

**MINUTES FROM A PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED FY 2020-2021 WARREN COUNTY BUDGET HELD BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR THE COUNTY OF WARREN IN THE WARREN COUNTY ARMORY CIVIC CENTER MEETING ROOM ON JUNE 1, 2020 AT 6:10 PM.**

The Budget Public Hearing was called to order by Chairman Tare Davis, in accordance with NCGS 159-12. Other Commissioners present: Jennifer Pierce and Walter Powell. Commissioners attending virtually: Bertadean Baker and Victor Hunt. Others in attendance: County Manager Vincent Jones, Finance Director Katherine Brafford and County Attorney Hassan Kingsberry.

Deputy Clerk to the Board Paula Pulley read the Notice of Public Hearing.

**FY 2020-21  
WARREN COUNTY BUDGET &  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Pursuant to NC General Statute 159-12, notice is hereby given that the Warren County Budget Estimate for FY 2020-21 has been submitted by the County Manager to the Warren County Board of Commissioners. A Public Hearing on the proposed budget for FY 2020-21 will be held in the Warren County Armory Civic Center, 501 US Hwy 158 Business East, Warrenton, NC 27589 on Monday, June 1, 2020 during 6:00 pm regular monthly meeting. The public is reminded that the budget is proposed by the County Manager, and as such, may change following final actions of the Board of County Commissioners which may also include changes in the proposed tax rate. At the time of the Public Hearing, all interested citizens shall have the right and reasonable opportunity to provide written comments concerning the proposed budget and to submit questions regarding the entire budget, or any component thereof. The proposed budget totals \$33,084,903, and the proposed tax rate is \$.81/\$100 property valuation. The County Manager's Budget Message and proposed budget are available for public inspection in the Warren County Memorial Library, 119 S. Front Street, Warrenton, NC, to schedule an appointment call (252) 257-4990 Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (hours are subject to change because of COVID-19) or proposed budget can be viewed on Warren County's official Web Site at: <https://www.warrencountync.com/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=137> Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the public is not able to attend the June 1, 2020 Public Hearing in person. The meeting will be live streamed, and citizens may follow the guidelines below to submit Citizen Comments. The agenda for the meeting will be available on Wednesday, May 27, 2020. Rules for Citizen Comments for the June 1, 2020 Warren County Public Hearing - Please submit your comments to [WCGOV@warrencountync.gov](mailto:WCGOV@warrencountync.gov) until Tuesday, June 2nd at 6:00 pm. Citizens are allowed to submit one comment per person. Not to exceed 350 words. Any comments submitted after 3 pm on June 1st will not be read aloud by the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners. If a response to your written comments is desired from the County Manager and/or a particular Board member, indicate to whom your comments are addressed. Board of Commissioners' Meetings are recorded, therefore comments will be read into the record. **Video of this meeting will be live streamed in real time via Facebook Live at <https://www.facebook.com/WarrenCountyNCOfficial/> and YouTube at <https://youtu.be/o00oGM-p-MY>, footage will be made available after the live stream ends.** All interested citizens are encouraged to attend this meeting remotely.

Tare Davis, Chairman  
Warren County Board of Commissioners

Affidavit of Printer's Proof  
NORTH CAROLINA  
WARREN COUNTY

I, LEAH LEWIS, Office Manager of The Warren Record, a weekly newspaper publication in the town of Warrenton, Warren County, and state of North Carolina, attest that a legal action entitled:  
FY 2020-21 Warren County Budget & Notice of Public Hearing

a true copy of which is made a part of this affidavit, did appear in the said The Warren Record in the following consecutive issues:

5120, 2020.  
Leah M. Lewis  
Office Manager

Warren County, North Carolina  
I certify that the above person personally appeared before me this day, acknowledging to me that she signed the foregoing document.

21 day of May, 2020  
Ruelle Dee Walden  
Notary Public

My commission expires: 1-16-25  
1-16-25 JHW



Comments were as follows:

Betty Mazor sent in a comment by email stating that COVID-19 has affected the revenue of Warren County negatively, but it has also affected the citizens own budgets. Ms. Mazor stated that the burden of the County's loss of revenue should not be put on county residents that are already struggling. She suggested that programs be rescheduled, cancelled, or re-worked just as residents have had to recalculate their own budgets.

Chip King sent in a comment by email stating he is retired and living on a fixed income. He stated he moved to Lake Gaston because of the low tax rate. Mr. King does not understand why taxes are now so high with new million dollar and up mega homes being built on Lake Gaston.

**Comments by Commissioners:**

**Commissioner Pierce asked that County Manager look into starting the salary increase for the Sheriff's Office earlier, rather than waiting until January as is proposed for all employees. Commissioner Pierce further stated that she feels we should go ahead and decide now that there will not be a holiday bonus for employees in FY21.**

**Commissioner Pierce asked that County Manager talk with Lake Gaston Weed Control to see if we could hold off on paying them in FY21. Commissioner Davis stated that Lake Gaston is an asset to the County and the money paid to Lake Gaston Weed Control is much needed to control noxious weeds and protect Lake Gaston.**

**Comments by County Manager:**

**At the request of Commissioner Pierce, Mr. Jones stated he will work with the Sheriff to determine what other agencies are doing to attract and maintain officers.**

**Mr. Jones stated that he has spoken with Lake Gaston Weed Control previously. He further stated that there have been years when the money budgeted was not needed by Lake Gaston Weed Control.**

**On motion of Commissioner Pierce, which was seconded by Commissioner Baker and duly carried, the Budget Public Hearing was adjourned at 6:40 pm.**

\_\_\_\_\_/s/ Paula Pulley\_\_\_\_\_  
Paula Pulley, Deputy Clerk