



### **Extraordinary Session**

The Board of Commissioners of Spalding County, Georgia, held their Extraordinary Session on Monday, May 15, 2006 in their office in the Courthouse Annex in the City of Griffin, Spalding County, Georgia, beginning at 6:00 o'clock p.m. with Chairman Eddie L. Freeman presiding and Commissioners Cecil Davis, Gwen Flowers-Taylor, Edward Goss, Jr. and Johnie McDaniel present. Also present were County Manager William Wilson; County Attorney James R. Fortune, Jr. and Executive Secretary Teresa Watson.

#### **AGENDA TOPICS**

- I. OPENING (CALL TO ORDER) – Chairman Eddie L. Freeman**
- II. INVOCATION – Rev. Michael Moore**
- III. PLEDGE TO FLAG – Led by Commissioner Flowers-Taylor**
- IV. PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITION**
  1. Consider Proclamation declaring, nunc pro tunc, Sunday, May 7, 2006, as Randy Valimont Day in celebration of 25 years in active pastoral ministry.

#### **Proclamation**

**WHEREAS:** Randall Lane Valimont is celebrating 25 years in pastoral ministry, having received his B.A. in Pastoral Ministry from Southeastern University in Lakeland, Florida in 1981, Licensed in May 1979 and Ordained in May 1984; and

**WHEREAS:** Having relocated to Griffin to serve as Senior Pastor of First Assembly in 1993, Pastor Valimont has seen over 20,000 to date accept Christ with over 2300 joining the church. Griffin First Assembly has experienced significant increases in all areas, such as average Sunday morning attendance from 450 to 3350, revenues from \$400,000 annually to \$9.4 million, administrative staff from 2 to 15, and pastoral staff from 3 to 16. He has overseen construction of five buildings, including a 3000-seat capacity sanctuary and office complex, adding 220,000 square feet to pre-existing buildings of 75,000 square feet. Griffin Christian Academy and Griffin Christian High School, both fully accredited, have seen tremendous growth and success, and the Fresh Touch Media Ministries initiated in 1995 reach radio and TV audiences of over 2,000,000 weekly both nationally and internationally; and

**WHEREAS:** Pastor Valimont, his wife Jelly Jordan Valimont, and their three daughters, Jordan, Danielle and Alayna, call Spalding County home, a base from which

Pastor Valimont has preached in more than 40 nations; been featured on the Injoy Life Club, the 700 Club, American Family Radio, Global Pastors Network, and Trinity Broadcasting Network; become a successful and sought-after preacher, leader, author and conference speaker; and partnered with other pastors to create the Church Consulting Group to instruct ministries on how to generate income for new buildings and special projects; and

**WHEREAS:** Pastor Valimont currently serves as Executive Presbyter of the Georgia District Assemblies of God and General Presbyter for the General Council of the Assemblies of God; a Director on the Board of Southeastern University; CIS Bible School Board of Regents Chairman; and Board Member of the Asian Compassionate Touch Foundation, Georgia District Missions Director, Cutting Edge International, and Northwood Assembly Board of Overseers. He is also active in Global Pastors Network, a non-denominational ministry equipping international pastors and their wives, and has made himself available to pastors and boards for teaching and mentoring leadership, stewardship, governing and servanthood principles.

**NOW, THEREFORE**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners of Spalding County do hereby proclaim Sunday, May 7, 2006, as

### **Randy Valimont Day**

in Spalding County, Georgia, and encourage all citizens to congratulate Pastor Valimont and his family on their numerous contributions and selfless service to improving our community. In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the County to be affixed this, the seventh day of May, in the year of our Lord, two thousand six.

Eddie L. Freeman, Chairman (L.S.)  
William P. Wilson, Jr., County Clerk (L.S.)

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*Commissioner McDaniel moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Davis, and motion carried by a vote of 5-0.*

2. Consider Proclamation declaring, nunc pro tunc, Sunday, May 7, 2006, as Spalding County Appreciation Day for Troop E, 108<sup>th</sup> Calvary, on their return home.

