REGULAR METING

March 3, 2025 6:55 p.m.

The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners met in a regular meeting on Monday, March 3, 2025, at 6:55 p.m. in the Perquimans County Library located at 514 S. Church Street, Hertford, NC 27944.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Wallace E. Nelson, Chairman Charles Woodard, Vice Chairman

Timothy J. Corprew Joseph W. Hoffler Kathryn M. Treiber James W. Ward

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Hackney High, County Attorney Brandon Shoaf, Assistant County Manager

Frank Heath, County Manager Mary P. Hunnicutt, Clerk to the Board

Chairman Nelson called the meeting to order. Commissioner Treiber gave the invocation, and the Chairman led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Nelson welcomed everyone to the meeting and stated that the first item of business was to hold a Public Hearing to consider County's financing for the balance needed to complete the Intermediate School project.

PUBLIC HEARING - INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL FINANCING

Chairman Nelson opened the Public Hearing stating that the purpose of the public hearing was to consider and to receive public comments on the County's financing for the balance needed to complete the Intermediate School project. There were fourteen (14) people present. Chairman Nelson recognized Frank Heath, County Manager, who provided the overview of the proposal. After his comments, Chairman Nelson thanked him for his comments. Mr. Nelson asked if anyone had signed up for public comments. There being none, Chairman Nelson closed the public hearing at 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA

Chairman Nelson stated that the updated Agenda was at their seats and asked if there were any additions or corrections to the amended Agenda. There being none, Mr. Nelson asked for a motion to approve the Agenda as presented. Charles Woodard made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Kathryn M. Treiber and unanimously approved by the Board.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Nelson asked if there were any items that the Board wished to remove from the Consent Agenda to discuss. There being none, Kathyrn M. Treiber made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Charles Woodard and unanimously approved by the Board.

1. **Approval of Minutes:** The Minutes from February 3, 2025 Regular Meeting & February 17, 2025 Special Called Meeting & Regular Work Session were approved.

--(Year 2014) --- \$144.86

2. Tax Refund / Release Approvals:

<u>Tax Releases (Perquimans County):</u> Toon, William N. -----

Divorce settlement gave mobile home and utility trailer to Renee Toon and the personal property was billed and paid for under her name and account number. Account No. 116890. Toon, William N. ---(Year 2015) --- \$131.47 Divorce settlement gave mobile home and utility trailer to Renee Toon and the personal property was billed and paid for under her name and account number. Account No. 116890.. --(Year 2016) --- \$122.25 Divorce settlement gave mobile home and utility trailer to Renee Toon and the personal property was billed and paid for under her name and account number. Account No. 116890... -(Year 2017) ---- \$114.74 Divorce settlement gave mobile home and utility trailer to Renee Toon and the personal property was billed and paid for under her name and account number. Account No. 116890.. Toon, William N. ---(Year 2018) ---- \$100.19 Divorce settlement gave mobile home and utility trailer to Renee Toon and the personal property was billed and paid for under her name and account number. Account No. 116890.. Richards, Constance Helen----(Year 2021) ----- \$122.66 Boat sold to Daneka Marina in 2020. Account No. 265084. Richards, Constance Helen----(Year 2022) ----- \$102.00 Boat sold to Daneka Marina in 2020. Account No. 265084. Richards, Constance Helen----(Year 2023) ----- \$123.59 Boat sold to Daneka Marina in 2020. Account No. 265084. Boynton, Mattie----- \$124.64 This land belonged to a neighboring parcel. Account No. 301990.

