

MINUTES OF MECKLENBURG COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

NORTH CAROLINA MECKLENBURG COUNTY

The Board of Commissioners of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, met in an Informal Special Session in the Meeting Chamber Conference Room CH-14 of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center at 5:00 p.m. and in Formal Special Session in the Meeting Chamber of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 19, 2011.

ATTENDANCE

Present: Chairman Jennifer Roberts and Commissioners Karen Bentley, Dumont Clarke, Harold Cogdell, Jr. Neil Cooksey, George Dunlap, Bill James, Vilma Leake and Jim Pendergraph
County Manager Harry L. Jones, Sr.
Deputy Clerk to the Board Tonette F. Spears

Absent: None

-INFORMAL SESSION-

The Board's informal session consisted of dinner only.

Following dinner, the Board convened in the Meeting Chamber.

-FORMAL SESSION-

Vice-Chairman Pendergraph called the meeting to order.

Chairman Roberts was not present when the meeting was called to order.

Invocation was given by Commissioner Cooksey, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Vice-Chairman Pendergraph said the purpose of the meeting was to receive citizen input on the County Manager's FY11-12 Recommended Budget. Vice-Chairman Pendergraph outlined the rules and procedures for conducting the public hearing.

FY11-12 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

Motion was made by Commissioner Cogdell, seconded by Commissioner James and carried 8-0 with Commissioners Bentley, Clarke, Cogdell, Cooksey, Dunlap, James, Leake and Pendergraph voting yes, to open the public hearing to receive comments on the County Manager's FY11-12 Recommended Budget.

The following persons spoke and asked the Board to support funding for their respective organization and/or cause:

1. Nancy Hudson, Denise Howard and Dr. Greg Underwood on behalf of **Charlotte Community Health Clinic**;

Chairman Roberts entered the meeting and assumed chairmanship of the meeting.

2. Chef Ron Ahlert and Dee Taylor on behalf of **Community Culinary School of Charlotte**;
3. Bill McCoy, Maarten Pennink and Debora Sparks on behalf of **Council on Aging**;

4. Sue Goodman, Beverly Irby, Dr. Dawkins, Roger Garner and Renee Jones on behalf of **C.W. Williams Health Center**;

A copy of the C.W. Williams Health Center presentation is on file with the Clerk to the Board.

5. Molly Shaw, Mario Yates and Summer Barber on behalf of **Communities In Schools**;
6. Rick Phillips on behalf of **Charlotte-Mecklenburg Libraries**;

Chairman Roberts left the dais and was away until noted in the minutes. Vice-Chairman Pendergraph presided in her absence.

7. John Davis, Shanekque Allison and Dana Carpenter representing Friends of CharMeck Library on behalf of **Charlotte-Mecklenburg Libraries**;
8. Elise Staschio, Debbie Ribonstein and Doug Swain representing MeckFuture on behalf of **Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools**;
9. Pamela Grundy representing Shamrock Gardens PTA on behalf of **Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools**;
10. Erica Ellis-Stewart on behalf of **Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools**;
11. Lawrence Shaheen, Jr, spoke in opposition to the **County Manager's FY11-12 Recommended Budget**;
12. Susan Furtney and Melissa Lovett on behalf of **Physicians Reach Out and Low Cost Clinic**;
13. Katrina Ross on behalf of **Levine Senior Center**;

A copy of literature distributed by Levine Senior Center is on file with the Clerk to the Board.

14. Lloyd Scher on behalf of **Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools**;

Chairman Roberts returned to the dais and resumed chairmanship of the meeting.

15. Rona Karacaova on behalf of **Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools**;
16. Sara Gates on behalf of **Charlotte-Mecklenburg Libraries**;
17. Ann Marie Lloyd spoke in opposition to a **property tax increase**;
18. Charles Haughey representing League of Women Voters on behalf of **Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools**;
19. Rob Brisley on behalf of the **Park and Recreation Department**;
20. Kevin Strawn on behalf of **Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools**;
21. Stephanie Ward on behalf of **Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools**;
22. Mecklenburg County employees, Carol Hickey, Bobby Cobb, Camallous Reid, Sonia Smith, Dorothy Alexander, Jose Pena, Mandy Chong and Amy Michelone in support of the County Manager's recommended budget which includes **employee merit pay increases**;
23. Lisa Williamson on behalf of **Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools**;
24. Joni Trobich representing Mecklenburg PTA Council on behalf of **Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools**;

25. Bob Deaton asked questions about the 2011 property revaluation;
26. Jeff Sinn on behalf of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools;
27. Phil Kline on behalf of United Family Services;
28. Ann Marie Obrikat on behalf of Council on Aging;
29. Elaine Powell on behalf of the Park and Recreation Department;
30. William Sykes spoke in opposition to the 2011 property revaluation;
31. Kenneth Kneidel on behalf of the Park and Recreation Department;
32. Dennis Peterson spoke in opposition to the County Manager's FY 11-12 Recommended Budget;
33. Katie Iverson, on behalf of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools;
34. Lori Giang, Mark Stevens and Susan on behalf of MedAssist;
35. Jay Privette spoke in opposition to a tax increase;
36. Chris Moore spoke in opposition to a proposed quarter cent sales tax referendum;
37. Brett Loftis representing Council for Children's Rights spoke on behalf of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools;
38. Dr. Jessica Sacks on behalf of Bright Beginnings;
39. John Maye representing Save Our Schools Initiative on behalf of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools;
40. Kelly Stevens on behalf of Charlotte- Mecklenburg Schools;
41. Mary McCray on behalf of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools;
42. Pamela Hemphill and Marjorie Tate on behalf of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools and Bright Beginnings;
43. Ralphine Caldwell on behalf of The Housing Partnership;

A copy of The Housing Partnership presentation is on file with the Clerk to the Board.

44. Mara Browder spoke in opposition to a tax increase;
45. Patti Iannitti on behalf of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools;
46. Mike Love, spoke in opposition to a tax increase;
47. Randolph Frierson on behalf of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools;
48. Mecklenburg County employee, Colleen Damon spoke in support of the County Manager's Recommended Budget as it relates to merit increases for employees;
49. Roy Parker spoke in opposition to a tax increase;
50. George Young in favor of a revenue neutral tax rate;
51. Larry Brackett spoke in opposition to the County Manager's FY 11-12 Recommended Budget.

This concluded the public hearing with 77 speakers.

Motion was made by Commissioner Cogdell, seconded by Commissioner Pendergraph and unanimously with Commissioners Bentley, Clarke, Cooksey, Cogdell, Dunlap, James, Leake, Pendergraph and Roberts voting yes, to close the public hearing on the County Manager's FY 11-12 Recommended Budget.

Janice S. Paige, Clerk

Harold Cogdell, Jr., Chairman