### **Proclamation**

**WHEREAS** Throughout the history of the United States of America the sacrifices necessary to secure and maintain our liberty and freedom have consistently been borne by citizen soldiers, and countless men and women have proudly worn and continue to wear the uniform of the United States Army, National Guard or Reserves, serving today in the war on terror; and

**WHEREAS** Troop E, 108<sup>th</sup> Cavalry of the Georgia Army National Guard, comprised of 179 soldiers, deployed 150 of those soldiers on November 16, 2004 to Ft. Stewart, Georgia, then to Iraq on May 6, 2005, are proudly returning; and

**WHEREAS** Its yearlong deployment has seen Troop E of the 108<sup>th</sup> Cavalry serve the first six months in the Baghdad area and the remaining six months in missions throughout Iraq. After its return to Griffin, Georgia the unit will begin a process of reorganization on October 1, 2006. This revamping of its traditional role is necessary because as things have changed in the way wars are fought, so shall warriors have to change. This redirection means the unit will be much lighter and more mobile with an emphasis on scout capabilities and electronic intelligence. What will never change, however, is the ability of the soldiers of Troop E, 108<sup>th</sup> Cavalry to step up to the challenge at hand, whatever that challenge may be.

**NOW, THEREFORE** We, the Spalding County Board of Commissioners, do hereby declare this, the seventh day of May, in the year of our Lord, two thousand six,

**Spalding County Appreciation Day  
for Troop E, 108<sup>th</sup> Cavalry**

**FURTHER**

Be it resolved that we, the Spalding County Board of Commissioners, do hereby convey our deepest gratitude and appreciation to all our men and their Families of the Troop E, 108<sup>th</sup> Cavalry, for their dedication, their sacrifices, and their love of country. We proudly urge all our citizenry to show their support for the soldiers' service and thankfulness for their return.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand this, the seventh day of May, in the year of our Lord, two thousand six.

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*Commissioner McDaniel moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Davis, and motion carried by a vote of 5-0.*

3. Fire Chief Chipper Gardner to introduce graduates of the 2006 Rookie School.

Spalding County Fire Chief Chipper Gardner was present to recognize the 2006 Rookie Firefighter School graduates: Phillip Richards, Vince Henley, David Anderson, Nick Strait, Kevin Hollums, Martin Batts, Darrell Evans, Andy Coggins and Larry Arnold. Chairman Freeman thanked them for their willingness to serve and presented them with Spalding County pins.

**V. PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

1. Consider approval of Financial Statement for ten months ended April 2006.

Mr. Wilson presented the Financial Statement in the absence of Ms. Garrison due to training. The County is in excellent financial shape as the fiscal year approaches its end.

*Commissioner Davis moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner McDaniel, and motion carried by a vote of 5-0.*

**VI. CITIZENS COMMENTS – N/A**

**VII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Kelly Palmatier, 450 Malear Road, Hampton, GA 30228

Ms. Palmatier provided an update on the [spayspalding.com](http://spayspalding.com) website created as a communications vehicle for current information on the proposed spay/neuter differential licensing program that is being prepared for consideration. Many supporters have expressed approval of the program, and Ms. Palmatier said she was compiling a petition with over 400 signatures currently. She is also doing additional research into the payment plans available to citizens for spaying and neutering of animals in Spalding County.

Rev. Clay Padgett, 735 Clay Street, Griffin, Georgia

He had expressed a previous interest in the Memorial Drive property known as the old Cook's Shopping Center, and he wanted to make everyone aware he was very much still interested although it has been awhile since his last contact. He is actively pursuing financing for the project. King's Way Christian Center would like to do an outreach ministry in the shopping center parking lot, and he wondered about the procedures for getting permission for meeting and for outside amplification. Chairman Freeman directed him to work with Mr. Wilson on those issues.

