

SOLD! At Least for Now

Written by Steve Frank

Wednesday, 17 October 2012 10:38

Sold—at least for now. That the latest from the Watauga County Commission, who received hand-written proposals from Campus Crest and Sanctuary Management for the old Watauga High Campus. County Manager Deron Geouque read the bids to the commissioners--\$18 million from Campus Crest with a 5% commission; \$16.8 from Sanctuary Management with 0% commission. Board chairman Nathan Miller did the quick math on the 'net to the county' amounts, and found only \$300,000 separated the two bids, but commissioner Jim Deal was quick to move for the higher bid, adopted unanimously. Sanctuary Management got detailed information about the upset bid process before heading back to Atlanta, so within two weeks, we may see the \$18 million raised to the next increment of \$18.9 million—or beyond, as others have expressed interest, and may be waiting in the wings to see where the money is headed. Spring 2013 is the earliest that any earth might be moved by the eventual high bidder, and the interest switches to what 'mixed use' the final winner brings to the table.