

MINUTES

The Spalding County Board of Commissioners held their Extraordinary Session in Room 108 in the Courthouse Annex, Monday, June 19, 2017, beginning at 6:00 p.m. with Chairman Bart Miller presiding. Commissioners Rita Johnson, Raymond Ray, Gwen Flowers-Taylor and Donald 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 Chairman Bart Miller
- II. **INVOCATION** led by Commissioner Rita Johnson
- III. **PLEDGE TO FLAG** led by Commissioner Raymond Ray

Commissioner Hawbaker requested that the agenda be amended to move to the next order of business, New Business Item #2: “Consider approval on first reading the FY2018 Budget Ordinance.”

Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Johnson to amend the agenda to discuss moving to the next order of business consideration of the FY2018 Budget Ordinance. Motion carried unanimously by all.

Commissioner Hawbaker asked that consideration be given to reversing the closing of the Recycle Centers that is included as part of the FY2018 Budget and leave the Recycle Centers open as they are currently operating.

Motion/Second Hawbaker/Johnson to approve on first reading the FY2018 Budget Ordinance with the adjustment that the Recycling Centers remain at their current scheduled four days of operation.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor asked what happened between the last meeting and this meeting to bring about this adjustment.

Commissioner Hawbaker stated that he had received additional input regarding the proposed closing of the Recycling Centers for an additional day. He learned that the costs savings were not as much as initially thought and the citizens of the County have expressed their wishes that the recycling centers remain open.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor then asked about the items that were added to the budget as a result of the anticipated savings, where is that money going to come from?

Mr. Wilson advised that he would have to make the adjustment to fund balance to fund those items should the Board vote to keep the Recycling Centers on the current schedule.

Commissioner Johnson stated that the reason we have Public Hearings is because we want to hear from the public. We appreciate your phone calls, emails and your comments at the meeting to voice your concerns because that is your right and the citizens have made their voices clear on this topic.

Motion carried unanimously by all.

IV. **PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS**

V. **PRESENTATIONS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

- 1. Consider approval of financial statements for the eleven months ended May 31, 2017.

Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Ray to approve the financial statements for the eleven month period ended May 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.

Donna Robertson, 110 Paul Circle, Griffin had planned to speak on keeping the recycle centers open at their current schedule. She thanked the Board for taking the action that was taken this evening on keeping the recycle centers open.

Ken Parker, 500 Yarbrough Mill, Griffin also thanked the Board for keeping the recycle centers open on their current schedule. He stated that in the part of the County in which he lives, there is a lot of garbage dumped on the streets and he was concerned that by closing the recycle centers an additional day it would result in more garbage being dumped on the streets.

VII. MINUTES-

1. Consider approval of minutes for the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting on June 5, 2017.

Motion/Second by Ray/Johnson to approve the minutes for the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting on June 5, 2017. Motion carried unanimously by all.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA-

IX. OLD BUSINESS –

X. NEW BUSINESS-

1. Consider request for amplification permit from John A. Dickinson for 110 Jenkinsburg Road on September 9th, 2017 from 4:30 p.m. to 11:00 p. m.

Motion/Second by Johnson/Ray to approve an amplification permits John A. Dickinson to host a wedding reception at 110 Jenkinsburg Road on September 9th, 2017 from 4:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Motion carried unanimously by all.

2. Consider approval on first reading the FY 2018 Budget Ordinance.

This matter was moved up on the agenda and voted on earlier in the meeting.

3. Consider authorizing the lease purchase of replacement 800 MHz radios.

Mr. Wilson stated that during the budget process many of the departments requested new radios in their budget. During the budget review with the Board of Commissioners the Sheriff's Department, Chief Deputy Thomason made an informative presentation to the Board and asked them to consider purchasing new radios and the Board at that time authorized staff to move ahead with the purchase of new radios. There are approximately 300 radios that will be replaced at a cost of \$770,615 to be lease purchased over a five year period. All of the radios come with 5 year extended warranty on parts and labor.

