

After Agenda

Board of Commissioners of Spalding County
Regular Meeting
Monday, October 3, 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 3, 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, 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 Raymond Ray.
- IV. **PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS**
 1. Consider Proclamation "nunc pro tunc" honoring Haisten-McCullough Funeral Home on their 100th year of serving the families of Griffin, Spalding County and surrounding communities in their time of need.

William Wilson, County Manager, advised that Commissioner Hawbaker presented the Proclamation at the Hasten-McCullough Funeral Home during their anniversary celebration last month.

Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Miller to approve the Proclamation Nunc Pro Tunc honoring Haisten-McCullough Funeral Home on their 100th year of serving the families of Griffin, Spalding County and surrounding communities in their time of need. Motion carried unanimously by all.

- I. **PRESENTATIONS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** - None.
- II. **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.

Peter Phelps, 804 Dusky Sap Court, Griffin, Georgia, President of the Spalding County Pickleball Association, Inc. (SCPA).

Lindsay Lancaster, 1026 Amicolola Court, Griffin, Georgia.

David Main, 812 Eagle Drive, Griffin, Georgia.

All expressed their appreciation to the Board of Commissioners, Parks and Recreation Personnel, the Spalding County Manager and Administrators and Paragon Consulting for all the work that has been done in support of the Pickleball Project.

III. MINUTES -

Consider approval of minutes for the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Extraordinary Session and the September 19, 2016 and the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Zoning Public Hearing on September 22, 2016.

Motion/Second by Ray/Miller to approve the minutes for the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Extraordinary Session and the September 19, 2016 and the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Zoning Public Hearing on September 22, 2016. Motion carried unanimously by all.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA-

1. Consider approval on second reading an ordinance amending the FY 2017 Budget Ordinance to provide for prior year encumbrances.

William Wilson, County Manager advised that the Consent Agenda could be voted on in its entirety, but all of the items would need to be read for consideration.

2. 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 as follows:

- Amelia Road - Beginning at Locust Grove Road and traveling north for a distance of 2 miles (to the end of the pavement) reduce posted speed to 35 miles per hour.
- Amelia Road - Beginning 2 miles north of Locust Grove Road (where the pavement ends) to the county line for a distance of 1 mile reduce the posted speed to 25 miles per hour on the unpaved portion of this road.
- Apple Road - Beginning at Sam Solomon Road and traveling west for a distance of 0.4 miles to Amelia Road, reduce the posted speed to 25 miles per hour on this unpaved road.
- Sam Solomon Road - Beginning at the Dead End and traveling north for a distance of 1.5 miles to Apple Road, reduce the posted speed to 25 miles per hour on this unpaved road.

3. 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 Bates Road, Deason Street and Vickery Drive from 35 M.P.H. to 25 M.P.H.

Motion/Second by Ray/Miller to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously by all.

V. OLD BUSINESS – None.

VI. NEW BUSINESS -

1. Consider bids for Pickleball Complex to be located at Wyomia Tyus Olympic Park.

Mr. Wilson stated that we have gone through two bid processes on this project. Brian Upson with Paragon Consulting is here this evening should the Board have any questions regarding the process. Headley Construction was the low bid on the second bid process and they value engineered the project to arrive at a total budget of \$1.533 million for the Pickleball facility.

This price includes a total 18 courts, 4 covered courts that will have a padded surface and incorporated the other changes that needed to be made. The major change you will note is that originally the plan called for 12 covered courts, that number has been reduced to 4. There is a concession area, areas for storage, areas for an office and there is a very large overhang to provide shading. The price also includes restrooms and changing rooms. Staff is recommending Headley Construction in the amount of \$1,326,655.55. There is one item that was deducted, that staff is requesting be added back to the project which is matching the roof of the covered courts with the blue roofing to match all of the other buildings at Wyomia Tyus Olympic Park and this will add \$2,000 to the price of construction.

Mr. Wilson stated that the total price is \$1,533,000 which includes engineering costs, surveying costs, the costs for items that Parks and Recreation will install and this includes landscaping and irrigation that the County will be installing. He advised that this is a 2016 SPLOST project and bonds were issued for this project.

Mr. Wilson then advised that the original budget for this project was \$957,000. The budget developed by Paragon is \$1.45 million. As you know that we sold our bonds at a premium, which means that we received more than face value for the bonds. The bonds generated over a \$1 million premium which means that we have \$1 million in excess of the amount required for the projects based on the estimates at the time of the SPLOST referendum that we can make available for any bonded project. Staff is recommending that we utilize a portion of this \$1 million to make up the difference in the projected amount and the actual amount it will cost to build this facility.

Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Ray to consider bids for the Pickleball Complex to be located at Wyomia Tyus Olympic Park.

