

After Agenda

**Board of Commissioners of Spalding County
Extraordinary Session
Monday, November 16, 2015
6:00 PM
Meeting Room 108, Courthouse Annex**

The Spalding County Board of Commissioners held their Extraordinary Session in Room 108 in the Courthouse Annex, Monday, November 16, 2015, beginning at 6:00 p.m. with Chairperson Rita Johnson presiding. Commissioners Bart Miller, Raymond Ray, Gwen Flowers-Taylor and Donald F. Hawbaker were present. Also present were County Manager William P. Wilson Jr., Assistant County Manager, Eric Mosley, County Attorney, Jim Fortune and Executive Secretary, Kathy Gibson to record the minutes.

I. OPENING (CALL TO ORDER) by Chairperson Rita Johnson.

II. INVOCATION led by Commissioner Donald Hawbaker.

III. PLEDGE TO FLAG led by Commissioner Bart Miller.

IV. PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

V. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Recognition of the Spalding County Employees who completed the 2015 Griffin Leadership Development Institute.

Tommy Jones, City of Griffin Fire Chief and Miles Neville, City of Griffin Human Resources Director attended the meeting to recognize six county employees who completed the 2015 Griffin Leadership Development Institute. They stated that this program is a twelve week commitment and that the individuals representing Spalding County were an outstanding group of individuals.

Plaques, certificates and golf shirts were presented to: Wanda Smallwood, Board of Elections, Willie Lyons, Fire Department, Dunston Milner, Fire Department, Richard Gray, Public Works, Randy King, Public Works, and Betty Browning, Tax Assessors.

2. Spalding County Public Works Department, Interim Public Works Director, Tim Crane, to provide an update on ongoing operations and new projects proposed in the upcoming year.

Mr. Crane thanked the Board for the opportunity to update the group on what is happening at Public Works and the plans he has for the future.

- Mr. Crane stated that the LMIG Project is underway and this is the first year the County has been able to utilize some of the milling and patching technology offered through E.R. Snell. He stated that E.R. Snell is moving very fast on the LMIG projects and once the roads are striped Public Works will the go out and level the shoulders and seed and mulch the right-of ways.
- Surplus Auction slated for January 10th with previews on Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The auction will be held at the Public Works yard and it will be a live auction.
- Public Works is in the process of cross training its staff. We have cross trained with Atlanta Gas Light and the Fire Department to be prepared as to what should be done should they hit a “live” gas line. He advised that Public Works does team up with other departments for cross training.
- We are part of the 811 program which is a program to call before you dig to reduce the rate of damaging gas lines or utilities.
- Training inmates has increased from a one day training course to a three day course to make sure they are safer when they have the equipment on the right-of-ways.
- Streamline Public works and going paperless. To date public works has eliminated 11 forms by utilizing Facility Dude and tablets. The Utility Permit Request form has been redesigned and a copy was given to the Board for review. You will note that on the bottom of the form we advise the contractors to call the Utility Protection Center prior to digging or boring.
- Mr. Crane advised that Public Works has gotten serious about where they purchase products utilized by their department. He stated that they have implemented buying locally. We are doing price comparison and we are keeping our local economy strong.
- Future plans include:
 - A move from 3 grass crews and 1 metro grass crews to 4 grass crews and 1 metro grass crew. He advised that they can implement this program with the same number of employees and this will enable them to operate more efficiently in covering the County.
 - Restructure of public works to provide a full time crew of motor graders on the east side of the County and on the west side of the County to take care of the dirt roads. These crews would be equipped with motor graders and side cutters, once the roads are side cut, the intention would

be to spray the side of the roads from that point on in order to reduce or eliminate the growth of vegetation on the sides of the dirt roads.

- Randy King and Scott Sullivan in our sign department have implemented a program which reduced the old inventory of signs to zero and now the County is able to produce a high quality sign that meets state standards at no cost to the County.
- Public Works has implemented a testing program for individuals who are applying for positions to operate equipment. It doesn't matter if the individual is a new hire or transferring into a position, these operators are being tested on the equipment. This will insure that Public Works has quality operators and people who are qualified to operate the equipment.
- Mr. Crane stated that his mission to have a safe and productive department, to insure the safety of the public, employees and the inmates that work for this County. To be a good steward of the taxpayer's money and provide a service to the residents of this County in a professional, timely and safe manner. To take the Commissioners, County Managers, Employees and Citizens concerns seriously and to make changes where needed to accomplish this mission.

