

October 5, 2021

The Walton County Board of Commissioners held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, October 5, 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.

PRESENTATIONS

Chairman Thompson recognized Public Information Officer Patrice Broughton for her volunteer work with the 2021 back2school Book Bag Giveaway sponsored by the Shepherd's House.

MEETING OPENING

Chairman Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Shelnett gave the invocation.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

Approval of CU21080003 with Conditions – Conditional Use for outside storage & waive 8 ft. fence requirement - Applicant: Jeff Henson/Owner: Lock-n-Roll Storage LLC - Property located at 1801 Highway 78/Map/Parcel C0750128A00 - District 1

Chairman Thompson opened the public hearing on the matter. Applicant Jeff Henson spoke in favor of the conditional use. There was no opposition present. Chairman Thompson closed the public hearing on the matter.

***Motion:** Commissioner Warren made a motion to accept the Planning Commission recommendation to approve the conditional use waiving the 8 ft. fence and keeping the 6 ft. fence already in place, limiting outside storage to operable vehicles, boats and RV's and trailers. Commissioner Banks seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.*

Approval of Z21070021 - Rezone 1.00 acre from A1 to R1 to create a buildable lot with an existing house and a variance to reduce frontage on remaining 4.62 acres from required 150' to 31.51' to create a buildable lot with an existing house - Applicant/Owner: Edward Harry Overcash, Jr. - Property located at 3765/3755 Grady Smith Rd/Map/Parcel C0420045 - District 1

Chairman Thompson opened the public hearing on the matter. Applicant Edward Overcash spoke in favor of the rezone. There was no opposition present. Chairman Thompson closed the public hearing on the matter.

Motion: *Commissioner Warren made a motion to approve the rezone and variance per the Planning Commission recommendation. Commissioner Shelnett seconded the motion. All voted in favor.*

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Acceptance of Right of Way - Jones Woods Lane/Indian Creek Road

Motion: *Commissioner Bradford made a motion to accept the right of way on Jones Woods Lane/Indian Creek Road. Commissioner Dixon seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.*

ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of September 7, 2021 Meeting Minutes
2. Contracts & Budgeted Purchases of \$5000 or Greater
3. Declaration of Surplus Property
4. Acceptance of Forfeited Vehicle
5. 2022 Payroll Calendar
6. VOCA Grant - District Attorney's Office
7. VOCA Grant - Victim Compensation Advocate - District Attorney's Office
8. Agreement - Certified Payments - EMS Credit Card Processing
9. Clinical Agreement - UGA School of Pharmacy - Employee Flu Shots

Motion: *Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Shelnett to approve the Administrative Consent Agenda subject to review of the Certified Payments Agreement by the County Attorney. All voted in favor.*

FINANCE

Finance Director Milton Cronheim presented the following Resolution.

Resolution - FY22 Budget Amendment

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

RESOLUTION

Resolution - Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan

Kenny Sargent, Director of Keep Walton Beautiful presented a Resolution for the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan.

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

HUMAN RESOURCES

Condrey & Associates - Job Classification and Compensation Plan Update

Chairman Thompson presented an updated Job Classification and Compensation Plan Update with an amendment. Chairman Thompson explained that the cost would be 2.8 million but could be accomplished without an increase in milage rate. The new plan and amendment would put the pay scale inline and slightly above other competitors in the area which is needed due to losing many employees.

Motion: *Chairman Thompson made a motion to approve Plan A of the Job Classification and Compensation Plan Update along with the amendment and to implement the plan beginning November 8, 2021. Commissioner Bradford seconded the motion. Chairman Thompson, Commissioners Banks, Shelnut, Bradford, Adams and Dixon voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Warren opposed the motion. The motion passed 6-1.*

CONTRACTS

Mutual Termination of Real Estate Contract

Motion: *Commissioner Dixon made a motion to nullify the real estate contract with East Church Street Property, LLC. Commissioner Bradford seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.*

WATER DEPARTMENT

Walton Co. Water Department - Request for Rate Increase

Morris Jordan, Director of the Walton Co. Water Department presented the Board with a request for a rate increase for water and meter sales. He explained that water retail rates had not increased since 2017 and the last rate for meter/connection fees was over 15 years ago. The increases is needed to meet current and future water demand. The base monthly retail water rate would increase \$15.25 per month and go into effect beginning the first billing cycle of November. The cost for a meter/connection fee would be as follows: ¾" - \$2,950.00, 1" - \$3950.00, 1.5" - \$7,500.00, 2" - \$10,500.00, 3" - \$20,500.00, 4" - \$30,500.00, and 6" - \$40,500.00. The new meter/connection fees would go into effect October 6, 2021.

Motion: *Chairman Thompson made a motion to approve the increase of \$15.25 per month, per meter beginning in November, 2021. Commissioner Shelnut seconded the motion. Chairman*

Thompson, Commissioners Warren, Banks, Shelnutt, Adams and Dixon approved the motion. Commissioner Bradford opposed the motion. The motion carried 6-1.

Motion: *Chairman Thompson made a motion to approve the meter sales increase as stated to be effective immediately. Commissioner Banks seconded the motion. All voted in favor.*

ACCEPTANCE OF BIDS/PROPOSALS

Acceptance of Proposal – Metal Building and Modification at Public Works

Motion: *Chairman Thompson made a motion to accept the proposal from Drummond Construction in the amount of \$128,400.00 for a parts building and modification of existing building at Public Works. Commissioner Bradford seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.*

APPOINTMENTS

Appointments – Walton Industrial Building Authority

Motion: *Chairman Thompson made a motion to appoint Gene Benton and Gary Hobbs to the Walton Industrial Building Authority. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion and all voted in favor.*

PROCLAMATION

Proclamation - Dysautonomia Awareness Month.

Proclamation - Red Ribbon Week - October 23rd through October 31st

Motion: *Commissioner Adams made a motion to proclaim October as Dysautonomia Awareness Month and to proclaim October 23rd – October 31st as Red Ribbon Week. Commissioner Warren seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.*

DISCUSSION

Decision/Discussion – Proposal for Professional Project Management – Public Safety Complex

Chairman Thompson presented a proposal from CPS for program management of the Public Safety Complex. The firm will take the project from ground up for less than 2% of the cost of the project.

Motion: *Chairman Thompson made a motion recommending acceptance of the proposal from CPS subject to County Attorney approval of the contract. Commissioner Banks seconded the motion. Chairman Thompson, Commissioners Warren, Banks, Shelnutt and Adams voted in favor of the motion. Commissioners Dixon and Bradford abstained. The motion carried 5-2.*

Discussion/Decision - Professional Project Management for remaining SPLOST projects

Chairman Thompson discussed having another program management firm to manage the remaining SPLOST projects. After some discussion, Chairman Thompson stated he would negotiate with the firm and bring before the Board at a future meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

***Motion:** At 6:46 p.m., Commissioner Banks made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Adams to enter into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation. All voted in favor.*

***Motion:** At 7:00 p.m., Commissioner Adams made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Warren to re-enter the regular session. All voted in favor. There were no votes taken in Executive Session.*

ADDITION

***Motion:** Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve \$27,580.78 in disputed change orders on the Splash Park Project and authorize the Chairman to execute an appropriate settlement agreement to close out the project. Commissioner Warren seconded the motion. All voted in favor.*

ADJOURNMENT

***Motion:** Commissioner Bradford made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Adams, 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