Commissioner Ray asked what the total amount for the Pickleball facility is for consideration tonight. He has heard several amounts, all in excess of the projected \$957,000 and would like to know the total being requested for the project.

Mr. Wilson advised that the total budget for Pickleball if the Board approves it this evening, will be \$1,533,114.31. That includes construction of the Pickleball facility, design and engineering fees, architectural fees, testing fees, construction management fees along with materials, furniture, fixtures and equipment and it includes irrigation and landscaping of the facility.

Commissioner Miller then asked why there is a \$.5 million difference in the proposed project budget and the actual cost for the project. The initial projection for this project was \$957,000 and we are \$.5 million over the projected costs. Commissioner Miller expressed his concern that this is \$.5 million that is being taken away from other projects to accommodate this project.

Mr. Wilson advised that the original design anticipated:

1. The County would be doing all of the work.
2. A linear design for the complex which will not work on the footprint of the location where the Board voted to put the facility.
3. Soil conditions that have been encountered on the site.
4. Lighting for the courts came in much higher than anticipated and the only courts to be lighted are the four that are covered.

Design of this project has drastically changed due to the topography, soil conditions and other items that were beyond our control. One thing that we have not been afforded the opportunity to do in the past is the preliminary design and engineering for a project prior to the SPLOST. We have to base our estimates on the best estimates that can be determined at the time. We do not have extra money to hire someone to do soil testing to make sure the soil is good before we even talk about building a facility. We have to base our best estimates on the cost of previous projects.

Staff has been fortunate that every project that have been completed to date on this SPLOST, with the exception of the Pickleball facility, has come in under budget. Mr. Wilson then added that the additional \$500,000 was coming from bond proceeds, not from the sales tax. The money from the bonds has to be utilized for those bonded projects, it is not taking anything away from the SPLOST funds that were not bonded projects.

Commissioner Miller reiterated his concern over the need for roads to be paved in Spalding County and attention being given to the unpaved roads in the County. He stated that he is not against the Pickleball facility, but he does have a problem with the cost of the facility.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that although she sees Commissioner Miller's concerns regarding the cost of the facility, the citizens of the County voted for this facility and it is the Board's responsibility to make sure that the facility is built. This is a project that has the potential to bring tourism dollars into the community. She stated that we are fortunate that there is bonded money available for this overage, otherwise this would be a moot conversation.

Commissioner Hawbaker added that not only did the Board feel this facility would be a boost to tourism but the experts in the tourism division of the Georgia Department of Economic Development stated the very same thing on page 83 of their report back to the City of Griffin and Spalding County. The report stated that the new Pickleball facility would be a "game changer" in the boost of sports tourism in Spalding County.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor added that she is very pleased with the work that Paragon Consulting has done with reducing the cost of the project and she is confident that as project manager they will make sure that the County gets the best value for the dollars spent.

Chairperson Johnson stated that she believes that the economic impact of this facility could be tremendous. She stated that this is a lot of money, but she feels the potential return on the investment is possible. She was also glad to learn that the school system and the children of Spalding County will be included in the implementation of this sport and this facility will provide another form of recreation for the youth in our County.

Motion carried 3-2 (Miller/Ray).

2. Consider approval of Outside Amplification Permit from Union Baptist Church, 1405 North McDonough Road, for their annual Fall Festival to be held on October 31, 2016 from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Mr. Wilson advised that the permit had been reviewed by Community Development and the Sheriff's Department and staff recommends approval of the permit.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Miller to approve the Outside Amplification Permit from Union Baptist Church, 1405 North McDonough Road, for their annual Fall Festival to be held on October 31, 2016 from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously by all

3. Consider approval of final plat for Kristian Estates Phase 1 (minor subdivision).

Mr. Wilson advised that this is a minor subdivision and that all the criteria has been met and staff recommends approval of this final plat.

Motion/Second by Ray/Miller to approve the final plat for Kristian Estates Phase 1 (minor subdivision). Motion carried unanimously by all.

4. Consider request from State Court Judge-Elect Thacker and Solicitor Howell to transfer the position of Victim Advocate from the State Court budget to the Solicitor's Budget.

Mr. Wilson stated the Victim Assistance Program has been administered through the State Court Judges Office since Judge Esary has been in office. With the election of a new judge in State Court and appointment of a full time Solicitor General, Judge Thacker and the Solicitor General would like to see this position moved to the Solicitor's Office. This is a budgeted position in State Court and this is a change in budget to move the funding and the position from the State Court budget to the Solicitor's budget. This person will be housed adjacent to the Solicitor on the second floor of the courthouse.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor asked how the Solicitor's Office would be able to better utilize this individual.

