

# ADOPTED

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Gaston County Board  
of Commissioners

GASTON COUNTY

COMMISSIONER'S COURT

NORTH CAROLINA

APRIL 26, 2022

The Gaston County Board of Commissioners (BOC) met in Regular Session on April 26, 2022 at 6:00 p.m., in The Harley B. Gaston, Jr. Public Forum, Gaston County Courthouse.

Chairman Chad Brown presided with Commissioners Bob Hovis, Vice-Chairman; Tom Keigher, Tracy L. Philbeck and Ronnie Worley in attendance.

Commissioners Allen R. Fraley and Kim Johnson were not in attendance.

Others present included Dr. Kim Eagle, County Manager; William T. Stetzer, County Attorney; and Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the Board.

Upon request of Chairman Brown, Commissioner Hovis led those assembled in the Invocation and Commissioner Keigher led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Hearing - RE: Commissioner Hovis - Building & Development Services - Zoning Map Change: Z22-08 Debbie Murray (Applicant); Property Parcel: 306699, Located at 335 Chestnut Ridge Rd., Kings Mountain, NC, Rezone from the (R-1) Single Family Limited Zoning District to the (R-2) Single Family Moderate Zoning District

Chairman Brown announced the Public Hearings as advertised; explained procedures to be used and called for the motion to enter into Public Hearing.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Hovis and seconded by Commissioner Worley, the BOC unanimously entered into Public Hearing.

Chairman Brown recognized Mrs. Jamie Kanburoglu, Building and Development Services Long Range Planner, for comments.

Mrs. Kanburoglu advised subject request is to rezone parcel 306699 located at 335 Chestnut Ridge Road (Kings Mountain, NC) from the R-1 (Single Family Limited Zoning District) to the R-2 (Single Family Moderate Zoning District); the Applicant is Debbie Murray.

The parcel is located west of Bessemer City and north of Kings Mountain; aerial map depicts the mixture of housing types in area and vacant land; the lot is vacant and was recently subdivided; the parcel is south of existing R-2 zoned properties and north of additional R-2 zoned communities; property owners map list those that were notified of the public hearing; staff did not receive any inquiries about the request.

The parcel's future land use designation is rural; rural areas are characterized as having plenty of open space with homes on large lots that are set back from the roads that they front on; there are no funded transportation projects in the immediate vicinity; there is an unfunded minor road improvement to Chestnut Ridge Road that is included on the MPO's Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP).

In conclusion, Mrs. Kanburoglu stated the property is in a residential area and staff finds the proposed residential use is consistent with the Comprehensive Land Use Plan (Comp Plan) and

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is in harmony with the surrounding area; Planning Board unanimously recommended approval of the request at its April meeting.

Chairman Brown called for citizen comment and for questions from the BOC; none were heard.

Chairman Brown declared the Public Hearing closed.

Chairman Brown introduced the County Attorney to provide comments on the Planning Board's recommendation.

The County Attorney advised the request would be consistent with the future land use plan. *The future land use designation for the parcel is Rural. Rural areas are characterized as having plenty of open space with farmstead housing and opportunities for agribusiness. Residential homes tend to be on larger lots and are set back from the roads they front on. The proposed zoning going from (R-1) to (R-2) and the proposed residential use is consistent with the Comprehensive Land Use Plan and consistent with the surrounding area.*

Chairman Brown advised that the Planning Board vote of approval was unanimous (5-0).

Chairman Brown called for a motion to approve.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Philbeck and seconded by Commissioner Hovis, the BOC unanimously approved **2022-093**, upon consideration of the map change application, public hearing comment and recommendations from the Planning Board and Planning staff, finds:

- 1) The map change request is consistent with the County's approved Comprehensive Land Use Plan. The future land use designation for the parcel is Rural. Rural areas are characterized as having plenty of open space with farmstead housing and opportunities for agribusiness. Residential homes tend to be on larger lots and are set back from the roads they front on. The proposed zoning going from (R-1) to (R-2) and the proposed residential use is consistent with the Comprehensive Land Use Plan and consistent with the surrounding area.

The Commission considers this action to be reasonable and in the public interest, based on: Planning Board recommendation and compatibility with existing land uses in the immediate area. Therefore, the map change request for Property parcel: 306699, is hereby approved, effective with the passage of this Resolution.

- 2) The County Manager is authorized to make necessary notifications in this matter to appropriate parties.

Public Hearing - RE: Commissioner Hovis - Building & Development Services - Zoning Map Change: Z22-09 Shirley Cobb (Applicant); Property Parcel: 306698, Located at 333 Chestnut Ridge Rd., Kings Mountain, NC, Rezone from the (R-1) Single Family Limited Zoning District to the (R-2) Single Family Moderate Zoning District

Chairman Brown introduced Mrs. Kanburoglu for comments.

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Mrs. Kanburoglu advised subject request is to rezone parcel 306698 located at 333 Chestnut Ridge Road (Kings Mountain, NC) from the R-1 (Single Family Limited Zoning District) to the R-2 (Single Family Moderate Zoning District); Applicant/Owner is Shirley Cobb.

The parcel is located west of Bessemer City, north of Kings Mountain and south of the parcel (#306699) just reviewed; aerial map depicts vacant land and mixture of housing types; currently the lot is vacant and was part of the same subdivision; the parcel is south of a neighborhood zoned R-2 and north of another R-2 zoned community; property owners map list those that were notified of the public hearing; staff did not receive any calls or inquiries about the request.

In conclusion, Mrs. Kanburoglu advised the future land use designation of the parcel is rural; the property is in a residential area; staff finds the request is consistent with the Comp Plan and is in harmony with the surrounding area; if approved any uses allowed in R-2 zoning district would be permitted as the Ordinance allows; Planning Board unanimously recommended approval of the request at its last meeting.

Chairman Brown called for citizen comment and for questions from the BOC; none was heard. Chairman Brown declared the Public Hearing closed.

Chairman Brown asked the County Attorney to comment on the Planning Board's recommendation.

The County Attorney advised the request is consistent with the future land use plan. The future land use designation for the parcel is Rural. *Rural areas are characterized as having plenty of open space with farmstead housing and opportunities for agribusiness. Residential homes tend to be on larger lots and are set back from the roads they front on. The proposed zoning going from (R-1) to (R-2) and the proposed residential use is consistent with the Comprehensive Land Use Plan and consistent with the surrounding areas.*

Chairman Brown advised the Planning Board voted unanimously (5-0) to approve the request.

Chairman Brown called for a motion to approve.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Keigher and seconded by Commissioner Philbeck, the BOC unanimously approved **2022-094**, upon consideration of the map change application, public hearing comment and recommendations from the Planning Board and Planning staff, finds:

- 1) The map change request is consistent with the County's approved Comprehensive Land Use Plan. The future land use designation for the parcel is Rural. Rural areas are characterized as having plenty of open space with farmstead housing and opportunities for agribusiness. Residential homes tend to be on larger lots and are set back from the roads they front on. The proposed zoning going from (R-1) to (R-2) and the proposed residential use is consistent with the Comprehensive Land Use Plan and consistent with the surrounding area.

The Commission considers this action to be reasonable and in the public interest, based on: Planning Board recommendation and compatibility with existing land uses in the immediate area. Therefore, the map change request for Property parcel: 306698, is hereby approved, effective with the passage of this Resolution.

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- 2) The County Manager is authorized to make necessary notifications in this matter to appropriate parties.

Public Hearing - RE: Commissioner Hovis - Building & Development Services - Zoning Map Change: Z22-10 Roman Gonzalez (Applicant); Property Parcel: 163330, Located at Tryon Courthouse Road, Bessemer City, NC, Rezone from the (R-1) Single Family Limited Zoning District to the (R-3) Single Family General Zoning District

Chairman Brown introduced Mrs. Kanburoglu for comments.

Mrs. Kanburoglu advised subject request is to rezone parcel 163330 located on Tryon Courthouse Road (Bessemer City, NC); the Applicant/Property Owner is Roman Gonzalez who is requesting to rezone 1.14 acres from the R-1 (Single Family Limited) zoning district to the R-3 (Single Family General Zoning District).

The parcel is located north of Bessemer City; aerial map depicts vacant land, traditional site-built homes, manufactured homes and an industrial site to rear of property; the parcel is across the street from existing R-2 zoned properties and abuts an I-3 zoned property; there is an existing R-3 zoned neighborhood on Eaker and a R-2 zoned neighborhood off Tryon Courthouse and Pine Springs; property owners map list those that were notified via information about the request and details for tonight's hearing; staff did not receive any calls or inquiries about the request.

The parcel's future land use designation is rural; rural areas are characterized as having plenty of open space with farmstead housing and opportunities for agribusiness. Residential homes tend to be on large lots and are set back from the roads that they front on.

There is one funded transportation project (sidewalk connectivity from Pine Springs Dr. to Tryon Elementary School) north of the site that the MPO said will not impact the site; the CTP also shows bike facility improvements along Tryon Courthouse Road.

The surrounding area is heavily residential with a mixture of housing types. The proposed residential use is consistent with the Comp Plan and is in harmony with immediate vicinity of subject area.

In conclusion, Mrs. Kanburoglu stated that staff finds the application to be consistent with the Comp Plan and is in harmony with the surrounding area; the Planning Board made a motion to recommend Disapproval, which was approved 4-1; staff has not received any calls or inquiries about the request.

Chairman Brown called for citizen comment; hearing none, called for questions from the BOC. Commissioner Philbeck asked if the Planning Board stated why they did not approve it.

Mrs. Kanburoglu responded that the Planning Board felt the proposed use of the Applicant did not match what currently exists on the road; staff shared that the Applicant's proposed use was to have a single-wide manufactured house moved onto the lot; because there are already double-wide mobile homes on the same street, the Planning Board felt it did not match the area.

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Commissioner Philbeck stated double-wides are already there, this involves a single-wide and staff said it is consistent. He inquired if the Planning Board is saying the single wide doesn't match the area.

Mrs. Kanburoglu advised the Applicant's proposed use was to move his manufactured home onto the new lot he purchased.

Commissioner Philbeck stated if the only difference is single-wide versus doublewide (which are already located there), he will vote to approve it; historically the BOC has been a strong property rights advocate. He concluded that the Applicant's property is within the use and he believes it should be approved.

Commissioner Keigher agreed with Commissioner Philbeck; advised a regular neighborhood may have a 1800SF, 2800SF, two-story, tri-level or ranch home; if it is a modular, the BOC usually sides to err on behalf of the property owner; he will vote to support it.

Chairman Brown declared the Public Hearing closed.

Chairman Brown asked the County Attorney to comment on the Planning Board's recommendation.

The County Attorney advised the Planning Board recommendation was to disapprove and the request was *inconsistent* with future land use plan. *The future land use designation for the parcel is Rural. Rural areas are characterized as having green, rolling hills and plenty of open space with opportunities for agribusiness. Residential homes tend to be on larger lots and are set back from the roads they front on. The proposed zoning going from (R-1) to (R-3) and the proposed residential use is inconsistent with the Comprehensive Land Use Plan and inconsistent with the surrounding area as it would allow for more non-residential uses than what is currently allowed.*

Chairman Brown entertained a motion and Commissioner Keigher made a motion to approve the zoning request and Commissioner Philbeck seconded the motion.

The County Attorney advised *the future land use designation for the parcel is Rural. Rural areas are characterized as having plenty of open space with farmstead housing and opportunities for agribusiness. Residential homes tend to be on larger lots and are set back from the roads they front on. The proposed zoning going from (R-1) to (R-3) and the proposed residential use is consistent with the Comprehensive Land Use Plan and consistent with the surrounding area.*

Chairman Brown called for the vote and the BOC unanimously approved **2022-095**, upon consideration of the map change application, public hearing comment and recommendations from the Planning Board and Planning staff, and finds:

- 1) The map change request is consistent with the County's approved Comprehensive Land Use Plan. The future land use designation for the parcel is Rural. Rural areas are characterized as having plenty of open space with farmstead housing and opportunities for agribusiness. Residential homes tend to be on larger lots and are set back from the roads they front on. The proposed zoning going from (R-1) to (R-3) and the proposed residential use is consistent with the Comprehensive Land Use Plan and consistent with the surrounding area.

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The Commission considers this action to be reasonable and in the public interest, based on: compatibility with existing land uses in the immediate area. Therefore, the map change request for Property parcel: 163330, is hereby approved, effective with the passage of this Resolution.

- 2) The County Manager is authorized to make necessary notifications in this matter to appropriate parties.

Public Hearing - RE: Commissioner Keigher - Building & Development Services - Zoning Map Change: Z22-11 Brandy Lewis (Applicant); Property Parcel: 302626, Located at 202 Humphrey Blvd., Gastonia, NC, Rezone from the (R-1) Single Family Limited Zoning District to the (R-2) Single Family Moderate Zoning District

Chairman Brown introduced Mrs. Kanburoglu for comments.

