

April 18, 2023

The Washington County Board of Commissioners met in a Special Called Meeting on Tuesday, April 18, 2023 at 6:00 PM in the Commissioners' Room and using ZOOM for Facebook Live Streaming, 116 Adams Street, Plymouth, NC. Commissioners Tracey A. Johnson, Ann C. Keyes, John C. Spruill and Julius Walker, Jr. were present. Also present were County Manager/County Attorney Curtis Potter, County Finance Officer Missy Dixon and Deputy Clerk to the Board Elizabeth Renee Collier. Commissioner Carol V. Phelps and Clerk to the Board Julie J. Bennett were unable to attend.

Chair Walker called the meeting to order.

PUBLIC COMMENT/FORUM: Ms. Julie Simpson, 4384 Hwy 32 N, Plymouth. She stated she is a teacher with Washington County. She showed support for the need for a new school even with a tax raise. She gave the 2020 breakdown from the Census and then compared it to the breakdown of students and they were not similar.

Ms. Tamara Wrighton, 123 Hazel St, Plymouth. She stated she is a teacher with Washington County School specifically with career path and career path training. She expressed her support for the new school being built to give a better opportunity for early career training not only for high school students but to now include middle school.

GENERAL UPDATES PERTAINING TO THE NEW PRE-K – 12 SCHOOL: Mr. Curtis Potter, CM/CA spoke to the Board and discussed the following items.

- a) GMP
- b) Debt Service
- c) Timeline

APPROVE FUNDING AGREEMENT AMENDMENT: Mr. Curtis Potter, CM/CA spoke to the Board. Commissioner Spruill asked if the County could own the property and lease the school the property and building. Mr. Potter suggested the conversation go to the Steering Committee and then bring that conversation back to the Commissioner. Chair Walker agreed with Mr. Potter.

Commissioner Keyes made a motion to approve the Funding Agreement Amendment. Commissioner Johnson seconded. Motion carried 3 to 1, opposed by Commissioner Spruill.

APPROVAL OF OLD CHANGE ORDERS FOR PRE-K – 12 SCHOOL PROJECT: Mr. Potter, CM/CA spoke to the Board.

Commissioner Johnson made a motion to approve the Funding Agreement Amendment. Commissioner Spruill seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF LETTER OF INTENT TO PROCEED WITH LIMITED SHOP DRAWINGS AND SITE PREP: Mr. Curtis Potter, CM/CA spoke with the Board. Commissioner Johnson asked if the company is able to have items to purchase and not have to wait. Mr. Potter replied yes.

Commissioner Johnson made a motion to approve the Letter of Intent to proceed with limited shop drawings and site prep. Commissioner Keyes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE NEXT NEEDS BASED PUBLIC SCHOOL CAPITAL FUND GRANT DISTRIBUTION REQUEST: Mr. Potter, CM/CA spoke to the Board. Commissioner Johnson asked if the 2 grants we received are treated as two separate grants or one. Mr. Potter and Mrs. Dixon responded together that the state has not corrected them but they have reported and treated it as one.

Commissioner Spruill made a motion to approve the next Needs Based Public School Capital Fund Grant Distribution Request. Commissioner Keyes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Potter, CM/CA informed the Board if they had nothing, there was no reason for Closed Session.

Commissioner Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Keyes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Julius Walker, Jr.
Chair

Elizabeth Renee Collier
Deputy Clerk to the Board