Commissioner Miller stated that he had been out to the roads that have been resurfaced and they are doing an excellent job. He also advised that by the County allowing E.R. Snell to do the milling we have a one year warranty on their work. Commissioner Miller then asked how many road scrapes the county owns.

Mr. Crane advised that the County currently has three road scrapes; however the equipment is old and breaks down frequently. Some of the road scrapes have reached the age that it is hard to find parts to fix them. He advised that he hope to be able to discuss leasing this equipment in the future. He stated that Pike County and the City of Griffin currently lease this equipment and asks that the County consider leasing this equipment. He further stated that the money being spent to repair the current equipment could go toward the lease of newer and better equipment.

Commissioner Ray ask that Mr. Wilson get with Mr. Crane to research the cost of leasing this equipment.

VI. PRESENTATIONS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – None.

VII. CITIZEN COMMENT

Speakers must sign up prior to the meeting and provide their names, addresses and topic in which they will speak on. Speakers must direct all comments to the Board only. Speakers will be allotted three (3) minutes to speak on their chosen topics and

relate to matters pertinent to the jurisdiction of the Board of the Commissioners. No questions will be asked by any of the commissioners during citizen comments. Outbursts from the audience will not be tolerated. Common courtesy and civility are expected at all times during the meeting.

James Brooks, 1281 Rehoboth Church Road, Griffin, GA. Wanted to know why SPLOST funds are being utilized for purchase of fire trucks when we have a fire district tax.

William Wilson, County Manager, advised that Spalding County does have a Fire District tax with a 5 mill cap and these funds go to operate the Fire Department. The Board of Commissioners chose to purchase fire apparatus on the SPLOST to aid the Fire Department.

VIII. MINUTES -

1. Consider approval of minutes of the November 2, 2015 Spalding County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting.

Motion/Second by Ray/Miller to approve the minutes of the November 2, 2015 Regular Meeting of the Spalding County Board of Commissioners. Motion carried unanimously by all.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA -

1. Consider on second reading an ordinance to amend Division II, Part I, Chapter 1, Section 1-1007, Subparagraph (c) Enforcement increasing penalty from \$500 to \$1,000.

Motion/Second by Ray/Hawbaker approve on second reading an ordinance to amend Division II, Part I, Chapter 1, Section 1-1007, Subparagraph (c) Enforcement increasing penalty from \$500 to \$1,000. Motion carried unanimously by all.

X. OLD BUSINESS -

1. Lift from the table Ordinance 2015-10 to amend the Spalding County Code of Ordinances by adding a new subsection to section 12-1016 to be designated as subparagraph (c) Sterilization Requirement.

Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Flowers-Taylor to lift from the table Ordinance 2015-10 to amend the Spalding County Code of Ordinances by adding a new subsection to section 12-1016 to be designated as subparagraph (c) Sterilization Requirement. Motion carried unanimously by all.

2. Consider approval on first reading an ordinance 2015-10 to amend the Spalding County Code of Ordinances by adding a new subsection to section 12-1016 to be designated as subparagraph (C) Sterilization Requirement.

William Wilson, County Manager, advised that this was tabled by the Board of Commissioners earlier this year and Commissioner Hawbaker had requested that the item be placed back on the agenda for consideration at this meeting.

Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Ray to approve on first reading an ordinance 2015-10 to amend the Spalding County Code of Ordinances by adding a new subsection to section 12-1016 to be designated as subparagraph (C) Sterilization Requirement.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that some citizens in the county are not financially able to have their dogs sterilized. She wanted to explore the possibility of being able to offer the community assistance in getting their animals sterilized one time a year.

Eric Mosley, Assistant County Manager, stated there are numerous occasions throughout the year when sterilization services are offered at the Animal Shelter at a low cost to the citizens. He further advised that there is a grant currently in place that will provide sterilization within a certain corridor of the County at no cost. Mr. Mosley stated that there are grants available to the County and to some of the other organizations that we work alongside that will allow us to provide our citizens with low cost spay and neuter services.

