST referendum would be put on the March ballot, and if approved, the collection period would run from 2027 to 2032 and is estimated to collect \$60 million. Greensboro provided its project list, and County Manager Lombard reviewed the tentative Greene County project list with the Board.

Adjournment: Chairman Usry adjourned the meeting at 9:32 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sylvia V. Hill, County Clerk

The above minutes were adopted and approved this day 10th day of December, 2024.

Gary Usry, Chairman

Jeffery L. Smith, Vice-Chairman

Angela Walker Deering, Commissioner

Dee Lindsey, Commissioner

Ernie Filice, Commissioner