Tax Refunds (Perquimans County):

3. **Personnel Matters:** The following personnel matters were approved by the Board:

Employee Name	Employee Job Title	Action Required	Grade/ Step	New Salary	Effective Date
Rickey B. Davenport	Part-Time Bailiff	Appointment	n/g	\$17.78/hr.	03/01/2025
Nikia Davenport	Social Worker II working against Social Worker III	Reclassification	67/4	\$46,662	03/01/2025
Tracee Baxton	Income Maintenance Caseworker II – Food & Nutrition Services	Reclassification	63/1	\$36,354	03/01/2025
Andrew Jones	Part-Time/Fill-In EMT	Resignation			02/01/2025
Makayla Jones	Part-Time/Fill-In Telecommunicator I	Resignation			02/01/2025
Kayla Trader	Part-Time/Fill-In Paramedic	Resignation			02/24/2025
Sarah Ownley	Income Maintenance Caseworker II	Resignation			02/21/2025
Rebecca Corprew	Administrative Officer I	Resignation			03/31/2025

4. Step/Merit Increases:

Department Name	Employee Name	Classification	Grade/ Step	New Salary	Effective Date
Planning	Rhonda Repanshek	Planner	78/5	\$77,570	03/01/2025

Department Name	Employee Name	Classification	Grade/ Step	New Salary	Effective Date
Telecommunications	Alyssa Ratcliff	Full-Time Telecommunicator I	64/2	\$18.72/hr. / (\$38,939)	03/01/2025
Sheriff's Office	DeAngelo Freemonweldy	Certified Deputy	68/3	\$47,569	03/01/2025
Sheriff's Office	Shelton White	Sheriff	79/17	\$108,630	02/01/2025

5. Board Appointments: The following board appointment was approved by the Board:

Name	Board/Committee	Action Taken	Term	Effective Date
Roach, Thomas	Agricultural Advisory Board – Parksville	Reappointment	3 years	02/01/2025
Baker, Julian	Agricultural Advisory Board – Belvidere	Reappointment	3 years	02/01/2025
Madre, Donald	Agricultural Advisory Board - Bethel	Reappointment	3 years	02/01/2025

6. Budget Amendment Nos. 22-28: The following budget amendments were approved by the Board:

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 22 GENERAL FUND

		AMOUNT	
CODE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION OF CODE	INCREASE	DECREASE
10-399-000	Fund Balance Appropriated	43,202	
10-610-204	DSS - Adoption Promotion Fund	10,778	
10-610-205	DSS - CCU/MA Expansion Funds	32,424	
EXPLANATION: To amend the FV 24/25 Budget to include roll forward funds received FV 23/24 as instructed by the			

EXPLANATION: To amend the FY 24/25 Budget to include roll forward funds received FY 23/24 as instructed by the state.

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 23 GENERAL FUND

		AMOUNT	
CODE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION OF CODE	INCREASE	DECREASE
10-348-000	DSS - State Funds	20,000	=
10-610-150	DSS - Maintenance/Repair Buildings	20,000	
EXPLANATION: To amend the FY 24/25 Budget to cover travel expenses.			

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 24 GENERAL FUND

		AMOUNT	
CODE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION OF CODE	INCREASE	DECREASE
10-335-000	Miscellaneous Revenue	1,500	
10-360-001	EMS Donations	915	
10-592-311	EMS Donations	2,415	
EXPLANATION: To amend the FY 24/25 Budget to include EMS Donations received for FY 24/25 expenses.			

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 25 GENERAL FUND

		AMOUNT	
CODE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION OF CODE	INCREASE	DECREASE
10-430-740	BOE - Capital Outlay		500
10-430-140	BOE - Travel/Training	500	
EXPLANATION: To amend the FY 24/25 Budget to cover travel expenses.			

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 26 EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYSTEM FUND

	AMOUNT		OUNT
CODE NUMBER	R DESCRIPTION OF CODE	INCREASE	DECREASE
78-350-001	PSAP - Emergency 911 Fees	72,299	
78-500-140	PSAP - Telephone/Postage	10,000	
78-500-331	PSAP - Computer Software Maintenance	10,000	
78-500-161	PSAP - Hardware Maintenance	52,299	
EXPLANATION:	To amend the FY 24/25 Budget to include the total	fund balance after	finalizing FY 24

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 27 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND

		AMOUNT	
CODE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION OF CODE	INCREASE	DECREASE
40-397-000	Economic Development - Fund Balance Appropriated		10,000
40-399-000	Economic Development - Transfer from General Fund	10,000	
EXPLANATION: To amend the FY 24/25 Budget to include the transfer from general fund.			