Mr. Mosley advised that enforcement of the Ordinance will be driven by complaints. Animal Control will not be going targeting animals enforcement of the ordinance.

Commissioner Ray stated that the ACCAB Board had requested that the ordinance be changed from a Mandatory Sterilization ordinance to a Sterilization requirement because there is no mechanism currently in place to educate the public on how this ordinance is designed to work. He stated that he has yet to see any type of plan and that is one part that should be vital to the passage of this Ordinance because this ordinance is going to affect all of the animal owners in the County. He added that ACCAB was supposed to present a plan on how they plan to educate the public regarding these two ordinances and he has yet to see any type of plan.

Commissioner Miller added that he would like for Mr. Mosley to check to see what kind of grants are available for this purpose.

Mr. Mosley advised that most of the grants that we apply for are very specific in nature. He further stated that earlier this year he had met with the Georgia and the National Human Societies who offered up opportunities of grants that are available for this community. He further stated that if this ordinance is passed it could potentially show our commitment to this process.

Chairperson Johnson asked that this matter be added as an item to be discussed at the retreat in February, 2016.

Motion carried 4-1 (Ray).

3. Lift from the table an amendment 2015-08 to Part XII, Animals, Chapter 1, Animal Control, of the Spalding County Code of Ordinances by adding a new section to said chapter to be denominated as Section 12-1007 - Unaltered Animal Permit.

Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Flowers-Taylor to lift from the table an amendment 2015-08 to Part XII, Animals, Chapter 1, Animal Control, of the Spalding County Code of Ordinances by adding a new section to said chapter to be denominated as Section 12-1007 - Unaltered Animal Permit. Motion carried unanimously by all.

4. Consider for approval on first reading an amendment 2015-08 to Part XII, Animals, Chapter 1, Animal Control, of the Spalding County Code of Ordinances by adding a new section to said chapter to be denominated as Section 12-1007 - Unaltered Animal Permit.

Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Flowers-Taylor to approve on first reading an amendment 2015-08 to Part XII, Animals, Chapter 1, Animal Control, of the Spalding County Code of Ordinances by adding a new section to said chapter to be denominated as Section 12-1007 - Unaltered Animal Permit with an effective date of March 1, 2016.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that if a citizen wishes to keep their animal unaltered for health, breeding or other reasons they will be able to obtain a permit to do so. She further stated that this ordinance will also be complaint driven, the Animal Control officers will not be out patrolling the county for animals that are not fixed.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor added that there had been discussion regarding a grace period to allow the community to become educated on the requirements of this ordinance. She stated that a grace period needs to be established and some type of education program developed for the citizens.

Mr. Mosley advised that there are programs available through the Humane Society and through the State and he feels that it would be sufficient for the County to adopt the programs that already exist.

Mr. Wilson suggested that both ordinances have an effective on March 1st of 2016 and the Board agreed to make the changes in the ordinance to have a March 1,2016 effective date.

Commissioner Ray stated for years this county has allowed pet owners a choice to either have their animals fixed or not to have them fixed and that he finds the

practice of having to pay to own an unaltered animal as questionable and for that reason he will not vote for this ordinance.

Motion carried 4-1 (Ray).

