

October 21, 2005, MB #50

GENERAL ACCOUNT
SPECIAL SESSION
JOINT MEETING WITH NEWTON CITY COUNCIL
Friday, October 21, 2005

The Catawba County Board of Commissioners met in a special session with Newton City Council on Friday, October 21, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. in the Gantt Community Room, Newton City Hall, 401 N. Main Avenue, Newton, North Carolina. The purpose of the meeting was the public approval and announcement of Project Slice.

Mayor Bob Mullinax welcomed everyone to the meeting and Vice-Chair Dan Hunsucker called the Catawba County Board of Commissioners meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. Commissioners Barbara G. Beatty and Lynn Lail were present and Chair Barnes was unable to attend due to out of town commitments.

Julie Pruett from the Economic Development Corporation presented an overview of Project Slice which was an economic development project which involved Flowers Food Corporation and grants from both the City of Newton and Catawba County wherein Flowers Food Corporation would locate a minimum of 158 people in a \$40,000,000 bakery facility housed in the former Harvest States building in Danner Industrial Park. The bakery would operate three shifts and initially have 90 hourly and full time position with the addition of a new bakery line and 50 additional jobs by 2007.

The Newton City Council approved their motion which included incentives of a 70% grant of annual tax revenues with a \$880,240 limit of the grant and two generators necessary for the operation of the facility.

Commission Barbara Beatty made a motion for the Catawba County Board of Commissioners to approve an economic grant to cause Flowers Food Corporation to locate a minimum of 158 people and a \$40,000,000 bakery facility to Newton's Canner Industrial Park in the former Harvest States Facility. This grant is expected to be a maximum of \$268,000 to be used to reimburse Company expenditures as eligible under North Carolina General Statute 158-7.1(a). This grant will be paid to the company in installment over five years and the County is directed to execute a contract between the Company and the County under these terms and conditions and authorizes the Chair of the Board of Commissioners to sign. The motion carried unanimously.

Formal welcomes were made to Flowers Food Corporation by the City of Newton, Catawba County, Charles Dixon, Chair of the Economic Development Corporation and Ron Leitch of the North Carolina Department of Commerce.

Joe Tashie, Regional Vice President of Flowers Food Corporation presented a company overview which was followed by a motion by the City of Newton to adjourn their Council meeting and a motion by Commissioner Lynn Lail to adjourn the meeting of the Catawba County Board of Commissioners.

Dan A. Hunsucker, Vice-Chair

J. Thomas Lundy
County Manager/Deputy Clerk