Mrs. Kanburoglu advised subject request is to rezone parcel 302626 located at 202 Humphrey Blvd., Gastonia (NC) from the R-1 (Single Family Limited Zoning District) to the R-2 (Single Family Moderate Zoning District); Applicant/Property Owner is Brandy Lewis.

The property is located south of Gastonia city limits; aerial map depicts vacant land and mixture of housing types; the property abuts R-2 zoned properties; farther out are more R-2 and R-3 zoned properties and communities; property owners map list those that were notified for the public hearing; staff has not received any calls or inquiries about the request; the property is 18.71 acres; is located in southwest scenic area of County; key issues for area citizens include preservation of open space and existing conditions while allowing low-to-moderate growth; staff believes the proposed use and application, as presented, is consistent with the Comp Plan; Planning Board unanimously recommended approval of the request.

Chairman Brown called for citizen comment and for questions from the BOC; none were heard.

Chairman Brown declared the Public Hearing closed.

Chairman Brown asked the County Attorney to comment on the Planning Board's recommendation.

The County Attorney advised the Planning Board recommended approval unanimously and it is consistent with the land use plan and read the following Consistency Statement: *The future land use designation for the parcel is Rural Community. Rural communities may not serve a purpose other than providing homes, while still maintaining a neighborhood look and feel. The proposed zoning going from (R-1) to (R-2) and the proposed residential use is consistent with the Comprehensive Land Use Plan and adjacent zoning.*

Chairman Brown called for a motion to approve.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Philbeck and seconded by Commissioner Keigher, the BOC unanimously approved **2022-096**, upon consideration of the map change application, public hearing comment and recommendations from the Planning Board and Planning staff, finds:

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- 1) The map change request is consistent with the County's approved Comprehensive Land Use Plan. The future land use designation for the parcel is Rural Community. Rural communities may not serve a purpose other than providing homes, while still maintaining a neighborhood look and feel. The proposed zoning going from (R-1) to (R-2) and the proposed residential use is consistent with the Comprehensive Land Use Plan and adjacent zoning.

The Commission considers this action to be reasonable and in the public interest, based on: Planning Board recommendation and compatibility with existing land uses in the immediate area. Therefore, the map change request for Property parcel: 302626, is hereby approved, effective with the passage of this Resolution.

- 2) The County Manager is authorized to make necessary notifications in this matter to appropriate parties.

Public Hearing - RE: Commissioner Brown - Building & Development Services - Zoning Map Change: Z22-12 Steven Davidson (Applicant); Property Parcel: 175088, Located at 107 Henderson Street in Mount Holly, NC, Rezone from the (R-1) Single Family Limited Zoning District with (US) and (CH) Overlays to the (C-1) Light Commercial Zoning District with (US) and (CH) Overlays

Chairman Brown introduced Mrs. Kanburoglu for comments.

Mrs. Kanburoglu advised subject request is to rezone parcel 175088 located at 107 Henderson Street (Mount Holly, NC) from R-1 (Single Family Limited Zoning District) with US (Urban Standards) and CH (Corridor Highway) Overlays to C-1 (Light Commercial Zoning District) with US and CH Overlays; the parcel is under one acre and owned by Mr. Ronald Bennett, Jr.; Steven Davidson (Applicant) is leasing the commercial building from Mr. Bennett; the property is located north of Mt. Holly city limits.

The arial map depicts vacant land, residential properties, Mountain Island Charter School and Mt. Holly Fire Department; the property has a single-family residence with a commercial building on the rear side of the lot; commercial building was built prior to Zoning Ordinance adoption and created a non-conforming situation; the property is zoned residential; there are two commercially zoned properties nearby; other zoning districts in area include R-2, RMF and some industrial; Lucia-Riverbend is zoned residential; there are several existing commercial businesses in area; property owners map list those notified via information about the request and public hearing; staff did not receive any calls or inquiries about the request.

The parcel is located in the Comp Plan Gateway Center; Gateway Centers are located along major transportation routes (to capture attention of those entering County); this area has potential for suburban development; key issues include increasing job opportunities, maintaining rural feel of area and increasing commercial opportunities for the community.

The existing structure is a non-conforming structure; no commercial activity has occurred in the building for more than six months; any new commercial uses and tenants must 1) be in compliance with Unified Development Ordinance (UDO), 2) go through a full site plan review with the Land Use Administrator and Plan Reviewers and 3) show how the proposed use will meet any supplemental requirements in the UDO and pull all necessary permits.



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Staff feels the request is consistent with the Comp Plan; rezoning the property will 1) bring the commercial building into compliance and allow the residential structure to be in compliance also; 2) allow for commercial activity to resume in the building.

In conclusion, Mrs. Kanbroglu stated the Planning Board unanimously recommended approval.

Chairman Brown called for citizen comment.

Mr. Steven Davidson (Applicant), 225 N. Centurion Ln., Mt. Holly, NC, advised he plans to open a custom golf cart shop less than two miles from Mountain Island Lake; a lot of prominent neighborhoods in the area are purchasing golf carts to drive to pool clubhouses and the lake for boating, etc.; Mr. Bennett inherited a large, nice garage that has been unused because it is zoned residential.

Chairman Brown called for questions from the BOC.

Commissioner Worley inquired about the number of employees, operating hours, customer retail space and parking.

Mr. Davidson responded currently he foresees five to ten employees; operating hours will be 9 am - 5 pm or 6 pm (including Saturdays with limited hours); it will be more of a 70/30 split retail service (everything sold will be electric); will do whatever is required for parking.

Chairman Brown declared the Public Hearing closed.

Chairman Brown asked the County Attorney to provide the Planning Board's recommendation.

The County Attorney advised the Planning Board voted unanimously to approve the recommendation, it is consistent with the Comp Plan and read the following Consistency Statement: *The future land use designation for the parcel is Gateway Center. Gateway centers are meant to capture the attention of people entering the County for various reasons. These areas are specifically located along major transportation routes and carry the weight of introducing travelers to the County through the look, feel and signage in the area. The proposed zoning and use is consistent with the Comprehensive Land Use Plan as it would serve the purpose of a gateway center and would bring the existing commercial structure into compliance with the Unified Development Ordinance.*

Chairman Brown advised that the Planning Board's vote was unanimous (5-0).

Chairman Brown called for a motion to approve.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Hovis and seconded by Commissioner Keigher, the BOC unanimously approved **2022-097**, upon consideration of the map change application, public hearing comment and recommendations from the Planning Board and Planning staff, finds:

- 1) The map change request is consistent with the County's approved Comprehensive Land Use Plan. The future land use designation for the parcel is Gateway Center. Gateway centers are meant to capture the attention of people entering the County for various reasons. These areas are specifically located along major transportation routes and carry the weight of introducing travelers to the County



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through the look, feel, and signage in the area. The proposed zoning and use is consistent with the Comprehensive Land Use Plan as it would serve the purpose of a gateway center and would bring the existing commercial structure into compliance with the Unified Development Ordinance.

The Commission considers this action to be reasonable and in the public interest, based on: Planning Board recommendation and compatibility with existing land uses in the immediate area. Therefore, the map change request for Property parcel: 175088, is hereby approved, effective with the passage of this Resolution.

- 2) The County Manager is authorized to make necessary notifications in this matter to appropriate parties.

Public Hearing - RE: Commissioner Hovis - EDC - To Authorize Eligibility for the Osage Mill Apartments, LLC Redevelopment Project to Participate In Gaston County's Local Investment Grant Program

Chairman Brown introduced Mr. Donny Hicks, Economic Development Commission (EDC) Director, for comments.

Mr. Hicks advised subject request involves incentives for the redevelopment of Osage Mills; the BOC previously approved this same package but the developer has changed; Bessemer City's Council approved the project a couple of weeks ago; the mill is a critical piece of Bessemer City's history, and downtown, and will fill the lack of modern income housing; EDC has started getting questions when recruiting projects about what the County is doing for modern and/or workforce income housing in the region; the developers plan to redevelop the mill into 143 moderate income units; requesting incentives to help them redevelop the mill that is currently in extreme disrepair to the point of being condemned; there will also be some available community, outdoor and commercial space; the need for this type of space has probably increased since we were here last and is not going away; this is a great way to renovate an unutilized property which will increase the tax value and help Bessemer City's Center City Development with the work they have done.

Chairman Brown called for citizen comment.

Mr. Josh Ross, 330 Costner Dr., Bessemer City, NC, spoke on behalf of Bessemer City and advised they are excited about the project; its City Council unanimously approved a Resolution for the same incentives earlier this month for the project; this is a transformative catalyst economic development project and its impact will affect Bessemer City's residents and businesses; already seeing investments downtown because of this project; Osage Mill is roughly 50% of Bessemer City's downtown footprint; appreciates the BOC's consideration of the Resolution.

Commissioner Keigher asked when did the BOC initially address this project.

Mr. Hicks responded in 2015; the new group taking on this project has done 36 buildings of this type before.

Chairman Brown called for citizen comment and for questions from the BOC; hearing none, declared the Public Hearing closed.

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Chairman Brown called for a motion to approve.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Hovis and seconded by Commissioner Worley, the BOC unanimously approved **2022-098** as follows:

- WHEREAS, the Osage Mill Redevelopment Project's Legal Entity is considering an investment of \$30,000,000 to redevelop a former textile mill located at 201 S. 12th Street in downtown Bessemer City, into a commercial and residential mixed-use project; and,
- WHEREAS, the Osage Mill Redevelopment Project in downtown Bessemer City will greatly assist the City's revitalization efforts by stimulating the local economy; and,
- WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute §158-7.1 authorizes a County to allow eligibility of an economic development project in a local investment grant program for the purposes of rehabilitation of existing structures; and,
- WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute §153A-149(c)(14) authorizes a County to expend funds to undertake historic preservation programs and projects; and,
- WHEREAS, the Gaston County Board of Commissioners finds that it is in the best interests of the County to provide eligibility for the Osage Mill Apartments, LLC, redevelopment project to participate in the Gaston County Local Investment Grant Program; and,
- WHEREAS, an Economic Development Agreement between the City of Bessemer City, Gaston County and the Osage Mill Apartments, LLC, to participate in the Gaston County Local Investment Grant Program will be written and signed by all parties; and,
- WHEREAS, the Gaston County Board of Commissioners has held a public hearing to consider whether to approve the authorization for the Osage Mill Apartments, LLC redevelopment project to participate in Gaston County's local investment grant program to Osage Mill.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners:

1. Authorizes the Chairman of the Gaston County Board of Commissioners to execute a three-party Economic Development Agreement for the Osage Mill Apartments, LLC redevelopment project to participate in the Gaston County Local Investment Grant Program.

Commissioner Hovis advised the new developer has a good track record and has done similar projects; it has taken about three months to redo a lot of structural work; there is more work to do on the building because there was no opportunity to get to it in a timely manner; the budget has increased about 20% on the overall project; probably closer to \$44M or \$45M versus the \$36M originally discussed; Mr. Sciba should have the engineer's drawings sometime in May to review so that developer can start work.

Public Hearing - RE: Commissioner Hovis - EDC - To Approve Incentives Pursuant to N.C.Gen.Stat. 158-7.1 and to Authorize Gaston County to Enter into an Economic Development Agreement (EDA) with Edgewood Industrial Phase 1 Owner LP

Chairman Brown recognized Mr. Hicks for comments.

Mr. Hicks advised this involves a major industrial developmental program in Bessemer City with Trinity Capital Partners; Trinity is also constructing a 870,000SF building in the Delta Business Park; Trinity has acquired land in Bessemer City on the left hand side of Edgewood Road; Southridge Business Park is on the right; Trinity wants to duplicate more industrial space by

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constructing four buildings at roughly 800,000SF which will equal the same amount of space in Southridge Business Park; Trinity may build two buildings at the same time to lease and then build two more; expect to get about 600,000SF out of Phase 1; the minimum tax value of the unoccupied and partially completed building is about \$30M and the County can expect more as the building is updated; Trinity is asking for the standard incentives on the building; any tenant attached to it would have to stand on their own for the next incentives; this will incentivize the building and allow Trinity to market it for lease and be competitive; currently there is more than 17,000,000SQ being built in the region and it's critical to compete against that type of competition; available to answer questions.

Chairman Brown called for citizen comment and for questions from the BOC; hearing none, declared the Public Hearing closed.

Chairman Brown called for a motion to approve.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Hovis and seconded by Commissioner Worley, the BOC unanimously approved **2022-099** as follows:

WHEREAS, Trinity Capital Partners is considering a total investment of \$44,000,000 to build four facilities totaling 1,000,000 square feet of warehouse and distribution space in the Edgewood 85 Business Park in Bessemer City; and,

WHEREAS, the development will consist of four facilities, with the first phase to include two facilities totaling 650,000 square feet of space, followed by two additional facilities totaling 350,000 square feet, and will be developed under the name of Edgewood Industrial Phase 1 Owner LP; and,

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute §158-7.1 authorizes a County to undertake an economic development project by providing grants for the location of industry; and,

WHEREAS, Gaston County developed an economic grant policy to provide global advanced manufacturing companies and distribution facilities with high quality industrial park locations; and,

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the Company's capital investment in and at the Property and its operations thereat will generate significant ad valorem tax, sales tax and other revenues to the County; and,

WHEREAS, the County will prepare a detailed Economic Development Agreement (EDA), between Edgewood Industrial Phase 1 Owner LP, and the County, so as to induce the company to provide good job opportunities and capital investment which will enhance the County's ability to attract additional business and industry.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners:

1. Approves the County incentive grant to Edgewood Industrial Phase 1 Owner LP.
2. Authorizes the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Gaston County Board of Commissioners, or the County Manager to execute any documents necessary to complete an Economic Development Agreement for Edgewood Industrial.