Jewel Walker-Harps, 103 McEthel Drive, Griffin, Georgia

She wanted to ask about the status of the Sewer Task Force, a committee on which she serves. The committee had been working on the issue of sewer service to the north side, but they have not met at all in quite some time. Mr. Wilson explained that the Spalding County Water & Sewerage Facilities Authority is in the process of finalizing a Comprehensive Wastewater Plan in conjunction with the City. The Sewer Task Force was an ad-hoc board formed a few years ago as a recommending board only, and there has been no need for them to meet of late.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor said nothing had really been done on this project specifically, and she felt that any concrete action would have to come through the Spalding County Water and Sewerage Facilities Authority. The Water Authority would be the best venue for these type projects and not the Sewer Task Force.

### VIII. MINUTES

1. Consider approval of the minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting of May 1, 2006.

*Commissioner Davis moved to approve the minutes of the May 1, 2006 Regular Monthly Meeting, seconded by Commissioner McDaniel, and motion carried by a vote of 5-0.*

### IX. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Consider on second reading approval of Amendment to the Official Zoning Map of the following: **Application #05-23Z:** Betty Cook Hewitt, Owner – 1837 West McIntosh Road (1.96 acres located in Land Lot 94 of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Land District) – requesting a rezoning from R-1, Single Family Residential Low Density, to O&I Office and Institutional, Conditional.

APPLICATION OF BETTY COOKE HEWITT  
FOR REZONING CERTAIN PROPERTY  
LOCATED WITHIN SPALDING COUNTY, GEORGIA;  
REZONING APPLICATION 05-23Z

#### RESOLUTION AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF SPALDING COUNTY, GEORGIA AND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF SPALDING COUNTY, GEORGIA

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Spalding County, Georgia under the Constitution and Laws of the State of Georgia is empowered by virtue of its police power to regulate the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Spalding County to provide for and enact zoning and developmental regulations;

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Spalding County, Georgia enacted the current Zoning Ordinance of Spalding County, Georgia on January 4, 1994 and therein adopted the Official Zoning Map of Spalding County, Georgia, in Article 23, Section 2301, et. seq.;

WHEREAS, under the Zoning Ordinance of Spalding County, Georgia and the Official Zoning Map of Spalding County, Georgia the within described property is currently classified under the zoning classification entitled “R-1, Single Family Residential Low Density;”

WHEREAS, Betty Cook Hewitt, applicant, applied for a change in zoning classification to be applied to the within described property to “O & I, Office and Institutional;”

WHEREAS, such application was filed with Spalding County, Georgia on December 27, 2005;

WHEREAS, such application was reviewed by the Spalding County Planning Commission, and a hearing on the application was conducted by the Board of Commissioners of Spalding County, Georgia on April 27, 2006, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 33-66-1, et. seq. in the Spalding County Hearing Room, Room 108, Spalding County Courthouse Annex, 119 East Solomon Street, Griffin, Spalding County, Georgia;

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Spalding County, Georgia considered the proposed amendment, any and all alternate proposals or amendments, the report of the Spalding County Planning Commission and all data and evidence taken at the public hearing; and

WHEREAS, it is deemed by the Board of Commissioners of Spalding County, Georgia that an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance of Spalding County, Georgia and an

amendment to the Official Zoning Map of Spalding County, Georgia is in conformance with the Spalding County Comprehensive Plan and sound comprehensive planning principles and of substantial benefit to the public and in the promotion of the best interests and general welfare of the people;

NOW THEREFORE, IT SHALL BE AND IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Spalding County, Georgia that the Zoning Ordinance of Spalding County, Georgia and the Official Zoning Map of Spalding County, Georgia shall be and are hereby amended as follows:

Section 1: The Zoning Ordinance of Spalding County, Georgia and the Official Zoning Map of Spalding County, Georgia designating the boundaries of the several types or classes of zoning districts shall be, and is hereby amended so as to change the zoning classification applicable to the following described property:

