

ADOPTED

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Gaston County Board
of Commissioners

GASTON COUNTY

COMMISSIONER'S COURT

NORTH CAROLINA

JANUARY 23, 2024

The Gaston County Board of Commissioners (BOC) met in Regular Session on January 23, 2024, at 6:00 pm in The Harley B. Gaston, Jr. Public Forum, Gaston County Courthouse.

Chairman Chad Brown presided with Commissioners Bob Hovis, Vice-Chairman; Cathy Cloninger, Allen R. Fraley, Tom Keigher and Ronnie Worley in attendance.

Commissioner Kim Johnson was not in attendance.

Others present included Dr. Kim S. Eagle, County Manager; Courtney C. Rogers, Interim 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.

Commissioner Keigher – Proclamation – To Proclaim the Week of January 28, 2024 – February 3, 2024 as Catholic School Week in Gaston County (To be Adopted under Consent Agenda)

Commissioner Keigher read and presented the Proclamation to Mr. Jacob Nolan, St. Michael School Headmaster.

Commissioner Hovis – Commendation – Finance Staff – GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Award (To be Adopted under Consent Agenda)

Commissioner Hovis invited Finance Department staff to the podium to receive the GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Award.

Mr. Justin Amos, Finance & Partner Agency Manager/Chief of Staff, accepted and thanked the BOC for the Award on behalf of the Finance Department members.

Commissioner Brown – Proclamation – To Proclaim the Month of January 2024 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month (To be Adopted under Consent Agenda)

Commissioner Worley read and presented the Proclamation to Ms. Heather Kauffman, Hope United CAC Supervisor, who was accompanied by Ms. Emily McCabe (Court Services Program Manager), Ms. Hannah Hopper (Human Trafficking & Sexual Assault Social Worker), Mr. Steve Eaton (DHHS - Public Health Division Director) and Dr. Gregory Grier (Community Support Services).

Presentation – FY22-23 Gaston County Audit

Ms. Kelly Gooderham, Senior Audit Manager with Martin Starnes & Associates, CPAs, PA, provided a PowerPoint presentation on the FY22-23 Gaston County Audit. The presentation slides, the FY22 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and the Audit Letter were provided to the BOC and are on file with the Clerk to the Board.

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Ms. Gooderham's presentation is summarized as follows:

- Gaston County was issued a **Clean, Unmodified Opinion** on financial statements (no material misstatements were found)
- **General Fund Summary:** *Revenues* were over budget by roughly \$16M; major drivers were property taxes and intergovernmental revenues which include federal/state grants; *Expenditures* were under budget by roughly \$28M; major drivers included Human Services and Public Safety
- **Fund Balance Position – General Fund:** The LGC (Local Government Commission) uses a calculation to compare the *Available Fund Balance* within the General Fund with units across the state - *Total Fund Balance* (\$124M); *Less: Nonspendable*, which includes inventories, prepaids and leases; *Less: Stabilization by State Statute* for a total *Available Fund Balance* of \$104M due to an overall increase over prior year of roughly \$15M
- The **General Fund Available Fund Balance** is turned into a percentage of expenditures and compared to other NC counties within the same population group; the County's percentage gradually increased over the past several years and ended at 35.76% (an overall increase of roughly 3.21%)
- **Unassigned Fund Balance Position - General Fund:** Started with *total Fund Balance Less: Nonspendable and Stabilization by State Statute*; reduced that for all other external/internal constraints including the *Restricted* fund balance (which includes Medicaid Maximization, General Government, Building Inspections and Register of Deeds) less the *Assigned* (which includes insurance reserves, subsequent years expenditures appropriation and tap fees) for a total *Unassigned Fund Balance* under \$43M (an increase over prior year of \$4.6M)
- **Unassigned Fund Balance – General Fund (12-Year Comparison as Percentage of Total Fund Balance):** There was a significant increase from 2021 to 2022, but remains comparable between 2022 and 2023 with an overall increase of 1%; next slide also is a 12-year comparison of Unassigned Fund Balance as opposed to total Fund Balance; there was a gradual increase over the last three years in both categories with a significant increase in 2020
- **Top 3 General Fund Revenues:** *Property Taxes; Other Taxes & Licenses* (which includes sales tax and real estate transfer tax); *Restricted Intergovernmental* (which includes federal/state grants and federal/state detention reimbursements)
- **Property Tax** is roughly 57% of total revenues; current year exceeded budget by \$3M; an overall increase over prior year of \$2M or 1%
- **Other Taxes & Licenses** equates to 12% of total revenues; current year exceeded budget by roughly \$400,000; and increased over prior year roughly \$2M or 6%
- **Restricted Intergovernmental** is roughly 18% of total revenues; current year revenues exceeded budget by \$4M; increased over prior year roughly \$6M or 13%
- **Top 3 General Fund Expenditures:** *Public Safety* (Police, EMS, Jail and Sheriff) expenses equates to roughly 32% of total expenditures and budget exceeded actual by \$14.5M; there was an overall increase over prior year of roughly \$17M or 22%; *Human Services* (Administration, Personal Health and Family Planning) is 27% of total expenditures and budget exceeded actuals by \$22M; there was an overall current year decrease of \$5.5M or 7%; *Education* (Public Schools and Gaston College) is 20% of total expenditures and budget exceeded actual by \$300,000 and stayed comparable to only a \$500 increase

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- **Solid Waste Enterprise Fund Revenues and Net income:** *Operating Revenues* is \$13.7M, an overall increase of \$107M or 14% over prior year; *Operating Income (Loss)* is \$469,000 due to an increase in operating expenses
- **Performance Indicators** noted on the LGC's data input sheet: a stable property tax valuation and collection percentage; consistent available Fund Balance percentage; one material weakness and three significant deficiency findings on County's major program compliance testing at DSS; proper resolution of County's priorities/findings noted in FY2022; additional information on the findings can be found in back of the Audit Report in the compliance package.

She concluded her presentation and asked if there were any questions.

Chairman Brown thanked Ms. Gooderham for the report and called for questions from the BOC.

Commissioner Cloninger asked why the amounts increased for Public Safety and decreased for Human Services.

Ms. Gooderham responded the increase for Public Safety was due to salaries, benefits, equipment purchases for GEMS and Sheriff's Office, and the implementation of the new GASBY96 standard this year which included subscriptions assets and related capital outlay; the decrease for Human Services was due to the ERA (Emergency Rental Assistance) Program; it increased the prior year (2nd year) and the majority of the program's activity was in that year at roughly \$14M; this year it came to a close at roughly \$2M.

Commissioner Cloninger asked if there were any findings that needed to be addressed in the report.

Ms. Gooderham responded the findings that were noted were compliance and not financial statements findings; Finance is already working with DSS to rectify some of the internal controls noted and hopes to get those resolved in the coming year.

Chairman Brown called for additional questions; hearing none, thanked Ms. Gooderham again and stated the BOC looks forward to the 2023-24 Audit soon.

Agenda Revision/Approval

- PULLED BY COMMISSIONER CLONINGER/ *Commissioners Brown, Hovis, & Keigher - Public Works - To Authorize the Purchase of Properties Located at 803 N. Oakland Street, Gastonia PID's 104358 (4.52 acres), 104359 (5.11 acres), and 104364 (.74 acres) for the Total Purchase Price (\$7,500,000) and the Estimated Closing Costs (\$50,000) – V., AF.*

Chairman Brown announced that Agenda Item I. – the Maternity Clinic lease agreement has been updated with 2024 dates.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Hovis and seconded by Commissioner Keigher, the BOC unanimously approved the Agenda of January 23, 2024, with changes as noted above.

Approval of Minutes

On motion introduced by Commissioner Worley and seconded by Commissioner Hovis, the BOC unanimously approved the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 12, 2023, and the Organizational Meeting of December 12, 2023.

Citizen Recognition

Ms. Charlotte Brown, 1118 Dumbarton Rd, Gastonia, NC, asked who to contact to enact/change a law about parking vehicles in front yards; inquired about a Public Works Work Order for a small repair – advised she was told it was a County issue and not the City of Gastonia.

Chairman Brown directed Mr. (Brian) Sciba, Planned Growth and Development Manager and Mr. (Dan) Ziehm, Public Works Director, to meet with her following her public comments.