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 28 GENERAL FUND

		AMOUNT	
CODE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION OF CODE	INCREASE	DECREASE
10-348-027	America 250	14,000	
10-690-985	America 250	14,000	
EXPLANATION: To amend the FY 24/25 Budget to an America 250 Grant (10,000) and local donations) to be used			

for an America 250 Celebration Project (mural).

7. Miscellaneous Documents: The following miscellaneous documents were approved by the Board:

Letter of Support – NC SB 20 – Prohibiting Mass Balloon Releases: The Board approved the following letter of support for NC Senate Bill 20 – Prohibiting Mass Balloon Releases.

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Bobby Hanig NC Senate

revenue/expenditure report.

Email - Bobby. Hanig@ncleg.gov

Re: NC SB 20 – Releasing of Helium Balloons

Dear Senator Hanig:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners. At their February 17, 2025 Special Called Meeting/Work Session, it was the consensus of the Board to send this letter of support for NC Senate Bill 20: Prohibiting Certain Mass Balloon Releases."

The Board of Commissioners discussed the contents and merits of the proposed bill and felt the need to support the Bill. The Board feels that this bill will benefit the State of North Carolina and its inhabitants.

The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners supports the North Carolina General Assembly's enactment of Senate Bill 20. Please let me know if our Board can be of any assistance. Thank you for representing Perquimans County.

Sincerely yours,

Wallace E. Nelson, Chairman

WEN/mh

cc: Senator Phil Berger – Phil.Berger@ncleg.gov Senator Bill Rabon – Bill.Rabon@ncleg.gov Debbie Swick, Founder – debswick@hotmail.com

Ban Balloon Releases NC

b. Ressolution Awarding Lacy "Max" Robeson, III His Badge & Service Sidearm: The Board approved the following Resolution awarding Lacy "Max" Robeson, III his Badge & Service Sidearm after his retirement on March 1, 2025.

A RESOLUTION OF THE PERQUIMANS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, HERTFORD, NORTH CAROLINA AWARDING TO RETIRING LACY "MAX" ROBESON, III, INVESTIGATOR II, HIS BADGE AND SERVICE SIDEARM

WHEREAS, G.S. 20-187.2 provides that retiring members of county law enforcement agencies may receive, at the time of their retirement, the badge worn or carried by them during their service with the county; and

WHEREAS, G.S. 20-187-2 further provides that the governing body of the county law enforcement agency may, in its discretion, award to a retiring member the service sidearm of such retiring member; and

WHEREAS, Lacy "Max" Robeson, III has served as a member of the Perquimans County Sheriff's Department for a period of five years and is retiring from the Perquimans County Sheriff's Department on March 1, 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Perquimans County Board of Commissioners, Hertford, North Carolina as follows:

1. The Chairman or County Manager is hereby authorized in accordance with the provisions of G.S. 20-187-2 to transfer to Lacy "Max" Robeson, III the badge worn by him during his service the Perquimans County Sherriff's Department and his service sidearm, a Glock 19 9MM bearing the serial number BEHH605.

This Resolution adopted this 3rd day of March, 2025.

	Wallace E. Nelson, Chairman
	Perquimans County Board of Commissioners
ATTEST:	
	SEAL
Mary P. Hunnicutt, Clerk to the Board	

RECOGNITION OF RETIREES, YEARS OF SERVICE, & INTROUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

- A. **Recognition of Retirees**: County Manager Heath reported Gwen Hudson (25 years with Social Services) and Lacy "Max" Robeson, III (five years with Sheriff's Office) was presented with a plaque honoring their retirement. Because of technical difficulties, the pictures of their presentations will have to be presented at next month's meeting.
- B. Recognition of Employees' Years of Service with the County: Beginning June 1, 2022, the Board will recognize the employees who have been working with the County for 5, 10, 15, 20, etc. years. This month, the Board recognized the following employees:

Employee Name	Department	Employee Job Title	No. of Years	Effective Date
Cody Chappell	EMS	Paramedic II	5	04/01/2024
Jonathan Nixon	Emergency Services	Director	10	12/01/2024

Mr. Chappell and Mr. Nixon were unable to attend the meeting tonight so Mr. Heath will allow present them with their certificate at their office.

