

March 7, 2023

The Walton County Board of Commissioners held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 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, Zoning Coordinator Tracie Malcom, County Manager John Ward 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.

MEETING OPENING

Chairman Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Shelnett gave the invocation.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

***Motion:** Commissioner Adams made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Shelnett to adopt the Agenda. All voted in favor.*

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

Zoning Coordinator Tracie Malcom presented the Planning Commission recommendations.

LU23010002 - Character Area change from Suburban to Neighborhood Residential/Rezone - Z23010001 - Rezone 7.02 acres from A1/B2 to R2 for 2 duplexes - Applicant: Mitch Linder/Owners: Phylis & Terry Linder - Property located at 7570 Hwy 81/Bold Springs Church Rd/Map/Parcel C0580084 - District 1

Chairman Thompson opened the public hearing on the matter. Applicant Mitch Linder spoke in favor of the land use change and rezone. Steven Philips, Jimmy Bridges, Tricia Garmon and Dennis Nash spoke in opposition to the proposed duplexes. Chairman Thompson closed the public hearing on the matter.

***Motion:** Commissioner Warren made a motion to deny the application based on the R2 zoning but to allow the property to shift back to A-1 zoning for this project. This would allow single family houses. Commissioner Dixon seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.*

ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of February 7, 2023 Meeting Minutes
2. Contracts & Budgeted Purchases of \$5000 or Greater
3. Declaration of Surplus Property
4. Ratifications of Actions taken by WCWSA on February 6, 2023
5. Walton Co. Healthcare Foundation Grant – Pharmaceutical Incinerator

6. Fidelity Payment Services - Merchant Processing Application - Planning and Development
7. Homeland Security Grant - Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)
8. Agreement - 120 Water - EPA Water Testing

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

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution - Judicial In Rem Tax Foreclosures

***Motion:** Commissioner Adams made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Shelnutt to adopt the Resolution. All voted in favor.*

Resolution - New Opioid Settlements

***Motion:** Commissioner Banks made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bradford to adopt the Resolution. All voted in favor.*

DISCUSSION

Creation of Walton Co. Public Facilities Authority and Appointments

Chairman Thompson discussed the Walton Co. Public Facilities Authority. As Chairman, he will automatically be a member and the Board of Commissioners will need to appoint two from the Board and two others from the public.

***Motion:** Chairman Thompson made a motion to appoint Commissioners Shelnutt and Dixon from the Board and Lee Garrett and Anita Peters. Commissioner Bradford seconded the motion. All commissioners voted in favor with the Chairman abstaining due to his position on the Authority.*

County Manager's Report/Update

County Manager John Ward gave an update and report on county matters to the Board. The County will begin using contract attorneys to help expedite cases due to the staff shortage in the Public Defender's Office.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

***Motion:** At 6:53 p.m., Commissioner Warren made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Adams*

to enter into Executive Session to discuss real estate and litigation. All voted in favor.

Motion: *At 7:15 p.m., Commissioner Adams made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bradford to return to regular session. All voted in favor. There were no votes taken in Executive Session.*

Motion: Commissioner Banks made a motion to begin formal condemnation of the property needed for the Public Safety Complex. Chairman Thompson, Commissioners Warren, Banks, Shelnutt and Adams voted in favor. Commissioners Bradford and Dixon abstained. The motion carried 5-0 with 2 abstaining.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: *Chairman Thompson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Banks, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:17 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