

Regular Meeting – June 20, 2023

The Graham County Board of Commissioners met Tuesday, June 20, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. for their regular board meeting in the Graham County Community Building located at 196 Knight Street Robbinsville, NC. All board was present. Also present Stacy Carpenter, Finance Director and Clerk/Interim County Manager Kim Crisp.

1. Chairman Nelms called the meeting to order.
2. Chairman Nelms asks Commissioner Cody to give the Invocation.
3. Chairman Nelms asks Commissioner Williams to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Chairman Nelms asks for approval of the agenda. Commissioner Eller made the motion to approve. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
5. Chairman Nelms asks for approval of the May 16, 2023 Workshop and Regular Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Williams made the motion as stated. Commissioner Eller seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
6. Chairman Nelms asks for a motion to close the regular meeting and open the public hearing for the 2023-2024 Budget. Commissioner Eller made the motion as stated. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
7. Chairman Nelms asks Stacy Carpenter, Finance Director to present the proposed budget ordinance. Director Carpenter stated in accordance with NC General Statute 159-11, the Graham County Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budget is respectfully submitted for review. Director Carpenter stated that the budget is balanced in accordance with the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act with total revenue and expenditures for \$23,440,758.00. Director Carpenter stated that this budget is passed on a departmental level and a line item budget is available in the Finance or County Manager's office for review. Director Carpenter stated that this line-item budget is utilized for analytical purposes and internal management use. Director Carpenter stated that an Ad Valorem Tax Rate of \$0.59 per \$100.00 at full valuation is hereby established as the official tax for the County of Graham for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024. Director Carpenter stated that the rate is based on the total valuation of \$1,610,366,711.00 at 98% collection rate. Director Carpenter stated that the revenue neutral rate is \$0.4570 per \$100 at full valuation at the last revaluation. The full \$0.59 per \$100 tax rate will be used to fund general fund appropriations. Director Carpenter stated that the Ordinance and Budget Document shall be the basis of the financial plan for Graham County Government during the fiscal year 2023-2024. Director Carpenter stated that the Budget Officer shall administer the budget and ensure that operating officials are provided guidance and sufficient details to implement their appropriate part of the budget. Director Carpenter stated that the accounting record shall establish records which are in agreement with the budget, this ordinance, and the appropriate statutes of the State of North Carolina and this budget will effect on a departmental level in accordance with NCGS 159. Director Carpenter stated that the total county funds are as listed below for the total operating budget:

a. Total County General Fund	\$22,431,4998.00
b. Special Revenue Funds	
i. 911 Fund	\$102,500.00
ii. Revaluation Fund	\$200,000.00
iii. National Opioid Settlement Fund	\$224,260.00
iv. Fines and Forfeitures Fund	\$20,000.00
v. Register of Deeds Fund	\$12,500.00
vi. Representative Payee Funds	\$450,000.00
Total Special Revenue Funds	\$1,009,260.00
Total Operating Budget 2023-2024	\$23,440,758.00
8. Chairman Nelms asks for public comment or questions from the board. No questions or comments.
9. Chairman Nelms asks for a motion to close the public hearing and reopen the regular meeting. Commissioner Orr made the motion as stated. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
10. Chairman Nelms asks for discussion or adoption of the 2023-2024 Budget Ordinance as presented by Finance Director Stacy Carpenter. Commissioner Orr made the motion to adopt the ordinance as stated. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
11. Chairman Nelms asks for approval of the FY 2023-2024 County Pay Plan as presented by Interim Manager Kim Crisp. Commissioner Cody made the motion to approve as stated. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
12. Chairman Nelms asks for public comment. No public comment.

13. Chairman Nelms asks for a motion to approve the Order of Collection for FY 2023-2024. Commissioner Williams made the motion as stated. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
14. Chairman Nelms asks for a motion to reappoint Brandy Cook as the Tax Assessor. Commissioner Orr made the motion to reappoint Brandy Cook as the Tax Assessor for a (4) year term. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
15. Chairman Nelms asks for a motion to reappoint Heather Webster as the Deputy Tax Assessor. Commissioner Williams made the motion to reappoint for a (4) year term. Commissioner Eller seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
16. Chairman Nelms asks for a motion to reappoint Dequina Cable as the Deputy Tax Collector. Commissioner Orr made the motion to reappoint for a (4) year term. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
17. Chairman Nelms asks for a motion to replace Dale Wiggins on the Four-Square Board. The board agreed to table until the next meeting. Commissioner Cody made the motion to table until the July meeting. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
18. Chairman Nelms asks for approval of the poll for payment to WNC Contracting for \$16,882.40. Commissioner Eller made the motion to approve the poll as stated. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
19. Chairman Nelms asks for discussion of a trailer for recycling at Sanitation. This discussion was tabled for further review.
20. Chairman Nelms asks for a motion to surplus an Ambulance VIN#66970 with a minimum bid of \$3,000.00. Commissioner Eller made the motion to surplus the ambulance as stated. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
21. Chairman Nelms asks about Summer Nights. Manager Crisp stated that Graham County will supply food for the Summer Nights Program on August 1st and the board is welcome to attend.
22. Chairman Nelms asks for approval of the following Road Names that were submitted by the Road Naming Board. Those names are Cato Ridge; Norwood Lane; Bobo Trace; Yellow Creek Lodge; Walnut Cove Falls Road; Hickory Gap; Axe Ridge; Old Sawmill Ridge; Lower Azalea Drive; Stargazer Trail; Sunseeker Pass and Humble Drive. Commissioner Cody made the motion to approve the names as stated. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
23. Chairman Nelms stated that Harold Phillips had requested that our custodial staff clean the Veteran Building a couple of times a month. Commissioner Williams made the motion to allow for the cleaning. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
24. Chairman Nelms asks for approval to pay for the Sheriff Department Equipment (googles, etc.) under LATCF Funds in the amount of \$6,535.00. Director Carpenter stated that this was previously approved she just needs permission to cut the check. Commissioner Orr made the motion to approve. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
25. Chairman Nelms asks for a motion to go into closed session under G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1)(3)(5)(6) for privileged or confidential information, attorney-client privilege, personnel, and contracts. Commissioner Eller made the motion as stated. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
26. Chairman Nelms asks for a motion to go into open session. Commissioner Williams made the motion to go into open session as stated. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
27. Chairman Nelms stated that the board gave a directive to Manager Crisp to purchase the trailer from Josh Stevens for recycling use in the amount of \$1,000.00.
28. Chairman Nelms asks for a motion to continue this meeting to June 23, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. in the high school auditorium to discuss the football stadium. Commissioner Williams made the motion to continue. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

Signature Page for June 20, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes

Jacob Nelms, Chairman

Natasha Williams, Vice-Chair

Lynn Cody, Member

Keith Eller, Member

Connie Orr, Member

ATTEST:

Kim Crisp, Clerk to the Board