

The Madison County Board of Commissioners met in special session on Tuesday, April 25, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. at the North Carolina Cooperative Extension-Madison County Center located at 258 Carolina Lane, Marshall, North Carolina.

In attendance were Chairman Matt Wechtel, Vice-Chairman Michael Garrison, Commissioner Jeremy Hensley, Commissioner Alan Wyatt, County Manager Rod Honeycutt, County Attorney Donny Laws, and Clerk Mandy Bradley. Commissioner Bill Briggs joined the meeting at 5:52 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m. by Chairman Wechtel.

Item 1: Personnel

Upon motion by Vice-Chairman Garrison and second by Commissioner Wyatt, the Board voted unanimously to enter into closed session pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11 (a)(6) at 5:32 p.m.

Commissioner Briggs entered the meeting at 5:52 p.m.

Upon motion by Vice-Chairman Garrison and second by Commissioner Hensley, the Board voted unanimously to return to open session at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Honeycutt presented on behalf of the Soil and Water Conservation, the request for hire of Jessica Hocz as the Soil and Water Director and requested permission to negotiate the salary range with Ms. Hocz. Upon motion by Commissioner Wyatt and second by Vice-Chairman Garrison, the Board voted unanimously to approve.

Mr. Honeycutt presented on behalf of the IT Department, the request for hire of Colton Kent as the IT Helpdesk Technician at a salary of \$42,000.00. Upon motion by Chairman Wechtel and second by Commissioner Hensley, the Board voted unanimously to approve.

Item 2: Consideration of Proposed Land Use Ordinance Amendments Related to Special Event Facilities

Development Services Director Brad Guth discussed proposed amendments in consideration of the County's Land Use Ordinance related to special event facilities and answered questions from members of the Board with the proposed Ordinance being presented to the Board, a copy of which is hereby attached to the Madison County Ordinance Book.

Attorney John Noor with Roberts & Stevens, P.A. representing the County in Planning and Zoning matters discussed proposed amendments and procedures that would be applicable in the event of the need for Ordinance adaptation based on needs in the future. Additional information discussed included the process used to develop proposed Ordinance amendments and inclusions, processes of the Board of Adjustment and Planning Board, and items for possible consideration of inclusion of the Ordinance in the future.

Upon motion by Vice-Chairman Garrison and second by Commissioner Hensley, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Special Event Ordinance. Discussion was had by the Board and a directive was given that Mr. Guth notify all current venues in the County of the new requirements. (Attachment 2.1)

Item 3: 2022 NCEM State & Local Cybersecurity Grant Program Application

Jaime Lunsford, IT Director presented and discussed the 2022 NCEM State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program Application for consideration of the Board as well as answered questions from members of the Board. Information discussed included funding available to the County, utilization of the funds once received, cybersecurity programs and initiatives for consideration, training, recurring costs, and projected costs as well as the possibility of additional grant funding opportunities in the future.

Upon motion by Vice-Chairman Garrison and second by Commissioner Wyatt, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the IT Director to submit the application for the State and Local Cybersecurity Program (SLCPG).

Item 4: Parks and Recreation Budget

Mr. Honeycutt presented and discussed Parks and Recreation short term budget requests for the current fiscal year. Chris Maney, Parks and Recreation Director discussed the requests and proposed locations where funding would be utilized including repairs to baseball fields located at Beech Glen, Ebbs Chapel, and Walnut.

Proposals included fencing, the addition of portable toilets at Walnut, and needed repair to existing dugouts and concession stand structures. Discussion was had by the Board, Mr. Honeycutt, and Mr. Maney regarding athletics and alternative programming available for the youth of the County and the Board discussed availability of a funding pledge in the amount of \$10,000.00 from a private donor as well as County funding sources to cover the remainder of the costs.

Motion was made by Vice-Chairman Garrison and second received by Commissioner Hensley to allocate the necessary funds of \$132,541.56. Discussion was had by the Board regarding the request to amend the motion to include authorizing the County Manager to enter into renovations not to exceed \$120,000.00 of County funds. Counsel was provided by County Attorney Donny Laws regarding the addition of language to the motion to include the approval of a future budget amendment as well. Vice-Chairman Garrison requested to amend his original motion to include the language. Upon second of Commissioner Hensley, the Board voted unanimously to approve.

Item 5: FY 2023-2024 Budget Discussion

Mr. Honeycutt discussed the process of budget review with the Board.

Diana Norton, Tax Administrator presented and discussed proposed budget information and requests on behalf of the Tax Department as well as answered questions from Board members. Discussion regarding the department’s proposed budget was had by the Board, Ms. Norton, Mr. Honeycutt, and Finance Officer Kary Ledford.

Jacob Ray, Board of Elections Director presented and discussed proposed budget information and requests on behalf of the Board of Elections as well as answered questions from Board members. Discussion regarding the department’s proposed budget was had by the Board, Mr. Ray, and Mr. Honeycutt.

Discussion was had regarding future budget meetings of the Board.

Item 6: Adjournment

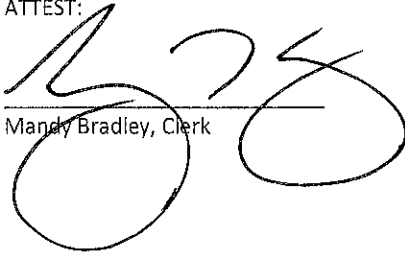
Upon motion by Vice-Chairman Garrison and second by Commissioner Wyatt, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:17 p.m.

This the 25th day of April 2023.

MADISON COUNTY


Matt Wechtel, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:


Mandy Bradley, Clerk

Madison County Land Use Ordinance

Proposed Changes

FINAL DRAFT 6/4/13/23

Additions to Section 2.1

Interpretation of Commonly Used Terms and Words

8. Except as defined herein, all other words used in this Ordinance shall have their dictionary definition or, for more planning-specific terms, the definition found in the most recent edition of "A Planners Dictionary," as published by the American Planning Association. If there is a conflict between the dictionary definition of a term and the definition provided in A Planners Dictionary, the definition provided in A Planners Dictionary shall be used.

Additions to Section 2.2 Definitions

~~Assembly Hall~~

~~A meeting place at which the public or membership groups are assembled regularly or occasionally, including but not limited to schools, churches, theaters, auditoriums, funeral homes, stadiums, and similar places of assembly.~~

Facility

A structure or place which is built, installed, or established to serve a particular purpose.

Special Event Facility

A facility used to accommodate functions including, but not limited to, banquets, weddings, celebrations, dinners, festivals, concerts, or other group events. Church and Religious Institutions are not included in this definition.

Additions to Chapter 8 Special Requirements

8.10 Special Event Facility

The development of a Special Event Facility shall go before the Board of Adjustment for a special use permit and shall conform to all applicable standards. Any property used for a special event facility shall also comply with the following standards:

8.10.1 Purpose. The purpose of this section is to establish a set of regulations applicable to Special Event Facilities. These regulations are in addition to all other provisions of this

ordinance. In adopting these standards, Madison County finds that Special Event Facilities have the potential to be incompatible with surrounding residential uses, thereby having the potential for a deleterious effect on adjacent residents. Special regulations for Special Event Facilities are necessary to ensure they will be compatible with surrounding residential uses and will not act to harm or alter the neighborhoods they are located in.

8.10.2 Permit

Any person, firm, or corporation wanting to construct or expand a Special Event Facility shall first submit an application and sketch plan to the Madison County Zoning Office. Applications shall contain all information this ordinance requires and any additional information requested by the Zoning Administrator. An application will not be complete until it contains all required and requested information. After an application is complete, the Madison County Zoning Office shall forward the application to the Madison County Board of Adjustment for a special use hearing.

8.10.3 Requirements for Applications/ Sketch Plan

8.10.3.1 Narrative

A narrative describing the proposed Special Event Facility, including an overview of the project with specific hours of operation and the anticipated acoustic impact (including volume) of events and attendees;

8.10.3.2 Sketch Plan and Photos

A sketch plan showing the proposed location, height, and dimensions of all existing and proposed structures, screening, fencing, retaining walls, property lines, existing and proposed parking, access roads, and the location of any residence within 100 yards of the property line of the Lot;

8.10.3.3 Elevation Drawings or Photos

An elevation drawing or photos of the existing or proposed buildings and a material list to show the structural details of the building, communicate exterior design choices, and give an idea of what the finished building will look like.

8.10.4 Landscaping Buffers

The facility and area associated with the use shall be screened from adjoining properties by a buffer strip. The buffer strip shall comply with the requirements in the definition of a buffer strip.

8.10.5 Use Separation

All equipment, structures, and parking shall be a minimum of thirty feet from all property lines and one-hundred feet from any occupied residential structure on adjacent properties.

8.10.6 Noise Level

All Special Event Facilities shall adhere to the Madison County Noise Ordinance. Additionally, any sound or noise originating from a Special Event Facility shall not exceed 45db as measured from any property line.

8.10.7 Structural Requirements

The facility shall meet all North Carolina State Building Code requirements and any Environmental Health requirements for sewage disposal and water supply.

8.10.8 Parking

Special Event Facilities shall comply with the parking requirements of the Madison County Land Use Ordinance and the maximum occupancy according to the North Carolina State Building Code. Parking surfaces are not required to be paved. Parking requirements can be met with a written agreement or lease for offsite parking.

8.10.9 Signage

One On-Premise sign is allowed in accordance with the Madison County Land Use Ordinance.

8.10.10 Existing Special Event Facilities|Non-conforming Uses

All Special Event Facilities legally in existence and use prior to the adoption of Section 8.10 may continue to operate during an amortization period of one year without being subject to the terms and conditions of Section 8.10. However, all Special Event Facilities, regardless of their existence prior to the adoption of Section 8.10, shall comply with Sections 8.10.6 and 8.10.13 upon adoption of Section 8.10.

All Special Event Facilities must comply with Section 8.10 and its subparts within one year after adopting Section 8.10, including applying for and obtaining a special use permit from the Board of Adjustment.

8.10.11 Fireworks

Fireworks are not permitted except for sparklers, fountains, and novelty fireworks items that do not explode or are not intended to spin or leave the ground and fly through the air and are legal for individual purchase in North Carolina.

8.10.12 Local Contact Person

All Special Event Facilities shall designate a local contact person who shall provide their contact information, including email and phone number for business and emergency contact.

8.10.13 Violation of Special Use Permit or Section 8.10

Except as specifically provided herein, if at any time after a special use permit has been issued for a Special Event Facility and it is determined that the conditions imposed and the agreements

made in the special use permit have not been or are not being fulfilled or there has been a violation of Section 8.10, the zoning administrator may issue a warning and the permit holder will have ten (10) days to come into compliance with all permit and ordinance requirements. Upon any subsequent violation, the County shall issue a notice of violation. Notices of violation may be appealed to the Board of Adjustment consistent with the procedures provided in this ordinance. If a special use permit is terminated due to the issuance of a notice of violation, it may be reinstated only after a public hearing is held before the Board of Adjustment, and the notice is either reversed or, in the event the notice is either affirmed or not appealed, a new special use permit is applied for and approved by the Board of Adjustment.