

CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEMBERS PRESENT

August 17, 2023
OTHERS PRESENT

Ethel Gwynn
Finch Holt
Jeremiah Jefferies
Frank Rose

Tony Smith, County Manager
Melissa Williamson, Deputy County Manager
Carla Smith, Clerk to the Board

The Board of Commissioners for the County of Caswell, North Carolina, met in a joint meeting with the Town of Milton and Town of Yanceyville on Thursday, August 17, 2023 at 6:00 pm at Thomas Day Museum.

Members present from the Milton Commissioners: Valerie Sottile, Cathia Stewart, Patricia Williams, Mayor, and Shirley Wilson, Town Clerk. Absent: Sherry Gerrard and John Wallace, Mayor Pro-Tem,

Members present from the Yanceyville Town Council: Mayor Alvin Foster, Kamara Barnette, Yanceyville Town Manager, Odessa Gwynn, and Miranda Harrelson, Deputy Clerk, and Kathy Hinton. Absent: Brian Massey and Keith Tatum.

WELCOME:

Mayor Williams called the meeting to order, and welcomed all to the Thomas Day House. Shirley Wilson offered a blessing before the meal. The Board and Town Councils then had dinner.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Interim County Manager Tony Smith called the Caswell County Board of Commissioners meeting to order.

Mayor Pro-Tem Wallace called the Milton Town Council meeting to order.

Mayor Foster called the Yanceyville Town Council meeting to order.

GENERAL UPDATES FROM LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Interim County Manager Smith gave the following updates:

- Tony Smith, Interim County Manager and Economic Developer
- New Attorney is Russell Johnston

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- Congresswoman Valerie Foushee came to Yanceyville on Wednesday, August 16, 2023. She serves on the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. Caswell County is a small part of the 4th District, which she covers.
- Golden Leaf Grant application completed for the CEAD program and Cooperative Extension.
- Broadband Update: Justin Delancey, Charter/Spectrum representative gave an update.
 - RDOF build started 4200 households and evenly distributed through the county. Federal Subsidy grant that helps rural area. RDOF covers a large chunk of the county. They are building off that grant and covering houses that are in the area. They are going after all houses in that area that are underserved. 90% complete. 18 months working so far. Plan to have houses complete in the next few months. Done more passings in NC.
 - GREAT grant: awaiting the contract from the state and hope to start on that quickly.
 - Zitel, out of Moneta, VA. won the GREAT grant and Spectrum was awarded a 2nd phase of the GREAT Grant also.
 - Phone service will not work if you connect phone with Spectrum now. This is a pitfall the company faces.
 - CAB program is \$400 million to service underserved areas not claimed by other providers.

TOWN OF YANCEYVILLE

Mayor Foster then gave the following updates:

- Dillard project is progressing. They had a hang up with bond attorneys. It is a \$15-18 million project. This property will go back on the tax books to create a significant amount of tax. It will be 53 apartments and cosmetology services in the building. These services will be open to the public. The apartments will be for people 55 and up.
- Eckerd facility progressing quickly. Hoping to be in there in the next month.
- First Friday: Cruise in was going good, but rain slowed it down. Music starts at 7 pm, and they have food vendors
- Sept. 11th at 11 am will be the dedication for the 9-11 Memorial. Senator Berger will be here, D.H Griffin will be there also. DH Griffin dedicated the steel for the memorial. The memorial will be held in the front yard of the Historical Association.

TOWN OF MILTON

Mayor Williams gave the following updates:

- Blue Ridge Rock Festival is Sept 7-11. Security will be as last year. There was no disturbance last year, and shuttles will run from fairgrounds which limited traffic through Milton.

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- Hired an Engineering Firm to create a PME and AMP to be completed by Oct. 2023. Then Milton will be able to apply for grants for water infrastructure.
- Voted to join the Eastern Piedmont Home Consortium within Caswell County to build affordable housing.
- Next election will bring a new mayor and 3 new commissioners.

SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be hosted by the Board of Commissioners on Thursday November 16, 2023 at 6:00 pm at Co-Square.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 6:50 pm Interim County Manager Smith adjourned the Board of Commissioners meeting.

Mayor Foster Adjourned the Town of Yanceyville's meeting.

Mayor Williams adjourned the Town of Milton's meeting.

Carla R. Smith
Clerk to the Board

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