All that lot, tract or parcel of land lying and being located in Land Lot 94 of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Land District, originally Henry County, now Spalding County, Georgia, containing 1.96 acres of land as shown on zoning plat for Keith Moore prepared by Conkle-Lane and Associates dated January 12, 2006 and may be more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a point located in the north right-of-way of Georgia Highway 92-West McIntosh Road said point being westerly a distance of 622.34' from the intersection of the west right-of-way of Morgan Drive and the north right-of-way of Georgia Highway 92-West McIntosh Road, thence proceed N 88°41'58" W a distance of 214.75' to a point; thence N 00°24'13" E a distance of 393.04' to a point; thence S 88°33'52" E a distance of 213.97' to a point; thence S 00°30'42" E a distance of 14.55' to a point; thence S 00°19'09" W a distance of 378.00' to a point and TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING.

From "R-1, Single Family Residential" to "O & I, Office and Institutional" District.

Section 2: Pursuant to the authority granted to it by virtue of the Zoning Ordinance of Spalding County, Georgia, Section 414 (L) and upon a determination by the Board of Commissioners of Spalding County, Georgia that application of certain conditions on the amendment benefit the public and promote the best interests of the general welfare of the people, the following conditions shall be imposed upon the amendment to the Zoning Ordinance of Spalding County, Georgia and the Official Zoning Map of Spalding County, Georgia, as follows:

- a. All structures will be constructed entirely with all brick or stone facades on all sides.
- b. Only professional offices shall be allowed.
- c. A permanent structure must be constructed. No temporary buildings.
- d. The site will limit all lighting so any neighboring residential properties or right-of-ways will not be affected from glare.
- e. A variance will be necessary for relief from the 70 foot front setback in O/I.
- f. All parking shall be to the side and rear of buildings and not between buildings and the Georgia Highway 92 right-of-way.

Section 3:

(a) Pursuant to the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of Spalding County, Georgia, section 2302 (B), the Official Zoning Map of Spalding County, Georgia shall be amended to reflect the change made hereby to read as follows:

On May 15, 2006, by official action of the Board of Commissioners of Spalding County, Georgia, the following change was made in the Official Zoning Map, Spalding County. All that tract or parcel of land lying or being in Land Lot 94 of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Land District, Spalding County, Georgia, containing 1.96 acres at 1837 West McIntosh Road, zoned O & I, Conditional.

(b) The Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of Spalding County, Georgia is directed and authorized to execute such notice of the amendment of the Official Zoning Map of Spalding County, Georgia.

(c) The Zoning Administrator is authorized and directed to enter such notice of the amendment of the Official Zoning Map of Spalding County, GA thereon.

Section 4: The foregoing amendment of the Zoning Ordinance of Spalding County, Georgia shall become effective immediately upon adoption of this resolution.

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*Commissioner McDaniel moved to approve Application #05-23Z on Consent Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Davis, and motion carried by a vote of 5-0.*

## **X. OLD BUSINESS**

## **XI. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Consider approval of request of East Griffin Baptist Church, 999 High Falls Road, for a parade permit for June 3, 2006 at 11 a.m. for Vacation Bible School kickoff.

Pastor Charles Killingsworth, 214 Westmoreland Drive, Griffin, Georgia, was present to answer questions. Mr. Wilson said the request was in order and recommended approval.

*Commissioner Davis moved to approve the request, seconded by Commissioner McDaniel, and motion carried by a vote of 5-0.*

2. Consider approval of a new Alcohol License for 2006 – Retail Sale – Beer and Wine – for the following: TAJBANO, Inc., d/b/a Country Store, 3425 Jackson Road, Griffin. Ms. Yasmin Jiwani is the proposed new owner of the existing business pending approval of this application.

*Commissioner Davis moved to approve the new Alcohol License for 2006 to TAJBANO, Inc., d/b/a Country Store, seconded by Commissioner Goss, and motion carried by a vote of 3-2 with Commissioners McDaniel and Flowers-Taylor opposing.*

3. Consider approval of redesign of townhome development entrance for Macon Road Town Homes, 1495 Macon Road, 16.1 acres.