### Agenda Revision/Approval

- **ADDED/** *Commissioners Hovis and Worley - EDC - To Approve a Danger Tree Agreement and Authorize a Perpetual Easement and Right of Way with Duke Energy Carolina, LLC. for Parcel E of PID 214142, Alliance Real Estate, South Ridge Business Park - IV., AM.*

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On motion introduced by Commissioner Worley and seconded by Commissioner Hovis, the BOC unanimously approved the Agenda of April 26, 2022 with changes as noted above.

### Citizen Recognition

Ms. Kathy Gauger, 11501 Withers Mill Drive, Charlotte, NC and President/CEO of Catherine's House, Belmont, NC and representing (Gaston-Lincoln-Cleveland (GLC)) Continuum of Care (COC) advised Catherine's House has provided supportive services and helped residents access housing resources for 30 years now; expressed her gratitude for the City/County's commitment to address homelessness through the Intergovernmental and Interagency Task Force, funding of the COC's coordination and investment for funds in the assistance program, emergency housing voucher program, etc.; she benefits immensely from weekly case coordination calls and monthly meetings via shared resources; has served as a non-profit leader for 20+ years; without resources, political will and a collaborative approach to end homelessness, it will rise; excited to see the financial support, energy and expanded attention of the County/City on identifying and implementing strategies to end homelessness.

Chairman Brown thanked the BOC for its commitment to the issue of homelessness; he noted that he took exception to a headline in a recent article in the Gazette that implied the BOC did not do anything, when it actually used \$250,000 from a different pot of money.

### Consent Agenda

On motion introduced by Commissioner Philbeck and seconded by Commissioner Keigher, the BOC unanimously approved the Consent Agenda as follows:

- 2022-100 Board of Commissioners - Proclamation - To Proclaim the Week of April 17-23, 2022 as Volunteer Week in Gaston County**
- 2022-101 Board of Commissioners - Proclamation - To Proclaim the Month of April as County Government Month in Gaston County**
- 2022-102 Commissioner Brown - BOC - Proclamation - To Proclaim Thursday, May 5, 2022 as A Day of Prayer in Gaston County**
- 2022-103 Commissioner Keigher - County Attorney - To Revise Public Comment Rules and Procedures for Meetings of the Gaston County Board of Commissioners - Amend Resolution 2021-144 as follows:**

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute § 153A-52.1 requires local boards of commissioners to provide at least one period for public comment per month at a regular meeting of the board; and,

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute § 153A-52.1 authorizes local boards of commissioners to adopt reasonable rules that govern the conduct of their public comment periods at their regular meetings, including rules to maintain order and decorum; and,

WHEREAS, The Gaston County Board of Commissioners recognizes that rules of decorum commonly help local boards across our State and nation to structure and maintain an orderly, civilized, and respectful public forum in which elected officials have an opportunity to hear from their constituents; and,

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WHEREAS, The Gaston County Board of Commissioners desires to maintain decorum throughout public comment periods.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Gaston County Board of Commissioners:

The following Rules of Decorum shall be followed throughout all public comment periods and administered in a manner to ensure that meetings are conducted in a civil and orderly manner:

1. Public Comment (Citizen Recognition) Period: Each speaker is allocated up to three (3) minutes to speak. No public comment period shall extend beyond one (1) hour. However, the Chair reserves the right to adjust the time limitation for individual speakers or the overall time period as necessary for the efficient and effective conduct of business.
2. Public Hearings: Citizens may address the Board members in public hearings provided the comments are directly related to the subject matter of the public hearing. Each speaker is allocated up to three (3) minutes to speak. However, the Chair reserves the right to adjust the time limitation for individual speakers.
3. A speaker may not share or relinquish any remaining time they have not used to another speaker.
4. Speakers are only allowed to speak one (1) time during the public comment period.
5. Persons who wish to speak must register on the sign-up sheet located on the information desk inside the meeting room. Sign-up sheets will be available one hour prior to the start of each meeting.
6. Speakers who have prepared written remarks or supporting documents are encouraged to leave a copy of such remarks and documents with the Clerk to the Board.
7. It is recommended that groups or delegations select their spokespersons in advance of the meeting.
8. Speaker substitutions at the meeting are not allowed.
9. Speakers shall provide their name and address at the start of their comments.
10. Speakers shall refrain from personal attacks and/or threats directed towards County staff, elected Board members, or members of the public.
11. Speakers shall be civil and courteous in their language and presentation. Insults, profanity, use of vulgar language or gestures, or other inappropriate behavior are not allowed.
12. Speakers shall limit their comments to matters that are germane to, or within the jurisdiction of the Gaston County Board of County Commissioners.
13. Campaigning for political office shall be disallowed by the Chair.
14. Speakers shall address the Chair with any and all public comments. Comments, questions, jeering, or other interruptions from the audience are not allowed. Speakers shall likewise not address or respond to members of the audience.
15. During Public Comment (Citizen Recognition) periods, speakers should not expect Board members to comment on or respond to their comments directly during the meeting. The Chair, or presiding officer may, however, request the County Manager's office to follow up with a speaker after the meeting or provide additional information to the Board at a later date.
16. During Public Comment (Citizen Recognition) periods, speakers may not use the audio-visual equipment located in the hearing room or otherwise make audiovisual presentations. Other visual aids, including, but not limited to, signs, banners, flags, and other props are not allowed.
17. The Chair, or presiding officer, has the authority to enforce the Rules of Decorum. Failure to obey these Rules may result in the forfeiture of the remaining speaking time and possible criminal charges. Individuals who engage in egregious or repeated violations may be asked to leave the

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meeting. Speakers and members of the audience should note the following legal provision from North Carolina General Statute § 143-318.17:

"A person who willfully interrupts, disturbs, or disrupts an official meeting and who, upon being directed to leave the meeting by the presiding officer, willfully refuses to leave the meeting is guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Gaston County Board of Commissioners that any conflicting language in Resolution 2021-144, or other previous Resolutions, is hereby rescinded.

**2022-104 Commissioner Philbeck - County Manager - To Accept Departmental Budget Change Requests as Information as follows:**

ENTRY DATE	DEPT NAME	ACCOUNT	DR/CR	AMOUNT
03/01/2022	HUSN	010-05-5810-4121-510001-21567	C	1,829
03/01/2022		010-05-5810-4121-520002-21567	D	1,829
03/01/2022		010-05-5810-4121-510100-21567	C	1,020
03/01/2022		010-05-5810-4121-520002-21567	D	1,020
03/01/2022		010-05-5810-4121-510103-21567	C	1,607
03/01/2022		010-05-5810-4121-520002-21567	D	1,607
03/01/2022		010-05-5810-4121-510101-21567	C	298
03/01/2022		010-05-5810-4121-520002-21567	D	298
03/01/2022		010-05-5810-4121-520011-21567	C	550
03/01/2022		010-05-5810-4121-520002-21567	D	550
03/01/2022		010-05-5810-4121-520013-21567	C	543
03/01/2022		010-05-5810-4121-520002-21567	D	543
03/01/2022		010-05-5810-4121-540001-21567	C	1,450
03/01/2022		010-05-5810-4121-520002-21567	D	1,450
03/02/2022		010-05-5810-4121-530010-22542	C	29,400
03/02/2022		010-05-5810-4121-540001-22542	D	29,400
03/03/2022	EDC	010-07-4920-4920-520001-	C	500
03/03/2022		010-07-4920-4920-520006-	D	500
03/03/2022	Museum	010-04-6141-0000-530023-	C	170
03/03/2022		010-04-6141-0000-540001-	D	170
03/03/2022		010-04-6141-0000-530023-	C	500
03/03/2022		010-04-6141-0000-520005-	D	500
03/03/2022		010-04-6141-0000-530023-	C	500
03/03/2022		010-04-6141-0000-520012-	D	500
03/03/2022	Public Works	040-01-4265-4260-540005-18139	C	2,790
03/03/2022		040-01-4265-4260-540005-09241	D	2,790
03/03/2022	Sheriff	010-02-4315-4315-530030-	C	5,000
03/03/2022		010-02-4315-4315-530029-	C	13,700
03/03/2022		010-02-4315-4315-530002-	D	18,700
03/03/2022		010-02-4315-4315-530029-	C	12,400
03/03/2022		010-02-4315-4315-530010-	D	12,400
03/04/2022	Communications	010-01-4124-0000-530029-	C	700
03/04/2022		010-01-4124-0000-520013-	D	700
03/04/2022	Reg of Deeds	010-01-4180-0000-530030-	C	3,000
03/04/2022		010-01-4180-0000-540001-	D	3,000
03/04/2022	Parks & Rec	010-04-6120-0000-530023-	C	2,835
03/04/2022		010-04-6120-0000-530003-	D	2,835
03/06/2022	HUSN	010-05-5810-4121-520017-	C	5,000
03/06/2022		010-05-5810-4121-540001-	D	5,000
03/07/2022	Health	011-05-5114-5125-530021-	D	10,000
03/07/2022		011-05-5110-0000-520014-	C	10,000
02/27/2022	HUSN	010-05-5810-4121-510002-21574	C	2,177
02/27/2022		010-05-5810-4121-540001-21574	D	2,177
02/27/2022		010-05-5810-4121-510102-21574	C	8,645
02/27/2022		010-05-5810-4121-540001-21574	D	8,645
02/27/2022		010-05-5810-4121-520002-21574	C	5,729
02/27/2022		010-05-5810-4121-540001-21574	D	5,729
02/27/2022		010-05-5810-4121-520004-21574	C	6,306
02/27/2022		010-05-5810-4121-540001-21574	D	6,306

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02/27/2022		010-05-5810-4121-520014-21574	C	393
02/27/2022		010-05-5810-4121-540001-21574	D	393
02/27/2022		010-05-5810-4121-530005-21574	C	1,793
02/27/2022		010-05-5810-4121-540001-21574	D	1,793
02/27/2022		010-05-5810-4121-530010-21574	C	1,837
02/27/2022		010-05-5810-4121-540001-21574	D	1,837
02/27/2022		010-05-5810-4121-530011-21574	C	5,835
02/27/2022		010-05-5810-4121-540001-21574	D	5,835
02/27/2022		010-05-5810-4121-530013-21574	C	2,469
02/27/2022		010-05-5810-4121-540001-21574	D	2,469
02/27/2022		010-05-5810-4121-530021-21574	C	2,699
02/27/2022		010-05-5810-4121-540001-21574	D	2,699
02/27/2022		010-05-5810-4121-530023-21574	C	462
02/27/2022		010-05-5810-4121-540001-21574	D	462
02/27/2022		010-05-5810-4121-530029-21574	C	13
02/27/2022		010-05-5810-4121-540001-21574	D	13
02/27/2022		010-05-5810-4121-530030-21574	C	1,061
02/27/2022		010-05-5810-4121-530003-21574	D	1,061
02/27/2022		010-05-5810-4121-530030-21574	C	500
02/27/2022		010-05-5810-4121-520013-21574	D	500
02/27/2022		010-05-5810-4121-530030-21574	C	629
02/27/2022		010-05-5810-4121-540001-21574	D	629
03/07/2022	Emer Mgmt	010-02-4330-0000-530030-	C	4,300
03/07/2022		010-02-4330-0000-530021-	D	4,300
03/07/2022	Natural Resources	010-07-4960-0000-530029-	C	5,200
03/07/2022		010-07-4960-0000-520012-	D	5,200
03/08/2022	HUSN	010-05-5810-5585-520002-22531	C	643
03/08/2022		010-05-5810-5585-540001-22531	D	643
03/08/2022	Landfill	060-08-4720-0000-520006-	C	5,000
03/08/2022		060-08-4720-0000-530010-	D	5,000
03/08/2022		060-08-4720-0000-520011-	C	6,000
03/08/2022		060-08-4720-0000-530010-	D	6,000
03/08/2022		060-08-4720-0000-530022-	C	5,000
03/08/2022		060-08-4720-0000-530010-	D	5,000
03/08/2022	Bldg. Svces	010-02-4910-4910-530021-	D	500
03/08/2022		010-02-4910-4910-530020-	D	300
03/08/2022		010-02-4910-4910-520011-	C	800
03/08/2022	Tax	010-01-4140-0000-540001-	C	1,500
03/08/2022		010-01-4140-0000-520012-	D	1,500
03/09/2022	Manager's Office	010-01-4120-0000-530015-	C	6,000
03/09/2022		010-01-4120-0000-540001-	D	6,000
03/09/2022		010-01-4120-0000-520011-	D	1,000
03/09/2022		010-01-4120-0000-530015-	C	1,000
03/15/2022	Co Police	010-02-4380-0000-520014-	C	5,000
03/15/2022		010-02-4380-0000-530010-	C	25,000
03/15/2022		010-02-4380-0000-530029-	C	10,000
03/15/2022		010-02-4380-0000-530021-	D	40,000
03/15/2022	Social Services	020-05-4790-0000-540005-	C	75,000
03/15/2022		020-05-4790-0000-530002-	D	75,000
03/16/2022	Bldg. Svces	012-02-4350-4351-520001-	C	564
03/16/2022		012-02-4350-4351-540001-	D	564
03/16/2022		012-02-4350-4911-520001-	C	854
03/16/2022		012-02-4350-4911-540001-	D	854
03/16/2022	Landfill	060-08-4720-0000-520007-	C	15,000
03/16/2022		060-08-4720-0000-530015-	D	15,000
03/16/2022		060-08-4720-0000-530030-	C	25,000
03/16/2022		060-08-4720-0000-530015-	D	25,000
03/16/2022		060-08-4720-0000-530013-	C	25,000
03/16/2022		060-08-4720-0000-530015-	D	25,000
03/16/2022	Co Police	010-02-4310-4310-530029-	C	29,000
03/16/2022		010-02-4310-4310-540002-	D	29,000
03/16/2022	Tourism	022-07-4921-0000-520015-	C	6,000
03/16/2022		022-07-4921-0000-530010-	D	6,000
03/16/2022		022-07-4921-0000-520011-	C	1,500