Mr. Wilson stated that initially \$1 million was budgeted for this purchase; however, Mr. Windham and the Sheriff's Department was able to negotiate a deal with the vendor where we will turn in our old radios and be given a

credit on the purchase of the new radios resulting of over \$150,000 in the cost of \$770,615. Mr. Wilson stated that staff is recommending lease purchase for a period not to exceed 5 years.

Motion/Second by Ray/Johnson to approve the purchase of replacement 800 MHz radios.

Commissioner Ray thanked Sheriff Dix and Chief Deputy Thomason for doing such a great job in bringing this deal to us during the budget cycle and letting us know what had been done on our behalf and you have greatly saved the taxpayers of Spalding County money. Thank you.

Motion carried unanimously by all.

4. Consider appointments to the Region IV Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council to succeed Kenny West and to succeed Paul Beamon for a two year term ending June 30, 2019.

Mr. Wilson stated that there are two appointments in the book, both of which are signed by Commissioner Johnson. The first is Fire Chief Kenny West who is currently serving a term to expire June 30, 2017 and the second is Jonathan Johnson who is the new EMS Director for WellStar Spalding and is replacing Paul Beamon at WellStar Spalding. Both of these appointments are for a two year term to expire June 30, 2019.

Motion/Second by Johnson/Ray appoint Kenny West and Jonathan Johnson to the Revion IV Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council for a two year term ending June 30, 2019. Motion carried unanimously by all.

5. Set authorizing transfer of surplus rescue equipment to the Barnesville Fire Department.

Mr. Wilson stated that through donations and grants the Spalding County Fire Department has been able to replace some outdated hydraulic equipment, commonly known as the Jaws of Life. We had 1970 and 1980 versions of this equipment powered by hydraulics on our fire trucks previously which have been decommissioned and are out of service. We are currently utilizing the new battery powered units.

Mr. Wilson then advised that the City of Barnesville Fire Department does not have any of this type of equipment and they have to rely on mutual aid agreements from other entities and often have to wait several minutes before that equipment can arrive. They are aware of our old equipment, which is still serviceable, it is just bulky, harder to use and harder to set up than the new equipment. They have expressed an interest in our old equipment and what the Board has done in the past is loaned the equipment to the requesting agency. Technically, we can't give it to them, but we can loan it to them for their use.

Mr. Fortune added that if we ever asked for the equipment back that we could get it.

Motion/Second by Ray/Hawbaker to loan/transfer the rescue equipment as discussed to the Barnesville Fire Department. Motion carried unanimously by all.

6. Consider approval of year end budget amendments.

Mr. Wilson advised this is the second series of budget amendments, you did approve some at the last meeting. Ms. Garrison has prepared these for this meeting which will finish out this budget year. This includes reorganization in the Sheriff's Department where employees have been moved within the divisions; however, it has not increased his bottom line budget. Also over the last year the Solicitor became a full time position effective January 1 through local legislation and the final adjustment is where the County Commissioners approved the County Manager's contract in mid-year.

Motion/Second by Ray/Hawbaker to approve the year end budget amendments as presented. Motion carried unanimously by all.

7. Consider authorizing the use of Public Surplus for the disposition of surplus vehicles and equipment.

Eric Mosley, Assistant County Manager, stated that a little over a year ago the County conducted a live auction. We had good representation from the public and our staff was also allowed to bid, but he didn't feel that the County got the most money out of that process. He advised that he would like to utilize a new group, Public Surplus Auction which is similar to GovDeals. It is another entity and we would like permission to test them out we would like to auction a car, a truck and maybe another vehicle to test their system to see if it would be worth our time or effort. If it doesn't work out we do have GovDeals or the Public Auction that we can utilize.

Mr. Wilson added that there is no cost to the County for this service, the buyer pays a 10% premium to Public Surplus Auction.

Motion/Second by Ray/Johnson to approve the use of Public Surplus for the disposition of surplus vehicles and equipment. Motion carried unanimously by all.

8. Consider authorizing Monday July 3, 2017 as an additional County Holiday for FY 2018.

Mr. Wilson stated that the Board of Commissioners has been very gracious in years past when a holiday has fell on a Tuesday to also authorize that Monday. This was added for discussion to see if the Board would like to do this again this year.

Motion/Second by Ray/Johnson to approve Monday, July 3, 2017 as an additional County Holiday for FY2017. Motion carried 4-1 (Flowers-Taylor).

XI. REPORT OF COUNTY MANAGER

- Wanted to remind everyone that there are several more meetings scheduled this week, Wednesday, June 21st at 10 a.m. will be the TSPLOST meeting to discuss final projects. We have a Special Called Meeting on Thursday, June 22nd, at 5:45 p.m. to finalize the FY2018 Budget and Thursday, June 22nd at 6:00 p.m. will be the Zoning Public Hearing.

XII. REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Donald Hawbaker –

- He wanted to wish everyone a safe and happy July 4th.
- He appreciated the aerial photos of the Pickleball facility. He stated that the first tournament will start on Friday of this week with an Opening Ceremony to be held at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday morning, June 24. He invited everyone to attend the opening ceremony.
The Doc Holiday Shoot Out is scheduled for August 12-13 and is being hosted by the Spalding Pickleball Association.
October 19-22, Spalding County will host one of the 5 largest tournaments currently in this sport the USAPA Atlantic South Regional Tournament which is anticipated to bring in around 500 players.
- He reminded everyone that June Teenth Celebration would be held this evening at Sun City beginning at 6:00 p.m. this evening. This is an annual event hosted by the Africa American Cultural and Educational Society.

Commissioner Gwen Flowers-Taylor –

- Stated that she feels it is a sad testimony when citizens and some of the members of the board feel that the people of Spalding County will throw their trash on the side of the road if a recycling center is closed for a day. She added that we, as a County, do not do a good job of policing and enforcing littering. She understands that this is a big problem, but feels whether the recycle center is open six days a week or seven days a week the same “scumbags” who keep throwing their trash on the side of the road are going to keep throwing their trash on the side of the road. You cannot fix that, but she does detest the insinuation that normal people who would carry their garbage to the recycling center would dump it on the side of the road if the center is closed. She stated that she doesn’t agree with that, she feels the problem is with a “hand full” of people.
- She stated that she spent some time out at Carver Road and Woodruff Center two weekends ago and what she saw was poor management at the centers. A lot of people were dumping that should not have been allowed to dump.

We do not accommodate the dumping of tires and that is a problem with litter on the side of roads. We need to find a way to accommodate tires in the recycle centers. Also, there needs to be a way for small trees and limbs to be chipped and which would free up space in the dumpsters for other items. She asked that management take a closer work at the efficiencies at the recycle centers, because these centers are not run efficiently.

- She then wanted to comment on the County’s policy regarding sexual harassment. She stated that she believed the policy to be zero tolerance. She advised that it has come to her attention where there is someone who has had a situation, they were punished for it, yet they are still working for us. She stated that she feels that this needs to be addressed. It is either zero tolerance or it’s not.

Commissioner Raymond Ray

- Wanted to give an “attaboy” to public works for the job that was done on a collapsing sidewalk in his district and they did an excellent job.

Commissioner Rita Johnson

- Presented an update on the Archway Partnership.
- Wished everyone a Happy and Safe 4th of July.

Chairman Bart Miller

- Thanked Eric Mosley for his work and completion of the task he had given him earlier that day involving code enforcement.

XIII. CLOSED SESSION – None.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

***Motion/Second by Ray/Johnson to adjourn the meeting at 6:41 p.m.
Motion carried unanimously by all.***

/s/ _____
Bart Miller, Chairman

/s/ _____
William P. Wilson, Jr., Clerk