

# After Agenda

**Board of Commissioners of Spalding County  
Extraordinary Session  
Monday, October 17, 2016  
6:00 PM  
Meeting Room 108, Courthouse Annex  
119 E. Solomon Street**

**The Spalding County Board of Commissioners held their Regular Meeting in Room 108 in the Courthouse Annex, Monday, October 17, 2016, beginning at 6:00 p.m. with Chairperson Rita Johnson presiding. Commissioners Bart Miller, Raymond Ray, Gwen Flowers-Taylor and Donald Hawbaker were present. Also present were County Manager, William P. Wilson Jr., Assistant County Manager, Eric Mosley and County Attorney, Jim Fortune.**

- I. OPENING (CALL TO ORDER)** by Chairperson Rita Johnson.
- II. INVOCATION** led by Commissioner Donald Hawbaker.
- III. PLEDGE TO FLAG** led by Commissioner Raymond Ray.
- IV. PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS**
  1. Consider approval of a Proclamation recognizing the service of Patriot Soldier Solomon Strickland during the Revolutionary War.

William Wilson, County Manager, stated that Commissioner Hawbaker will be attending the ceremony and presenting the Proclamation to the family on Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016.

***Motion/Second by Ray/Miller to approve the Proclamation recognizing the service of Patriot Soldier Solomon Strickland during the Revolutionary War. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

**V. PRESENTATIONS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

1. Consider approval of financial statements for the three months ended September 30, 2016.

Jinna Garrison, Administrative Services, was present to answer any questions the Board may have regarding the Financial Statements for the three months ended September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

***Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Ray to approve the financial statements for the three months ended September 30, 2016. 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.

**Patrick Maples**, 1132 Futral Road, Griffin, Georgia, spoke regarding the Board of Equalization. He was awarded conservation use of his property on September 8<sup>th</sup> of this year, but when he went to formally file the paperwork and pay the amount he was supposed to pay, he was told that the decision of the BOE was being appealed to the Superior Court and they would not honor the paperwork. He stated that he has been trying for years to get this matter settled, now it appears that the County is going to spend more money taking the matter to Court than they would have made on his paying the taxes. He feels that he is being discriminated against he would like to know why the Tax Assessors Office has decided to appeal the decision of the BOE to the Superior Court.

Commissioner Ray advised that he had researched this matter through the Tax Assessors Office and indeed Mr. Maples had been approved to have his CUVA reinstated by the Board of Equalization. The Board of Assessors do have the option to seek resolution through the Superior Court for the value they feel is correct on the property and that is what they are currently in the process of doing. Although he has left messages for the Board of Assessors, they will not discuss this matter with anyone until it goes through Superior Court.

## VII. MINUTES -

Consider approval of minutes for the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting on October 3, 2016 and the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Closed Meeting on October 3, 2016.

***Motion/Second by Ray/Flowers-Taylor to approve the minutes for the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting on October 3, 2016 and the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Closed Meeting on October 3, 2016. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

## VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

***Chairperson Johnson advised that she would read the items Consent Agenda in their entirety and they would be considered and voted on as a group, unless the Board had questions regarding any of the items.***

1. Consider approval on second reading an Ordinance amending the Motor Vehicles and Traffic Code Part VII, Chapter 1, Section 7-1002 to reduce the speed limit on Henry Burch Drive to 25 m.p.h.
2. Consider approval on second reading an Ordinance amending the Motor Vehicles and Traffic Code Part VII, Chapter 1, by adding a new section, Section 7-1015 Operation and Use of Off-Road Vehicles on Public Roads.
3. Consider approval on second reading a Media Production Planning and Permitting Ordinance.

***Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Ray to approve the consent agenda as read. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

#### **IX. OLD BUSINESS –**

1. Lift from the table an appointment to the Griffin-Spalding County Hospital Authority to fill the unexpired term of Charles Releford.

***Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Hawbaker to lift from the table an appointment to the Griffin-Spalding County Hospital Authority to fill the unexpired term of Charles Releford. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

William Wilson, County Manager, advised that Larry Hodges who resides at 1727 Cardinal Drive has been recommended for appointment to this Board. He is a retired hospital administrator and has worked with Henry Healthcare, Southern Regional Medical Center, Griffin-Spalding Hospital and the Medical Center of Macon. The form has not been signed.

***Motion/Second by Miller/Hawbaker to appoint Larry Hodges to the Griffin-Spalding County Hospital Authority to fill the unexpired term of Charles Releford.***

Commissioner Ray advised that he has been talking with the retired Fire Chief from the City of Griffin, Mr. Willie Henley about taking this position and he has yet to give Commissioner Ray an answer. He requested to table the appointment.