C. Introduction of New Employees: The following new employees were introduced tonight to the Board:

Department Head	Employee Name	Employee Job Title	Effective Date
Howard Williams, Recreation Director	Martin Hood	Athletic Program Supervisor	12/16/2024
Jonathan Nixon, Emergency Services Director	Miranda Neiswander	Full-Time Paramedic I	02/01/2025
Jonathan Nixon, Emergency Services Director	Brandon Thorngren	Full-Time Paramedic I	02/01/2025
Angela Jordan, Social Services Director	Shanae Christian	Social Worker IA&T	01/01/2025

After the supervisors and employees made their comments, the Board welcomed them to Perquimans County.

COMMISSIONER'S CONCERNS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Charles Woodard: Mr. Woodard was asked to provide an update on the Perquimans County Museum. Our new curator of the Museum, Sid Eley, provided the following report for February, 2025:

Visitors: 14	Hours Opened: 14 days / closed 2 1/3 days due to snow			
Sales:\$45.00	Staff: Sid Eley & Glen White			
Donations: \$75.00				
Any additional information:				
Added two yearbooks				
Mannequin with World War II Uniform				
Received 12 Jim "Catfish" Hunter T-shirts for resale – paid for from donations				
Museum Needs:				
Computer & Printer				
MORE ROOM (this will be taken up during the budget process with Tourism Board)				

<u>UPDATES FROM COUNTY MANAGER</u>

County Manager Heath presented the following updates:

• <u>Assistant County Manager</u>: County Manager Heath introduced Brandon Shoaf, Assistant County Manager. The Board welcomed him. Mr. Shoaf thanked the Board and looks forward to working with them.

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- Monthly School Construction Meeting: County Manager Heath said that he attended the monthly school meeting on February 27, 2025. Everything looks like it is on schedule.
- <u>Budget Work Session List</u>: County Manager Heath presented the following proposed Budget Work Session Schedule and Board Retreat:

Proposed Budget Work Sessions:

Work Discussed	Date	Time/Place		
Joint Meeting with Board of Education	April 2, 2025	6:30 p.m. / Administration Building		
Department Head Presentations	April 23, 2025	5:00 – 8:00 p.m. / EMS Auditorium		
Department Head Presentations	April 24, 2025	5:00 – 7:30 p.m. / EMS Auditorium		
DSS & Board of Education Presentations	May 1, 2025	7:00 p.m. / EMS Auditorium		
Budget Work Session	May 29, 2025	6:30 p.m. / EMS Auditorium		
FY 2025-2026 Budget Presentation	June 2, 2025	7:00 p.m. / Library Meeting Room		
FY 2025-2026 Budget Public Hearing	June 16, 2025	7:00 p.m. / Library Meeting Room		

• Board Retreat Proposed Schedule:

Board Retreat is tentative scheduled for March 27, 2025 at 3:30 p.m. in the EMS Conference Room.

Mr. Heath asked the Board to check their calendars and let him know if they have any conflicts with these dates and times

BOARD VACANCIES

Chairman Nelson explained that there have been no applications received. He again asked the Board and the public if they knew anyone that might be interested in serving on one of these committees, to let Mary Hunnicutt, Clerk to the Board, know so that she can forward them an application to complete and return. These vacancies are for the Community Advisory Committee and the Senior Tar Heel Legislature Delegate and Alternate.

