

*Scotland County Board of Commissioners reconvened meeting
October 17, 2007, 507 West Covington Street, Laurinburg, NC*

MINUTES

**Scotland County Board of Commissioners
Reconvened Meeting, October 17, 2007**

Joint Session with Laurinburg City Council

Scotland County Government Offices, 507 West Covington Street, Laurinburg, NC

Commissioners in attendance: Chairman J.D. Willis, Vice Chair Betty Blue Gholston and Commissioners John Alford, Leon Butler, Guy McCook, Joyce McDow and Clarence McPhatter. Staff in attendance: Interim County Manager/Finance Officer Kevin Patterson and Clerk to the Board Ann W. Kurtzman.

City Council Members in attendance: Mayor Ann Slaughter and Council Members Rembert Deberry, Curtis Leak and Tommy Parker. Staff in attendance: City Manager Craig Honeycutt and Deputy City Clerk Jenny Tippett. City Council Members Amanda Faulk and Herbert Rainer were not present.

At 5:30 p.m. Chairman Willis reconvened the meeting and Mayor Ann Slaughter called the City Council meeting back to order.

Chairman Willis said amendments to the Scotland Development Corporation (SDC) bylaws are ready for review. Chairman Willis said a mission statement was added to the bylaws, which ensures the City of Laurinburg is protected from a retail standpoint.

Interim County Manager/Finance Officer Kevin Patterson reviewed some of the proposed amendments.

- *The number of SDC Directors would be five with three appointed by the County Chairman and two appointed by the City Mayor. The two appointed by the City must be City residents. Three nonvoting members would include the County Manager, City Manager and Chamber representative.*
- *The Economic Development professional would serve as President; the Vice President would be the County Manager or City Manager and the Secretary would be the City Clerk or County Clerk.*
- *The Economic Developer would be paid through the County Payroll.*

City Manager Craig Honeycutt said the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners would elect a SDC Chairman since the County would be the major funding source for the position.

Commissioner McCook asked if the SDC members should be appointed by the entire City Council and Board of Commissioners instead of by the Mayor and Chairman.

Chairman Willis explained that that part of the amended bylaws follows the way the SDC was originally structured.

Mayor Slaughter pointed to 4.12 and 2.7 in the original bylaws, which addresses compensation. Mayor Slaughter said Directors were never compensated, and the items should be eliminated from the bylaws.

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Chairman Willis said anything that addresses compensation will be removed, but reimbursement for travel would remain.

Motion was made by Commissioner McPhatter and duly seconded by Commissioner McDow to approve the proposed amendments to the Scotland Development Corporation bylaws with the compensation items eliminated and to forward the proposed amendments to the Scotland Development Corporation for its consideration and approval. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

City Manager Honeycutt said the attorney would incorporate the legal terminology but would keep the framework intact.

Chairman Willis said the County would move forward with advertising the position.

Mr. Honeycutt read the Memorandum of Understanding, which would include a \$35,000 appropriation by the City of Laurinburg toward the Economic Development position and a Cost of Living adjustment provided to the City of Laurinburg employees.

City Council Members discussed whether a Cost of Living floor should be included and tied to the cost of living of City employees.

Council Member Parker suggested that there should not be a Cost of Living floor and the Economic Development position should not be treated differently from City employees.

Council Member Leak said the Cost of Living increase range is in line with annual increases requested by the Chamber of Commerce.

City Council Members agreed to discuss the Memorandum of Understanding further at a future meeting.

Motion was made by Vice Chair Gholston and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to adjourn. Vote: Motion unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

The City Council recessed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann W. Kurtzman
Clerk to the Board

J.D. Willis
Chairman