Chairperson Johnson advised that she doesn't personally know Mr. Hodges, she stated that his name has been in the book for quite some time and when she called and talked with him he was still very interested in serving on the Authority.

***Commissioner Hawbaker withdrew his second and the motion died for lack of a second.***

***Motion/Second by Ray/Hawbaker to table the appointment the Griffin-Spalding County Hospital Authority to fill the unexpired term of Charles Releford. Motion carried 4-1 (Miller).***

**X. NEW BUSINESS -**

1. Consider approval on first reading an Ordinance amending the Motor Vehicles and Traffic Code Part VII, Chapter 1, Section 7-1002 to reduce the speed limit on Head Road to 25 m.p.h.

Mr. Wilson stated that this request has been reviewed by the Sheriff's Department and he has recommended reducing the speed on this road to 25 m.p.h. Staff recommends approval on first reading this ordinance.

***Motion/Second by Ray/Flowers-Taylor to approve on first reading an Ordinance amending the Motor Vehicles and Traffic Code Part VII, Chapter 1, Section 7-1002 to reduce the speed limit on Head Road to 25 m.p.h. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

2. Consider renewal of contract with Sullivan & Ogletree, P.C. to provide indigent representation in State Court and Juvenile Court and to provide Guardian Ad Litem services for delinquent matters in the Juvenile Justice system for the Fiscal Years 2018, 2019 and 2020.

Mr. Wilson stated that our contract with Sullivan & Ogletree expires at the end of this fiscal year and he had requested that Sullivan & Ogletree give the County a renewal on these contracts. You have copies of recommendations from both the State and Juvenile Court judges to renew these contracts. These contracts have also been reviewed by the new State Court Judge Thacker who has approved these contracts. Staff recommends renewal of these contracts. Mr. Wilson advised that this group has been providing these services to the indigent citizens of Spalding County for the last 16 years.

***Motion/Second by Miller/Flowers-Taylor to approve renewal of contract with Sullivan & Ogletree, P.C. to provide indigent representation in State Court and Juvenile Court and to provide Guardian Ad Litem services for delinquent matters in the Juvenile Justice system for the Fiscal Years 2018, 2019 and 2020. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

3. Consider approval of an updated master plan for the Fairmont/Heritage Park as recommended by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission.

Mr. Wilson stated that T.J. Imberger, Superintendent of Parks and Public Grounds and Kelly Leger, Superintendent of Leisure Services are present to answer any questions the Board may have with regard to this request.

T.J. Imberger then presented a conceptual Master Plan with relation to

all of the items that were voted on by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission. He advised that there could be further changes once actual construction on the items begin. There are some challenges with this project, especially at Fairmont where there is a lot of rock, so the location of some of the items may move a little bit. He stated that what is being presented is a concept of the items at the facilities.

Mr. Imberger advised that the Board was presented with two plans for these facilities. He stated that the only difference in the two plans is the center of the plan there is a Middle Building in one of the plans that is omitted in the alternate plan. With that exception the plans are essentially the same.

Mr. Imberger then reviewed the plans and advised that there are approximately 1.5 to 2 miles of greenways and walkways are included in the plans for these facilities. There are also plans for additional sidewalks to connect the greenways.

Mr. Wilson advised that any work that has been done on the "Middle Building" indicated on the plans whether the building remains or whether it is torn down the asbestos abatement and lead paint abatement had to be done. These abatements had to be done whether we keep the building or not.

Mr. Imberger advised that the project can start, and whatever is decided regarding the "Middle Building" is not going to have any effect on the progress of this project.

Chairperson Johnson asked when the decision regarding the building would be made.

Mr. Wilson projected that the decision should be made within the next six to nine months.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that originally the Park and Recreation Advisory Commission had hoped to keep the community center there; however due to the limited funding it may have to be taken out of the plan. She further stated that if the Housing Authority is able to provide the funding needed to restore this building for community rooms they have been included in the plan. We should know within six to nine months if that funding will become available. The remainder of the work will go as planned and by the time they get over to that building we should have an idea if the funding is going to be available. The Park and Recreation Advisory Commission voted to accept the concept of both plans as presented.

Commissioner Miller asked why they were eliminating the softball field.

Kelly Leger explained that when citizens rent the pavilions they like to plan activities and having the softball field limits the options available to these citizens. It is felt that having a multi-use field at this location would be better usage of the field because it could be used for soccer, football or arts and crafts, a spring fling or a fall festival if the field is multi-use.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor added that the park next to the A.Z. Kelsey School is the location of the first colored swimming pool in Griffin and the Park located next to that location was known as the Head Park

Area and it was named for the Head Family.

***Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Ray to approve both the updated master plan concept and the alternate plan for the Fairmont/Heritage Park as recommended by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission pending notification of final funding for the projects. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

## **XI. REPORT OF COUNTY MANAGER**

- The GRPA 4<sup>th</sup> District Banquet is going to be held on Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup> in Riverdale, Georgia. Parks and Recreation will be receiving several awards at this event and have invited the Commissioners to attend. Please let Kathy know tomorrow if you will be able to attend.
- Early voting for the November 8<sup>th</sup> General Election began and will run through Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. People were lined up with the employees arrive at the office this morning and at one time the line stretched all the way down to the Park & Rec doors.
  - ✓ Saturday voting will be available on Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
  - ✓ The Office of Elections and Voter Registration will be opened for extended hours Tuesday, October 25<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday November 1<sup>st</sup> and on Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> the offices will be open until 7:00 p.m. on those dates. Mr. Wilson advised that he has asked Ms. Colling to let us know every morning the number of voters who cast votes on the previous day.
- The Atlanta Regional Commission will hold Walk & Bike Friendly workshop on November 2, 2016 from 9am – 1:30 PM at the Courthouse Annex Room 108.
- The Archway Young Professional Meeting is scheduled for October 20, 2016, 5:30-7:00 pm, at Intent Yoga.
- Senior Fishing Day will be October 25<sup>th</sup> at Wyomia Tyus Olympic Park for individuals 50 and older. It will run from 8:30 a.m. until noon.
- Veteran's Day Program is November 11<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM Veteran's Memorial Park.
- Christmas Parade is December 3, 2016 at 6PM
- Public Works reported today that all eight of the In-Rem house we had scheduled for this year have been disposed of and they will complete

the grass tomorrow on the eight lots that were demolished. They did this in two weeks and did a great job. He wants to thank the City of Griffin for their assistance in landfill fees, he thanked Chad Jacobs and his department and T.J. Imberger and his department. We kept up with the costs for these actions on facility dude and we will be filing liens against these properties. He advised that he has already asked Mr. Jacobs to prepare another list for possible demolition.

- Tomorrow the Community Image and Communication Group will meet at the UGA Griffin Campus Student Learning Center from 4-5 PM.
- Spalding County Employee Appreciation Event is scheduled for Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, at Wyomia Tyus Park. This is a Wellness Committee event. There will be fishing from sunrise to 11:00 a.m. Lite refreshments will be provided by Paragon Consulting, bring your family. A disc golf tournament begins at 8 a.m., you can register online through RecOne.

## **XII. REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Commissioner Donald Hawbaker**- No comment.

**Commissioner Gwen Flowers-Taylor** – Wanted to thank Public Works for getting out to North 9<sup>th</sup> Street and getting that street cleaned up. She stated that she is totally at a loss as to how we can keep the County clean. We do have littering laws, but we haven't been able to enforce them. She feels that this is something that we really need to work on and she is hoping that over the next few months we can figure out some way to better utilize the resources we have available to us to keep the streets in the County clean.

**Commissioner Raymond Ray** – Extended an Atta boy to Wendy Law and Kathy Gibson for the County Newsletter for the employees. A lot of work went into that newsletter and he wanted to thank them for doing such a great job.

**Commissioner Bart Miller** – Wanted to know where we stand on the calcium chloride for dirt roads.

Mr. Wilson advised that calcium chloride has been applied to roads in District 5 and in District 4 as a test. He stated that he has heard from the residents of District 5 that it is working. He further stated that the gentleman who had requested it in Commissioner Miller's District had called to say that it was working great in his area as well.

Commissioner Miller asked Mr. Wilson to check on applying the calcium chloride on Westmoreland Road. He advised that there are some residents out

there who have breathing problems and this application would help in reducing the amount of dust from the road. That road needs to have the trash picked up, the road scraped, the ditches cleaned out and if possible the application of the calcium chloride to reduce the dust.

**Chairperson Rita Johnson** stated that Archways participated in the Mike Kendall show on Monday and they had an opportunity to talk about what we do, the retreat and the projects that are currently underway in the community.

### **XIII. CLOSED SESSION**

Chairman Johnson requests an Executive Session for discussion or deliberation on the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary actions or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a county officer or employee as provided in O.C.G.A. 50-14-3(6).

***Motion/Second by Johnson/Ray to enter into an Executive Session for discussion or deliberation on the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary actions or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a county officer or employee as provided in O.C.G.A. 50-14-3(6) at 6:54 p.m. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

***Motion/Second by Ray/Hawbaker to adjourn closed session at 7:28 p.m. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

***Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Ray to resume open session at 7:29 p.m. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

***Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Ray to approve the new employment contract for the County Manager as discussed. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

### **XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

***Motion/Second by Miller/Ray to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 p.m. Motion carried unanimously by all.***