Consent Agenda

On motion introduced by Commissioner Fraley and seconded by Commissioner Hovis the BOC unanimously approved the Consent Agenda as follows:

2024-001 Commissioner Worley - Budget & Strategy - To Accept and Appropriate Federal Grant Funds from the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) for FY23 Expenses Incurred by the Sheriff's Office (\$68,685) per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
Federal GrntRev-FY23SCAAP-Reim	1000-SHF-000-00000-000000-000000-0000-02-410000-G0090	(\$68,685)
Other MediciSupp-FY23SCAAP Reim	1000-SHF-000-00000-000000-000000-0000-02-520004-G0090	\$3,685
Employee Training-FY23SCAAP Reim	1000-SHF-000-00000-000000-000000-0000-02-520011-G0090	\$10,000
Other Services-FY23SCAAP Reimb	1000-SHF-000-00000-000000-000000-0000-02-530015-G0090	\$25,000
Software Rental-FY23SCAAP Reim	1000-SHF-000-00000-000000-000000-0000-02-530029-G0090	\$20,000
Advertising-FY23SCAAP Reim	1000-SHF-000-00000-000000-000000-0000-02-520015-G0090	\$10,000

2024-002 Commissioner Worley - Budget & Strategy (Hope United Survivor Network) - To Accept and Appropriate Additional Federal Funds for a Governor's Crime Commission Grant for Contracted Legal Services for Domestic Violence Victims (Year 1 - \$51,025/Total Grant 2 Years - \$102,050) per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
GCC Legal Services	1000-CSS-291-29101-000000-0000000-0000-05-410000-G0093	(\$51,025)
GCC Professional Services	1000-CSS-291-29101-000000-0000000-0000-05-530010-G0093	\$51,025

2024-003 Commissioner Brown - Budget & Strategy - To Transfer \$3,584 from EDC to Tourism Development per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
Advertising	1000-EDC-000-00000-000000-0000000-0000-07-520015-	(3,583.50)
Transfer to Tourism	1000-NDP-000-00000-TrfxTo-0000000-0000-98-582005-	3,583.50
Transfers from General Fund	2005-NDP-000-00000-TrfxFr-0000000-0000-98-481000-	(3,583.50)
Advertising	2005-TRM-000-00000-000000-0000000-0000-07-520015-	3,583.50

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2024-004 Commissioner Worley - Budget & Strategy - To Accept and Appropriate Additional State-Directed Grant Funds for the Gaston County Judicial District 27-A Veterans Treatment Court (Year 1 - \$148,030/Total Grant 2 Years - \$460,000) per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
State Grant Rev-InnovatvCrtPrg	1000-NDP-000-00000-000000-0000000-0000-02-410001-G0089	(\$148,030)
Food & Provision-InnovatvCrtPrg	1000-NDP-000-00000-000000-0000000-0000-02-520005-G0089	\$500
Misc Exp/Supplies-InnovatvCrtPrg	1000-NDP-000-00000-000000-0000000-0000-02-520007-G0089	\$500
Temp Svcs-InnovatvCrtPrg	1000-NDP-000-00000-000000-0000000-0000-02-530013-G0089	\$22,500
Other Svcs-InnovatvCrtPrg	1000-NDP-000-00000-000000-0000000-0000-02-530015-G0089	\$112,530
TransportationofClient-InnovatvCrtPrg	1000-NDP-000-00000-000000-0000000-0000-02-560001-G0089	\$12,000

2024-005 Commissioner Brown - BOC - To Revise the Gaston County Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting Schedule for February, 2024 to Reschedule the February 13th Work Session to Precede the February 27th Regular Meeting - 6:00 P.M. as follows:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners, in accordance with N.C.G.S §143-318.12(a), hereby revises the 2024 BOC Meeting Schedule to RESCHEDULE the February 13th Work Session to precede the February 27th Regular Meeting at 6:00 PM.

2024-006 Commissioner Keigher - BOC - Proclamation - To Proclaim the Week of January 28, 2024 - February 3, 2024, as Catholic School Week in Gaston County

2024-007 Commissioners Keigher & Brown - BOC - Proclamation - To Proclaim the Month of February 2024 as Black History Month in Gaston County

2024-008 Commissioner Brown - County Manager - To Approve Gaston County Health Department Maternal Health Assurance Plan Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with CaroMont Health, Inc.

2024-009 Commissioner Hovis - County Manager - To Approve Lease Agreement with CaroMont Medical Group, Inc. for Medical Office Space at the Gaston County Health Department Building Located at 991 W. Hudson Blvd., Gastonia, NC for the Maternity Clinic

2024-010 Commissioner Hovis - County Manager - To Accept Departmental Budget Change Requests as Information as follows:

ENTRY DATE	DEPT NAME	ACCOUNT	DR/CR	AMOUNT
12/01/2023	Police Dept	1000-GPD-000-00000-000000-0000000-0000-02-530052-	C	86,453
12/01/2023		1000-GPD-000-00000-Fleet1-0000000-0000-02-530052-	D	86,453
12/01/2023	Sheriff	1000-SHF-000-00000-000000-0000000-0000-02-530052-	C	41,343
12/01/2023		1000-SHF-000-00000-Fleet1-0000000-0000-02-530052-	D	41,343
12/01/2023	Health	1000-HLT-251-00000-WIC000-ClntSvc-0000-05-520002-	D	6,000
12/01/2023		1000-HLT-251-00000-WIC000-ClntSvc-0000-05-520007-	C	6,000
12/04/2023		1000-HLT-253-00000-FamPln-0000000-0000-05-520005-17255	D	3,000
12/04/2023		1000-HLT-253-00000-FamPln-0000000-0000-05-520002-17255	C	3,000
12/04/2023	Public Works	1000-PWK-192-00000-000000-0000000-0000-01-530010-	C	7,250
12/04/2023		1000-PWK-000-00000-000000-0000000-0000-01-530010-	D	7,250
12/05/2023	Police Dept	1000-GPD-000-00000-000000-0000000-0000-02-520001-	C	1,500
12/05/2023		1000-GPD-000-00000-000000-0000000-0000-02-520013-	D	1,500
12/05/2023	HR	1000-HRM-000-00000-EmpRec-0000000-0000-01-520002-	C	3,500

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12/05/2023		1000-HRM-000-00000-EmpRec-0000000-0000-01-530027-	D	3,500
12/05/2023		1000-HRM-000-00000-000000-0000000-0000-01-520015-	C	11,120
12/05/2023		1000-HRM-000-00000-000000-0000000-0000-01-530029-	D	11,120
12/05/2023	Landfill	6000-SWS-380-00000-000000-0000000-0000-08-540006-BfPrp	C	865,650
12/05/2023		6000-SWS-380-00000-000000-0000000-0000-08-540005-BfPrp	D	503,000
12/05/2023		6000-SWS-380-00000-000000-0000000-0000-08-540004-BfPrp	D	347,000
12/05/2023		6000-SWS-380-00000-000000-0000000-0000-08-540016-BfPrp	D	15,650
12/06/2023	Public Works	1000-PWK-191-00000-000000-0000000-0000-01-540003-	C	15,000
12/06/2023		1000-PWK-191-00000-000000-0000000-0000-01-530020-	D	15,000
12/06/2023	CSS	1000-CSS-270-00000-WIOA00-WIOASpG-0000-05-560013-G0069	C	240
12/06/2023		1000-CSS-270-00000-WIOA00-WIOASpG-0000-05-520005-G0069	C	34
12/06/2023		1000-CSS-270-00000-WIOA00-WIOASpG-0000-05-520015-G0069	D	274
12/06/2023		1000-CSS-272-00000-AdtNut-Title3B-0000-05-530013-AG009	D	100,000
12/06/2023		1000-CSS-272-00000-AdtNut-Title3B-0000-05-540003-AG009	C	53,000
12/06/2023		1000-CSS-272-00000-AdtNut-Title3B-0000-05-510005-AG009	C	35,926
12/06/2023		1000-CSS-272-00000-AdtNut-Title3B-0000-05-520005-AG009	C	10,000
12/06/2023		1000-CSS-272-00000-AdtNut-Title3B-0000-05-530003-AG009	C	1,074
12/07/2023	Landfill	6000-SWS-380-00000-000000-0000000-0000-08-540009-21012	C	403,380
12/07/2023		6000-SWS-380-00000-000000-0000000-0000-08-540016-21012	D	403,380
12/07/2023	Police Dept	1000-GPD-200-00000-000000-0000000-0000-02-530010-	C	10,000
12/07/2023		1000-GPD-200-00000-000000-0000000-0000-02-530023-	D	10,000
12/07/2023	CSS	1000-CSS-291-29102-000000-0000000-0000-05-530029-AG020	C	11,750
12/07/2023		1000-CSS-291-29102-000000-0000000-0000-05-530010-AG020	D	11,750
12/08/2023		1000-CSS-000-00000-000000-0000000-0000-05-530027-	C	500
12/08/2023		1000-CSS-000-00000-000000-0000000-0000-05-530015-	D	500
12/08/2023		1000-CSS-291-00000-000000-0000000-0000-05-530020-	C	600
12/08/2023		1000-CSS-291-29102-000000-0000000-0000-05-530020-	D	600
12/08/2023	IT	4005-ITS-000-00000-Annual-PayAsGo-0000-01-540006-	C	31,523
12/08/2023		4005-ITS-000-00000-InstFn-ELP2024-0000-02-540016-P2401	D	31,523
12/08/2023	CSS	1000-CSS-292-00000-SrPrgm-0000000-0000-04-520002-	C	3,000
12/08/2023		1000-CSS-292-00000-SrPrgm-0000000-0000-04-530015-	D	3,000
12/11/2023	EDC	4095-EDC-000-00000-AppleC-0000000-0000-07-540014-19039	C	10,615
12/11/2023		4095-EDC-000-00000-AppleC-0000000-0000-07-540016-19039	D	10,615
12/11/2023		1000-EDC-000-00000-000000-0000000-0000-07-520020-	C	300
12/11/2023		1000-EDC-000-00000-000000-0000000-0000-07-530023-	D	300
12/11/2023	Health	1000-CSS-270-00000-ERAP00-0000000-0000-05-530053-AG006	D	173,193
12/11/2023		1000-CSS-270-00000-ERAP00-0000000-0000-05-510001-AG006	C	104,292
12/11/2023		1000-CSS-270-00000-ERAP00-0000000-0000-05-510100-AG006	C	12,983
12/11/2023		1000-CSS-270-00000-ERAP00-0000000-0000-05-510101-AG006	C	19,320
12/11/2023		1000-CSS-270-00000-ERAP00-0000000-0000-05-510102-AG006	C	4,715
12/11/2023		1000-CSS-270-00000-ERAP00-0000000-0000-05-510103-AG006	C	23,919
12/11/2023		1000-CSS-270-00000-ERAP00-0000000-0000-05-510104-AG006	C	2,975
12/11/2023		1000-CSS-270-00000-ERAP00-0000000-0000-05-510105-AG006	C	1,990
12/11/2023		1000-CSS-270-00000-ERAP00-0000000-0000-05-510106-AG006	C	3,000
12/12/2023	Sheriff	1000-SHF-000-00000-000000-0000000-0000-02-520002-G0034	C	600
12/12/2023		1000-SHF-000-00000-000000-0000000-0000-02-520013-G0034	D	600
12/12/2023	Finance	1000-FIN-140-00000-000000-0000000-0000-01-520010-AR003	C	1,000
12/12/2023		1000-FIN-140-00000-000000-0000000-0000-01-520011-AR003	D	1,000
12/12/2023	GEMS	2055-EMS-000-00000-CParmd-Stratg3-0000-02-520020-	C	720
12/12/2023		2055-EMS-000-00000-CParmd-Stratg3-0000-05-530015-	D	720
12/12/2023		2055-EMS-000-00000-RcvTrp-Stratg3-0000-05-540003-	C	1,000
12/12/2023		2055-EMS-000-00000-RcvTrp-Stratg3-0000-05-530015-	D	1,000
12/12/2023	IT	4005-ITS-000-00000-InstFn-ELP2024-0000-02-540002-P2401	C	58,250
12/12/2023		4005-ITS-000-00000-InstFn-ELP2024-0000-02-540016-P2401	D	58,250
12/13/2023	Police Dept	1000-GPD-200-00000-000000-0000000-0000-02-530010-	C	15,000

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12/13/2023		1000-GPD-200-00000-000000-000000-0000-02-520005-	D	15,000
12/13/2023	Landfill	6000-SWS-380-00000-000000-000000-0000-08-540006-BfPrp	C	5,500
12/13/2023		6000-SWS-380-00000-000000-000000-0000-08-540016-BfPrp	D	5,500
12/14/2023		6000-SWS-380-00000-000000-000000-0000-08-540006-BfPrp	C	114,200
12/14/2023		6000-SWS-380-00000-000000-000000-0000-08-540004-BfPrp	D	114,200
12/14/2023	DSS	1000-DSS-271-00000-FostCr-Links01-0000-05-560008-	C	1,020
12/14/2023		1000-DSS-271-00000-FostCr-Links01-0000-05-520019-13263	D	1,020
12/14/2023		1000-DSS-270-00000-WFirst-PAPayts-0000-05-560008-	C	25,000
12/14/2023		1000-DSS-270-00000-000000-Interpr-0000-05-530015-	D	25,000
12/14/2023		1000-DSS-271-00000-000000-000000-0000-05-530010-	C	5,000
12/14/2023		1000-DSS-271-00000-000000-Interpr-0000-05-530015-	D	5,000
12/14/2023		1000-DSS-000-00000-DigDoc-000000-0000-05-530029-	C	20,000
12/14/2023		1000-DSS-000-00000-000000-000000-0000-05-530020-	D	20,000
12/15/2023	CSS	1000-CSS-291-00000-Hope4H-000000-0000-05-520020-	C	250
12/15/2023		1000-CSS-291-00000-Hope4H-000000-0000-05-520005-	C	300
12/15/2023		1000-CSS-291-00000-Hope4H-000000-0000-05-520007-	D	550
12/15/2023	CSS	1000-CSS-291-29102-000000-000000-0000-05-530053-G0086	C	5,000
12/15/2023		1000-CSS-291-29102-000000-000000-0000-05-520007-G0086	D	5,000
12/15/2023	IT	4005-ITS-000-00000-InstFn-ELP2024-0000-02-540016-P2401	C	31,523
12/15/2023		4005-ITS-000-00000-Annual-PayAsGo-0000-01-540016-	D	31,523
12/18/2023	IT	1000-ITS-000-00000-000000-000000-0000-01-530029-ITInf	C	42,096
12/18/2023		1000-ITS-000-00000-000000-000000-0000-01-530030-	D	42,096
12/18/2023		1000-ITS-000-00000-000000-000000-0000-01-530029-ITInf	C	4,828
12/18/2023		1000-ITS-000-00000-000000-000000-0000-01-530010-	D	4,828
12/18/2023	CSS	1000-CSS-270-00000-WIOA00-WIOAdlt-0000-05-560010-	C	15,000
12/18/2023		1000-CSS-270-00000-WIOA00-WIODWkr-0000-05-560010-	D	15,000
12/19/2023	Health	1000-HLT-253-00000-Matern-000000-0000-05-520012-	C	2,000
12/19/2023		1000-HLT-253-00000-Matern-000000-0000-05-520020-	D	2,000
12/20/2023	CSS	1000-CSS-270-00000-ERAP00-000000-0000-05-530053-AG006	D	12,593
12/20/2023		1000-CSS-270-00000-ERAP00-000000-0000-05-530013-AG006	C	12,593
12/20/2023	CSS	1000-CSS-293-00000-000000-000000-0000-05-520001-	C	200
12/20/2023		1000-CSS-293-00000-000000-000000-0000-05-520013-	D	200
12/21/2023	GEMS	4005-EMS-000-00000-Annual-PayAsGo-0000-02-540002-	C	84,700
12/21/2023		4005-EMS-000-00000-Annual-PayAsGo-0000-02-540003-	D	84,700
12/21/2023		1000-EMS-000-00000-000000-000000-0000-02-530002-	C	2,555
12/21/2023		1000-EMS-000-00000-000000-000000-0000-02-530052-	D	2,555
12/21/2023	Tax	2010-TAX-000-00000-000000-000000-0000-01-520015-	C	4,000
12/21/2023		2010-TAX-000-00000-000000-000000-0000-01-520020-	D	4,000
12/21/2023		1000-TAX-000-00000-000000-000000-0000-01-530015-	C	4,000
12/21/2023		1000-TAX-000-00000-000000-000000-0000-01-520020-	D	4,000
12/22/2023	Health	1000-HLT-253-00000-ComDis-000000-0000-05-530002-	D	360
12/22/2023		1000-HLT-253-00000-ComDis-000000-0000-05-520002-	C	360
12/27/2023	Public Works	4005-PWK-192-00000-000000-000000-0000-01-540006-19033	C	100,000
12/27/2023		4005-DSS-000-00000-Annual-PayAsGo-0000-05-540005-P2302	D	100,000
12/29/2023	CSS	1000-CSS-291-29103-Donatn-000000-0000-05-520019-	C	1,535
12/29/2023		1000-CSS-291-00000-Hope4H-000000-0000-05-520007-	D	1,535
12/29/2023	Natural Resources	1000-NAT-000-00000-000000-000000-0000-07-520011-	C	500
12/29/2023		1000-NAT-000-00000-000000-000000-0000-07-520012-	D	500

2024-011 Commissioner Brown - DHHS - Community Support Services - To Appropriate and Approve a Resolution to Direct the Expenditure of Opioid Settlement Funds and Appropriate to Expand Certified Peer Support Specialists Embedded in the Gaston Emergency Medical Services' Community Paramedicine Program for

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Post Overdose Response, Follow-up, and Treatment Support (Year 1: \$6,396.00/Total Grant \$52,328.64) as follows:

WHEREAS, Gaston County has joined national settlement agreements with companies engaged in the manufacturing, distribution, and dispensing of opioids, including settlements with drug distributors Cardinal, McKesson, and AmerisourceBergen, and the drug maker Johnson & Johnson and its subsidiary Janssen Pharmaceuticals; and,

WHEREAS, the allocation, use, and reporting of funds stemming from these national settlement agreements and certain bankruptcy resolutions ("Opioid Settlement Funds") are governed by the Memorandum of Agreement Between the State of North Carolina and Local Governments on Proceeds Relating to the Settlement of Opioid Litigation ("MOA"); and,

WHEREAS, Gaston County has received Opioid Settlement Funds pursuant to these national settlement agreements and deposited the Opioid Settlement Funds in a separate special revenue fund as required by section D of the MOA; and,

WHEREAS, section E.6 of the MOA states:

E.6. Process for drawing from special revenue funds.

- a. Budget item or resolution required. Opioid Settlement Funds can be used for a purpose when the Governing Body includes in its budget or passes a separate resolution authorizing the expenditure of a stated amount of Opioid Settlement Funds for that purpose or those purposes during a specified period of time.
- b. Budget item or resolution details. The budget or resolution should (i) indicate that it is an authorization for expenditure of opioid settlement funds; (ii) state the specific strategy or strategies the county or municipality intends to fund pursuant to Option A or Option B, using the item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to identify each funded strategy, and (iii) state the amount dedicated to each strategy for a stated period of time.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, in alignment with the NC MOA, Gaston County authorizes the expenditure of opioid settlement funds as follows:

- 1. First strategy authorized
 - a. Name of strategy: Recovery Support Services
 - b. Strategy is included in Exhibit A
 - c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: Exhibit A, Strategy 3
 - d. Amounted authorized for this strategy: \$52,328.64
 - e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:
Start date January 1, 2024 through End date December 31, 2025
 - f. Description of the program, project, or activity: Gaston Emergency Medical Services' Community Paramedicine Program: Expanded hours for the certified peer support specialist services currently embedded in Gaston Emergency Medical Services (GEMS).
Currently, GEMS deploys peer support specialists twenty-four hours a week. They respond to opioid-related calls with the community paramedic and offer support to individuals in real-time. They also provide ongoing support to individuals who are enrolled in the medication-assisted treatment bridge program and follow up with individuals who refuse treatment and care following an overdose. Additional funds will allow peer support specialists to be deployed thirty-six hours a week. Expanding the hours will increase effectiveness of existing initiatives and contribute to the overall wellbeing of individuals affected by opioid use disorders.
 - g. Provider: Gaston Emergency Medical Services

The total dollar amount of Opioid Settlement Funds appropriated across the above named and authorized strategies is \$ 52,328.64.

and per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
Opioid Settlement	2055-NDP-000-00000-FBApro-0000000-0000-99-490000-	(6,396.00)
Other Services	2055-EMS-000-00000-PERSSS-Stratg3-0000-05-530015-	6,396.00

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2024-012 Commissioner Brown - DHHS - Community Support Services (ACCESS Division) - Approval of the Revised 2021 Gaston County ACCESS Public Transportation System Safety

2024-013 Commissioner Brown - DHHS - Community Support Services (Hope United Survivor Network) - To Accept and Appropriate Donations Totaling \$103,231.81 per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
Donations & Gifts - Shelter	1000-CSS-291-29102-000000-0000000-0000-05-445004-	(10,103.13)
Donations: Shelter	1000-CSS-291-29102-Donatn-0000000-0000-05-520019-	10,103.13
Donations & Gifts - CAC	1000-CSS-291-29103-000000-0000000-0000-05-445004-	(2,100.00)
Donations: CAC	1000-CSS-291-29103-Donatn-0000000-0000-05-520019-	2,100.00
Donations & Gifts - Kara's Closet	1000-CSS-291-29103-000000-0000000-0000-05-445004-20045	(880.00)
Donations: Kara's Closet	1000-CSS-291-29103-KaraCl-0000000-0000-05-520007-	880.00
Donations & Gifts - HUSN	1000-CSS-291-00000-000000-0000000-0000-05-445004-	(406.60)
Donations: HUSN	1000-CSS-291-00000-Donatn-0000000-0000-05-520019-	406.60
Donations & Gifts- Threads of Hope	1000-CSS-291-00000-ThrdHp-0000000-0000-05-445004-	(15,037.08)
Donations: Threads of Hope	1000-CSS-291-00000-ThrdHp-0000000-0000-05-520019-	15,037.08
Sponsorships - Threads of Hope	1000-CSS-291-00000-ThrdHp-0000000-0000-05-445005-	(22,000.00)
Donations: Threads of Hope	1000-CSS-291-00000-ThrdHp-0000000-0000-05-520019-	22,000.00
Donations & Gifts-Hope 4 Holidays	1000-CSS-291-00000-Hope4H-0000000-0000-05-445004-	(52,705.00)
Donations: Hope for Holidays	1000-CSS-291-00000-Hope4H-0000000-0000-05-520007-	52,705.00

2024-014 Commissioner Brown - DHHS - Community Support Services (Hope United Survivor Network) - Proclamation - To Proclaim the Month of January 2024 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month

2024-015 Commissioner Brown - DHHS - Health Division - To Approve the Sole Source Purchase of a PortaCount Respirator Fit Testing Machine from TSI, Incorporated with Federal Grant Funds and to Transfer North Carolina Public Health Emergency Preparedness Federal Grant Budget from the General Fund to the General Governmental Capital Fund Totaling \$16,335 per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
BioTer: Program Supplies	1000-HLT-250-00000-BioTer-0000000-0000-05-520002-225BT	(\$16,335.00)
Transfer to CIF Fund	1000-NDP-000-00000-TrfxTo-0000000-0000-98-584000-	\$16,335.00
Transfer from General Fund	4000-NDP-000-00000-TrfxFr-0000000-0000-98-481000-	(\$16,335.00)
Transfer to Gen Govt Capital	4000-NDP-000-00000-TrfxTo-0000000-0000-98-584005-	\$16,335.00
Transfers from CIF	4005-NDP-000-00000-TrfxFr-0000000-0000-98-484000-	(\$16,335.00)
Furn/Equip>\$5K: Bioterrorism	4005-HLT-250-00000-BioTer-0000000-0000-05-540002-225BT	\$16,335.00

2024-016 Commissioner Brown - DHHS - Health Division - To Accept and Appropriate Federal Grant Funds Received from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Passed Through the NC Division of Public Health - Epidemiology/Immunization Section (\$139,954) per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
Salaries-Bridge Access COVID19	1000-HLT-253-00000-ComDis-0000000-0000-05-510001-G0091	\$129,954.00
Printing-Bridge Access COVID19	1000-HLT-253-00000-ComDis-0000000-0000-05-520013-G0091	\$10,000.00
Fedrl Grnt Rev-Bridge Access	1000-HLT-253-00000-ComDis-0000000-0000-05-410000-G0091	(\$139,954.00)

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2024-017 Commissioner Brown - DHHS - Social Services Division - To Accept and Appropriate NC Association of County Commissioners Award Funds for the Work First Family Assistance Program in the Amount of \$1,000 per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
Work First NCACC Award	1000-DSS-270-00000-WFirst-0000000-0000-05-445006-	(\$1,000)
Work First Program Supplies	1000-DSS-270-00000-WFirst-0000000-0000-05-520002-	\$350
Work First Food & Provisions	1000-DSS-270-00000-WFirst-0000000-0000-05-520005-	\$150
Work First Advertising	1000-DSS-270-00000-WFirst-0000000-0000-05-520015-	\$500

2024-018 Commissioner Brown - DHHS - Social Services Division - To Accept and Appropriate Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Funds for a Virtual Reality Grant in the Amount of \$5,000 per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
WIOA Virtual Reality Grant	1000-CSS-270-00000-WIOA00-WIOASpG-0000-05-410000-G0092	(5,000)
WIOA Virtual Reality Grant	1000-CSS-270-00000-WIOA00-WIOASpG-0000-05-520020-G0092	\$5,000

2024-019 Commissioner Keigher - EDC - To Authorize an Application to the NC Department of Commerce Economic Development Division for the One NC Grant Application on Behalf of Project Creign (Heyco) as follows:

WHEREAS, Project Creign (Heyco) is considering a total investment of \$21,000,000 to design and construct a manufacturing and distribution facility in Gaston County and anticipates creating 46 additional job opportunities with an average salary of \$59,348; 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, the Gaston County Board of Commissioners finds that it is in the best interests of the County to assist Project Creign (Heyco) in completing a NCDOC Economic Development Division ONE NC Grant Application. The required local match will be the Local Investment Grant previously approved (10/24/23 via 2023-342); and,

WHEREAS, this will potentially increase property and sales tax revenue based upon Project Creign (Heyco) choosing to locate its manufacturing plant in Gaston County; and,

WHEREAS, the Gaston County Board of Commissioners desires to support this manufacturing operation 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 authorizes the Economic Development Commission to execute any documents necessary to complete this NCDOC Economic Development Division ONE NC Grant Application on behalf of Project Creign (Heyco).

2024-020 Commissioner Keigher - EDC - To Authorize an Application to the NC Department of Commerce Economic Development Division for the One NC Grant Program on Behalf of Project Seattle as follows:

WHEREAS, Project Seattle is considering a total investment of \$21,000,000 to establish a manufacturing and distribution facility in Gaston County and anticipates creating 107 additional job opportunities with an average salary of \$25.82 per hour; 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, the Gaston County Board of Commissioners finds that it is in the best interests of the County to assist Project Seattle in completing a NCDOC Economic Development Division ONE NC Grant Application.

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The required local match will be the Local Investment Grant previously approved (10/24/2023 via 2023-340) estimated to be \$175,000; and,

WHEREAS, this will potentially increase property and sales tax revenue based upon Project Seattle choosing to locate its operations in Gaston County; and,

WHEREAS, the Gaston County Board of Commissioners desires to support this manufacturing operation 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 authorizes the Economic Development Commission to execute any documents necessary to complete this NCDOC Economic Development Division ONE NC Grant Application on behalf of Project Seattle.

2024-021 Commissioner Hovis - Finance - To Accept the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023, Gaston County Audit as Information

2024-022 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 - \$1,942.04) as follows:

TAXPAYER NAME	AMOUNT	TAXPAYER NAME	AMOUNT
OCTOBER 2023 REFUNDS			
AGGARWAL, PAWAN KUMAR	\$ 58.16	LORANCE, ROBERT DENNIS	\$ 6.00
ALEGE, OLAYINKA ADEOLU	\$ 72.12	MCMILLAN, ARTHUR RICHARD	\$ 20.57
ALEXANDER, ALMA JUANITA	\$ 68.83	MENDIGANA ANDRADE, GIANFRANCO	\$ 66.93
BEER, VERNON EDWARD JR	\$ 50.29	ORTIZ GONZALEZ, JOEL	\$ 53.36
BHALLA, HARPREET SINGH	\$ 37.78	PRESSLEY PLUMBING INC	\$ 46.48
CATTRON, GWEN MARIE	\$ 35.49	SMITH, DAVID WAYNE	\$ 15.53
CLEMMONS, JERRY DALE	\$ 84.72	SMITH, DAVID WAYNE	\$ 21.29
COLLINS, WILLIAM RANDALL	\$ 83.90	STINES, DEBORAH ROLLINS	\$ 51.99
DEVIEW, MARJORIE ANN	\$ 26.88	TARRIS, THOMAS JAMES	\$ 2.23
DIGSBY, CAREY WALLACE JR	\$ 84.58	VILLA PABON, JUAN FERNANDO	\$ 46.21
DILLS, DAVID BANKS	\$ 31.67	WARLICK, DALE LEE JR	\$ 25.44
DUNCAN, THOMAS TAYLOR	\$ 36.74	WARREN, PAUL LEE	\$ 8.29
EATMON, DONALD GLENN	\$ 76.92	WEEKLEY, ROBERT MICHAEL	\$ 75.95
GATES, ROGER DALE	\$ 32.20	WELCH, CHANNON RICKARD	\$ 81.80
HAAS, MARK DOUGLAS	\$ 92.73	WHISENANT, DAVID HOWARD	\$ 21.80
HAMME, VIVIAN BARBER	\$ 12.15	WILLIAMS, HEATHER MARIE	\$ 21.05
HELMS, WILLIAM CARTER JR	\$ 37.75	WILSON, SARA CONRAD	\$ 82.45
JEFFRIES, SARAH BOWERS	\$ 74.67	WOOTEN, JENNIFER LYNN	\$ 17.43
KUMKE, BRUCE JOHN	\$ 11.17	YORK, CHESTER ONEAL	\$ 47.19
LINCOLN COUNTY TAX DEPT	\$ 81.84	YORK, JERRY NORMAN	\$ 24.41
LITWAK, NANCY STEWART	\$ 45.05	TOTAL	\$ 1,942.04

2024-023 Commissioner Hovis - Finance - To Appropriate and Transfer FY2023 Public Safety Salary Savings from the General Fund to the Community Investment Fund (\$4,400,000) per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
Fund Balance Appropriated	1000-NDP-000-00000-FBapro-00000000-0000-99-490000-	(4,400,000)
Transfer to CIF Fund	1000-NDP-000-00000-TrfxTo-00000000-0000-98-584000-	4,400,000
Transfers from General Fund	4000-NDP-000-00000-TrfxFr-00000000-0000-98-481000-	(4,400,000)
Future Capital Expenditures	4000-NDP-000-00000-000000-00000000-0000-01-540009-	4,400,000

2024-024 Commissioner Worley - Finance - To Approve Grant Policy for the Gaston County Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

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2024-025 Commissioner Hovis - Finance - Commendation - Finance Staff - GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Award

2024-026 Commissioners Brown, Hovis & Keigher - Finance - To Amend Gaston County ARPA Grant Project Ordinance 2021-264 to Approve and Appropriate Project Funding - Public Safety Campus (\$7,550,000) as follows:

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 full \$43,612,126 allocation of CSLRF funds. 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	\$ 300,000 - Amended 06/28/2022
• Grants Manager Position	\$ 676,887 – Amended 04/26/2022
• Short-term Emergency Housing Assistance	\$ 250,000 - Approved 01/11/2022
• Cherryville Park Design	\$ 200,000 - Approved 03/22/2022
• North Belmont Park Waterline Extension	\$ 300,000 – Approved 04/26/2022
• Lowell Elementary School Waterline Extension	\$ 22,940 - Amended 09/27/2022
• Chapel Grove Elementary Waterline Extension	\$ 472,000 – Approved 04/26/2022
• Tryon Elementary Waterline Extension	\$ 1,203,000 – Amended 09/26/2023
• Courthouse Video Arraignment System	\$ 136,313 – Approved 07/26/2022
• ARPA Project Coordinator (2 positions)	\$ 1,155,967 – Approved 07/26/2022
• Revenue Replacement (Standard Allowance)	\$10,000,000 – Approved 11/10/2022
• Mobile Shower/Laundry Unit	\$223,100 – Amended 07/27/2023
• GREAT Grant	\$65,500 – Approved 07/27/2023
• Gaston College	\$3,200,000 – Approved 09/26/2023
• Homeless Projects	\$375,000 – Approved 12/12/2023
o Catherine's House	
o Integrated Care of Greater Hickory (ICGH)	
o HealthNet	
• Public Safety Campus	\$7,550,000 (BCR Attached) 01/23/2024

Remaining Available CSLRF Project \$17,481,419

[*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.]