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03/16/2022		022-07-4921-0000-520013-	C	1,500
03/16/2022		022-07-4921-0000-520014-	C	500
03/16/2022		022-07-4921-0000-520017-	C	500
03/16/2022		022-07-4921-0000-520012-	D	4,000
03/16/2022	Social Services	020-05-5581-0000-560008-18055	C	5,000
03/16/2022		020-05-5581-0000-560008-18053	D	5,000
03/17/2022	HUSN	010-05-5810-5585-540005-	C	2,000
03/17/2022		010-05-5810-5585-540001-	D	2,000
03/17/2022		010-05-5810-5582-520007-	C	1,500
03/17/2022		010-05-5810-5582-520017-	D	1,500
03/17/2022		010-05-5810-5585-520002-22531	C	1,214
03/17/2022		010-05-5810-5585-540001-22531	D	1,214
03/17/2022	Co Police	010-02-4380-0000-540002-	C	29,407
03/17/2022		010-02-4380-0000-540001-	D	29,407
03/21/2022	Public Works	010-01-4265-4260-530023-18084	C	1,000
03/21/2022		010-01-4265-4260-530021-	D	1,000
03/21/2022	Info Tech	010-01-4210-0000-530002-	C	4,000
03/21/2022		010-01-4210-0000-530015-	D	4,000
03/22/2022	Tax	010-01-4140-0000-530021-	D	1,000
03/22/2022		010-01-4140-0000-530050-	C	1,000
03/22/2022	Library	010-04-6110-6112-520001-	C	5,500
03/22/2022		010-04-6110-6112-520011-	C	1,600
03/22/2022		010-04-6110-6112-520013-	C	1,500
03/22/2022		010-04-6110-6112-540001-	D	5,500
03/22/2022		010-04-6110-6113-540001-	D	3,100
03/22/2022		010-04-6110-6112-520001-	C	250
03/22/2022		010-04-6110-6112-530021-	D	250
03/22/2022	Grounds Maintenance	010-01-4261-0000-530023-	C	350
03/22/2022		010-01-4261-0000-530021-	D	350
03/22/2022	Natural Resources	010-07-4960-0000-530029-	C	2,500
03/22/2022		010-07-4960-0000-540001-	D	2,500
03/22/2022	Public Works	010-01-4265-4260-530010-	C	7,250
03/22/2022		010-01-4265-4260-530021-	D	7,250
03/23/2022	Bldg Inspections	012-02-4350-4351-520001-	C	773
03/23/2022		012-02-4350-4351-540001-	D	773
03/23/2022	Health	011-05-5119-0000-530021-	D	300
03/23/2022		011-05-5119-0000-520011-	C	300
03/23/2022	Social Services	020-05-4790-0000-540001-	C	10,000
03/23/2022		020-05-4790-0000-530015-	D	10,000
03/24/2022		020-05-4800-4810-530015-	C	800
03/24/2022		020-05-4800-4810-530002-	D	800
03/24/2022	GEMS	010-02-4370-0000-540002-	C	4,300
03/24/2022		010-02-4370-0000-540001-	D	4,300
03/24/2022	Sheriff	010-02-4315-4315-530029-	C	32,000
03/24/2022		010-02-4315-4315-530021-	D	32,000
03/29/2022	Social Services	020-05-4790-0000-520010-	C	2,000
03/29/2022		020-05-4790-0000-520005-	D	2,000

**2022-105 Commissioner Brown - County Manager - To Rescind Resolution 2013-230 and Authorize the County Manager to Enter into an Agreement with, and Allocate Annual Funding to the Gaston Community Foundation to Implement a Non-Profit Agency Grant Program, similar to the Program Administered by the Family Advisory Board. The Program is to be Funded in the FY23 Budget at the Current FY22 Level, Subject to Annual Budget Appropriation Thereafter; and, to Authorize the Dissolution of the Family Advisory Board as follows:**

WHEREAS, Gaston County Board of Commissioners adopted Resolution 2013-230 on July 30, 2013 to refer requests for funding by any non-profit agency to the Gaston County Family Advisory Board (FAB) prior to consideration by the Board of Commissioners; and,

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WHEREAS, the County has evaluated its non-profit agency funding grant process and has received and reviewed a proposal from the Gaston Community Foundation to manage the annual grant cycle previously administered by FAB, at an annual fee of 2%; and,

WHEREAS, the Gaston County Board of Commissioners finds that it is in the best interest of the County for the Gaston Community Foundation to administer the County's non-profit agency grant program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Gaston County Board of Commissioners that the Gaston Community Foundation proposal be approved and authorizes the County Manager to enter into an agreement with the Foundation to administer the non-profit agency grant program on behalf of the County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that:

- 1) The County Manager is authorized to allocate funding in the FY23 Budget at the current FY22 level, subject to annual budget appropriation thereafter.
- 2) Resolution 2013-230 is rescinded.
- 3) The Family Advisory Board is dissolved and the Clerk to the Board is authorized to make the necessary revisions in the Gaston County Appointment records.

**2022-106 Commissioner Brown - County Manager - To Accept the Donation of the Original Lyrics Penned by Judge William Gaston in 1835 of the Official State Song "Old North State" to Gaston County - Dedicated in Memory of Kathryn A. Hill**

**2022-107 Commissioners Brown and Fraley - County Manager - Resolution in Support of a Charter Communications Application to North Carolina Department of Information Technology Division of Broadband and Digital Equity Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology (GREAT) Grant Program and Charter Communications Desire to Expand Broadband Infrastructure to Unserved Areas of Gaston County as follows:**

WHEREAS, High-Speed internet is critical for the residents and businesses in Gaston County to learn, work, and achieve in the classroom, expand businesses, attract new industry, improve the health, safety and well-being for all in our community; and,

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Information Technology ("NCDIT") Division of Broadband and Digital Equity Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology ("GREAT") Grant program provides funding for capital investments to facilitate the deployment of broadband service to unserved areas of North Carolina; and,

WHEREAS, Charter Communications has identified three areas across northern Gaston County, consisting of 178 specific location addresses as unserved areas of the County and meeting eligibility for the Great Grant application process; and,

WHEREAS, Charter Communications has expressed a desire to include Gaston County as a partner on an application for GREAT grant funding on behalf of the community to connect unserved portions of the County, in an effort to leverage a portion of the \$350 million in the GREAT grant program funded by State of North Carolina ARPA funds; and,

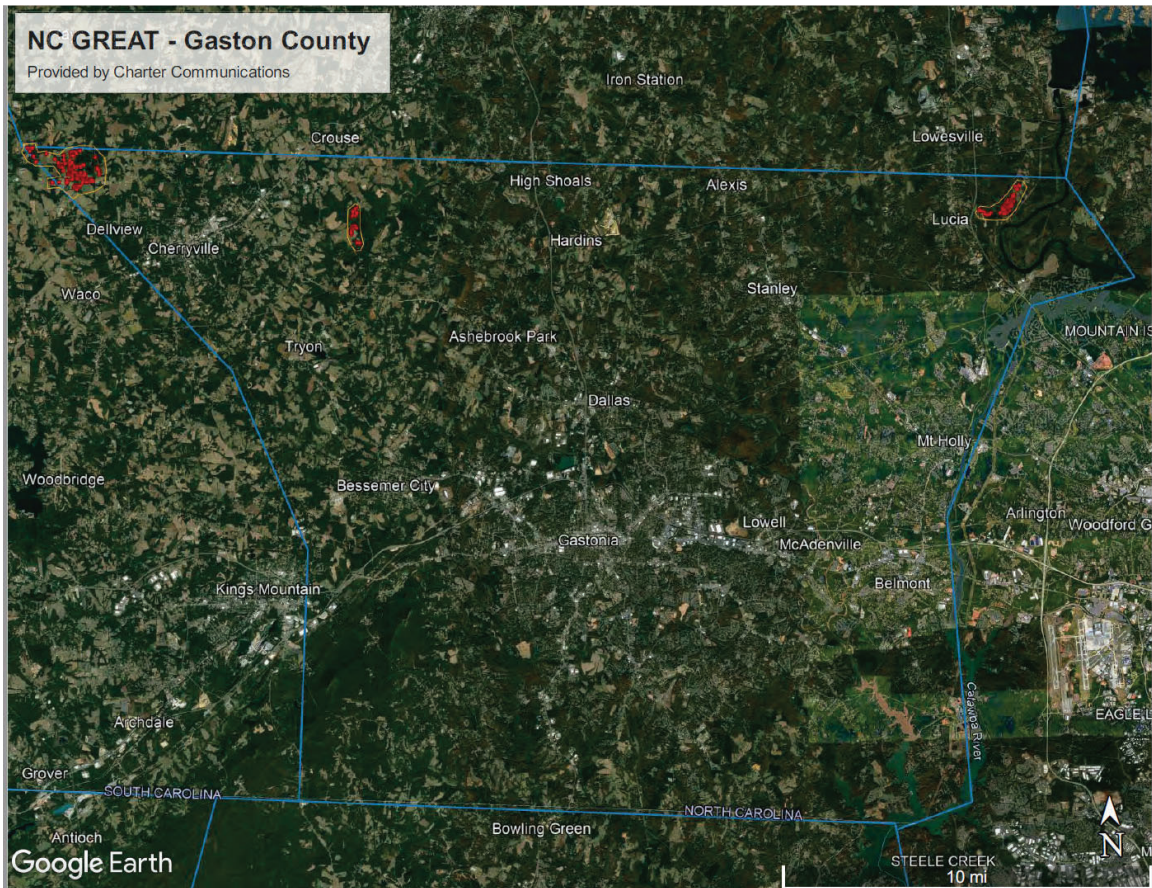
WHEREAS, the County is willing to support Charter Communications as they submit a competitive grant application by May 4, 2022; and,

WHEREAS, the proposal seeks to expand broadband and high-speed fiber connections to 178 unserved County addresses with the capability of download/upload speeds of 100/100 Mbps by December 2026; and,

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WHEREAS, upon application approval from NCDIT, the County through its allotment of ARPA funds, in an amount not to exceed \$65,500, will join Charter Communications in sharing the required matching funds, to support and leverage the amount awarded through the GREAT Grant program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners hereby declares support for the Charter Communication's application for the NCDIT's GREAT Grant application.



