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*Ed Powell, County Attorney  
Lisa Hughes, County Manager  
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## COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

### October 14, 2022

#### **Surry Yadkin Works and Apprenticeship Program**

In the FY2022 budget, the County funded and additional \$50,000 to the Yadkin County Public Schools to implement the Surry Yadkin Works Program in partnership with Surry Community College. This is a program that also includes collaboration with Surry County and the three school systems in Surry County and Economic Development in both counties. Initially, it is a program that provides internships in local businesses for high school Juniors and Seniors. Participants in the program received \$1,000 stipend each semester in addition to being paid by the business for the internship. The County has had two interns, one in Finance who is now a Freshman at Appalachian State University and one in the Medical Clinic who now works at Hugh Chatham.

The program is now being blended with an Apprenticeship Program for those who have graduated high school and offers them an opportunity to earn an Associates' Degree while working in the field in a local business. For example, they have a Paramedic Apprenticeship Program where someone who may or may not have completed an internship, but is interested in becoming an EMT. They will start off becoming certified as an EMT-B and enroll in the Paramedic program within one year. The apprenticeship lasts 2 years and they will have become a credentialed paramedic and have an Associates' Degree. Due to the County's number of employees, we may be eligible to have 50% of our costs (salary, etc.) and up to \$2,000 for training reimbursed.

They also have programs for CNA/LPN, Office/Finance and are exploring building inspections and other programs that may be beneficial for us.

Keith Vestal and I are going to follow-up with Whittney Harris next week about this program.

#### **Republic Services**

Brock and I continue to meet with Republic Services about our invoices and services received. Our average invoice over the last year has been around \$50,000. The most recent invoice was just under \$30,000. They have been charging for lifts that they shouldn't have been and lifting all the cans at Patterson twice per week and the site is only open one day per week. Drew had been working on this, but we finally got it resolved last

week. Republic has had a lot of staff turnover in our contacts, as we have had some and that has creating some communication issues.

They are collecting trash from our sites and co-mingling it with other customers' trash and we had not been charging them to cross the scales and dispose of it. This is due to our contract being for collections only and not disposal. This is going to change. They are going to determine what percentage of the trash is ours and they will bill us for disposal as well as collections and then we will charge all of their trucks that cross the scale. So, while our expense will increase, so will our revenue. Of course, we will have to amend the contract before this can be implemented.

As I stated a while back, we pay about twice the amount for a recycle lift that we do a trash lift. We may need to re-think our recycling program and maybe only have it at the Landfill and all convenient sites be household trash only.

We still lease the Hamptonville and East Bend sites. The Hamptonville and Patterson sites are only open 1 day per week, with Patterson being household trash only. Perhaps we could consider closing the Hamptonville site when its lease expires in December or change it to household trash only like Patterson.

#### ***Former Cooperative Extension Building***

The exterior of the former Cooperative Extension Building has been painted and looks great. The front window woodwork will be wrapped in a vinyl very similar to the darker color above the windows and a black awning will be installed. Dwayne Stanley has done a terrific job managing this project and working with Probation and the PTRC Pre-trial staff.

#### ***Land Use Plan and Zoning Ordinance***

Both of these documents are being updated. Draft versions of each should be available in December in January and ready for consideration in the spring of 2023.