COUNTY FINANCING FOR INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Chairman Nelson stated that a public hearing was held earlier in the meeting and asked County Manager Heath to make his recommendation. He stated that the staff recommends the approval of the Resolution which authorizes the negotiation of an installment financing contract, providing for certain other related matters thereto and declaring the intent of the County to reimburse itself for Capital Expenditures from proceeds. The installment financing contract will be for an amount not to exceed \$11,000,000 and for us to be able to work with First Tryon and to apply to Local Government Commission (LGC). Chairman Nelson asked if there were any questions or comments. There being none, Charles Woodard made a motion to approve the Resolution as requested along with the stipulations listed above. The motion was seconded by James W. Ward and was unanimously approved. The Resolution is as follows:

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
COUNTY OF PERQUIMANS, NORTH CAROLINA, AUTHORIZING THE NEGOTIATION OF AN INSTALLMENT FINANCING
CONTRACT, PROVIDING FOR CERTAIN OTHER RELATED MATTERS THERETO AND DECLARING THE INTENT OF THE
COUNTY TO REIMBURSE ITSELF FOR CAPITAL EXPENDITURES FROM PROCEEDS
OF THE INSTALLMENT FINANCING CONTRACT

WHEREAS, the County of Perquimans, North Carolina (the "County") is a validly existing political subdivision of the State of North Carolina, existing under and by virtue of the Constitution, statutes and laws of the State of North Carolina (the "State");

WHEREAS, the County has the power, pursuant to the General Statutes of North Carolina to (1) enter into installment contracts in order to purchase, or finance or refinance the purchase of, real or personal property and to finance or refinance the construction or repair of fixtures or improvements on real property and (2) create a security interest in some or all of the property financed or refinanced to secure repayment of the purchase price;

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the County (the "Board of Commissioners") hereby determines that it is in the best interest of the County to enter into (1) an installment financing contract (the "Contract") with a financial institution to be determined (the "Bank") in order to pay the capital costs of constructing, equipping and furnishing a new Intermediate School in the County (the "Project") and (2) a deed of trust, security agreement and fixture filing (the "Deed of Trust") related to the County's fee simple interest in the real property where the Project will be located (the "Mortgaged Property") that will provide security for the County's obligations under the Contract;

WHEREAS, the County staff has retained First Tryon Advisors, as financial advisor, in connection with the proposed installment financing;

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners hereby determines that the Project is in best interest of the County and its citizens and to the general health and welfare of its citizens, including but not limited to its children; that the Project will provide an essential use and will permit the County to carry out public functions that it is authorized by law to perform; and that entering into the Contract and Deed of Trust is necessary and expedient for the County by virtue of the findings presented herein;

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners hereby determines that the estimated cost of financing the Project is an amount not to exceed \$11,000,000.00 and that such cost of the Project exceeds the amount that can be prudently raised from currently available appropriations, unappropriated fund balances and non-voted bonds that could be issued by the County in the current fiscal year pursuant to Article V, Section 4 of the Constitution of the State;

WHEREAS, although the cost of financing the Project pursuant to the Contract and the Deed of Trust is expected to exceed the cost of financing the Project pursuant to a bond financing for the same undertaking, the County hereby determines that the cost of financing the Project pursuant to the Contract and the Deed of Trust and the obligations of the County thereunder are preferable to a general obligation bond financing or revenue bond financing for several reasons, including but not limited to the following: (1) the cost of a special election necessary to approve a general obligation bond financing, as required by the laws of the State, would result in the expenditure of significant funds; (2) the time required for a general obligation bond election would cause an unnecessary delay which would thereby decrease the financial benefits financing the Project; and (3) insufficient revenues are produced by the Project so as to permit a revenue bond financing;

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners hereby determines that the estimated cost of financing the Project pursuant to the Contract and the Deed of Trust allows the County to finance the Project at a favorable interest rate currently available in the financial marketplace and on terms advantageous to the County and reasonably compares with an estimate of similar costs under a bond financing for the same undertaking as a result of the findings delineated in the above preambles;

WHEREAS, the County does not anticipate a future property tax increase to pay installment payments falling due under the Contract but an increase in taxes, if any, necessary to meet the sums to fall due under the Contract will not be excessive;

WHEREAS, no deficiency judgment may be rendered against the County in any action for its breach of the Contract, and the taxing power of the County is not and may not be pledged in any way directly or indirectly or contingently to secure any money due under the Contract;

WHEREAS, the County is not in default under any of its debt service obligations;