**2022-108 Commissioner Brown - DHHS (Health Division) - To Accept and Appropriate Additional Federal Grant Funds Received from the NC Division of Public Health for the ARPA COVID-19 School Health Team Workforce (\$235,245) per Budget Change Request:**

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
ARPA: School Health Team	011-05-5115-0000-420000-AG008	(\$235,245)
Prof Svc: School Hlth Team/ARPA	011-05-5115-0000-530010-AG008	\$235,245

**2022-109 Commissioner Brown - DHHS (Health Division) - To Appropriate Excess Fee Revenue Earned During Fiscal Year 2021 from Health Fund Balance for the Public Health Clinics and Environmental Health Program (\$114,666) per Budget Change Request:**

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Account Description	Account Number	Amount
Fund Balance Appropriated	011-99-9900-0000-490000-	(\$114,666)
Excess CA Fee Revenue	011-05-5110-0000-560000-15252	\$26,728
Excess Nutr. Fee Revenue	011-05-5112-5118-560000-20053	\$2,726
EH Excess Fee Revenue	011-05-5114-5125-560000-21020	\$76,335
ICS Excess Fee Revenue	011-05-5116-5131-560000-21021	\$8,877

**2022-110 Commissioner Brown - DHHS (Health Division) - Proclamation - To Proclaim the Week of April 4-10, 2022 as Public Health Week in Gaston County**

**2022-111 Commissioner Brown - DHHS (Social Services Division) - To Accept and Appropriate Additional Workforce Development Funds for the Dislocated Worker Program in the Amount of \$17,000 per Budget Change Request:**

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
WIOA- Dislocated Worker	020-05-4800-4812-425052-	(\$17,000)
WIOA-Dislocated Worker ProgramContract	020-05-4800-4812-560011-	\$17,000

**2022-112 Commissioner Brown - DHHS (Social Services Division) - To Accept and Appropriate Donated Funds Received During the Third Quarter of FY22 for Various Social Services Programs in the Amount of \$4,035 per Budget Change Request:**

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
Foster Care Donations	020-05-5867-0000-415001-	(100)
Adult Daycare Donations	020-05-5640-0000-415001-	(25)
Adult Services: Donations	020-05-5600-0000-415001-	(50)
Nutrition: Donations	020-05-5622-0000-415003-	(3,360)
Adoptions: Donations	020-05-5867-5471-415001-19072	(500)
Special Programs: Donations-Foster Care	020-05-5867-0000-560000-16194	100
Special Programs: Donations-Adult Daycar	020-05-5600-0000-560000-15260	25
Special Programs: Donations- Adult Serv	020-05-5600-0000-560000-08159	50
Special Programs: Donations- Nutrition	020-05-5600-0000-560000-15259	3,360
Special Programs: Donations-Adoptions	020-05-5867-5471-560000-19072	500

**2022-113 Commissioner Brown - DHHS (Social Services Division) - To Accept and Appropriate American Rescue Plan Act Funds through Centralina Area Agency on Aging for a Title III-C Nutrition Grant in the Amount of \$337,833 per Budget Change Request:**

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
ARPA: Title III-C Nutrition	020-05-5622-0000-420000-AG009	(\$337,833)
Part-time: <1K ARPA III-C Nut	020-05-5622-0000-510005-AG009	\$71,852
Part-time: > 1K ARPA III-C Nut	020-05-5622-0000-510006-AG009	\$71,852
FICA: ARPA III-C Nutrition	020-05-5622-0000-510100-AG009	\$11,000
Retire: ARPA III-C Nutrition	020-05-5622-0000-510101-AG009	\$8,622
401K Contrib:ARPA III-C Nutrit	020-05-5622-0000-510102-AG009	\$3,593
Health Ins: ARPA III-C Nutrit	020-05-5622-0000-510103-AG009	\$4,849
Unemp: ARPA III-C Nutrition	020-05-5622-0000-510104-AG009	\$400
Dental: ARPA III-C Nutrition	020-05-5622-0000-510108-AG009	\$500
Life: ARPA III-C Nutrition	020-05-5622-0000-510109-AG009	\$200
Prog Supp:ARPA III-C Nutrition	020-05-5622-0000-520002-AG009	\$3,000
Food: ARPA III-C Nutrition	020-05-5622-0000-520005-AG009	\$10,000
OtherComm:ARPA III-C Nutrition	020-05-5622-0000-530003-AG009	\$2,000
Other Svcs: ARPA III-C Nutrit	020-05-5622-0000-530015-AG009	\$94,965
Furn/Equip<\$5K: ARPA III-C Nut	020-05-5622-0000-540001-AG009	\$2,000
Vehicles: ARPA III-C Nutrition	020-05-5622-0000-540003-AG009	\$53,000



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**2022-114 Commissioner Brown - DHHS (Social Services Division) - To Accept and Appropriate Additional Federal Grant Funds for Emergency Rental Assistance Program through the US Treasury in the Amount of \$3,215,069 per Budget Change Request:**

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
Emergency Rental Assistance Grant 2	020-05-4790-0000-420000-22506	(\$3,215,069)
Emergency Rent Asst 2: Direct Payments	020-05-4790-0000-560000-22506	\$3,215,069

**2022-115 Commissioner Brown - DHHS (Social Services Division) - Proclamation - To Proclaim the Month of May 2022 as Older Americans Month**

**2022-116 Commissioner Brown - DHHS (Social Services Division) - Proclamation - To Proclaim the Month of May 2022 as Foster Care Awareness Month**

**2022-117 Commissioner Brown - DHHS (Social Services Division) - To Accept and Appropriate Additional Federal Crisis Intervention Program Funds in the Amount of \$171,245 per Budget Change Request:**

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
Crisis Intervention Program-revenue	020-05-5490-0000-425016-	(\$171,245)
Public Asst Payments -CIP	020-05-5490-0000-560008-20029	\$171,245

**2022-118 Commissioner Keigher - EDC - Amending Resolution No. 2021-215, dated August 24, 2021 "Authorizing Sale of Real Property for Economic Development and Level Four Economic Incentive Grant: Project Ashbury" - to Approve a Reimbursable Site Development Grant of up to \$250,000 as follows:**

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute 158-7.1 authorizes a county to undertake an economic development project by conveying property to a company in order to induce the company to locate or expand its operations within the county; and,

WHEREAS, Gaston County is the owner and developer of the Apple Creek Business Park, Parcel 9 of which is a 26.83 acre tract; and,

WHEREAS, Gaston County and Project Ashbury have engaged in private negotiations for the conveyance of Parcel 9, to the end that Project Ashbury may construct a manufacturing facility on the tract, and have reached a tentative agreement on the terms for conveyance of the property and for a Level Four Economic Incentive Grant; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Gaston County has held a public hearing to consider whether to approve conveyance of the tract and the Level Four grant to Project Ashbury.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners:

1. Authorizes the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Gaston County Board of Commissioners to execute the necessary documents to convey to Project Ashbury the real property more particularly described below:

See Attached Map

2. The conveyance of the property to Project Ashbury will stimulate the local economy, promote business, and result in the creation of a substantial number of jobs in Gaston County. The probable average annual wage at the facility to be constructed by Project Ashbury is \$41,000. The determination of the probable average hourly wage at the facility is based upon materials provided to the County by Project Ashbury.

3. The fair market value of the property, subject to the covenants and conditions associated with the Apple Creek Business Park, is \$70,000.00 per acre. This

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determination of fair market value is based upon the sales prices of comparable tracts of land, as reported to the Board of Commissioners.

4. As consideration for the conveyance of the property, Project Ashbury will pay \$65,000.00 per acre, subject to survey, at closing. This facility will generate property tax revenues over the next ten years in an amount at least to sufficient return to the County the total fair market value of the property.
5. As further consideration for the conveyance of the property, Project Ashbury has agreed to construct on the property an advanced manufacturing facility at a cost of at least \$48,000,000.
6. The Level Four incentive grant to Project Ashbury is approved.
7. A site development grant of up to \$250,000.00 is approved. The County will be reimbursed for the site development grant from the proceeds of the Level Four incentive grant referenced above.



**2022-119 Commissioner Worley - Finance - To Accept as Information the Attached Property Tax Refunds Less than \$100. These Tax Refunds Should Be Recorded in the Board's Minutes. (Total NCVTS Refunds - \$6,104.92) as follows:**

TAXPAYER NAME	AMOUNT	TAXPAYER NAME	AMOUNT
<b>DECEMBER 2021 REFUNDS</b>			
ABERNATHY, SANDRA LACKEY	37.98	GRANT, JASON RANDELL	28.66
ALMOND, THOMAS WAYNE	12.04	HARTZIG, EDWARD GEORGE III	87.07
ANDERSON, DEBBIE DENISE	26.07	HUFFSTETLER, ELIZABETH SHORT	63.00
BAGGETT, GARY JAMES	30.16	HURST, MELISSA BELINDA	37.80

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BEARD, FRANKLIN LEON JR	8.86	JONES, ANDREW WAYNE	37.85
BLACHFORD, IAN GEORGE	51.80	LADD, JENNIFER HELMS	71.21
BLACK, JAKE MONROE JR	44.80	MORAN, JENNIFER SAMES	83.76
BOWERS, DEAN ALBERT	94.05	NANCE, BOBBY REID III	47.04
BUCHANAN, TYLER DAWSON	16.28	PILLOCK, GREGORY ALLAN	24.97
BUMGARDNER, EUGENE RAY	21.66	QUEEN, DAVID	3.12
BYNUM, DOUGLAS ALAN	78.11	RANDOLPH, ROBERT RICHARD	44.63
CHIBBARO, RUDOLPH ANTHONY	61.53	REISENFELD, SAMUEL CHARLES	86.57
CLONINGER, BARBARA LINEBERGER	11.32	RELIFORD, DYISHA LYNNE	29.45
CRISP, CARLA MARIE	93.89	SALOMON, KELLY ANN	47.54
CRISP, CHARLES LAMAR	30.97	SHELLEY, DOLORES MARIA	23.67
CULBERTSON, STEVEN EUGENE	69.75	STRICKLER, ELAINE LOWRY	45.55
CURTIS, JERRY MARK	55.85	SUTTON, ALEX JERRY	63.71
DEGNAN, KEVIN JOHN	14.68	TRAPP, DARIN	63.95
DUTREMBLE, CRYSTAL LYNN CLONINGER	14.61	WALLACE, MELISSA ANNETTE	90.79
ENGELHARDT, MICHAEL BENJAMIN	71.87	WHITE, DENNIS MITCHELL	13.69
ERLANDSON, DILON SCOTT	39.05	WRIGHT, CARL DAVID	75.48
ESCOBAR, LUIS CARLOS	86.37	<b>Total NCVTS Refunds (December 2021)</b>	<b>\$2,084.18</b>
FAGGART, WILLIAM SCOTT	42.97		

**JANUARY 2022 REFUNDS**

BENNETT, JEFFREY DICKSON	34.33	HESS, ALFRED JOHN JR	54.90
CABLE, JEFFREY GLENN	27.41	KENDRICK, PATRICIA LAWING	59.65
CASWELL, KATHERINE ELIZABETH	38.47	KNIGHT, MATTHEW THOMAS	54.82
DEANDREA, CHRISTINA MARY LEE	61.90	MURPHY, KENNETH EUGENE	94.57
DEWINNE, ERIK JOSEF	10.15	PATEL, RAJESHKUMAR BHIKHUBHAI	59.96
EDWARDS, JOSEPH CHRISTOPHER	79.81	PRESCOTT, JAMES KEVIN	23.78
EDWARDS, JOSEPH CHRISTOPHER	75.60	PRINS, JENNIFER ANN	38.11
FAIRCLOTH, JARVIS HERMAN JRE	88.29	SAMUELS, LACRISHA DAMARA	94.38
GRATTON, JAMES LOUIS	42.09	SHEPPARD, ANDREA TIERRA	58.15
GROOM, CARISA DAYNEL	23.29	UNDERDOWN, DUSTIN ALAN	11.82
HALL, GEORGE QUINCY JR	11.66	WATKINS, JULIE NOEL	33.62
HENRY, CHAD ROBERT	64.16	<b>Total NCVTS Refunds (January 2022)</b>	<b>\$1,140.92</b>

**FEBRUARY 2022 REFUNDS**

ALLMAN, LANE BURRIS	28.38	MCGONAGLE, TIMOTHY BRIAN	8.30
BECKER, ROBERT JAMES	27.78	MOCANU, GREGORY JOHN	75.51
BORTOLUSSI, PAUL ROBERT	69.90	NEWELL, WILLIAM SAMUEL	0.90
BRADY, MELODY ANN	24.25	NEWELL, WILLIAM SAMUEL	10.05
BRYANT, RICHARD EUGENE JR	22.51	OBERMILLER, MATTHEW JOSEPH	76.19
BUMGARDNER, JOHN HUNTER	79.58	PARKER, DOUGLAS SCOTT	8.57
BURK, JOSHUA ALAN	6.18	PASSMORE, MARTHA TUCKER	19.47
BURNS, LISA BROOME	81.50	PHILLIPS, DOUGLAS MARK	51.27
BUTLER, JEROME MACK JR	15.82	RALEY, JENNIFER ANN	36.95
CARLOW, JIMMIE MARTIN	32.03	RANDALL, LANCE TIMOTHY	71.61
DEAN, MICHAEL KEITH	23.08	RANDALL, LANCE TIMOTHY	35.31
DUGAN, BARBARA ANN	41.51	ROBINSON, ANTHONY LEE	51.24
DUNN, TIMOTHY MICHAEL	35.98	ROBINSON, IDA PAYSEUR	46.70
EVANS, JANICE LYNN	99.83	ROTH, MATTHEW STEVEN	27.43
FALLS, RONALD EDWARD	18.90	RUSH, DEBRA JEAN	38.88
FERGUSON, AMANDA LYNN	62.26	SAHA ROY, DIPANKAR	72.49
FIELDS, ANN RICE	23.19	SANDOVAL, RAUL	71.57
GREENE, DAVID PHILLIP JR	97.20	SCALZO, DAVID MICHAEL	9.57
GROELKE, KRISTIN NICOLE	50.32	SLADE, CORRY RICARDO	57.58
GUNTER, ERIK LYNN	64.04	SMITH, CHRISTOPHER ALLEN	77.63
HAMRICK, KENNETH BRANDON	98.01	SMITH, DEBRA ROSE	28.92
HAMRICK, KENNETH BRANDON	47.78	SMITH, NATHAN SCOTT	9.64
HARRIS, DAVID DURELL	21.81	STROUPE, TIMOTHY JOSHUA	79.91
HIOTT, JOSHUA BLAKE	60.60	TAVENNER, JOHN MORRISON	29.50
JACKSON, LOTTIE COOPER	33.02	TAYLOR, SHAWN ELIZABETH	84.98
JARRELL, NANCY THOMPSON	45.53	THOMAS, JERRY LEE	12.71
JESSEN, STEPHEN CHARLES	54.32	THOMAS, JERRY LEE	28.28
JONES, JERRY REID	14.48	WEBB, MARK ALEXANDER	69.86



