

September 7, 2021

The Walton County Board of Commissioners held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at the Historic Walton County Courthouse. Those participating in the meeting included Chairman David Thompson, Commissioners Bo Warren, Mark Banks, Timmy Shelnett, Lee Bradford, Jeremy Adams and Kirklyn Dixon, County Clerk Rhonda Hawk, Finance Director Milton Cronheim, Planning Director Charna Parker, Human Resources Director Melissia Rusk and County Attorney Chip Ferguson. A list of employees and citizens in attendance at the meeting is on file in the auxiliary file under this meeting date.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following people spoke during public comment in opposition of the Public Safety Complex Site: Rita Dickinson, Laura Gross, Robin Peters and Cindy Johnson.

MEETING OPENING

Chairman Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Shelnett gave the invocation.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

***Motion:** Commissioner Shelnett made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Dixon seconded the motion and all voted in favor.*

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

Denial of Z21060020 - Rezone 2.00 acres from I1 to M2 for salvage operation yard, junk yard, recyclable material wholesale yard and Variance to waive acreage requirement - Applicant: Godlove Fomuteh/Owner: Bryan & Godlove Fomuteh and Goma Discount Tires - Property located at 873 Adamson Dr/Map/Parcel C1350019J00 – District 5

Chairman Thompson opened the public hearing on the matter. Applicant Godlove Fomuteh spoke in favor of the rezone and variance request. There was no opposition present. Chairman Thompson closed the public hearing on the matter.

***Motion:** Commissioner Adams made a motion to accept the Planning Commission recommendation to deny the rezone. Commissioner Bradford seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.*

Approval with Conditions Z21070002 - Rezone 6.73 acres from A1 to M2 for wood product manufacturing - Applicant: Francisco Gomez/Owner: Jeffrey Kurt Billingsley - Property located at GA Hwy 20/Map/Parcel C0070015 - District 2

Chairman Thompson opened the public hearing on the matter. Applicant Francisco Gomez and Charles Edmondson spoke in favor of the rezone requesting that the hours of operation

recommended by the Planning Commission be changed. Trent Pippin and Sid Gordon spoke in opposition stating their concerns over noise and proximity to residential property. Chairman Thompson closed the public hearing on the matter.

Motion: *Commissioner Banks made a motion to approve the rezone with the following conditions: hours of operation 7a.m. to 7p.m. Monday – Saturday, 8ft. opaque fence around all outside storage, clearance through GDOT for a decal lane and that the rezone be used for this use only. Commissioner Shelnett seconded the motion. All voted in favor.*

Approval with Conditions Z21070003 - Rezone 17.35 acres from A1 to A for a small-scale solar farm and office - Applicants/Owners: William H Moyers III & Mark Faircloth - Property located at 7973 & 7975 Hwy. 81/Map/Parcels C0700051 & 52 and N071A036 - District 5

Chairman Thompson opened the public hearing on the matter. Applicant William Moyers spoke in favor of the rezone. Mr. Moyers stated that he would like to keep the rural feel of the area. He would like the Board to allow an agriculture appearance for the office building and would provide professional landscaping and maintain a natural buffer. There was no opposition present. Chairman Thompson closed the public hearing on the matter.

Motion: *Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve per the Planning Commission recommendation and to allow for the agricultural appearance of the office building, professional landscaping and to maintain the natural buffer. Commissioner Dixon seconded the motion and all voted in favor.*

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Annexation - City of Loganville - 4430 Tuck Road

Motion: *Commissioner Shelnett made a motion to approve the City of Loganville request to annex 4430 Tuck Road. Commissioner Banks seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.*

Acceptance of Right of Way - .886 Acre on Horseshoe Road

Motion: *Commissioner Banks made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Warren to accept the .886 acre right of way on Horseshoe Road. All voted in favor.*

ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of August 3, 2021 Meeting Minutes
2. Contracts & Budgeted Purchases of \$5000 or Greater
3. Declaration of Surplus Property
4. Contract Renewal - WC Sheriff's Office - Loganville Christian Academy
5. Ratification of actions taken by WCWSA on 8/11/2021
6. Acceptance of Grant - WCHCF - Exercise Equipment - SW Community Center
7. 2022 Holiday Schedule

Motion: Commissioner Adams made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Shelnett to approve the Administrative Consent Agenda; voted and carried unanimously.

RESOLUTIONS

Finance Director Milton Cronheim presented the following Resolutions.

Resolution - FY22 Budget Amendment

Motion: *Commissioner Banks made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bradford to adopt the Resolution for FY22 Budget Amendments; voted and carried unanimously.*

Resolution - Project Length Budget - SPLOST IV Resurfacing

Motion: *Commissioner Bradford made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon to adopt the Resolution for the Project Length Budget for SPLOST IV Resurfacing. All voted in favor.*

CONTRACTS

Contract/Resolution - GDOT Roundabout Lighting Assistance SR81 & Ozora Ch. Rd.

Motion: *Commissioner Warren made a motion to approve the Contract/Resolution with GDOT for Roundabout Lighting Assistance on SR81 and Ozora Church Road. Commissioner Shelnett seconded the motion. All voted in favor.*

APPOINTMENTS

Reappointments - DFCS Board - Request to reappoint Nancy Curry and Darren Vinson to serve another 5-year term

Motion: *Commissioner Dixon made a motion to reappoint Nancy Curry and Darren Vinson to serve another 5-year term on the Walton Co. DFCS Board. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion and all voted in favor.*

Appointment - DFCS Board - Request to appoint Eric Rubio to 5-year term

Motion: *Commissioner Adams made a motion to appoint Eric Rubio to serve a 5-year term on the Walton Co. DFCS Board. Commissioner Shelnett seconded the motion and all voted in favor. Commissioner Banks thanked them for their willingness to serve.*

DISCUSSION

Discussion and possible action requesting Campton Community be declared "Cultural Interest Area"

Commissioner Adams requested that the Board send a letter to the Georgia State Legislature requesting them to recognize the Campton Community as a “Cultural Interest Area” which would allow GDOT to erect road signage along SR 11.

Motion: Commissioner Adams made the motion in support of the request. Commissioner Dixon seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

Discussion and possible action regarding Healthcare Broker - Insurance Office of America

Human Resources Director Melissia Rusk addressed the Board with concerns and problems the County is experiencing with Insurance Office of America and requested that the services of Insurance Office of America be terminated immediately and that the Board return to a contract with MSI Benefits, the former broker. She stated that employees and covered dependents have experienced a total of 623 medical and pharmacy denials since July 1st. She also cited numerous examples of unacceptable customer service and support.

Motion: Chairman Thompson made a motion to notify and terminate the services of Insurance Office of America effective today if possible and give HR Director Melissia Rusk the authority to specify the specific date. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. All Commissioners including Chairman Thompson voted in favor.

Discussion and possible action regarding Walton Co. Public Safety Complex

Motion: Chairman Thompson stated that he takes the value and safety of the employees very seriously and considering the logistics made a motion to acquire the 65+- acres behind the DFACS building (Baker property) for the location of the Public Safety Complex and to move forward with financing the project. Commissioner Banks seconded the motion. There was no further discussion requested. Chairman Thompson polled the members of the Board for their vote. Commissioners Warren, Banks, Shelnett, Adams and Chairman Thompson voted in favor. Commissioners Bradford and Dixon opposed the motion. The motion carried 5-2.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Commissioner Adams made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Banks, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

All documents of record for this meeting are on file in either the addendum book or auxiliary file under this meeting date.

DAVID G. THOMPSON, CHAIRMAN

RHONDA HAWK, COUNTY CLERK