

**Scotland County Board of Commissioners/Laurinburg City Council joint meeting
August 30, 2016, 1403 West Boulevard, Laurinburg, NC**

Commissioners in attendance: Chair Carol McCall, Vice Chair Whit Gibson and Commissioners John Alford, Bob Davis, Betty Blue Gholston, Guy McCook and Clarence McPhatter. Staff in attendance: County Manager Kevin Patterson, Finance Officer Beth Hobbs, County Attorney Ed Johnston, Public Works Supervisor Bryant Higgins and Clerk to the Board Ann Kurtzman. Laurinburg City Council members present: Mayor Matthew Block and Council Members Dee Hammond, J.D. Willis, Drew Williamson, Mary Jo Adams and Curtis Leak. City staff present: City Manager Charles Nichols, City Clerk Jenny Tippet and General Services Supervisor Angie Foster.

At 4 p.m. Chair McCall called the joint meeting to order. Commissioner Davis offered a word of prayer. The City Council meeting also was called to order.

Chair McCall said the purpose of the meeting is to increase our understanding of the solid waste program, solid waste disposal and how the City and County can work together and focus on a solution that would benefit the citizens.

Mr. Patterson said a new hauling contract will be negotiated later this year. Leaf and limb operates at a loss. Mr. Patterson reported on waste by source, operating costs not including closure/post closure and transfer station operating costs. Mr. Patterson said he would recommend looking at costs and significantly change MSW and C&D waste streams and develop a long term leaf and limb program. Mr. Patterson said after a year, the County would be in a better position to discuss options for a consolidated program.

Mr. Nichols said the City had to make a decision, which he described as pure business, to take its MSW elsewhere on the basis of City operating in the red for the past several years in the solid waste fund. Mr. Nichols discussed where the savings would come from taking into consideration an increase in fuel and maintenance costs.

Mr. Patterson said the County would shop the solid waste program around for the best service for the dollar.

A general discussion ensued among the elected officials regarding the County solid waste program and the savings the City would realize hauling its MSW directly to Robeson County.

Chair McCall suggested a plan might be negotiated that would produce a mutually beneficial rate. It was suggested the City and County managers and City and County public works staff meet and develop a plan the City and County could agree on. The plan could be presented to both boards at another joint meeting.

Commissioner McCook said the County is in the landfill business and must stay in it until closure and post closure costs are built up. Commissioner McCook said the City could either contribute to that or the County would have to find other revenues to cover the costs.

The Board of Commissioners and City Council by consensus agreed to meet jointly in mid-January to discuss proposals.

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Ann W. Kurtzman
Clerk to the Board

Carol McCall
Chair