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KISTEL, CARL JOHN JR	96.82	WHITAKER, RACHEL MCKEE	72.73
LANGEVN, JUSTIN WAYNE	66.80	WINDHAM, LINDSAY ALLISON	50.13
MANNEH, ABDOULIE	26.21	<b>Total NCVTS Refunds (February 2022)</b>	<b>\$ 2,879.82</b>
MANTECON, VALENTINO JESUS	85.07		
MARTIN, KEITH DEVONDE	11.25	<b>Total NCVTS Refunds:</b>	<b>\$ 6,104.92</b>

**2022-120 Commissioner Worley - Finance - To Accept and Appropriate Federal CARES Act Funds in the Amount of \$100,961.34 for GEMS per Budget Change Request:**

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
CARES Act Funding	010-02-4370-0000-420000-20574	(100,961.34)
Salaries: CARES	010-02-4370-0000-510001-20574	100,961.34

**2022-121 Commissioner Worley - Finance - Appropriation of Accumulated Investment Earnings from January 1, 2022 through March 31, 2022 (\$849.46) per Budget Change Request:**

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
Investment Earnings - School Bonds	040-03-8300-0000-412011-	(728.08)
School Bonds - 5/24/16	040-03-5911-0000-540100-16283	97.27
School Bonds - 9/22/17	040-03-5911-0000-540100-18137	28.74
School Bonds - 11/15/18	040-03-5911-0000-540100-19040	602.07
Gaston College Bond Interest	040-03-8300-0000-412012-	(3.01)
Gaston College 2007 Bonds	040-03-5921-0000-540100-08252	3.01
Interest - Police Treasury / Justice	025-02-8300-0000-412002-	(31.17)
Drug Forfeitures - US Treasury	025-02-4310-4310-530043-10002	27.56
Drug Forfeitures - Justice	025-02-4310-4310-530044-50113	3.59
Drug Lab Supplies	025-02-4310-4310-530048-	0.02
Interest - Sheriff Treasury / Justice	025-02-8300-0000-412004-	(4.62)
Drug Forfeitures - US Treasury	025-02-4315-4315-530043-04243	4.49
Drug Forfeitures - Justice	025-02-4315-4315-530044-19066	0.13
Interest - USUB Police	026-02-8300-0000-412006-	(14.91)
Controlled Substance Abuse Tax	026-02-4310-4310-530045-50112	14.91
Interest - USUB Sheriff	026-02-8300-0000-412007-	(3.07)
Controlled Substance Abuse Tax	026-02-4315-4315-530045-02192	3.07
Interest - Urgent Repair Program	010-07-8300-0000-412010-	(0.93)
2021 Urgent Repair Program	010-07-4935-0000-560000-22503	0.93
Interest - ROAP	010-01-8300-0000-412005-	(16.53)
Transportation of Clients	010-01-4521-0000-560001-	16.53
Interest - Provider Relief Funds	010-02-4370-0000-412019-	(47.14)
Salaries: CARES	010-02-4370-0000-510001-20574	47.14

**2022-122 Commissioner Fraley - GEMS - Proclamation - To Proclaim the Week of May 15-21, 2022 as Emergency Medical Services Week in Gaston County**

**2022-123 Commissioner Brown - Hope United Survivor Network - To Approve a Program Manager Position Using Federal Funds Previously Accepted and Appropriated (March 22, 2022 - Resolution 2022-043)**

**2022-124 Commissioner Brown - Hope United Survivor Network - To Accept and Appropriate Donation Funds Totaling \$40,266.49 for Hope United Survivor**

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**Network, The Cathy Mabry Cloninger Center and the Lighthouse per Budget Change Request:**

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
Shelter Donations Revenue	010-05-5810-5582-415001-	(\$36,753.13)
Donations (Shelter Expense)	010-05-5810-5582-560000-08162	\$36,753.13
CAC Donations Revenue	010-05-5810-5585-415001-	(\$919.00)
Kara's Kloset (CAC Expense)	010-05-5810-5585-415001-20045	\$919.00
HUSN Donations Revenue	010-05-5810-0000-415001-	(\$2,594.36)
Donations (HUSN Expense)	010-05-5810-0000-560000-22218	\$2,594.36

- 2022-125 Commissioner Brown - Hope United Survivor Network - To Approve Specialty Office Furnishings as a Sole Source Provider for the Purchase of Used Office Furniture (\$46,288.00 pre-tax)**
- 2022-126 Commissioner Brown - Hope United Survivor Network - Proclamation - To Proclaim the Month of April 2022 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Gaston County**
- 2022-127 Commissioner Brown - Internal Audit - Proclamation - To Proclaim the Month of May, 2022 as Internal Audit Awareness Month in Gaston County**
- 2022-128 Commissioner Hovis - Police Department (Animal Care and Enforcement) - Proclamation - To Request the Week of April 10-16, 2022 as Animal Care and Enforcement Appreciation Week to Recognize Animal Care and Enforcement Personnel and their Diligence and Professionalism in the Care and Custody of our Community's Pets and other Animals**
- 2022-129 Commissioner Worley - Police Department (Communications 911) - Proclamation - To Proclaim April 10-16, 2022 as Public Safety Telecommunicators Week in Gaston County to Recognize Public Safety Telecommunications Personnel and Their Crucial Roles in the Protection of Life and Property**
- 2022-130 Commissioner Worley - Police Department/Sheriff's Office - Proclamation - To Proclaim May 15-21, 2022 as Law Enforcement Week and May 15, 2022 as Peace Officer's Memorial Day in Gaston County**
- 2022-131 Commissioner Keigher - Public Works - To Purchase Property (PID 146143) Adjacent to County-Owned Property at 1120 CP Groves Rd., Gastonia, for the Expansion of Crowder's Creek Convenience/Recycling Center**
- 2022-132 Commissioners Brown and Johnson - Public Works - To Authorize the County Manager, or Her Designee, to Execute a Professional Services Design Contract with McMillan Pazdan Smith Architecture for the Health Department Major Renovation Programming & Planning Totaling \$246,300.00**
- 2022-133 Commissioner Keigher - Public Works - To Award a Construction Contract for ADA Renovations at the Veterans Services Office to T.C. Strickland**

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**Construction Company for \$811,800 and Authorize the County Manager, or Her Designee, to Execute Any Necessary Contract Documents**

- 2022-134 Commissioner Johnson - Sheriff's Office - To Accept and Appropriate Funds Received from Cardio Partners, Inc. for Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) Trade-In (\$3,300) per Budget Change Request:**

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE	010-02-4315-4315-415000	(3,300)
OTHER MEDICAL SUPPLIES	010-02-4315-4315-520004	3,300

- 2022-135 Commissioner Johnson - Sheriff's Office - Proclamation - To Proclaim the Week of May 1-7, 2022 as Correctional Officers and Correctional Employees Week in Gaston County**

- 2022-136 Commissioner Fraley - Tax Collections - Pursuant to G.S. 105-381, the Tax Collector Requests that the Listed Tax Refunds be Made. (Releases and Refunds - \$403.50; Overpayments - \$9,406.08; VTS Refunds - \$12,478.58; Grand Total - \$22,288.16) as follows:**

TAXPAYER NAME	AMOUNT
<b>MARCH 2022 RELEASES AND REFUNDS</b>	
Reflection Point HO Assoc Inc	\$403.50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$403.50</b>
<b>MARCH 2022 OVERPAYMENTS</b>	
A L Parker Property Management, LLC	\$293.68
Andino, Yvetter	\$229.27
Brooks, James L Jr	\$283.76
Castro, Pedro F Jr	\$147.33
Eubanks, Thomas	\$308.00
Fuentes, Juan	\$355.93
Gallimore, Darlene H	\$163.50
Gallimore, Darlene H	\$100.00
Hawkins, Lori	\$113.00
Hawkins, Lori	\$113.00
Helms, Anthony Earl	\$269.78
Hill, Ramona	\$103.36
Hines, Marion E	\$319.33
Holloway, Ramona Renee	\$604.59
Jeffries, Jerry Jr	\$177.13
Jenny P. Holman	\$220.44
Koenig, Aimee J	\$281.08
McClun, Matthew A.	\$400.75
McKown, Samantha	\$178.78
Meacham, Kent E	\$250.00
Montero, Sandra	\$185.23
Moore, Sherry c	\$117.78
Pitts, Carla Jean	\$105.77
Sitton, Russell	\$272.00
Stroup Acres, LLC	\$112.14
Thompson, Glenda	\$131.00
Thompson, Glenda	\$131.00
Underdown, John Marshall	\$111.28
Vanderbilt Mortgage And Finance Inc	\$2,054.62
Vickery, Curtis Dale	\$366.79
Watson, Charles Anthony	\$299.64
West Transport LLC	\$456.12
Williams, Charles Ray	\$150.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$9,406.08</b>

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**MARCH 2022 VTS REFUNDS**

Albarran, Marie Dawn	\$234.07
Allen, Vernon Leroy	\$265.61
Alyea, Brant Jose	\$257.66
Armistead, John Larry	\$170.04
Aycock, Brandon Charles	\$197.94
Bankston, Darel Kirby	\$400.14
Barnes, Terry Lee	\$303.52
Buckles, Robert William	\$173.76
City Fire And Safety Inc	\$491.50
Clemons, Roger Dale	\$182.35
Dang, Doan Phoung Thi	\$150.72
Dellinger, Betsy Cox	\$499.48
Edwards, Kelly Taylor	\$188.41
Falls, Boyce Palmer	\$378.28

**MARCH 2022 VTS REFUNDS (Continued)**

Farris, Karen Leanne	\$190.73
Floyd, Philip Ray	\$381.61
Hancock, David Jay	\$279.98
Herman Reeves Textile Sheet Metal Inc	\$403.91
Keyes-Walker, Darnell	\$169.11
Killian, Leon Daryl	\$337.50
Knighten, Rebecca Sealey	\$125.08
Layfield, Jeffery Keith	\$160.04
Levan, Robert Mitchell	\$143.23
Lockman, Danny Ralph	\$183.10
Lugo, Tiffany Marie	\$361.35
Mullis, John Henry Jr	\$222.06
Neal, Wendell Jerome	\$225.94
Neal, Wendell Jerome	\$1,541.98
Okeefe, James Michael	\$583.47
Quinn, Kyle Aaron	\$148.35
Rice, James Lee	\$364.39
Rice, James Lee	\$104.93
Rowe, Danielle Nicole	\$209.34
Sheffield Insurance Agency Inc JTW	\$600.75
Sheffield, Michael William	\$100.58
Soriano, Elizabeth Crosby	\$546.94
Stafford, Tammy Rolland	\$162.36
Still, John Elton Jr	\$101.71
Tynan, Patrick John	\$101.32
Velasquez, Jorge Alberto Jr	\$221.37
Walker, Michael Allen	\$453.42
Willis, Justin Lee	\$160.55
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,478.58</b>

**GRAND TOTAL**

**\$22,288.16**

**2022- 137 Commissioner Brown - Tourism Development - Proclamation - To Proclaim the Week of May 1-7, 2022 as Travel & Tourism Week in Gaston County**

**2022-138 Commissioners Hovis and Worley - EDC - To Approve a Danger Tree Agreement and Authorize a Perpetual Easement and Right of Way with Duke Energy Carolina, LLC. for Parcel E of PID 214142, Alliance Real Estate, South Ridge Business Park**

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**2022 Legislative Requests****2022-139 Board of Commissioners – Legislative Request: Legislative Agenda for the 2022 Session of the North Carolina General Assembly**

On motion introduced by Commissioner Philbeck and seconded by Commissioner Worley, the BOC unanimously approved **2022-139** as follows:

WHEREAS, the Gaston County Board of Commissioners are committed to strengthen and diversify Gaston County's economy, make Gaston County a top choice of business and industry expansion and to encourage the growth of safe and healthy communities; and,

