

After Agenda

**Board of Commissioners of Spalding County
Extraordinary Session
Monday, August 21, 2017
6:00 PM
One Griffin Center, Solomon Street Entrance
W. Elmer George Municipal Hall**

The Spalding County Board of Commissioners held their Extraordinary Session in the W. Elmer George Municipal Hall, One Griffin Center, Solomon Street Entrance on Monday, August 21, 2017, beginning at 6:00 p.m. with Chairman Bart Miller presiding. Commissioners Raymond Ray, Rita Johnson and Donald Hawbaker were present. Commissioner Gwen Flowers-Taylor and County Manager, William Wilson, were absent from the meeting. Also present were Assistant County Manager, Eric Mosley, County Attorney, Jim Fortune and Executive Secretary, Kathy Gibson to record the minutes.

- I. OPENING (CALL TO ORDER)** by Chairman Bart Miller.
- II. INVOCATION** led by Commissioner Donald Hawbaker.
- III. PLEDGE TO FLAG** led by Commissioner Rita Johnson.
- IV. APPOINTMENTS**
 1. To fill two existing vacancies on the PRAC: District 1 and District 4 appointments.

Eric Mosley, Assistant County Manager, advised that Cheryl Brown from District 1 resigned. She has other commitments during the time periods the meeting take place and she feels cannot commit to the time. Ronnie Perdue from District 4 passed away. At this time we do not have anyone in the book to fill those appointments.

Motion/Second by Ray/Johnson to table the appointments for the Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission. Motion carried unanimously by all.

V. PRESENTATIONS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Consider approval of financial statements for the one month ended July 31, 2017.

Jimna Garrison, Administrative Services Director, was present to answer any questions the Board had regarding the Financial Statements.

Commissioner Ray asked about the SPLOST revenues, in particular the last remittance.

Ms. Garrison advised that the State performed an audit, but at this time the

County has not received any explanation as to the amount.

Mr. Mosley stated that we had sent an email to the ACCG to ask for guidance on how to approach the Department of Revenue to find out what was involved in the audit, how much was deducted from this month's payment and why, but as you are aware, we can request, but they do not have to provide details other than an audit adjustment was made. Although, it was a large change in the SPLOST amount we remain within the \$700,000 per month as expected.

Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Ray to approve the financial statements for the one month ended July 31, 2017. Motion carried unanimously by all.

VI. 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.

Robert Wilcher, 179 Chehaw Road, Griffin, Georgia. Mr. Wilcher stated that he lives in the High Falls, Tomachichi, Chehaw Road area of Spalding County. Mr. Wilcher stated that he is representing several of his neighbors who couldn't attend the meeting. There is a situation in the neighborhood involving gun fire. This is not normal gun fire. They come outside at any time, load a clip and empty it just as fast as they can, put in another clip and empty it just as fast as they can. Then they fire something that sounds like an elephant gun and makes a flash of fire.

There are a number of older people in this area and there is one neighbor who has to carry his nitro glycerin with him because he never knows when the firing is going to start. He added that in the County Ordinance provides only for general loud noise. This is beyond someone coming out and target shooting. Additionally, they have no back drop, they are just shooting into woods in the back of residences.

Mr. Wilcher advised that he has called the Sheriff's Department a number of times, but he was advised that he needed to come before the Board as they are limited by the Ordinance. Mr. Evans who resides at 66 Tomachichi, has had a bullet hit his house and put a hole in the top. Bill Kimbel on the corner of Tomachichi and Chehaw Road has a hole in the top of his shop where it looks like a bullet went through.

He stated that we need something that the Sheriff's Office can use to control this type of disturbance. The Ordinance doesn't specify any type of noise it simply says noise in general.

Tina Dorsey, 1567 Locust Grove Road, stated that she came before the Board because she has, what she termed as a "suicide driveway." She stated her road is a cut through in the Ringogold Community on the way to Tanger Boulevard. She lives in the deep turn, right across from the Henry County reservoir at the dam. People

go through that area so fast they are always running off the road. She was asking if the Board could provide some speed reduction and patrols through that area. The current speed limit is 45 m.p.h and she asked that the speed be reduced in that area and if possible that additional patrols be put in the area to assist in reducing the speed.