XI. NEW BUSINESS -

1. Consider approval of new 2016 Alcohol License-Consumption on Premises for Justin Waffle on behalf of Sequoia Golf Peachtree, LLC d.b.a. Sun City Peachtree Golf Club located at 250 Dell Webb Blvd, Griffin, GA.
2. Consider approval of 2016 Alcohol Beverage License Renewals for Retail Sale of Beer and/or Wine for:
 - Aziz Ali d.b.a. Chevron Food Mart located at 3200 Highfalls Rd., Griffin, GA.
 - Suleman Sultan d.b.a. Prince Food Mart located at 3425 Jackson Rd., Griffin, GA.
 - Waseem A. Khan d.b.a. S & M Grocery located at 3244 Fayetteville Rd., Griffin, GA.
 - Akber Ali d.b.a. SuperFood located at 2529 Old Atlanta Rd., Griffin, GA.
 - Robert Fisher d.b.a. Tony's One Stop located at 4275 Hwy 19/41 South, Hampton, GA.
 - Ju Hwan Bae d.b.a. Triangle Amoco located at 3241 Jackson Rd., Griffin, GA.
 - Robert Fisher d.b.a. Zetella Express located at 4319 Newnan Rd., Griffin, GA.
 - Roma Desai d.b.a. Valero Food Mart located at 2995 N. Expressway, Griffin, GA
3. Consider approval of new 2016 Alcohol Beverage License for Retail Sale of Beer and Wine for Brian Joseph Nay on behalf of Racetrac Petroleum, Inc. d.b.a. Racetrac #182 located at 4200 N. Expressway, Griffin, GA.
4. Consider approval of 2016 Alcohol Beverage License renewals for Consumption on Premises for:
 - Jimmy R. Allen d.b.a. Big Jim's Wing Shack located at 1557B Williamson Rd., Griffin, GA.
 - Anthony L. Head d.b.a. Griffin Moose Lodge #1503 located at 1435 Zebulon Rd., Griffin, GA.
 - Justin Wynne d.b.a. Mama's Country Showcase located at 2700 N. Expressway, Griffin, GA.- Violation on 03/14/14, Guilty Plea on 10/01/14- \$1,000.00 First Offense- Paid on 12/29/14.
5. Consider approval of the 2016 Alcohol Beverage License Renewals for Retail Package Store Sales for:
 - Atulkumar Patel d.b.a. Carver Bottle Shop located at 1557D Williamson Rd., Griffin, GA.
 - Diand Suk Choi d.b.a. Sam's Package Store located at 1301 N. Hill St., Griffin, GA.
 - Sotetra Kong d.b.a. The Liquor Gate located at 1740 Zebulon Rd., Griffin,

GA.

Motion/second by Flowers-Taylor/Ray to consider items 1-5 at one time. Motion carried unanimously by all.

Motion/second by Miller/Flowers-Taylor to approve the 2016 Alcohol Beverage License Renewal for items 1-5. Motion carried unanimously by all.

6. Consider approval of 2016 Alcohol License Renewal for Wholesale Dealers for Donnie Spence d.b.a. Jackson Beverages, LLC located at 915 S. Pinehill Rd., Griffin, GA.

Motion/Second by Flower-Taylor/Miller to approve the 2016 Alcohol License Renewal for Wholesale Dealers for Donnie Spence d.b.a. Jackson Beverages, LLC located at 915 S. Pinehill Rd., Griffin, GA. Motion carried unanimously by all.

7. Consider requesting local legislative delegation to introduce local legislation to make the position of Solicitor General in Spalding County a full time position effective January 1, 2017.

Motion/Second by Ray/Hawbaker to request the local legislative delegation to introduce local legislation to make the position of Solicitor General in Spalding County a full time position effective January 1, 2017.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor express her concerns over the numbers provided as justification for this position. She advised that if the Court is billing out a certain number of dollars and only collecting a percentage of that amount, where is the remainder of the money.

Judge Esary, State Court Judge for Spalding County, stated that when the Judiciary issues a fine, the State of Georgia has what is called “add-ons” to that fine. The State is currently collecting money for 18 organizations through these “add-on” fees. Which includes retirement for the Sheriff, Clerk of Court, Indigent Defense and the Law Library fund are a few examples. The amount the County gets is the actual amount of the fine. We collect the entire amount the fine plus the “add-ons” and we then send that money to the Clerks Association for distribution. We get the total amount of the fine, we do not get the “add-ons”.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor then asked what percentages of the fines levied are paid.

Judge Esary stated that many of the fines are paid on the date they are levied; however, some of the individuals are place on probation and payment of their

fine is spread out over the length of their probation and in other cases individuals who are not financially able to pay the fine are allowed to complete community service in lieu of paying the fine.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor asked how we can be assured that making this position full time will cover the additional expenses to the County that a full time position will involve.

Judge Esary stated that he feels sure with the additional cases that will be able to be moved through the Court system with a full time solicitor will more than pay for the salary; how much more it will generate he can't project. The other aspect to this is the cases will be heard in a timely manner.

