



Engineering Services Committee Meeting

10/14/2025 1:20PM

Motion to Approve the Abandonment of Twiggs Street and Watkins Street within the vicinity of the New Augusta Arena between Sixth Street and Fenwick Street

Department: Legal Department

Presenter: Jim Plunkett

Caption: Motion to approve the abandonment of a portion of Twiggs Street and Watkins Street within the vicinity of the New Augusta Arena between Sixth Street and Fenwick Street as shown on the attached plat, as it has ceased to be used by the public to the extent that no substantial public purpose is served by it or that its removed from the county road system is otherwise in the best public interest pursuant to O.C.G.A. 32 -7-2, with the abandoned property to be quit-claimed to the Coliseum Authority for \$1 subject to all recommendations by Engineering regarding storm water, utilities and easements.

Background: The New Augusta Arena is expanding its footprint and is has requesting we abandon both Twiggs Street and Watkins Street between Sixth Street and Fenwick Street. There are no other adjoining owners, all property on both sides is owned by the Coliseum Authority. Augusta Utilities stated Augusta will need an easement with unrestricted access to the utilities. The Coliseum authority will take ownership and maintenance of any public storm conveyance system present within right of way. Augusta will retain the easement over the entire width and length of the Tract A and Tract B which will cover our water and fiber optics line, if new parking is accomplished, Fiberoptics will be relocated to Fenwick and 6th right of way. The Coliseum Authority is requesting the property be conveyed for \$1 since the Coliseum Authority is an entity that's activities are for the public good of Augusta, Georgia.

Analysis: In addition, public notice of the proposed road abandonment was published on August 13, 2025, and on August 20, 2025. A public hearing was held on August 27, 2025. Notices were also mailed to all adjoining property owners, in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 32-7-2(b)(1). The Law Department has received no adverse comments or objections in response to the advertisement or mailings, and no opposing parties appeared at the public hearing.

Financial Impact: Cost of publication and advertisement of public hearing

Alternatives: Do not approve and Augusta maintains responsibility for the road and the Coliseum may not have parking there..

Recommendation: Approve the abandonment of said portions of Twiggs Street and Watkins Street within the vicinity of the New Augusta Arena between Sixth Street and Fenwick Street subject to all recommendations by Engineering regarding storm water, utilities and easements. The Coliseum authority will take ownership and maintenance of any public storm conveyance system present within right of way. Augusta will retain the easement over the entire width and length of the Tract A and Tract B which will cover our water and fiber optics line or will relocate them to Fenwick and 6th Street or other right of way.

Funds are available in the following accounts: N/A

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY: Law.
Engineering.
Planning.