WHEREAS, job creation, economic development, education, workforce development, healthy communities, public safety and quality of life are adopted priorities of the Commission and are important guiding principles for future policy decisions; and,

WHEREAS, the Gaston County Board of Commissioners recognizes that State policies, programs and investments can have a significant influence on local policy-making; and,

WHEREAS, the Gaston County Board of Commissioners has identified numerous goals for consideration and support during the 2022 General Assembly Session.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners respectfully requests the Gaston County Delegation to the North Carolina General Assembly to:

1. Support the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners' legislative priorities; most importantly, oppose unfunded mandates and any shifts of State responsibilities to counties.
2. Focus on Economic Development:
  - A. Continue to support tax policy to promote advancement of a business climate in Gaston County that fosters competitiveness, encourages new investment and provides for the expansion of current industry to support the local workforce and quality of life:
    - Oppose new and repeal targeted taxes, policies, codes and rules that would impede business development.
    - Continue support of Local Option Sales Tax and maintaining dedicated revenue for economic development.
  - B. Support job creation and retention efforts; fully fund job recruitment efforts and support various economic development performance based incentives:
    - Maintain economic development programs of Golden Leaf Foundation
    - Maintain the Governor's One NC Funds
    - Continue support for workforce development through the Community College system and to strengthen the educational offerings in partnerships with industry and K-12 education; including programs like College and Career Promise and Early College
    - Support State investment in rural infrastructure of water and sewer.
  - C. Support funding for travel and tourism, historic preservation, land conservation, state parks and the arts in North Carolina as it spurs economic development:
    - Support Crowder's Mountain State Park
    - Support Mountain Island Educational State Forest
  - D. Encourage Federal Delegation to support:
    - Expansion of the H-1B Visa Program
    - A. Crucial to recruitment of foreign companies

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- B. Allows new and existing companies to engage their foreign workers in specific training fields
  - C. Need to allow additional visas to be issued to support the set up of foreign companies
  - D. Expansion of Gastonia's Municipal Airport
  - E. LYNX Silver Line light rail expansion from Charlotte to Belmont.
3. Support Transportation Funding:
- Support the funding of transportation improvements required for new business and industry as well as high residential growth regions
  - Support the development of innovative and sustainable methods of funding transportation and infrastructure projects to meet the needs of our growing population, including a mix of funding methods such as bonds, public-private partnerships, and new revenue sources
  - Support LOCAL Transportation Funding Priorities which include:
    - o Bridge over Catawba River (South Fork Crossing/Catawba Crossing)
    - o Widening of I-85
4. Continue to Support appointments of Gaston County residents, who are interested, to statewide boards and commissions. Specific commissions of interest include, but are not limited to: Parks and Recreation Trust Fund, Board of Transportation, Property Tax Commission, Partnership for Children, Local Government Retirement System, Local Government Commission and Housing Finance Agency.
5. Support the reinvestment of lottery ticket sale proceeds for education spending as originally intended and restore the statutory requirement that 40% of net lottery proceeds be allocated to counties for school capital needs.
6. Support funding for school facilities.
7. Support LME-MCO, Partners Health Management as local publicly managed behavioral health services, in order to preserve locally driven system of care. Support every county's right to choose and contract the LME-MCO that serves their community.
8. Support funding for School Resource Officers. Support flexibility to allow retired officers working as SROs to be compensated without compromise to their retirement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Gaston County Legislative Delegation to the NC General Assembly and the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners.

**Non-Consent**

**2022-140 Commissioner Hovis - Emergency Management and Fire Services - To Dissolve the Current Gaston County Fire Advisory Board and Create a New Gaston County Fire Commission**

On motion introduced by Commissioner Keigher and seconded by Commissioner Worley, the BOC unanimously approved **2022-140** as follows:

WHEREAS, there currently exists a Fire Advisory Board for Gaston County initially created on September 02, 1958; and,

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WHEREAS, the Gaston County Board of Commissioners established and defined the Gaston County Fire Protection Service District to provide fire protection and rescue services throughout the unincorporated areas of the County on March 22, 2022, Resolution 2022-066, and this new district shall take effect on July 1, 2022; and,

WHEREAS, the current Fire Advisory Board, to be dissolved June 30, 2022, has served the County well, but will no longer be effective with the implementation of the recently approved Gaston County Fire Protection Service District, as the role of a board of this nature will expand greatly with this change; and,

WHEREAS, Gaston County Board of Commissioners have identified the following key goals for the Gaston County Fire Protection Service District:

- Sustainable funding long-term for the fire service in Gaston County in order to strengthen service delivery.
- A higher level of equity in levels of service delivery across the unincorporated areas of Gaston County, enabling service contracts with all service providers to be more similar in terms of expectations of services delivered, response times, first unit arrival, full complement, etc.
- Establishing a strengthened governance structure for the Gaston County Board of Commissioners for unincorporated fire protection by establishing a commission (or similar) comprised of both fire service and citizens that will review fire service funding issues and make authorized, researched recommendations to the Board of Commissioners for adoption.
- Develop dynamic funding formulas for each contracting fire department that reflect several key indicators of hazard and risk and represent a fair and realistic reflection of the cost to protect each response area. These funding formulas will reflect data from multiple years and fairly represent municipal needs in a balanced cost share model so that there is parity for all taxpayers when contracting fire departments serve both unincorporated areas as well as municipalities.
- Establish a more equitable level of fire service taxation across the unincorporated areas of Gaston County to support these core, essential services; and

WHEREAS, the Gaston County Board of Commissioners desire to establish the Gaston County Fire Commission and this new commission shall take effect on July 1, 2022; and,

WHEREAS, the mission of the Gaston County Fire Commission shall be to make formal recommendations to the Gaston County Board of Commissioners on fire protection and emergency services delivery by the non-governmental fire departments serving the Gaston County Fire Protection Service District; and,

WHEREAS, the role of the Gaston County Fire Commission members, as approved by the Gaston County Board of Commissioners are as follows:

- Review and make recommendations on non-governmental fire department contracts.
- Review and make recommendations on operating budget requests.
- Review and make recommendations on capital budget requests.
- Review grant requests from departments and make recommendations for implementation.
- Review and support firefighter and volunteer incentive retention and recruitment programs.
- Develop and review performance measurement metrics for contract compliance.
- Make recommendations to the Gaston County Board of Commissioners for continuing improvement of the fire protection system.
- Review and develop non-governmental fire department response standards.
- Review insurance ratings and consultants' reports and recommend action for improvement as deemed necessary.
- Develop and provide overview of all service district operational regulations and guidelines for the Gaston County Fire Protection Service District.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners hereby dissolves the Fire Advisory Board, effective June 30, 2022, and establishes the Gaston County Fire Commission as of July 1, 2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Gaston County Fire Commission will be appointed by the Gaston County Board of Commissioners (BOC) in accordance with the BOC Appointment Policy and Application process, and will consist of twelve (12) members as follows:



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- One (1) member of the Gaston County Board of Commissioners is to be appointed by the Full Board of Commissioners to serve a one-year term (ex-officio/voting).
- Six (6) members who are fire and emergency services "subject matter experts" (SMEs). Current Board of Directors members or Fire Chiefs of fire departments contracting with the County, shall not be appointed to any of these seats. SMEs shall reside in the unincorporated area of Gaston County and will serve in at-large seats from the Gaston Townships as follows:
  - o (1) Cherryville Township
  - o (1) Dallas Township
  - o (1) Riverbend Township
  - o (1) Crowders Mountain Township
  - o (1) Gastonia Township
  - o (1) South Point Township
- One (1) member who resides in one of the municipalities who are part of the Gaston County Fire Protection Service District. Current Board of Directors members or Fire Chiefs of fire departments contracting with the County, shall not be appointed to this seat.
- Three (3) members who are citizens at-large. Citizens shall reside in the unincorporated area of Gaston County and current Board of Directors members or Fire Chiefs of fire departments contracting with the County, shall not be appointed to any of these seats.
- The Gaston County Fire Marshal (ex-officio/non-voting).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners hereby establishes the membership of the Gaston County Fire Commission as follows:

<b>Representing</b>	<b>Term Expiration</b>	<b>Appointment</b>
County Commissioner (1-yr term) – ex-officio/voting	June 30, 2023	Full Board
County Fire Marshal (1-yr term) – ex-officio/non-voting	June 30, 2023	Full Board
	<b>Initial Term Expiration*</b>	
Cherryville Township	June 30, 2025	CH Twp.
Dallas Township	June 30, 2024	D Twp.
Riverbend Township	June 30, 2023	R Twp.
Crowders Mountain Township	June 30, 2025	CM Twp.
Gastonia Township (1)	June 30, 2024	G Twp.
South Point Township	June 30, 2023	SP Twp.
At Large	June 30, 2025	Full Board
At Large	June 30, 2024	Full Board
At Large	June 30, 2023	Full Board
Municipal Representative	June 30, 2025	G Twp.

**\* Initial Term Staggered -  
3-Yr Terms Thereafter**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Gaston County Fire Commission will develop Bylaws/Rules of Procedure for approval by the Gaston County Board of Commissioners.

**2022-141 Commissioners Brown, Fraley, Hovis, Keigher and Worley - Finance - To Amend Gaston County ARPA Grant Project Ordinance 2021-264 to Approve and Appropriate Project Funding for Four Waterline Extension Projects (\$1,277,000) and Amend the Budget for the Grants Manager Position (\$33,341)**

On motion introduced by Commissioner Keigher and seconded by Commissioner Philbeck, the BOC unanimously approved **2022-141** as follows:

BE IT ORDAINED by the County Commissioners of Gaston County, North Carolina, pursuant to Section 13.2 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, that:

**Section 1:** This ordinance is to establish a budget for a project to be funded by the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds of H.R. 1319 American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (CSLRF). Gaston County has received the first tranche in the amount of

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\$21,806,063 of CSLRF funds. The total allocation is \$43,612,126, with the remainder to be distributed to the County within 12 months. These funds may be used for the following categories of expenditures, to the extent authorized by state law.

1. Support public health expenditures, by funding COVID-19 mitigation efforts, medical expenses, behavioral healthcare, and certain public health and safety staff
2. Address negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency, including economic harms to workers, households, small businesses, impacted industries, and the public sector
3. Replace lost public sector revenue, using this funding to provide government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the pandemic
4. Provide premium pay for essential workers, offering additional support to those who have borne and will bear the greatest health risks because of their service in critical infrastructure sectors
5. Invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure, making necessary investments to improve access to clean drinking water, support vital wastewater and stormwater infrastructure, and to expand access to broadband internet.

**Section 2:** The following amounts are appropriated for the project and authorized for expenditure:

CSLRF Project \$43,612,126\*

## Project Allocations

• FJC Program Project	\$ 616,366 - Approved 09/28/2021
• Grants Manager Position	\$ 535,159 - Approved 12/14/2021
• Short-term Emergency Housing Assistance	\$ 250,000 - Approved 01/11/2022
• Cherryville Park Design	\$ 200,000 - Approved 03/22/2022
• <b>Grants Manager Position (Budget Increase)</b>	<b>\$ 33,341 (BCR Attached) - 4/26/2022</b>
• <b>North Belmont Park Waterline Extension</b>	<b>\$ 300,000 (BCR Attached) - 4/26/2022</b>
• <b>Lowell Elementary School Waterline Extension</b>	<b>\$ 5,000 (BCR Attached) - 4/26/2022</b>
• <b>Chapel Grove Elementary Waterline Extension</b>	<b>\$ 472,000 (BCR Attached) - 4/26/2022</b>
• <b>Tryon Elementary Waterline Extension</b>	<b>\$ 500,000 (BCR Attached) - 4/26/2022</b>

Remaining Available CSLRF Project \$40,700,260

[\*Once it is determined how we will spend all or a portion of the ARP funds, the governing board will amend this section to authorize appropriations for specific programs, services, projects, and activities. The Board may also appropriate some or all of these funds to an enterprise fund in an annual budget ordinance for a water, wastewater, or stormwater infrastructure project.]

**Section 3:** The following revenues are anticipated to be available to complete the project:

CSLRF Funds \$43,612,126

• ARPA: Family Justice Center	\$ 616,366 - Approved 09/28/2021
• Grants Manager Position	\$ 535,159 - Approved 12/14/2021
• Short-term Emergency Housing Assistance	\$ 250,000 - Approved 01/11/2022
• Cherryville Park Design	\$ 200,000 - Approved 03/22/2022
• <b>Grants Manager Position (Budget Increase)</b>	<b>\$ 33,341 - 4/26/2022</b>
• <b>North Belmont Park Waterline Extension</b>	<b>\$ 300,000 - 4/26/2022</b>
• <b>Lowell Elementary School Waterline Extension</b>	<b>\$ 5,000 - 4/26/2022</b>
• <b>Chapel Grove Elementary Waterline Extension</b>	<b>\$ 472,000 - 4/26/2022</b>
• <b>Tryon Elementary Waterline Extension</b>	<b>\$ 500,000 - 4/26/2022</b>

Remaining Available CSLRF Project \$40,700,260

**Section 4:** The Finance Officer is hereby directed to maintain sufficient specific detailed accounting records to satisfy the requirements of the grantor agency and the grant agreements.

