

Windsor, North Carolina
April 16, 2018
JOINT MEETING

The Bertie County Board of Commissioners met for a joint work session today inside the Windsor Town Hall, Commissioners Room located at 128 South King Street, Windsor, NC 27983. The following members were present or absent:

County Commissioners Present: Ronald “Ron” Wesson, District I
 Tammy A. Lee, District III
 John Trent, District IV
 Ernestine (Byrd) Bazemore, District V

County Commissioners Absent: Stewart White, District II

County Staff Present: County Manager Scott Sauer
 Clerk to the Board Sarah Tinkham
 Assistant County Attorney Jonathan Huddleston
 Finance Officer William Roberson
 Economic Development Director Steve Biggs
 Cooperative Extension Director Billy Barrow
 ICMA/NCACC Management Fellow Dominique Walker

Windsor Commissioners Present: David Overton
 Lawrence Carter
 Cathy Wilson
 Randy Whitaker
 Randy Walston

Windsor Staff Present: Allen Castelloe, Town Manager

Leslie Beachboard of the Bertie-Ledger Advance was present from the media.

CALL TO ORDER – Bertie County Board of Commissioners

Chair Bazemore called the meeting to order.

CALL TO ORDER – Town of Windsor Commissioners

Mayor James Hoggard called the Windsor Town Board of Commissioners to order.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Wesson led the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

Hurricane Matthew Recovery Update: grant status for Bertie County buy-out program

Windsor Town Manager, Allen Castelloe, briefly updated both boards on the HMGP grant that was approved by FEMA as a joint effort between the Town and County. Currently, the release of funding is delayed, and a date of the release is still inconclusive at this time.

Both boards discussed this matter, and Bertie County Chair, Ernestine Bazemore, noted that she would be present at the NCACC Board meeting in the coming days, and would mention the concerns that both boards share about the funding delay.

Lost Colony/First Colony Foundation: additional funding needs

Mr. John Ed Whitehurst was present as a liaison between the two Boards, the Partnership for the Sounds, as well as First Colony Foundation. The Foundation recently finished their archaeological dig at the Lost Colony site at Ball Gra and Salmon Creek, also known as Site X.

Representatives from Partnerships for the Sounds were also present.

Mr. Whitehurst reported that the Foundation was interested in continuing their excavation of the site, but funding was needed to continue to dig as well as perform the needed scientific analysis on the artifacts found.

Both Boards discussed this topic extensively and agreed that this opportunity is extremely important when preserving the history of Bertie County.

Bertie County Commissioner, John Trent, stated that the historical value of this site should not be understated and that he felt both boards should make this project a top priority in the upcoming budget deliberations.

After some discussion, both boards agreed that funding should be budgeted to allow First Colony Foundation to perform the additional excavation of the site in the estimated, shared amount of \$50,000.

Commissioner Trent made a **MOTION** for the Bertie County Board of Commissioners to work together with the Partnership for the Sounds, and the Town of Windsor Board of Commissioners to budget a minimum of \$50,000 for the Lost Colony archeological site during 2018-2019 FY

budget deliberations. Vice Chairman Wesson **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

The Town of Windsor Board of Commissioners made a similar motion which passed unanimously.

It was suggested by Bertie County Vice Chairman, Ronald Wesson, to have County staff and Town administration to check with the Mid-East Commission about any possible grant opportunities there might be to assist with this endeavor as well.

Update – Teacher Housing Initiative, Bertie County Vice Chairman Ronald Wesson

Vice Chairman Wesson shared a brief update with both boards on the teacher housing initiative. Mr. Wesson reported that State Employees Credit Union had recently made contact with him about the resubmission of a needed document, but that everything else was in order and on track. There were no other further updates.

ADJOURNED

Chair Bazemore **ADJOURNED** the meeting at 5:10PM.

Ernestine Bazemore, Chair

Sarah S. Tinkham, Clerk to the Board