Judge Esary advised that as of today we have 884 cases that have not even been arraigned, these cases have been delivered to the Solicitor, but they have not been arraigned. Of the cases that have been arraigned, we have 400 waiting on bench trials and there are 150 waiting on jury trials. He projects with within a year's time, the bench trials will be reduced to "next to nothing." Moving these cases through the system in a timely manner is just as important as what this position will generate in fines.

Judge Esary added a full time Solicitor will add an efficiency to the system that we do not currently have as lawyers will be able to come in to talk with the Solicitor in between trial times to discuss cases. He then stated the example of DUI cases, there are usually videos made of these arrests, the attorney and the Solicitor will review the video and talk about the case, then the Solicitor can make a potential offer to the Attorney that can be presented to the client. Right now on the first day of jury trials the Solicitors Office is packed with attorneys because this is the first opportunity they have had to talk with him. This will be eliminated completely by a full time Solicitor.

Commissioner Miller then inquired as to what the salary for the full time Solicitor would be.

Judge Esary advised it would be approximately 90% of the Judge's salary which would be \$126,564.00.

Motion carried unanimously by all.

8. Consider approval of contract with ICS for Inmate Phone and Commissary Services at the Spalding County Correctional Institute beginning March 1, 2016.

Carl Humphrey, Warden, stated that the CI currently has two contracts, one for inmate phone services that will be expiring in February of 2016 and one for inmate commissaries which will expire in September of 2016. The contract for inmate commissaries was with A&S Canteen and that contract was purchased by the Trinity Group in February of this year and their services have not been

up to the standard received from A&S Canteen and do not meet the current expectations for service.

The decision was made to combine the two contracts and put them out to bid to allow more flexibility in dealing with the inmate funds. We received three acceptable bids and have decided on ICS Solutions out of Missouri. This company has a regional office out of Jacksonville, Florida.

We had established three goals when we published the bid: (1) to maintain low cost to vendors for making phone calls; (2) increase the commissions from the commissary and phone calls; (3) improve the technology utilized for the inmate commissary and the telephone system.

ICS Solutions will be bringing new technology to the CI at no cost to the County. They will be providing new technology that will significantly increase the efficient operation of our facility.

Motion/Second by Ray/Miller to approve a contract with ICS for Inmate Phone and Commissary Services at the Spalding County Correctional Institute beginning March 1, 2016. Motion carried unanimously by all.

9. Consider resolution requesting performance review of the Tax Assessor's Office by the Georgia Department of Revenue.

Mr. Wilson advised that Don Long, Chief Appraiser for Spalding County and Johnie McDaniel a member of the Board of Assessors for Spalding County are present should the Board have any questions.

Don Long stated that he feels that a performance review would be helpful. The Board of Assessors at their last meeting agreed that a performance review be requested.

Mr. Long stated that the Board and Staff have identified areas within the department of which they have concerns. The Revenue Department came in and did a review, like they do every three years for all the counties in the State of Georgia. That is not as in depth as a Performance Review would be. A Performance Review encompasses all of the areas, they look at Real Property, Personal Property, they look at conservation use, and exempt properties, and they will also review our costs schedules. The evaluation committee will have two Chief Appraisers from various counties a member of the Department of Revenue come in to talk with staff, review the system and they will present a plan of action to our office once their evaluation is complete.

Mr. Long advised that a Performance Review would benefit the Assessors' Office, the Board of Assessors, the County Commission and it will allow us to better serve the taxpayers and the citizens of Spalding County.

Johnie McDaniel, stated that he is a new member of the Board of Assessors and having spent some time on the Board of Equalization, they were a little surprised as some of the things they had seen. He added that this is not to cast dispersion on anyone previously employed by the Tax Assessors or Appraisers Office, but there a lot of things that need to be fixed. He added that the Board feels it is probably a better solution to have someone from the outside to come in, take a look at this situation and make recommendations for improvements within the Tax Assessors Office.

Motion/Second by GFT/Hawbaker approve the request for a resolution requesting performance review of the Tax Assessor's Office by the Georgia Department of Revenue.

Mr. Wilson stated that as Mr. Long mentioned "if we have staff". He wanted the Board to be aware that one of the things that could possibly come out of this Performance Review is that the Department of Revenue will probably come back and tell us that we need additional staff so we will be looking at that for future budget consideration.

Motion carried unanimously by all.

10. Consider request of the Spalding County Sheriff's Department to allow the Sheriff's Junior Deputy Program to utilize 1005 Memorial Drive from November 16th - 21st for storage and distribution of fruit for their annual fruit box fundraiser.

Motion/Second by Ray/Miller to approve the request of the Spalding County Sheriff's Department to allow the Sheriff's Junior Deputy Program to utilize 1005 Memorial Drive from November 16th - 21st for storage and distribution of fruit for their annual fruit box fundraiser. Motion carried unanimously by all.

11. Consider approval of Intergovernmental Agreement with Butts County, Georgia.

Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Miller to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement with Butts County, Georgia. Motion carried unanimously by all.

12. Consider approval of Resolution creating the Joint Development Authority of Butts County and Spalding County and approval of bylaws of said Joint Development Authority.

David Luckie, of the Development Authority, asked that this item be tabled to the December meeting or a special called meeting.

Motion/Second by Ray/Hawbaker to table the request for a Resolution creating the Joint Development Authority of Butts County and Spalding County and approval of Bylaws of said Joint Development Authority. Motion carried unanimously by all.

13. Consider Resolution declaring the results of the Election held on November 3, 2015 regarding the imposition of a one percent sales and use tax and the issuance of not to exceed \$8,880,000 General Obligation Sales Tax Bonds providing for notification to the District Attorney, and for other related purposes.

Jim Fortune, County Attorney, advised that the SPLOST passed and this is one of the formal steps that needs to be taken in order to move this process along.

Motion/Second by Ray/Hawbaker to approve a Resolution declaring the results of the Election held on November 3, 2015 regarding the imposition of a one percent sales and use tax and the issuance of not to exceed \$8,880,000 General Obligation Sales Tax Bonds providing for notification to the District Attorney, and for other related purposes. Motion carried unanimously by all.

14. Consider on first reading an ordinance to amend Division II, Part IX, Section 9-3112: Judicial proceedings.

Mr. Wilson advised that when the Board passed the Minimum Housing Ordinance earlier in the year that addressed the exterior violations of the code, it had all violations being heard in State Court. This amendment will move violations that Code Enforcement handles to Magistrate Court.

Motion/Second by Ray/Flowers-Taylor to approve on first reading an ordinance to amend Division II, Part IX, Section 9-3112: Judicial Proceedings. Motion carried unanimously by all.

15. Consider approval of Hospital Authority Grants for the year 2016.

Mr. Wilson advised that when the Hospital Authority makes grants to local governments or other entities those grants must be approved by the City and the County. The City has already approve the grants. The grants are: The Board of Health, \$15,000 for the flu shots and the Spalding County Senior Nutrition Program/Meals on Wheels for \$35,000. The City already has approved the grants and the County now needs to approve them so that the funds can be distributed by the Hospital Authority.

Motion/Second by Ray/Miller to approve the Hospital Authority Grants for the year 2016. Motion carried unanimously by all.

16. Set a date for a Public Hearing to establish as street lightings districts for Sun City Peachtree – Pods 37A and 38A.

Mr. Wilson stated that at the last meeting the Board accepted the streets in these two pods and it is recommended the public hearing be held during the Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting on December 7, 2015.

Motion/Second by Hawbaker/RR to set December 7, 2015 for a Public Hearing to establish street lighting districts for Sun City Peachtree – Pods 37A and 38A. Motion carried unanimously by all.

XII. REPORT OF COUNTY MANAGER

- ✓ We will not have a need for a Zoning Public Hearing in December 7th meeting. The December 21st meeting has been cancelled.
- ✓ The Walking Dead will be filming on Yamacraw Road between N. Walker’s Mill and Chehaw Road on Wednesday, November 18. Yamacraw Road will be closed from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Notifications have been sent to people in the area who will be affected by this filming.
- ✓ Festival of Lights is scheduled for Tuesday, November 24th at Airport Road Park. He advised that the Chairperson would not be able to attend because she will be home in Kentucky for the holidays and asked Vice Chairman Miller if he would “flip the switch” on the event. Vice Chairman Miller said he would be glad to “flip the switch.”
- ✓ Community Development has been working on the 2015 In Rem Properties. Each one of the properties have been inspected, posted as unsafe and the initial notices have been mailed:
 - 582 Hillview Road
 - 434 Lakeview Road
 - 140 Rivers Road
 - 225 Sandy Lane
 - 36 Bleachery Street
 - 48 Bleachery Street
 - 79 Elm Street
 - 2378 S. Walkers Mill Road
 - 129 Wild Plum Road
 - 59 Fifth Street
- ✓ We have recently had correspondence with our local legislative delegation regarding the Hotel/Motel Tax increase to 8%. This request needs to be approved by the Senate and then it will move to the Governor for his signature. Mr. Wilson stated he has an email into Senator Harbin to make sure he is on top of this issue for this legislative session which will allow our hotel/motel tax

- to increase to 8%.
- ✓ Thanked Tim Crane for his presentation. They are doing a great job on the resurfacing and considering all of the rain we have had, they are doing a great job on all of the dirt roads as well.
 - ✓ Spalding County Hazard Mitigation Plan, we have several meeting coming up, the next one will be on January 5th at 10 a.m. will be the next meeting, here in the Room 108 of the County Annex all of the meetings after the January 5th meeting will be at the County Extension Meeting Room.
 - ✓ Nutrition Program Update we had our state inspection last week and everything passed with flying colors.
 - ✓ Spalding County recognized at GRPA District Four meeting we received several awards.
 - ✓ Staff meals at the CI have historically been \$3. Effective January 1 the entree two sides, a bread and beverage will remain \$3, but if you want a side salad, desert or any of the extras that have been available there will be an additional charge.
 - ✓ This week is our biometric screening Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Historically this screening has been done in March and April, it is moving to November every year to allow us to have a baseline so that we will be able to get insurance premium notifications before the budget consideration instead of in the middle or latter part of establishing the budget.
 - ✓ T.J. Imberger and the Cooperative extension has been working with the Georgia Beekeepers Association to host their Conference at the Senior Center in February 2016, we hope to be selected as the venue.
 - ✓ We are working with the City of Griffin on a 2016 Vendor Registration Expo & Reverse Tradeshow it will be held at the Griffin Welcome Center on January 28, 2016 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
 - ✓ Historically the County has not advertised with a public notice our vacancies for members whose appointments are due to expire on our appointment list. He advised that he had saw an ad recently where the City of Griffin had advertised openings and encouraged anyone who wished to apply for these positions to do so. We have generated a Public Notice to advertise all of the vacancies we will have at the end of this year. We currently have approximately 16 appointments for 2016. With the Board's permission we would like to advertise these openings and have a form on the website that people can fill in and submit if they wish to serve on one of the boards or committees. Consensus of the Board was to advertise appointments.
 - ✓ We will be closed next Thursday and Friday for the Thanksgiving Holidays.

XIII. REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Donald Hawbaker

- He wanted to thank Officer Green and Code Enforcement for the work that he has done the past few days addressing the situation on Springdale. He stated he appreciated his attention and stated that he and Michael Heath do a great job for the County.

- He would like to encourage Code Enforcement to continue in their efforts to clean up the signs on the North Expressway/19-41.
- During the past week he met Lew Hunnicutt the new Asst. Provost and new Campus Director at UGA Griffin Campus. He is a very interesting and dynamic individual and he is looking forward to his implementing and taking action on items that will move UGA forward.
- Wanted to thank Public Works, Tim Crane, who has been extremely responsive in taking care of all the roads and wash outs that have been occurring with all of the rain.
- He was at the new Griffin Spalding Athletic Hall of Fame next door to Parks and Recreation. It is a neat set up and he encourages everyone to visit. It is his understanding that they weren't able to put out everything that they have, but what they do have on display is very impressive.
- As far as the Resolution for Performance Review it is a step in the progression of one of the reasons he is setting here tonight. The mass appraisal that was rolled out in 2012 there was a number of residences in the district he represents were effected and it lead to a tremendous number of appeals and legitimate concerns regarding the equity and the uniformity with which values have been attributed especially in the community where he resides.