WHEREAS, the County's budget process and Annual Budget Ordinance are in compliance with the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act, and external auditors have determined that the County has conformed with generally accepted accounting principles as applied to governmental units in preparing its Annual Budget Ordinance;

4094 March 17, 2025 (continued)

WHEREAS, past audit reports of the County indicate that its debt management and contract obligation payment policies have been carried out in strict compliance with the law, and the County has not been censured by the North Carolina Local Government Commission (the "LGC"), external auditors or any other regulatory agencies in connection with such debt management and contract obligation payment policies;

WHEREAS, the County desires to proceed with the Project and will incur and pay certain expenditures in connection with the Project prior to the date of delivery and execution of the Contract (the "Original Expenditures"), such Original Expenditures to be paid for originally from a source other than the proceeds of the Contract, and the County intends, and reasonably expects, to be reimbursed for such Original Expenditures from a portion of the proceeds of the Contract;

WHEREAS, a public hearing on the Contract, after publication of a notice with respect to such public hearing, will be held and approval of the LGC with respect to entering the Contract must be received; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF PERQUIMANS, NORTH CAROLINA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Authorization to Negotiate the Contract and the Deed of Trust. The County Manager and the Finance Director (the "Authorized Officers"), individually and collectively, with advice from the County Attorney, are hereby authorized and directed to solicit proposals from financial institutions to finance the Project and to proceed and negotiate on behalf of the County (1) the financing of the Project for a principal amount not to exceed \$11,000,000.00 under the Contract to be entered into with the Bank in accordance with the provisions of Section 160A-20 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, as amended, and (2) the provision of a security interest under the Deed of Trust in all or such portion of the County's fee simple interest in the Mortgaged Property, together with all improvements and fixtures located thereon, as may be required by the Bank providing the funds to the County under the Contract to secure the County's obligations thereunder.

Section 2. *Application to LGC*. The Finance Director, or his designee, is hereby directed to file with the LGC an application for its approval of the Contract and all relevant transactions contemplated thereby on a form prescribed by the LGC and to state in such application such facts and to attach thereto such exhibits regarding the County and its financial condition as may be required by the LGC.

Section 3. *Approval of the Financing Team.* First Tryon Advisors has been retained to serve as financial advisor. The Authorized Officers, with advice from the County Attorney, are hereby authorized to retain the assistance of other professionals as they deem necessary and desirable to carry out the intention of this Resolution.

Section 4. *Official Declaration of Intent for Reimbursement.* The County presently intends, and reasonably expects, to reimburse itself for Original Expenditures not to exceed \$11,000,000.00 on or after the date occurring 60 days prior to the date of adoption of this Resolution from a portion of the proceeds of the Contract. The County adopts this Resolution as a declaration of official intent under Section 1.150-2 of the Treasury Regulations promulgated under Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, to evidence the County's intent to reimburse itself for the Original Expenditures from proceeds of the Contract. The Finance Director, or his designee, is hereby authorized, directed and designated to act on behalf of the County in determining and itemizing all of the Original Expenditures incurred and paid by the County in connection with the Project during the period commencing on the date occurring 60 days prior to the date of adoption of this Resolution and ending on the date of execution and delivery of the Contract.

Section 5. *Ratification*. All actions of the County and its officials, whether previously or hereafter taken in effectuating the proposed financing as described herein, are hereby ratified, authorized and approved.

Section 6. <i>Effective Date.</i> This Resolution	is effective on the d	ate of its adoption.
Adopted this the day of	, 2025.	
		Wallace Nelson, Chair
		Attest:
		Mary Hunnicutt, Clerk to the Board