VII. MINUTES –

1. Consider approval of minutes for the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting on August 7, 2017.

Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Ray to approve the minutes for the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting on August 7, 2017. Motion carried unanimously by all.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

IX. OLD BUSINESS

X. NEW BUSINESS

1. Conduct public hearing to consider the establishment of street light district for Sun City Peachtree - Pod 38B.

Motion/Second by Ray/Hawbaker to open a public hearing to consider the establishment of a street light district for Sun City Peachtree – Pod 38B. Motion Carried unanimously by all.

Jim Fortune, County Attorney, asked if anyone would like to make any comment regarding the establishment of a street light district for Sun City Peachtree – Pod 38B.

Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Ray to close the public hearing to consider the establishment of a street light district for Sun City Peachtree – Pod 38B. Motion carried unanimously by all.

2. Consider approval of street light district for Sun City Peachtree - Pod 38B.

Mr. Mosley stated that a new street light district has been requested by Pulte Homes, the lights have been approved by Central Georgia EMC and meet the lighting standards approved by the county ordinance for Pod 38B.

Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Ray approve the street light district for Sun City Peachtree – Pod 38B. Motion carried unanimously by all.

3. Consider approval of final plat for High Falls Meadows Subdivision (minor) located off High Falls Road.

Mr. Mosley advised that the request was made by American Forest, Inc. for a minor final plat approval to the Community Development Office. The minor plats are road frontage lots that are subdivisions by UDO definition, but do not include any infrastructure at this time. Staff recommends approval.

Motion/Second by Ray/Johnson to approve the final plat for High Falls Meadows Subdivision (minor) located off High Falls Road. Motion carried unanimously by all.

4. Consider transferring unused portion of Wild Plum Road deeded to Spalding County by the Georgia Department of Transportation to the Griffin-Spalding Development Authority.

Mr. Mosley stated that this property should have been deeded to the Development Authority by GDOT, but instead was deeded to Spalding County. We are now requesting that the property be deeded to the Griffin-Spalding Develop Authority as it is part of the property being purchased by Rinnai. This is clearly an error that is being corrected this evening.

Motion/Second by Ray/Hawbaker to approve the request to transfer an unused portion of Wild Plum Road deeded to Spalding County by the Georgia Department of Transportation to the Griffin-Spalding Development Authority. Motion carried unanimously by all.

5. Consider issuance of a right-of-way easement by Spalding County to the City of Griffin to access a parcel of land, consisting of approximately 7,502 square feet, located behind the Spalding County Baseball and Pickleball Complexes for construction, operation and maintenance of overhead distribution line(s) and a concrete utility vault therein.

Mr. Mosley stated this right-of-way easement will provide access to MEAG. Behind the Pickleball Complex there is a substation for the City of Griffin and they needed to have better access to that facility and this will grant them access.

Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Johnson to approve issuance of a right-of-way easement by Spalding County to the City of Griffin to access a parcel of land, consisting of approximately 7,502 square feet, located behind the Spalding County Baseball and Pickleball Complexes for construction, operation and maintenance of overhead distribution line(s) and a concrete utility vault therein. Motion carried unanimously by all.

6. Consider approval of the 2017 Tax Levy.

Mr. Mosely stated that the County Mileage Rate for 2017 is recommend to be set at 15.36 mills which is a decrease of .30 mills from the 2016 mileage rate. School Mileage Rate for 2017 is 18.204 and they passed their mileage rate decrease this evening. The Fire District Mileage Rate will remain the same at 3.61 mills which is the same as 2016. The overall Millage Rate for unincorporated Spalding decreased from 38.922 mills to 37.174 mills a total of

.666 mills. Staff recommends approval.

Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Johnson to approve 2017 Tax Levy as presented. Motion carried unanimously by all.

7. Consider approval of agency contract with the City of Orchard Hill for Fire Protection Services for the period October 1, 2017 to October 1, 2018.