He wanted to thank Mr. Dave Graves and his wife, Sandy, for their analysis of properties around the county as well as within the community for highlighting some of the inequities lack of uniformity. He added that recently Bill Humphrey also performed an analysis and it is hard to understand how values have been applied not only to residences inside of Sun City Peachtree, but to other parts of the County.

He hopes that the Performance Review panel that we have asked to be commissioned tonight will take a look at what Mr. Graves and Mr. Humphrey have come up with in addition to the other matters that have been highlighted by our Chief Appraiser, Mr. Long and that is within the scope of the Resolution.

- With regard to the SPLOST, in 2014 the SPLOST lost by 75 votes, but on November 3rd it passed 60% to 40%. He feels that the voters spoke very decisively. Wanted to thank William Wilson and Eric Mosley for their tireless work in making numerous public presentations on the information regarding the ballot items. He wanted to thank Kenny Smith, City of Griffin, City Manager, for his participation in many of those presentations as well as the numerous separate presentations that he, alone, made. Many thanks to Daa'ood Amin for chairing the 2015 SPLOST Committee and for his tireless work in advocating the merits of the SPLOST to numerous civic, charitable, church and non-profit groups. He also wanted to thank the other participants

on the 2015 SPLOST Committee. He thanked the Griffin Daily News for printing a number of informative, factual and neutral articles about many of the SPLOST items. Last, he wanted to thank the folks who didn't vote and left the decision to a group of responsible adults who did vote. Mostly, he wanted to thank the voters of Spalding County who participated and especially those who voted to move the County forward by voting yes.

Commissioner Gwen Flowers-Taylor stated that on election night she was so happy that she called the local radio station to tell them that she wanted to congratulate the SPLOST Chairman Daa'ood Amin for educating the community. When I called, they put me on hold and when they came back on the phone they said that they had Commissioner Cora Flowers on the phone, so she did not get to congratulate Daa'ood at that time, but she did want to extend her congratulations to him tonight on a hard fought victory. She stated that she knew how hard he worked as well as William and Eric and she wanted to say thank you.

Commissioner Raymond Ray congratulations to the SPLOST committee everyone did a great job. He wanted to compliment Tim Crane on his presentation this evening and asked that Mr. Wilson look at the possibility of leasing equipment that Mr. Crane mentioned during his presentation.

Commissioner Ray stated that if you haven't been to the Festival of Lights, he would recommend that you go. It is quite an event, even when it is raining. They have snow made out of bubbles, they have face painting, the kids really enjoy it and it is worth your time to go out there and watch the kids.

Commissioner Ray wanted to send his thanks to the Warden and the staff at the CI for their invitation to attend their function last Friday.

Commissioner Bart Miller wanted to "ditto" what Commissioner Hawbaker said regarding the SPLOST and citizens not voting. He requested that items for the SPLOST be put in some type of order in case the money does not materialize he would like to know what projects will be considered.

Commissioner Miller stated that he feels the storm water charge on the new airport should be waived. The City of Griffin will be receiving proceeds on sewerage, storm water, lights and other utilities and the County will be losing the tax revenue off that property.

Chairperson Rita Johnson said that she would like to "ditto" what has been said here this evening. She thanked Tim Crane and his group for their update on Public Works and for all of their hard work on the road. She thanked Daa'ood Amin for his hard work toward getting the SPLOST passed as well as William and Eric and everyone else who were on those committees.

Chairperson Johnson wanted to wish a Happy Veterans Day to Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Ray and Commissioner Flowers-Taylor. Additionally, she

would like to extend her condolences to the people of France for the tragedy that occurred there on Friday.

William Wilson then announced that former County Commissioner Chipper Gardner's father passed away. His father, Howard Gardner, who was a long time member of the Henry County Water Authority and served as Chairman for 25 years. His funeral will be tomorrow in McDonough.

XIV. CLOSED SESSION – None.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

**Motion/Second by Miller/Ray to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 p.m.
Motion carried unanimously by all.**