County Manager Heath wanted to mention one more item. He explained that he had provided the Board with a packet from First Tryon Advisors. On February 6, 2025, First Tryon, on behalf of the County, distributed a request for proposals to local, regional, and national banks for installment financing for the \$11,000,00 for a 20-year term. On February 27, 2025, they received information that was summarized on the table in the packet. At the beginning of this process, we estimated that the rate would be around 5%. They received a low bid bank from Webster Bank, which is a northeast financial institution. They had made bids on other projects that First Tryon had been involved in. Based on their recommendation, they are a viable and reliable financial entity. Their quoted rate was 4.38% with upfront fees of \$8,500. There is a 2% prepayment penalty for any payment date between 2030 and 2032 and 1% prepayment penalty for any payment date between 2032 and 2034 and then none after 2034. Based on the analysis of First Tryon, they recommend the County to award the bid to Webster Bank at 4.38%. However, he is not asking that the Board approve that tonight. He was just providing that for information purposes. The County needs to apply to LGC. Also included in the packet was a summary of the estimated County's debt service amounts. The first payment for the construction loan in 2026 will be around \$534,700 and will increase in time to \$621,000. He also reported that several of our current debt service payments will end during this time. Tonight, we held the public hearing, adopted the Resolution, and now we will submit our application to LGC with an approximate approval date of April 1, 2025. At our April 7, 2025 meeting, we will adopt the approving Resolution and the loan will close on April 10, 2025.

FY 2024-2025 AUDIT CONTRACT & ENGAGEMENT LETTER

Chairman Nelson recognized Tracy Mathews, Finance Officer, who presented FY 2024-2025 Audit Contract and Engagement Letter for Board consideration. The contract is with Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams & Co., P.A. The contract is to complete the audit for the County and for Tourism Development Authority (TDA). The cost for the audit is not to exceed \$62,000. The County staff recommends approval of this contract. On motion made by Timothy J. Corprew, seconded by James W. Ward, the Board unanimously approved the FY 2024-2025 audit contract with Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams & Co., P.A. and the Engagement Letter as presented at a cost not to exceed \$62,000.

SALE OF SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

Chairman Nelson recognized County Manager Heath who explained that the County adopted a resolution proclaiming several items of equipment from the Center of Active Living as surplus and to proceed to sell them on GovDeals. The bid period for the following surplus item with GovDeals closed on March 3, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. The Board will need to consider the sale of the following item that has been listed with GovDeals:

		DATE	START	SOLD
BUYER	ITEM	SURPLUSED	BID	AMOUNT
Stacey Williams	Sonic Electric Wheelchair with Manual, Charger & Key	2/3/2025	\$10.00	\$10.00

In addition, the following vehicle has been removed from the surplus list on February 3, 2025 and transferred to the Maintenance Department.

Model Year		<u>Make</u>	<u>Model</u>	<u>VIN</u>	<u>Department</u>	
	2014	Ford	F150 Truck	1FTMF1CM6EKE77774	Sheriff's Office	

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On motion made by Charles Woodard, seconded by Timothy J. Corprew, the Board unanimously authorized the County Manager Heath to proceed with the sale of the wheelchair and to transfer the 2014 Ford F150 Truck, VIN #7774, to the Maintenance Department.

PERSONNEL MATTER - RESIGNATION - INCOME MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR II

Chairman Nelson said that we received the following personnel matter after the agenda packets were distributed:

Employee	Employee	Action	Grade/	New	Effective
Name	Job Title	Required	Step	Salary	Date
Diane Murray	Income Maintenance Supervisor II	Resignation			

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments made.

CLOSED SESSION: TO DISCUSS AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MATTER AND CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

Chairman Nelson stated that, pursuant to NC General Statute 143-318.11(4), the Board went into Closed Session to discuss an economic development matter. Mary Hunnicutt, Clerk to the Board, explained that she did not have the Closed Session Minutes to approve so she asked the Chairman to remove them from purpose of closed session. On motion made by James W. Ward, seconded by Timothy J. Corprew, to go into the Closed Session. The motion was unanimously voted to go into Closed Session.

The Closed Session was adjourned, and the Regular Meeting reconvened on motion made by Timothy J. Corprew, seconded by Joseph W. Hoffler, and unanimously approved by the Board.

No action was required from the Closed Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Nelson asked if there were any further comments or business to discuss. There being none, the Regular Meeting was adjourned around 7:45 p.m. on motion made by Timothy J. Corprew, seconded by Joseph W. Hoffler and unanimously approved by the Board.

	Wallace E. Nelson, Chairman
Clerk to the Board	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *