



Town of Green Level Public Hearing
Green Level Municipal Building
Thursday, January 25, 2018

A Public Hearing of the Town of Green Level Council was held on Thursday, January 25, 2018 at 7:00 PM in the Green Level Municipal Building located at 2510 Green Level Church Road.

GOVERNING BODY MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Remonia Enoch, Mayor Pro Tem Carissa Graves-Henry, Council Member Theodore Howard, Council Member Michael Trollinger and Council Member Richard Woods.

GREEN LEVEL STAFF PRESENT: Town Administrator Michael Douglas and Town Clerk Sandra McCollum.

GREEN LEVEL TOWN ATTORNEY PRESENT: Marissa West.

Mayor Enoch called the meeting to order, Council Member Trollinger gave the invocation.

Mayor Enoch stated that a public hearing will be held for the Safety Training Facility.

Special Guest Speakers:

Mr. Pat Nadolski, Alamance County District Attorney

Sheriff Terry Johnson, Alamance County Sheriff Department

Ms. Cynithia Collie, Vice President, Finances Alamance Community College

Dr. Algie Gatewood, President, Alamance Community College

Mr. Gary Saunders, Vice President Workforce Development, Alamance Community College

Mr. Bryan Hagood, Alamance County Manager

The Administrator stated that this is one of two public hearings that will take place for the Safety Training Facility. The Administrator asked Alamance County District Attorney Pat Nadoloki to explain why this facility is needed.

Mr. Nadoloki stated that his office is with law enforcement, EMS, and medical providers. He said this training is very important because it will attract people from all over North Carolina. He continued saying that it is very important that we have trained people in law enforcement and emergency services, which is key. He said the District Attorney Office is the last wall and after a crime occurs, the District Attorney will then prosecute the case. When his office prosecute a case, it is to have good cases. He said the very best people are needed on the front line. He said that there are overdoses of drugs and good EMS are needed to save lives and law enforcement is doing that as well. He said he could go on and on but there is a need to have trained EMS and law enforcement and this is what is needed to make it happen.

The Administrator introduced Sheriff Terry Johnson, Alamance County Sheriff Department, to explain why this facility should come to Green Level.

Sheriff Terry Johnson stated that in 2002, the first time he was running for Sheriff he went door to door to a lot of the houses in Green Level. He said he was going to say it if people didn't like it, Green Level had been short changed in his book and the people in Green Level desire better. He said when he became Sheriff, he talked to Mrs. McCollum about some of these problems. He said his office was able to put officers in Green Level, and he said the County could do better in Green Level. So, when the props started nationwide with officers training, he wanted a training center with other people here in the justice system. He said they looked at Saxapahaw, but it would have taken a lot of grading and other things. He asked why Green Level, then stated that the economic impact it will have for the Town of Green, in his opinion, will be astronomical because the people that come here will have to have a place to eat. He said there will be a need for a hotel because officers will come from the East and West will have to have a place to stay. He said there is a possibility of having a substation at that facility. The Sheriff said he loves Green Level.

Dr. Gatewood thanked the Mayor, Council and residents for having them. He said as president of Alamance Community College, he is delighted to have the College to be a part of this partnership, the Safety Training Facility. He said it will not per say, belong to ACC, it will not belong to the County, it will not belong to Green Level but it will belong to all of us, this will be our training center. He said in order to develop the training center, where we all can be very comfortable, we can reap the best benefit from it, then we will then go through the interim process, if the Council approves the center. He said one thing that he do not subscribe to is somebody giving you a plan, this is what it is going to be. He said you have seen some literature about the training center, which is the first draft. He said his guest is by the time they get to the point of digging the foundation for the first part of this facility, laying the pipe line for the sewage and the water, we will all have the opportunity to engage on this. He said it will be similar to a marriage, you don't just walk out and marriage someone you meet today, it is a process. When we are finish, we will feel like a family. The training center will be comprehensive. The funding has to be acquired and the land transaction has to be made. The College has to invest \$10,428,00 and that is a lot of money. He said he thinks that Green Level is the type of place where this investment could make the difference. He said the Sheriff was correct when he said this will make an economic impact, people will come to spend money and this will put Green Level on

the map. He said to Council Member Trollinger that he appreciated his prayer because the people he prayed for are the people that comes to our rescue. He asked the Council a question. "If you have an emergency for a family member or yourself, who do you want, someone that has been mediocre trained or someone who has been incredible trained to make sure you or your family member survive." What is the training center? The training center at a very, very high level that will be a driving range so the basic law enforcement personnel can really learn how to do maneuver on a pad, this will not be like a racing track. There will be a fire tower for firemen and incoming firemen that will have a place to train. There will be two indoor firing range. This is about partnership and making sure that this is something that we can all be proud of.

Ms. Cynitha Collie said that she was born and raised in Alamance County and went away for a while and came back to work at AAC. She said that she manages the capital projects so this will be a project that she will be involved in. She said that she wants to go over with what the \$10, 428.00 will do. She said the driving track will be used for all of the safety training. The driving track will be 600x500 (around ten acres) and will be able to accommodate the fire trucks. She continued to say that there will be an overview tower and classrooms space. She said the shooting range facility will be indoors with twenty lanes and training with hand guns and rifles. This will include bathrooms, classrooms, storage, and a storage area for a simulator. Right now, there is no place to storage a simulator so it has to be disassembled. The fire tower will be a four story fire training tower with classrooms and a burn pit. She said this ten acres will be for the storm water control and the perimeter for the fence and parking.