**Section 5:** The Finance Officer is hereby directed to report the financial status of the project to the governing board on a quarterly basis.

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**Section 6:** Copies of this grant project ordinance shall be furnished to the Budget Officer, the Finance Officer and to the Clerk to County Commissioners.

**Section 7:** This grant project ordinance expires on December 31, 2026, or when all the CSLRF funds have been obligated and expended by the County, whichever occurs sooner.

and per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
ARPA: Grants Manager	010-01-4130-4135-420000-22528	(33,341)
Salaries: ARPA Grants Mgr	010-01-4130-4135-510001-22528	16,860
FICA: ARPA Grants Mgr	010-01-4130-4135-510100-22528	1,570
Retirement: ARPA Grants Mgr	010-01-4130-4135-510101-22528	2,993
Health Insurance: APRA Grants Mgr	010-01-4130-4135-510103-22528	(9,500)
Unemployment	010-01-4130-4135-510104-22528	(100)
Dental Insurance: ARPA Grants Mgr	010-01-4130-4135-510108-22528	(250)
Life Insurance: ARPA Grants Mgr	010-01-4130-4135-510109-22528	7,500
401K Contrib: ARPA Grants Mgr	010-01-4130-4135-510102-22528	918
Printing	010-01-4130-4135-520013-22528	1,250
Employee Training: ARPA Grants Mgr	010-01-4130-4135-520011-22528	350
Advertising	010-01-4130-4135-520015-22528	9,650
Telephone	010-01-4130-4135-530002-22528	2,100
ARPA: Chapel Grove Water Line	041-01-4265-4135-420000-AR005	(472,000)
ARPA: Tryon Elem Water Line	041-01-4265-4135-420000-AR006	(500,000)
ARPA: Lowell Elem Water Line	041-01-4265-4135-420000-AR008	(5,000)
ARPA: N. Belmont Pk Water Line	041-01-4265-4135-420000-AR009	(300,000)
Transfer to General Govt Capital Fund	041-98-9800-0000-580043-	1,277,000
Transfer from CIF Fund	043-98-9800-0000-480041-	(1,277,000)
ARPA: Chapel Grove Water Line	043-01-4265-4135-540007-AR005	472,000
ARPA: Tryon Elem Water Line	043-01-4265-4135-540007-AR006	500,000
ARPA: Lowell Elem Water Line	043-01-4265-4135-540007-AR008	5,000
ARPA: N. Belmont Pk Water Line	043-01-4265-4135-540007-AR009	300,000

**2022-142 Commissioner Worley - Public Works - To Authorize the County Manager, or Her Designee, to Execute a Professional Services Contract with Armstrong Glen, PC for the Design of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Lowell Elementary Waterline Infrastructure Project**

On motion introduced by Commissioner Philbeck and seconded by Commissioner Hovis, the BOC unanimously approved **2022-142** authorizing the County Manager or her designee to execute a professional services contract with Armstrong Glen, PC for the design of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Lowell Elementary waterline infrastructure project and the County Attorney to draft necessary contract documents for the work.

**2022-143 Commissioner Keigher - Public Works - To Authorize the County Manager, or Her Designee, to Execute a Professional Services Contract with Thomas & Hutton for the Design of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Chapel Grove Elementary Waterline Infrastructure Project**

On motion introduced by Commissioner Philbeck and seconded by Commissioner Hovis, the BOC unanimously approved **2022-143** authorizing the County Manager, or her designee, to execute a professional services contract with Thomas & Hutton for the design of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Chapel Grove Elementary Waterline Infrastructure Project and the County Attorney to draft necessary contract documents for the work.

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**2022-144 Commissioners Fraley and Hovis - Public Works - To Authorize the County Manager, or Her Designee, to Execute a Professional Services Contract with LaBella Associates for the Design of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Tryon Elementary Waterline Infrastructure Project**

On motion introduced by Commissioner Philbeck and seconded by Commissioner Hovis, the BOC unanimously approved **2022-144** authorizing the County Manager, or her designee, to execute a professional services contract with LaBella Associates for the design of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Tryon Elementary Waterline Infrastructure Project and the County Attorney to draft necessary contract documents for the work.

**2022-145 Commissioners Brown and Worley - Public Works - To Authorize the County Manager, or Her Designee, to Execute a Professional Services Contract with Armstrong Glen, PC for the Design of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) North Belmont Park Waterline Infrastructure Project**

On motion introduced by Commissioner Philbeck and seconded by Commissioner Hovis, the BOC unanimously approved **2022-145** authorizing the County Manager, or her designee, to execute a professional services contract with Armstrong Glen, PC for the design of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) North Belmont Park Waterline Infrastructure Project and the County Attorney to draft necessary contract documents for the work.

**Proclamations, Commendations, Awards, Certificates**

**Commissioner Fraley - GEMS - Proclamation - To Proclaim the Week of May 15-21, 2022 as Emergency Medical Services Week in Gaston County (*Adopted under Consent Agenda - 2022-122*)**

Commissioner Hovis invited Mr. Mark Lamphiear, GEMS Director, to the podium and read the Proclamation.

Mr. Lamphiear accepted and thanked the BOC for the Proclamation; advised it has been an interesting couple of years for EMS.

**Commissioner Johnson - Sheriff's Office - Proclamation - To Proclaim the Week of May 1-7, 2022 as Correctional Officers and Correctional Employees Week in Gaston County (*Adopted under Consent Agenda - 2022-135*)**

Commissioner Hovis invited Deputy Chief Becky Cauthran and Captain Scott Shirley to the podium and read the Proclamation.

Deputy Chief Cauthran accepted and thanked the BOC for the Proclamation on behalf of all detention officers; advised she has been a correctional officer for 28 years at the jail; those

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employees are often unrecognized and out of the public's eye but are heroes behind the wall to her.

**Commissioner Worley - Police Department/Sheriff's Office - Proclamation - To Proclaim May 15-21, 2022 as Law Enforcement Week and May 15, 2022 as Peace Officer's Memorial Day in Gaston County (Adopted under Consent Agenda - 2022-130)**

Commissioner Worley invited staff from the Police Department and Sheriff's Office to the podium and read the Proclamation; invited the public to the Peace Officers Memorial Day Ceremony.

Asst. Chief Steve Jentsch advised the date for the ceremony had not been released yet; he accepted and thanked the BOC for the Proclamation and cited the difficulties and challenges that law enforcement officers face daily; nationwide law enforcement agencies have strained relationships with the citizens they serve; the County's law enforcement officers have forged a strong relationship with its citizens that was created over years via professional service efforts, time, nurturing – and those relationships are worked on daily.

Chairman Brown thanked the Police Department and Sheriff's Office staff for the dangerous and above-and-beyond work they do to protect the County.

Commissioner Keigher advised this also goes out to the municipal departments also.

**Appointments**

On motion introduced by Commissioner Hovis and seconded by Commissioner Keigher, the BOC unanimously appointed Mr. Monte Monteleone to the **Tourism Development Advisory Board** to a term ending April 30, 2023.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Keigher and seconded by Commissioner Philbeck, the BOC unanimously reappointed Mr. John Briody to the **Tourism Development Advisory Board** to a term ending April 30, 2025.

Commissioner Keigher introduced the motion to appoint Ms. Kezia Simonds to the **Ranlo Board of Adjustment** to an unexpired term ending December 31, 2023. Commissioner Hovis provided the second.

Chairman Brown called for discussion.

Commissioner Philbeck advised he does not vote for ETJ appointments; thinks they are unconstitutional; people make decisions for those living in ETJs that have no representation; will vote "no."

Chairman Brown called for the vote which carried as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Brown, Hovis, Keigher and Worley  
 Nay: Commissioner Philbeck  
 Absent: Commissioners Fraley and Johnson

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Commissioner Keigher introduced the motion to appoint Ms. Kezia Simonds to the ***Ranlo Planning and Zoning Commission*** to an unexpired term ending December 31, 2023. Commissioner Hovis provided the second.

Chairman Brown called for discussion.

Commissioner Philbeck advised he do no support appointments to ETJs; thinks they are unconstitutional.

Chairman Brown called for the vote which carried as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Brown, Hovis, Keigher and Worley  
 Nay: Commissioner Philbeck  
 Absent: Commissioners Fraley and Johnson

#### **Commissioners Committee Reports**

No reports.

#### **Other Matters**

***Commissioner Philbeck – Re: Installation of Cameras at Poston Park:*** stated that numerous car break-ins have occurred at Poston Park; would like for BOC to vote on installing [Flock Safety Security Cameras] which capture vehicular tag numbers entering and exiting the park.

The County Manager responded that staff had this on its *needs list* because of previous occurrences; Public Works has completed the evaluation process for the cameras; the plan was to include that in the budget recommendation; can talk to staff about expediting that if that is the pleasure of the BOC.

Commissioner Philbeck stated he will sponsor that action; cited safety concerns for park users.

***Commissioner Philbeck – Re: CaroMont Health Board Appointments:*** cited an issue with an item on the Draft Agenda regarding Hospital appointments; noted it is important for each Commissioner to have their own appointments and to keep it that way. Citing various issues in the past, he noted the “Cheat Death” slogan issue was prevented because of Commissioner appointments to that Board. He also recalled the lease negotiations that resulted in \$21M being split among the townships with an additional \$750k/year appropriated to the County annually; this would not have happened if each Commissioner did not have an appointment to that Board. The County currently has a good Hospital CEO (Mr. Chris Peek) and the CaroMont Health Board is doing an outstanding job; however, he strongly recommended in the future that the BOC continues to provide a strong check through township appointments, for the benefit of all Gaston County citizens.

Commissioner Keigher concurred with Commissioner Philbeck’s comments. He clarified that when the County built the Hospital, there was a lot of debt and the Hospital agreed to take that debt over for a \$1/year lease; the Boards from the 1980s or early 1990s should have been more

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responsive when the debt was paid off and should have worked with the Hospital to do something sooner.

**Commissioner Keigher – Re: Proposed FY2022-23 Budget Tax Rate:** Advised he did not attend the budget meeting held a few weeks ago but was up to speed on what was discussed. He noted the County recently had an increase in its Moodys' credit rating and he does not want to jeopardize that; however, the County has received so much federal funding this year that will infuse some projects currently on the back burner without having to use regular property tax dollars; will be happy to sit down with staff; wants to see a decent property tax reduction and cannot vote for a budget that does not have a tax reduction with a little bit of bite to it.

Commissioner Philbeck agreed and stated he will not support any budget without a tax decrease; next year is revaluation which is going to increase [values] 25% to 30%. Were told last year that a tax cut was possible this year; have received millions in federal/state money (one-time money), but those funds will go toward projects that would otherwise have to be paid for over time out of property tax revenue.

Chairman Brown stated everyone would like to cut taxes, but the BOC must continue making wise decisions; the Manager has not presented a proposed budget, yet we're already discussing cutting taxes; looking forward to hearing the County Manager's suggestions.

### County Manager's Report

The County Manager referenced documents provided to BOC from **Moody's Investors Service (Credit Opinion), Summary of April 26<sup>th</sup> County Bond Rating Increase** and **Press Release (Gaston County Earns Bond Rating Upgrade from Moody's)** from County's Communications Office. She deferred to the Chairman to share the news.

Chairman Brown summarized the Press Release as follows:

- On Thursday, Moody's Investors Service announced it was upgrading Gaston County's general obligation bonds to Aa1 from Aa2 and its limited obligation bonds to Aa2 from Aa3
- Gaston County currently has approximately \$173M in general obligation bond debt and \$24M in limited obligation bond debt
- The upgrade now places Gaston County at the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest available rating for both major rating services: Moody's and Standard & Poor's. Standard & Poor's upgraded Gaston County's bond rating in April 2019, and the county has been working diligently since then to upgrade its Moody's rating as well
- We are tremendously proud of this announcement, Gaston County Manager, Dr. Kim Eagle, said this upgrade is the result of wise budgeting decisions from our BOC and years of diligent work on behalf of the staff.

Chairman Brown thanked the Manager and staff, employees and BOC for standing firm and making steadfast decisions to ensure the County could always look forward to the future.

### County Attorney's Report

The County Attorney recalled that the BOC adopted the proposed changes to the Rules of Decorum; advised that he and the Clerk will work on the BOC's Rules of Procedures and seek individual guidance from the Board on proposed changes.



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**Adjournment**

Chairman Brown called for a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Hovis and seconded by Commissioner Worley, the BOC unanimously adjourned the Regular Meeting of April 26, 2022 at 7:13 pm.

(All aforementioned documents are on file with the Clerk to the Board.)

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Chad Brown, Chairman  
Gaston County Board of Commissioners

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Donna S. Buff  
Clerk to the Board

SEAL