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

CSLRF Funds	\$43,612,126	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ARPA: Family Justice Center • Grants Manager Position • Short-term Emergency Housing Assistance • Cherryville Park Design • North Belmont Park Waterline Extension • Lowell Elementary School Waterline Extension • Chapel Grove Elementary Waterline Extension • Tryon Elementary Waterline Extension • Courthouse Video Arraignment System • ARPA Project Coordinator (2 positions) • Revenue Replacement (Standard Allowance) • Mobile Shower/Laundry Unit • GREAT Grant • Gaston College • Homeless Projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Catherine's House o Integrated Care of Greater Hickory (ICGH) o HealthNet • Public Safety Campus 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$ 300,000 - Amended 06/28/2022 \$ 676,887 - Amended 04/26/2022 \$ 250,000 - Approved 01/11/2022 \$ 200,000 – Approved 03/22/2022 \$ 300,000 – Approved 04/26/2022 \$ 22,940 – Amended 09/27/2022 \$ 472,000 – Approved 04/26/2022 \$ 1,203,000 – Amended 09/26/2023 \$ 136,313 – Approved 07/26/2022 \$ 1,155,967 – Approved 07/26/2022 \$10,000,000 – Approved 11/10/2022 \$223,100– Amended 07/27/2023 \$65,500 – Approved 07/27/2023 \$3,200,000 – Approved 09/26/2023 \$375,000- Approved 12/12/2023 \$7,550,000 – 01/23/2024
Remaining Available CSLRF Project	\$17,481,419	

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.

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: Public Safety Campus	4000-PWK-000-00000-Safety-0000000-0000-02-410000-AR021	(7,550,000.00)
Transfer to Gen Govt Capital	4000-NDP-000-00000-TrfxTo-0000000-0000-98-584005-	7,550,000.00
Transfer from CIF	4005-NDP-000-00000-TrfxFr-0000000-0000-98-484000-	(7,550,000.00)
Land-ARPA: PublicSafetyCampus	4005-PWK-000-00000-Safety-0000000-0000-02-540004-AR021	3,100,000.00
Bld&Imp:ARPA Public Safety Cmp	4005-PWK-000-00000-Safety-0000000-0000-02-540005-AR021	4,400,000.00
ProfSvcCap: ARPA: Public Safety Campus	4005-PWK-000-00000-Safety-0000000-0000-02-540016-AR021	50,000.00

2024-027 Commissioner Hovis - Finance - Resolution Approving Schedule No. 10 for Financing Up to \$4,634,989.65 with Debt Payment Obligations Through January 25, 2027 for Rolling Stock (Vehicles & Ambulances) and Equipment (SAN Replacement) to Master Equipment Financing Agreement with Banc of America Public Capital Corp as follows:

EXTRACTS FROM MINUTES OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

A meeting of the Board of Commissioners for the County of Gaston, North Carolina, was held at the Harley B. Gaston, Jr. Public Forum on the second floor of the Gaston County Courthouse located at 325 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Way, in Gastonia, North Carolina, at 6:00 P.M. on January 23, 2024.

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Present: Chairman Chad Brown, Commissioners Bob Hovis, Vice-Chairman: Cathy Cloninger, Allen R. Fraley, Tom Keigher and Ronnie Worley.

Absent: Commissioner Kim Johnson

Commissioner Fraley introduced the following Resolution which was read by title, and moved it be adopted:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING AN INSTALLMENT FINANCING CONTRACT WITH BANC OF AMERICA PUBLIC CAPITAL CORP AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF DOCUMENTS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH

WHEREAS, the County of Gaston, North Carolina (the "County"), is a political subdivision organized and existing under the laws of the State of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners for the County (the "Board") has determined to finance a portion of the cost of acquiring various motor vehicles and equipment (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, in order to finance a portion of the cost of the Project, the Board has determined that it is in the best interests of the County to enter into Schedule of Property No. 10 (the "Purchase Agreement"), between Banc of America Public Capital Corp (the "Lender") and the County, which supplements the Master Equipment Financing Agreement dated as of February 14, 2013, pursuant to the authority granted to the County under Section 160A-20 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, whereby the Lender will advance funds, in an amount not to exceed \$4,634,989.65, for such purpose and the County will make installment payments in consideration thereof; and

WHEREAS, there has been made available at this meeting, the form of the Purchase Agreement between the County and the Lender; and

WHEREAS, the Board wants to approve the Purchase Agreement and to authorize other actions in connection therewith.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners for the County of Gaston, North Carolina as follows:

Section 1. The Purchase Agreement, in the form submitted to this meeting, is hereby approved, and the Chair of the Board, the County Manager, the Interim Finance Director for the County and the Clerk to the Board are each hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver the Purchase Agreement, with such changes, insertions or omissions as each may approve, the execution thereof by any of them to constitute conclusive evidence of such approval.

Section 2. The Chair of the Board, the County Manager, the Interim Finance Director for the County, the Clerk to the Board and the County Attorney are each hereby authorized to take any and all such further action and to execute and deliver such other documents as may be necessary or advisable to carry out the intent of this Resolution and to effect the installment financing pursuant to the Purchase Agreement. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Interim Finance Director is authorized to approve all details of the financing, including without limitation, the amount advanced under the Purchase Agreement (which shall not exceed \$4,634,989.65), the principal payments under the Purchase Agreement, the term of the Purchase Agreement and the interest rate thereunder. Execution of the Purchase Agreement by the Chair of the Board, the County Manager or the Interim Finance Director, shall conclusively evidence approval of all such details of the financing.

Section 3. All actions of the County effectuating the proposed financing are hereby approved, ratified and authorized pursuant to and in accordance with the transactions contemplated by the documents referred to above.

Section 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

Commissioner Hovis seconded the motion and the motion was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners Brown, Cloninger, Fraley, Hovis Keigher and Worley
NAYS: None

* * *

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2024-028 Commissioner Fraley - GEMS - To Approve Emergency Medical Services Fee Schedule Based on Medicare Allowable Rates as follows:

GEMS – Medicare Fee Increase

Gaston County Emergency Medical Services		Current Rate	Suggested Rate Change
A2 Comprehen Transport - GEMS	A0433	\$1,385.00	\$1,450.00
ALS Emerg Transport - GEMS	A0427	\$950.00	\$1,000.00
ALS NonEmerg Transport - GEMS	A0426	\$950.00	\$1,000.00
BLS Emerg Transport - GEMS	A0429	\$800.00	\$850.00
BLS NonEmerg Transport - GEMS	A0428	\$600.00	\$625.00
Mileage - GEMS	A0425	\$17.00	\$18.00

2024-029 Commissioner Hovis - Police Department (Animal Care and Enforcement) - To Accept and Appropriate Donation Received for Thanksgiving Fundraiser in the Amount of \$1,035 per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
Donations and Gifts	1000-GPD-200-00000-000000-0000000-0000-02-445004	(\$1,035.00)
Other Services	1000-GPD-200-00000-000000-0000000-0000-02-530015	\$1,035.00

2024-030 Commissioner Hovis - Police Department (Animal Care and Enforcement) - To Accept and Appropriate Donation Received from Bissell Pet Foundation in the Amount of \$1,930 per Budget Change Request:

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
Donations and Gifts	1000-GPD-200-00000-000000-0000000-0000-02-445004	(\$1,930.00)
Miscellaneous Supplies	1000-GPD-200-00000-000000-0000000-0000-02-520007	\$1,930.00

2024-031 Commissioner Keigher - Police Department - Retirement Commendation - To Award the Service Side Arm and Badge to Retired Sergeant Joshua D. Hamlin

2024-032 Commissioner Worley - Public Works - To Authorize the County Manager, or Her Designee, to Execute a Professional Services Contract with Stewart Engineering, Inc. for the Design of South Point Landing Phase 4

2024-033 Commissioner Johnson - Public Works - To Authorize the County Manager, or Her Designee, to Execute a Professional Services Contract with HDR Engineering, Inc. of the Carolinas for the Design of the Gaston County Fueling Station Project

2024-034 Commissioners Brown & Cloninger - Public Works - To Authorize the County Manager, or Her Designee, to Execute an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between Gaston County and the City of Lowell for Construction of Segments of Carolina Thread Trail

2024-035 Commissioner Cloninger - Public Works - To Authorize the County Manager, or Her Designee, to Execute an Interlocal Agreement between Gaston County, the City of High Shoals, and the Town of Dallas for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) High Shoals, Hardin, Dallas - Water Line Project

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2024-036 Commissioner Fraley - Tax Collections - Pursuant to G.S. 105-381, the Tax Collector Requests that the November Tax Refunds be Made. (Releases and Refunds - \$646.13; Overpayments - \$47,708.16; VTS Refunds - \$6,543.98; Grand Total - \$54,898.27) as follows:

TAXPAYER NAME	AMOUNT
NOVEMBER 2023 RELEASES AND REFUNDS	
Dailey, Doyle K	\$427.01
Smith, Laura	\$107.81
Smith, Laura	\$111.31
TOTAL	\$646.13
NOVEMBER 2023 OVERPAYMENTS	
Ashley, Angela	\$245.00
Corelogic	\$2,391.15
Corelogic	\$100.00
Corelogic	\$100.00
Corelogic	\$100.00
Corelogic	\$655.46
Corelogic	\$1,500.00
Corelogic	\$1,761.80
Corelogic	\$1,829.52
Corelogic	\$1,786.64
Corelogic	\$145.80
Corelogic	\$3,322.88
Corelogic	\$2,386.58
Corelogic	\$928.18
Costner Law Office, PLLC	\$2,928.45
Crocker, Zachary David Allen	\$203.88
Crumel, Darline McCoy	\$152.47
Dee, Eunice Renee	\$100.00
Dietrich, Robert E	\$100.00
Dietrich, Robert E	\$150.00
Dietrich, Robert E	\$150.00
Dietrich, Robert E	\$100.00
Eidson, Jayne Wright	\$250.00
First Title & Escrow, INC.	\$278.00
Gagnon, Brendan Alexander	\$109.41
Garrison, Rodnie Wayne II	\$112.00
Gray, Lisa Craig	\$864.10
Hill, Ty Kalen Dominic	\$215.00
Howard, D. W.	\$699.90
Howell, Nicholas R	\$1,315.84
Lereta	\$2,306.37
Lereta	\$2,666.72
Lereta	\$163.50
Lereta	\$10,197.51
Lingerfelt, Rebecca P	\$141.74
Marlow, Tony W	\$516.80
Mulvaney, Justin Nolan	\$102.21
Parsons, Arnold Hanley	\$118.64
Peck, Brian Stewart	\$109.74
Stott, Hollowell, Windham & Stancil, PLLC	\$963.38
Tant, Jason Luke	\$310.26

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Toney, Jennifer	\$111.00
Unsell, Roy E Jr	\$245.74
Valerie Holmes Waddell DDS PA	\$200.00
Veazey, Gabriel Marcus	\$1,720.76
Walker, Leo	\$570.00
Waters, Patricia	\$191.35
Wells Fargo Real Estate Tax	\$1,848.72
Wheeler, James Earl	\$112.00
Williams, Akila Jonae	\$129.66
TOTAL	\$47,708.16

NOVEMBER 2023 VTS REFUNDS

Bridges, Stephanie Rita	\$108.26
Cleveland County Tax	\$595.93
Curry, Juan Lavar	\$110.49
Derek J Eaton DDS PLLC JTW	\$728.57
Farr, Marsha Brown	\$305.90
Floyd, Terence Laderrick	\$955.98
Innes, Eric Matthew	\$156.63
Kester, Robin Jernoske	\$108.42
Lapresta, Luke	\$153.99
Lincoln County Tax Dept	\$331.21
Lincoln County Tax Dept	\$630.43
Lincoln County Tax Dept	\$342.23
Marshall, Loyd William	\$119.65
Mincey, John Scott	\$461.05
Miranda, Figueroa German	\$101.15
Moss, William Wayne Jr	\$226.81
Richardson, Marcia Lynn	\$137.61
Sheffield, Justin Alan	\$146.86
Sweet, Jeffrey Jon	\$117.30
Wilson, Tony Ray	\$223.67
Wilson, Tony Ray	\$481.84
TOTAL	\$6,543.98

GRAND TOTAL **\$54,898.27**

2024-037 Commissioner Fraley - Tax Collections - Pursuant to G.S. 105-381, the Tax Collector Requests that the December Tax Refunds be Made. (Releases and Refunds - \$5,094.00; Overpayments - \$71,839.03; VTS Refunds - \$5,423.33; Grand Total - \$82,356.36) as follows:

TAXPAYER NAME	AMOUNT
DECEMBER 2023 RELEASES AND REFUNDS	
Collins, James M	\$479.25
Corelogic	\$312.75
Corelogic	\$312.75
Corelogic	\$312.75
Corelogic	\$456.75
Corelogic	\$486.00
Corelogic	\$486.00
Corelogic	\$486.00
Corelogic	\$486.00
Gantt, Patricia H.	\$312.75

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Holler Law Firm	\$477.00
Moody, Phyllis C	\$486.00
TOTAL	\$5,094.00

DECEMBER 2023 OVERPAYMENTS

99 Cedars, LLC	\$355.11
Alliance Real Estate III, Inc.	\$1,343.71
Alliance Real Estate III, Inc.	\$1,429.87
Belmont Savings Bank	\$174.24
Belmont Savings Bank	\$174.24
Belmont Savings Bank	\$300.00
Belmont Savings Bank	\$365.92
Belmont Savings Bank	\$1,943.78
Bledsoe, Pauline G	\$227.00
Booker, Marian	\$273.88
Brackett, Jon Michael	\$160.33
Brooks, Stephanie Lyn	\$141.85
Carey, Gregory	\$100.41
CBRE Loan Services, Inc.	\$464.34
Connor, Augustus S.	\$400.00
Corelogic Commercial Real Estate Services, Inc	\$940.47
Corelogic Commercial Real Estate Services, Inc	\$989.33
Corelogic Commercial Real Estate Services, Inc	\$1,184.87
Corelogic Commercial Real Estate Services, Inc	\$1,300.76
Corelogic Commercial Real Estate Services, Inc	\$1,474.17
Corelogic Commercial Real Estate Services, Inc	\$2,417.90
Corelogic Commercial Real Estate Services, Inc	\$2,425.46
Davis, Joseph Marion	\$1,574.96
DBA C & M Mini Storage	\$215.04
Dietrich, Robert E	\$100.00
Dietrich, Robert E	\$150.00
Dietrich, Robert E	\$150.00
Dietrich, Robert E	\$100.00
Evans, Deborah	\$120.90
Evans, Deborah	\$412.00
Evans, Deborah	\$412.00
Fayed, Michael Eric	\$200.00
Gaston County	\$1,886.65
Griffith, Michael John	\$132.19
Hall, Robert	\$109.02
Hammer, Jerry W.	\$3,576.26
Harris, Nancy M	\$227.76
Hovis, David	\$210.01
Hoyle, David	\$251.52
Janice Kay McManus Estate	\$1,703.44
Janice Kay McManus Estate	\$120.21
Kennedy, Elaine	\$510.35
Kinley, Theresa M	\$100.00
Kintegra Health	\$11,683.44
Kirby, Kenneth M	\$116.64
Latino Community Credit Union	\$1,554.23
Latino Community Credit Union	\$1,410.50
Local Government Credit Union	\$1,232.89
Luxtotta Of America, Inc. (PT)	\$1,671.25
McDonald's Restaurant Of NC	\$200.00

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Meeks, Vontrey Lashaun	\$119.81
Meeks, Vontrey Lashaun	\$176.15
Merritt Law PLLC	\$107.79
Messick, James Harrison	\$330.35
Parker, Walter	\$547.73
Preferred Homes of Charlotte LLC	\$3,467.75
Providence Management & Investments, LLC	\$135.00
Providence Management & Investments, LLC	\$135.00
Providence Management & Investments, LLC	\$180.98
Reyes, Sergio Morales	\$547.73
Rochling	\$2,940.52
Ruiz, Juan Antonio	\$127.34
Rutledge, Kenneth S	\$191.89
St Johns Missionary Baptist Church	\$189.00
State Employees Credit Union	\$2,102.84
State Employees Credit Union	\$883.45
State Employees Credit Union	\$1,292.33
State Employees Credit Union	\$3,072.74
Stowe, Grier	\$200.00
Stowe, Grier	\$300.00
Stowe, Grier	\$200.00
Trimnal, Donna Gladden	\$1,682.39
True SFR Beta	\$130.35
US Foot And Ankle Specialists LLC	\$1,000.00
Walker, Latarius Mone	\$286.46
Walker, Marvie	\$187.49
Ward, Earl L.	\$653.86
Ward, Earl L.	\$1,629.84
Widmer, Anthony	\$301.34
TOTAL	\$71,839.03

DECEMBER 2023 VTS REFUNDS

Capps, Bobbi Higgins	\$205.47
Carthen, Erin Michelle	\$133.38
Chapman, Phillip Roger II	\$657.33
Faulk, Billy Joe	\$127.61
Floyd, Philip Ray	\$182.40
Fuller, Cathleen Marie	\$222.66
Goldstein, Brian David	\$336.40
GSM Services Inc	\$261.36
Hayes, Harold Eugene	\$101.63
King, Robert Ray	\$135.14
Kirby, Michael James	\$358.82
Lapresta, Luke	\$190.66
Paredes, Oscar Antonio	\$214.19
Pena Urias, Uriel Euclides	\$242.76
Peregory, Lewis Michael	\$161.91
Porcelli, Justin Partick	\$301.14
Precision Rentals, LLC	\$200.30
Robinson, Malia Swift	\$223.74
Solomon, Ziting Xia	\$144.04
Spero, Eric Michael	\$515.78
Teller, Sara Jennifer	\$158.08
Vargosko, Jason Stephen	\$186.75
Xtreme Detail, Inc	\$161.78

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TOTAL	\$5,423.33
GRAND TOTAL	\$82,356.36

(Chairman Brown announced the BOC voted to reschedule its February 13th Work Session to precede the February 27th Regular Meeting.)

Items Pulled from Consent Agenda

2024-038 Commissioners Brown, Hovis, & Keigher - Public Works - To Authorize the Purchase of Properties Located at 803 N. Oakland Street, Gastonia PID's 104358 (4.52 acres), 104359 (5.11 acres), and 104364 (.74 acres) for the Total Purchase Price (\$7,500,000) and the Estimated Closing Costs (\$50,000)

Chairman Brown introduced Commissioner Cloninger for comments.

Commissioner Cloninger advised that a mill is located on one of the three parcels for sale; it was built in 1903 (closed 12 years ago), and is in average condition with three floors; it has been used as a warehouse; inquired if it was anticipated to be used as a warehouse in the future.

Mr. Ray Maxwell, Infrastructure & Asset Manager, responded "that is correct"; it was built in 1903; additions were made in the 1960s and 1984.

Commissioner Cloninger asked what the warehouse would house and how much it would cost to upfit the project.

Mr. Maxwell advised that portion of the project has not been fully planned out; staff has discussed moving some of the County's warehousing functions from the York-Chester building to this location; part of the purpose for the purchase is to provide the County with adequate acreage for the combined Public Safety Campus.

Commissioner Cloninger referenced the architect's drawings and asked for the estimated cost of the Public Safety Campus.

Mr. Maxwell responded that staff does not have information on that particular building; the renderings for the building just show what it could look like once renovated; staff will refine the Public Safety Campus cost estimates as it moves forward with the design.

Commissioner Cloninger asked if the campus would be built in stages.

Mr. Maxwell responded the existing building would not necessarily be used as part of the public safety function; the Public Safety Campus would be built first and then the existing building would be renovated at some point in the future.

Commissioner Cloninger stated she understands the importance of a Public Safety Campus but does not understand why that piece of property is so expensive.

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Mr. Maxwell responded staff asked a local appraiser to review the property and provide an idea of what the market value was for that; the appraiser looked at eight properties to come up with the appraised value and that is how staff arrived at that number.

Commissioner Worley asked if the County would be able to use ARPA funding for this purchase.

Mr. Maxwell responded, "That is correct". There would not be any local County tax dollars associated with it; would be purchased with ARPA funds.

Commissioner Cloninger asked if ARPA funds would be used to build the facility.

Mr. Maxwell responded ARPA funds would only be used to purchase the property.

Chairman Brown responded that the ARPA funds will be sunsetting in 2026. He noted that the County Police Department is bursting at the seams due to a lack of office space; Emergency Management will be located there as well; GEMS is also experiencing similar congestion with three agencies operating in one building. He noted the Elections, Probation Office and County Police building, located in the FUSE District, would go back onto the tax rolls; the City of Gastonia is trying to help build that area up; excited to see this come to fruition for our Public Safety officers.

The County Manager advised staff is completing a packet report on the ARPA funds allocations; the design for the Public Safety Campus is in the current year's budget.

Commissioner Hovis noted the 911 Communications Center is extremely crowded; the new facility will provide the expansion sorely needed for employees to have a proper work environment; it will also provide GEMS with the additional storage space they need.

Chairman Brown agreed the campus will allow for a centrally located, safe storage facility for public safety apparatus.

Commissioner Worley echoed Chairman Brown's comments about the security of personnel and equipment; it is an excellent opportunity for the County and will ultimately better serve the citizenry; one central location will allow for public safety personnel to more readily communicate with one another. He also noted the lack of available property in general.

Chairman Brown advised it will be a first-class facility once it is built out; there is also a lot of infrastructure that is already in place there.

Chairman Brown called for a motion to approve.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Worley and seconded by Commissioner Hovis, the BOC approved **2024-038**. The vote carried as follows:

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

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Appointments

On motions introduced and seconded, the following individuals were unanimously reappointed to the ***Environment Review Advisory Board***:

<u>Motion Introduced</u>	<u>Seconded</u>	<u>Appointee</u>	<u>Term Ending</u>
Commissioner Fraley	Commissioner Hovis	Mr. Johnny Denton	January 31, 2027
Commissioner Keigher	Commissioner Hovis	Mr. Mike Mcleod	January 31, 2027

On motion introduced by Commissioner Fraley and seconded by Commissioner Hovis, the BOC unanimously reappointed Ms. Twanna Littlejohn to the ***SARA Local Planning Committee (LEPC)*** to a term ending December 31, 2026.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Fraley and seconded by Commissioner Hovis, the BOC unanimously appointed Mr. Vincent Wong to the ***Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC)*** to an unexpired term ending June 30, 2025.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Worley and seconded by Commissioner Fraley, the BOC unanimously reappointed Dr. Gina Ramsey to the ***Community Child Protection Team (CCPT)*** to a term ending January 31, 2028.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Cloninger and seconded by Commissioner Brown, the BOC unanimously appointed Dr. Mark Lassiter to the ***Council on Aging/Home and Community Care Block Grant Advisory Committee*** to an unexpired term ending July 31, 2024.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Hovis and seconded by Commissioner Keigher, the BOC unanimously reappointed Mr. Tony Marcantel to the ***Planning Board*** to a term ending January 31, 2027.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Keigher and seconded by Commissioner Hovis, the BOC unanimously appointed Mr. Jamarkis Mitchell to the ***Transportation Advisory Board (TAB)*** to an unexpired term ending May 31, 2024.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Brown and seconded by Commissioner Hovis, the BOC unanimously reappointed Mr. Lucas Shires to the ***Gaston County Board of Adjustment/Gaston County Housing Board*** to a term ending January 31, 2027.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Brown and seconded by Commissioner Hovis, the BOC unanimously appointed Ms. Cathy Kenzig to the ***Region F Aging Advisory Committee*** to an unexpired term ending May 31, 2024.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Worley and seconded by Commissioner Brown, the BOC unanimously appointed Mr. James Hefferan to the ***Economic Development Commission*** to a term ending December 31, 2026.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Brown and seconded by Commissioner Fraley, the BOC unanimously reappointed Commissioner Cathy Cloninger to the ***Museum of Art and History Board*** to a term ending June 30, 2024.

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On motion introduced by Commissioner Brown and seconded by Commissioner Hovis, the BOC unanimously appointed Mr. David Fogarty to the **Quality of Natural Resources Committee** to an unexpired term ending October 31, 2026.

Commissioners Committee Reports

Commissioner Keigher reported meeting attendance on 1/22/24 to **Gaston College Board of Trustees** meeting; the current year enrollment is 7,500 students and roughly about 10,000 taking Continuing Education Classes; the College finished its TAG (Transfer Admission Guarantee) with Appalachian, Belmont Abbey, East Carolina, Gardner Webb, Lenoir Rhyne, Johnson C. Smith, Lees-McRae, NC State, UNC Charlotte and Wilmington colleges/universities; a guaranteed transfer for student graduates with an Associate Degree; the **Textile Technology Center** has served 297 customers nationally and 18 internationally the last 2.5 years representing businesses from Australia, Canada, Germany, Israel, Mexico and Singapore.

Commissioner Brown reported attendance to the former County Attorney's (William "Bill" Stetzer) Superior Court Judge Investiture Ceremony; he welcomed District Court Judge Gus Anthony to the meeting.

County Manager's Report

No report.

County Attorney's Report

No report.

Other Matters

None.

Adjournment

Chairman Brown called for a motion to adjourn.

On motion introduced by Commissioner Hovis and seconded by Commissioner Fraley, the BOC unanimously adjourned the Regular Meeting of January 23, 2024 at 6:46 pm.

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

Chad Brown, Chairman
Gaston County Board of Commissioners

Donna S. Buff
Clerk to the Board

SEAL