Mark McCullough, the property owner, is revising the entrance primarily because of engineering issues with the previous boulevard entrance. The new configuration provides more pavement and allows for better drainage and a more natural flow, and it actually improves the accel/decal lane situation. Community Development is amenable to the revision, and the Fire Department is much happier with this design than the boulevard entrance. Commissioner Goss saw no problem unless water would be draining onto someone else's property. There is a natural drainage in the area. Some berming and conditions had been imposed on the boulevard design previously. Appropriate landscaping can be done to make the entrance attractive while not adversely affecting the flow of the detention pond. Discussion followed.

Mark McCullough, 800 Springer Drive, Griffin, Georgia was present to answer questions. He said the detention pond area would be a long, shallow pond requiring no fencing, and he would be able to landscape it.

*Commissioner Davis moved to approve the redesign with the condition it will be properly landscaped, seconded by Commissioner McDaniel, and motion carried by a vote of 5-0.*

4. Consider at first reading an Ordinance to Amend the FY 2006 Budget Ordinance to provide for establishing budgets for new funds and year-end budget accounting entries.

*Commissioner McDaniel moved to approve on first reading an Ordinance to Amend the FY 2006 Budget Ordinance to provide for establishing budgets for new funds and year-*

*end budget accounting entries, seconded by Commissioner Davis, and motion carried by a vote of 5-0.*

5. Consider appointment of Commissioner Davis to the McIntosh Trail Community Services Board.

Mr. Wilson said Cathy Johnson notified the County that state law has changed requirements for this Board and whereas Commissioner Davis has been serving as an ex-officio member since 2003, he now will be a full voting member if so appointed.

*Commissioner McDaniel moved to appoint Commissioner Davis to continue to serve on this board, seconded by Commissioner Flowers-Taylor; motion carried by a 5-0 vote.*

6. Consider approval of issuance of RFP for the 800 MHz Communications System.

Steve Macke, Georgia Tech

Mr. Macke provided handouts to commissioners and he delivered a brief slide presentation. He detailed the RFP for the 800 MHz Communications System as approved by the Communications Study Committee for recommendation to the Board of Commissioners and the methodology utilized for arriving at this recommendation.

*Commissioner Davis moved to approve the RFP as recommended by the Communications Study Committee, seconded by Commissioner McDaniel.*

There followed extensive discussion on the approved 70%/30% distribution for technical aspects to cost evaluation. The rationale is that while pricing is certainly a consideration, more emphasis will be extended to obtaining a quality system that will serve the County well technologically. Commissioner Goss said he wanted to see a 60%/40% distribution of technical to cost. Commissioners McDaniel and Davis saw no problem with the Committee's recommended 70%/30% recommended ratio. On the Committee, the vote for 60%/40% split was six, while the vote for the 70%/30% split totaled eight. Mr. Macke said the 70%/30% did appear to be a little skewed and perhaps there should be a compromise, but the 17-member committee was adamant about this criteria requirement.

Mr. Goss said he agreed that technology should be the major concern but he also felt this would narrow down the vendors who can realistically bid on the project.

Mr. Macke said he did not know that the evaluation distribution criteria would narrow down the number of vendors, but the one thing that would narrow it down in his opinion is the Project 25 standard shown as mandatory rather than desirable. To make this criteria "desirable," at least it becomes more open to having all the possible solutions presented to the County. In this manner, all the possible solutions a public safety system can have are explored. This criteria, approved by the Committee, that the Project 25 standard was mandatory was discussed in detail. Mr. Macke advised that other states have recently decided against going with a Project 25 standard. No matter what the Board decides tonight, he assured commissioners he would hold the vendors to task on established criteria. Mr. Macke responded to Commissioner Goss that he didn't really want to circumvent the committee, but he wanted them to be open to looking at all the technologies available. He felt this would simply be asking for due diligence. There are five key vendors making presentations to the Standards Committee, one of which has a disparate solution while the remainder have similar solutions. One very large vendor is basically bogging down the process and hold up the Standards Committee. It should be ratified by January 2007, so no matter what happens Phase I will become Phase II. Phase I right now provides for one frequency and one talkpath; the new Phase II is going to provide multiple talkpaths for every frequency. NexTel presently has six conversations that happen on each frequency, and theirs is a little more advanced than your public safety Project 25 standard which is one talkpath per frequency. They are trying to ratify and get it so multiple manufacturers can manufacture the base station equipment and it will work with other base station equipment. They are also trying to make it so that consoles will talk to different console manufacturers. Basically they are trying to standardize it so there is more competition, more vendors, and more diverse solutions.

Mr. Wilson asked to address the Board, and the Chairman agreed reluctantly. He said the Communications Study Committee was set up by this Board at the request of then-Chairman Mr. Goss. The Committee has worked very diligently on this and educated themselves on Project 25. The presentations that were made to the public talked about Project 25 and the \$500,000 Homeland Security grant awarded to the County indicated Project 25. All the publications that the SPLOST committee utilized in promotion of the SPLOST referenced Project 25. The Committee, after in depth discussions, specifically requested at the meeting attended by Mr. Macke that the APCO 25 standard be mandatory, and he urged the Board to leave intact the recommendations of the Communications Study Committee.

Commissioner Goss said Mr. Wilson was right, he was Chairman when this committee was formed, and he appreciated Mr. Wilson pointing that out although he did not have to since most everybody knew this. First of all, when he agreed to the Committee, he believed the Committee would be fair, honest and open but it turns out that the committee was not fair, honest and open. It was vendor-driven to one vendor, and by doing that, others were left out and the County would not get the best equipment for the best price. He continued that he resented the comments Mr. Wilson made, and he said he won't forget it, as Mr. Wilson can be assured.

Commissioner Davis requested a break, which the Chairman declined, and Commissioner Davis exited the meeting briefly.

Mr. Macke responded to Commissioner Flowers-Taylor that he recommends 90% in building talk out/talk in versus the 95% portable in vehicle recommended by the Committee. In the real world, this is a very difficult, if not impossible, criteria to objectively measure. Additionally, the 95% will make it hard for vendors to respond. Commissioner Flowers-Taylor said she wanted to see the criteria be put at 90% in building talk out/talk in. Mr. Macke pointed out that outside building coverage will be far superior if a 90% in-building coverage criteria is required.

Mr. Morrow, Chairman of the Communications Study Committee, expressed a desire to address the Board, but Chairman Freeman refused to recognize him, noting he had already served on the Committee and did not need to provide anything further.

Mr. Macke advised that the more the process is opened up in this area, the more competitive it will become, with better pricing. There are many variables inside the technical criteria, as well, that will ensure greater coverage and serviceability. Mr. Macke reiterated he wants the best solution for the best price to best serve the County.

Commissioner Davis asked how many vendors can bid on the RFP as recommended, and Mr. Macke responded probably three. Commissioner Davis asked how many currently serve Georgia and Mr. Macke replied two. Mr. Macke continued that if the Board elected to take out the designation mandatory and go with desirable, then the County could probably receive up to five bidders.

Commissioner McDaniel confirmed the consultant will screen out vendors early on according to the criteria met and present the Board with a short list. Mr. Macke concurred. Commissioner McDaniel said he still wanted to see the 70% technical remain in the RFP.

Commissioner Goss said he can live with the 70% but not the mandatory designation which narrows the vendors who can bid and does not promote competitive pricing. It is the responsibility of this board to get best equipment at best price, stated Commissioner Goss.

Chairman Freeman also felt a better price and quality system would result with a greater number of vendors bidding. He felt the County was fortunate to have Mr. Macke in charge as consultant.

Mr. Macke said 40% of the public safety systems in North American do not follow APCO 25, but the state of Georgia tends to follow APCO 25. Neither state nor federal plans

require following Project 25. Project 25 Phase I is not spectrally efficient, but Phase II will be. Project 25 is in the course of being ratified because it is an arcane standard. If Project 25 is mandatory, there is a likelihood the County will have to purchase Phase I because that is all that is currently offered, and he was not sure how much the upgrade to Phase II would be, but it could be evaluated during this process. The upgrade could be like buying a brand new system.

Commissioner Davis asked if the County would know what the upgrade to Phase II would involve. Mr. Macke responded yes, but there will have to be workarounds for older consoles to be able to communicate with a Phase II system.

Chief Strickland wanted to speak to the Board, and Chairman Freeman denied his request, saying he did not want him to address the group unless the Consultant wanted to have him do so.

Commissioner McDaniel said he wanted to ensure that Mr. Macke remained consistent and confirmed that what was bid was, in fact, what was requested. Mr. Macke said he was very cognizant of risk pricing in order to get the camel's head into the tent with the remainder of his body to follow when no one is looking. He has protocols in place to deal with this practice in order to avoid all the trap doors and extra charges for future software and feature upgrades, spares list, etc. Mr. Macke said his stewardship, to get the best technology for the best price, would make a systemic impact on the quality of life in Spalding County.

*The motion to approve the RFP as presented and recommended by the Communications Study Committee failed by a 2-3 vote, with Chairman Freeman and Commissioners Goss and Flowers-Taylor voting in opposition.*

*Commissioner Flowers-Taylor moved to approve issuance of the RFP with two changes: 1) coverage will be adjusted from 95% to 90% coverage in building, and 2) the APCO 25 standard will be designated desirable and not mandatory, seconded by Commissioner Goss. Motion carried by a vote of 3-2 with Commissioners McDaniel and Davis voting in opposition.*

Commissioner Goss thanked Mr. Macke and said he knew it had been a trying time with the committee. He was sorry that some on the committee, one in particular, had questioned Mr. Macke's integrity about whether or not some equipment would be able to be used in the future. It had been disturbing to Commissioner Goss to hear this person as she questioned Mr. Macke's integrity on his assessment that this piece of equipment would be obsolete in a few years. Hopefully, the County will not go down that road again, and he thanked Mr. Macke for his enlightenment as to how to proceed with getting a quality system at a great savings to the people of Spalding County.

Mr. Macke said he had a thick skin and felt that, as the process goes on, people will understand the process works for the County and is vendor- and technology-neutral. When the due diligence is done, the County will arrive at a decision that will get the best system at the best price for the people of Spalding County. As a consultant, he does not make the decision but rather guides and educates the people of Spalding County so they can make an informed, good decision.

Chairman Freeman thanked Mr. Macke, as well, and said he looked forward to working with him on the implementation of the 800 MHz system in Spalding County. The Chairman then called for a five-minute recess.

## **XII. REPORT OF COUNTY MANAGER**

-No comments had been received yet regarding the dedication plaque for Dundee Lake Park. Commissioners Flowers-Taylor and Goss said they had given their comments to the Chairman. Chairman Freeman said he would give them to Mr. Wilson in the morning.

-Mr. Jesse Maddox' request was read regarding the possibility of amending his lease for 917 Memorial Drive. The Tax Assessors Office provided a fair market value of greenspace desired and arrived at a monthly rental of \$450 to Mr. Maddox. Mr. Fortune had previously thought

the lease provided for designated parking area but it does not. The City won't approve items placed on the porch area without the owner's permission. The parking lot is a common shared area and not apportioned to each business. The City must have approval from the property owner, Spalding County, for outside display. This will apply to weekends.

Most outdoor flea markets are not attractive, felt some commissioners, and they wanted to avoid as much as possible any unkempt appearance. After further discussion Commissioner Flowers-Taylor proposed issuing a letter saying Mr. Maddox had permission to display under the awning area of the building on weekends and give him the option of leasing whatever portion of the grassed space he so desires at the rate assigned by Tax Assessor Office. Other commissioners concurred.

-Louis Greene said two issues before the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board included: 1) A request to use Wyomia Tyus Olympic Park on May 26-28 for a baseball tournament to benefit the baseball program at the high school, and 2) A request to use Volunteer Park on August 18 and 19 for a softball tournament to benefit the high school softball team. No scheduling conflicts exist and the Advisory Commission recommends approval. Commissioners agreed to allow the events as recommended.

-Budget books were put in commissioners' boxes last Friday and the review process will begin next Monday in the meeting room.

-Ice Cream Social at Fairmont Park will be held on May 18 at 6:00 p.m., as well as the Skateboard BMX demonstration at Wal-Mart from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

-An email message this afternoon from Anthony Dukes encouraged commissioners to contact our DOT Board member ASAP and ask them to support immediate action to provide passenger rail service on the Lovejoy line. Please also attend the DOT Intermodal committee board meeting on Wednesday May 17 at 2 p.m. at the Georgia Department of Transportation, #2 Capitol Square, Atlanta, Georgia 30334, Room 401.-Email from Anthony GDOT will meet .

### **XIII. REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS**

#### **Goss:**

Has work on the A & B Salvage site stalemated? Also, he recently witnessed 32 dump trucks come down Hudson Road, which is no thru trucks. He called Code Enforcement and Public Works today, who stopped them for the second time. Commissioner Goss said he had looked over the budget and was very disappointed. Commissioner Goss then exited the meeting to answer a cell phone call.

#### **Flowers-Taylor:**

She questioned the status of the CDBG grant for the Coca-Cola Building. Mr. Fortune said he has worked on this issue. If an owner defaults on money loaned from state thru Spalding County as a rehab grant, the County would initiate and carry out a foreclosure. If money should be received on the courthouse steps, the County would give it back to the state. Then the County could request money back to continue the revolving loan program for rejuvenation of local businesses. DCA cannot own property and would want the County to market it, sell it and give back the money. She continued that the furniture behind the rental office at Spalding Heights still there as she had noted previously. With regard to the cars on Northside Drive (10 or so), 7 or 8 are still there, as well. Commissioner Flowers-Taylor said she is appalled but not surprised at all the politics surrounding the Communications Study Committee. This should have been about the best process possible and from what she's seen and heard, it's basically a big muscle machine and is disgusting. The process has not been constructive but destructive in her estimation. Finally, she told Mr. Wilson she was disappointed at the last commissioners meeting that the request from the 4-H program was presented without prior notice and was problematic since the ensuing discussion occurred in front of a large group of 4-Hers.

#### **Davis:**

He was concerned that the \$500,000 grant could be affected by changes made in the RFP tonight and would like for the County Attorney to look into the issue. He felt that Mr. Wilson and other staff were easy to work with and took issue when Mr. Wilson was criticized and dressed down for simply doing his job.

#### **McDaniel:**

He pointed out that Mr. Wilson alone doesn't set the agenda but rather the Chairman and Mr. Wilson together set the agenda prior to making the packets available to commissioners.

**Freeman:**

If that issue with the 4-H discussion was his fault, Chairman Freeman said he would accept responsibility but would make sure he obtained more details from Mr. Wilson in the future when setting the agenda. He felt the bickering when votes are taken, as was evidenced tonight, is not good government and doesn't show a good rapport with citizens. Everyone should have more respect. He asked Mr. Wilson to send a letter to the sign shop and commended their efforts to place round reflectors on all road signs, noting they worked great.

**XIV. CLOSED MEETING**

1. County Manager requests a Closed Meeting to discuss acquisition of real estate and pending litigation.

*Motion by Commissioner McDaniel, seconded by Commissioner Davis, to enter Closed Meeting at 8:02 p.m. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.*

*Motion by Commissioner McDaniel, seconded by Commissioner Flowers-Taylor, to adjourn Closed Meeting and reconvene to Open Meeting at 8:30 p.m. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.*

**XV. ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion by Commissioner McDaniel, seconded by Commissioner Davis, to adjourn at 8:31 p.m. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.*

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County Clerk

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Chairman

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