The Administrator asked the audience for questions, and he asked everyone to talk clearly so he can write the questions down.

Mr. Billy Tarpley, 1418 Hwy. 49, stated that he did not have a question but there is a serious problem on Hwy. 49 with all the people coming in and the traffic needed to be address. He said somebody will get hurt. He said either the speed limit needs to be look at and get more police involved or get the State to put in stop lights. He feels that the Council should consider the traffic problem before approving this facility. The Administrator replied that he had a meeting with DOT and there is already two plans that he will address the Council.

Mr. Algene Tarpley, 1404 Hwy. 49, asked if in the future if an outdoor range will be at this facility. Sheriff Johnson replied that an outdoor range is not needed at this facility because there are other places this training can be done.

Mr. Gary Saunders stated that he is happy that Sheriff Johnson is bringing law enforcement training but he wants everyone to understand that this facility is not only about law enforcement. There will be EMS and fire training.

Ms. Cecilia Rainey, 2875 Anderson Rd., asked where the facility will be located. The Sheriff replied that the proposed site with the shooting range will not be near any houses. The location will be the Martin Marietta on Sandy Cross Rd.

Ms. Bonnie Richards, 2225 Carter Rd., asked will the residents hear the sounds. The Sheriff replied with the indoor range the gun sound will not be heard. He said there are berms around the facility.

Mr. Anthony Carr, 2311 James Boswell Rd., asked what benefit the Town will receive with no restaurants. The Sheriff replied that restaurants will come because there will have to be a place to eat. He continued this will increase the Town's tax base. Mr. Carr asked who will be responsible for the sewer and water. Dr. Gatewood replied that the College will be responsible. The College has support from the County and State and this will not be a financial burden for the Town. He said he wants to add another benefit and that this will give the young people an opportunity to have the best of training to get good jobs.

Council Member Trollinger explained that when he was a paramedic, he had to go to training and would have to travel a distance to eat, so this will benefit Green Level to have places to eat.

Mr. Billy Tarpley stated that he may change his mind after the highway is done. But he has never been to a training area this close to a municipal the size of Green Level, he said, "I wonder why".

Mr. Earl Pickett, 1587 Dixon Ln., stated that according to the finance, all the concerns are valid, but if the bond referendum doesn't pass there is no facility. If the bond does pass then these concerns can be discussed in detail.

Mr. Algene Tarpley asked what increase of taxes the bond will be.

Mr. Hagood replied that the Alamance/Burlington School System and ACC are looking at two separate bonds totaling \$190,000,00 for the two, projecting \$150,000,00 for Alamance/Burlington School System and close to \$40,000,00 for ACC. He said they had looked at an initially possible impact of a bond. It would be with all the money borrowed up front and projects starting immediately, which is unrealistic. To give a ballpark figure of what it would do for property taxes is probably an eleven cent increase to the County property tax. He said they are working with some folks from Davenport Financial Plan Firm to help take all the funding sources which they have to include the school lottery money, the County general fund money dollars, capital reserve money that is budgeted, trying to put all of that in one pile to come up with a model that will get the tax down as low as possible. He said what is going to happen is on March 19, Dr. Gatewood and Dr. Harrison from Alamance/Burlington System will come to the Alamance County Board of Commissioners with their list of projects. Then the Commissioners are going to ask him what the estimated cost for the property taxes. He said he thinks he will have them all in place. If both bonds pass, there will be a property tax increase. He continued to say all the projects are good and needed and looking at a finance model to see what the taxes will be. They are also looking at if the bond does not pass. The County is statutorily responsible for all of the improvements and structures so if the projects are going to be done, then the bond will be extremely helpful. Some of these projects are critically infrastructure repairs that need to be done to Alamance/Burlington System and ACC and they are trying to plan for if the bond does not pass. He said he will be happy to answer questions about the bond, but he is here tonight to support the training facility. County government works with the Sheriff Department, ACC and the fire department, and they will be the body for the financing this project. They also provide the operating funds to ACC and pay the water and sewer bills.

Mr. Anthony Carr asked why property taxes go up and down. The Administrator addressed Mr. Carr that he will talk to him one on one.

The Mayor asked for Council discussion.

Council Member Howard asked the Sheriff if they have an outdoor sniper range for training. The Sheriff answered that there is one in Caswell County and Rad Koury has an outdoor range in the County. He said they were going to Butner Federal range, they closed down. Council Member Howard continued to ask the Sheriff about different guns and the safety. Mr. Saunders explained to Council Member Howard the safety of the facility.

Council Member Trollinger thanked the Sheriff and the other guests for coming out.

Pro Tem Graves-Henry thanked everyone and said she had a clearer understanding.

Council Member Woods, no discussion

Mayor Enoch thanked everyone and said the questions were answered and appreciated.

The Mayor asked for a motion to close the Public Hearing. Council Member Trollinger made the motion, seconded by Council Member Woods. The motion carried unanimously. (5-0)

There being no further business.

The Mayor asked for a motion to adjourn the regular meeting. The motion was made by Council Member Trollinger, seconded by Council Member Woods. The motion carried unanimously. (5-0)

Remonia Enoch, Mayor

ATTEST: Sandra McCollum, Town Clerk