Mr. Mosley stated that this is the annual contract for fire protection services with the City of Orchard Hill. The contract amount is \$36,157 which will be paid in monthly increments of \$3,013.12 per month. We have budgeted this amount into the Fire District fund in this years' FY18 Budget. Staff recommends approval

Motion/Second Ray/Hawbaker to approve the agency contract with the City of Orchard Hill for Fire Protection Services for the period October 1, 2017 to October 1, 2018. Motion carried unanimously by all.

8. Consider approval of agency contract with the City of Sunny Side for Fire Protection Services for the period October 1, 2017 to October 1, 2018. Staff recommends approval

Mr. Mosley stated that this is the annual contract for fire protection services with the City of Sunny Side. The contract amount is \$17,532.40 which will be paid in monthly increments of \$1,461.03 per month. We have budgeted this amount into the Fire District fund in this years' FY18 Budget. County staff recommends approval

Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Johnson to approve the agency contract with the City of Sunny Side for Fire Protection Services for the period October 1, 2017 to October 1, 2018. Motion carried unanimously by all.

9. Consider request to surplus used vehicles and equipment in preparation for disposal at a public auction.

Mr. Mosley stated that a couple years ago, we held a live auction at the Public Works Department and were able to sell quite a bit of surplus equipment. Since that time we have gathered more inventory with the rollover of patrol cars and new vehicles in Public Works, Parks & Rec and the Fire Department. Our intention is to auction off these vehicles and this equipment in a surplus auction.

Mr. Mosley added that another item that has created a lot of surplus is the recent purchase of new radios that were approved in the FY2018 budget, we have approximately 292 radios and accessories that we also hope to surplus to the highest bidder.

The first thing that needs to be done is to deem the items as surplus and he will come back before the Board, probably at the next meeting to contract with a company to conduct the surplus auction.

Motion/Second by Ray/Johnson the request to surplus used vehicles and equipment in preparation for disposal at a public auction. Motion carried unanimously by all.

XI. REPORT OF COUNTY MANAGER

- Mr. Mosley stated that T.J. Imberger and Kelly Leger would like to hold a ground breaking for Fairmont Park projects and have suggested Thursday, August 31st, in the morning or Friday, September 1st, at 10:00 a.m. They want the work that is being done to be celebrated and would like to schedule a groundbreaking ceremony to highlight the work that is being done. Consensus of the Board is to hold the ground breaking ceremony for Fairmont Park on Friday, September 1st at 10:00 a.m.
- Mr. Mosley then stated we would like to schedule a Ribbon Cutting for the Pickleball Complex. Two tentative dates would be Thursday, September 7th, in the afternoon or Friday, September 8th, in the morning. Consensus of the board is to hold the ribbon cutting for Friday, September 8th, at 10:00 a.m.
- Mr. Mosley stated that Commissioner Hawbaker had mentioned the possibility of creating a TSPLOST webpage. He provided some examples from other counties. Ms. Gibson has worked on the webpage, we will send this information out to everyone to see what you think about it. If we need to make some tweaks, we can.
- Also, Parks and Recreation is developing a TSPLOST PowerPoint for use when we begin to present TSPLOST to the residents of Spalding County. The first draft has been completed and he has made some revisions and he will forward this to the Board as soon as the revisions are complete for comments.
- The Georgia Department of Corrections have pulled back some of their inmates this week due to the eclipse, today all of the inmates had to be back at the CI by noon. Additionally, the Georgia Department of Corrections will be rerouting some of the mobile construction work crews to complete a project at GEMA headquarters in Atlanta which may affect their returning to Spalding County.
- Last week he had the opportunity to visit the Youth Committee for Three Rivers Regional Commission. We are partnering with this group to bring in some of the young people to get work experience at the County. The Board approved a Workforce Development Project Manager position that will be serving in Parks and

Recreation once it is filled. The program is still growing and currently Spalding County is utilizing the services more than most of the other counties.

This program is designed to get more young people into the workforce, they are integrated with Southern Crescent and they are getting work experience and education through this program.

- Through the media, you have probably heard about the County Inn & Suites. Due to multiple code violations we felt it was in the best interest of the community to shut them down. Saturday at 6 p.m. we closed the doors on that facility and until we can get the facility up to code we will keep them closed.

They will be required to go through Community Development and get permits for electrical which is most of the issues. They will also be required to work with the Fire Department and the Health Department before a Certificate of Occupancy will be issued so they can open the hotel up for business.

He commended Harold Williams, Spalding County Fire Marshall, who did an amazing job in inspecting and documenting this closure. This was a good example of cooperation between all of the entities; Sheriff's Office, Fire Department, Community Development and the City of Griffin.

- He expressed his appreciation to T.J. Imberger for his willingness to take on his new role. He has not wasted a moment, he has blazed forward and is doing a really great job.

XII. REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Donald Hawbaker:

- Stated that he hopes the conditions mentioned by Ms. Dorsey during citizens comment regarding Locust Grove Road can be monitored and we may want to consider lowering the speed limit on that road from 45 to 35 m.p.h.
- He would like to know who in the Tomachichi-Chehaw neighborhood is discharging weapons. He asked Mr. Wilcher to provide us with more information if he could.
- He wanted to given a “attaboy” to T.J., he is glad that we have him in the position. He is also grateful for Tim Crane’s stewardship of the position during his time as Interim Public Works Director.

Commissioner Raymond Ray:

- He asked that a work order be entered requesting that the Sheriff evaluate Locust Grove Road and make a recommendation regarding reducing the speed limit on that road.
- He agrees with Commissioner Hawbaker, if we can get that address in the Tomachichi-Chehaw neighborhood we should be able to do something and we will go from there. We have already had complaints regarding the Noise Ordinance and that is under review at this time. There are a lot of State laws that encompass this

type of behavior.

- He congratulated all who helped with the motel issue. That was not an easy thing to do when you take a business that pays taxes in town and close them because they are not maintaining standards in accordance with the ordinance to facilitate the safety of the visitors to our community.

It will not do us any good to build a great pickleball and sports complex like we have been doing to bring tourist into town if our motels run them off. He wanted the citizens to know that the owner of that facility was given ample notice and opportunity to fix the violations and he did not address the items as he should have. He thanked everyone involved.

Commissioner Rita Johnson:

- She agreed with everything that Commissioner Ray said with regard to the hotel. We are having groundbreaking and celebrating the facilities that we are working to bring to Spalding County. We want to make sure that the people who are here spending their money have a “top notch” place to sleep while they are here..
- This is the last meeting that we will be having in this facility. If you haven’t had a chance already, please drop by and see the renovations at the Annex. She thanked Kenny Smith and the City of Griffin for allowing us to use this facility during renovations of our Meeting Room.

Chairman Bart Miller:

- He agreed with everything that has been said about the closing of the motel. He stated he had heard complaints and he wanted to thank all who were involved in this action.
- Commissioner Miller asked that Ms. Dorsey consult with her neighbors regarding her request for reducing the speed limit, because even though a lower speed may benefit her situation, the remaining neighbors may not want the speed reduced. If she could get a petition signed by her neighbors making them aware of her request and agreeing to reduce the speed on that road it would be helpful.

XIII. CLOSED SESSION

County Zoning Attorney requests an Executive Session to discuss pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the county or any officer or employee or in which the county or any officer or employee may be directly involved as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1).

Motion/Second by Ray/Johnson to enter into Executive Session at 6:40 p.m. to discuss pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the county or any officer or employee or in which the county or any officer or employee may be directly involved as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1). Motion carried unanimously by all.

Motion/Second by Ray/Johnson to close the Executive Session at 7:35 p.m. Motion carried unanimously by all.

Motion/Second by Johnson/Hawbaker to resume the Extraordinary Session. Motion carried unanimously by all.

Chairman Miller presented flowers to Kathy Gibson, Executive Secretary, to say thank you for everything that she does for the Board especially over the last year. She has carried out her duties despite the other things going on in her life and they wanted to say thank you for everything she has done.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion/Second by Ray/Johnson to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Motion carried unanimously by all.