State Court Judge-Elect Thacker stated that the Victim Advocate is also the Victim Service Coordinator and is responsible for speaking to the court on behalf of victims. These functions are very similar or parallel to the Solicitor General's office who is the deciding voice in whether a case is prosecuted, reduced or changed. The Solicitor General and the Victim Advocate positions are parallel and in most jurisdictions those two positions work together.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Hawbaker to approve the request from State Court Judge-Elect Thacker and Solicitor Howell to transfer the position of Victim Advocate from the State Court budget to the Solicitor's Budget. Motion carried unanimously by all.

5. Consider approval of contract with Morgan Dental Services, LLC to provide dental services to inmates at the Correctional Institute.

Mr. Wilson stated Morgan Dental Services, LLC currently provides dental services to the Spalding County jail. The contract with the previous dental provider has ended and the CI has requested that we contract with Morgan Dental Services, LLC to provide dental care for the inmates. Mr. Wilson advised that the money for equipment needed to provide dental services in house was included in the CI's budget for this year. He also stated that by servicing these needs in house, the County will realize a significant savings over having to transport and provide security for inmates to receive these services off site.

Motion/Second by Miller/Ray to approve of contract with Morgan Dental Services, LLC to provide dental services to inmates at the Correctional Institute. Motion carried unanimously by all

6. Consider recommendation from Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission to partner with Southern Crescent Cycling Association to develop a mountain bike trail at the Quilly Street Property.

Mr. Wilson stated this was approved at the last Park and Recreation Advisory Commission meeting. This is a park that will be a good fit with the proposed type of trail. Staff recommends approval.

Commissioner Miller asked how much the trail was going to cost.

Mr. Wilson advised that in tax money, there would be no expense. Staff is applying for a grant and the match on the grant will utilize impact fees.

Commissioner Ray asked if there was any estimate on how many meters/feet of trail will be installed.

T.J. Imberger, Superintendent of Parks and Grounds advised that the plan is to start with a family trail which will be a one mile accessible trail for all ages and all types of bikes and progress from that point. Some trails are as much as 20-25 miles in length, but they do not anticipate that amount of mileage at this facility. He anticipates that it will expand to 5 or 10 miles of bike trail.

Commissioner Miller asked how Southern Crescent Cycling Association would be involved in this project.

Mr. Imberger advised that this would be a project much like the Griffin Disc Golf Association projects; however, he feels that a majority of the labor and construction will be performed by this group. This group is based in Griffin, but cycle outside of Griffin because there is no accommodation for them here. They are wanting to build something here, so they don't have to leave the County to enjoy their sport.

Motion/Second by Ray/Flowers-Taylor to approve the recommendation of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission to partner with Southern Crescent Cycling Association to develop a mountain bike trail at the Quilly Street Property. Motion carried unanimously by all.

7. Consider appointment to the Griffin-Spalding County Hospital Authority to fill the unexpired term of Charles Releford.

Mr. Wilson advised that currently there has been no one placed in the book for consideration and requested that this item be tabled until the next meeting.

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

8. 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 Henry Burch Drive to 25 m.p.h.

Mr. Wilson stated that this amendment is being made at the request of Commissioner Flowers-Taylor. We have monitored the speed and traffic in the

area and the Sheriff's Department has also visited the area and recommends the speed limit be reduced to 25 m.p.h.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Ray 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 Henry Burch Drive to 25 m.p.h. Motion carried unanimously by all.

9. Consider approval on first 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.

James Fortune, County Attorney, stated that this Ordinance is a result of the number of four wheelers operating in the right of way on County roads. This activity causes damage to the shoulders of the road creating washes and damage that could result in failure of the road beds. This Ordinance basically prohibits the use of four wheelers on the road right of ways.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Hawbaker to approve on first 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. Motion carried unanimously by all.

10. Consider approval on first reading a Media Production Planning and Permitting Ordinance.

Mr. Wilson stated that due to the frequency of requests from filming companies and studios the demand on staff to meet with the individuals, agree on pricing for locations, arranging for road closures and drafting contracts for rental of buildings, parking lots, etc. this ordinance was developed.

Spalding County has never charged a permitting fee for these services; however, other entities such as the City of Griffin, Fayette County, Henry County, Butts County and other counties all have media ordinances that call for some type of permit fees and gives detailed specifications so that every situation and company is treated in the same manner and charged the same fees.

The ordinance before you will put these permitting procedures and fees in codification form. It has been reviewed by Community Development and Mr. Fortune and staff recommends approval.

Motion/Second by Miller/Flowers-Taylor to approve on first reading a Media Production Planning and Permitting Ordinance. Motion carried unanimously by all.

VII. REPORT OF COUNTY MANAGER

- This year's Festival of Lights is scheduled for Tuesday, November 22nd, 2016 at Airport Road Park.

- Spalding County Senior Center Stormwater Agreement with the City of Griffin has been signed and returned to the City for their approval.
- Commissioner Hawbaker has requested a work session on Tax Allocation Districts. Need dates for the work session and suggested a meeting in January of 2017.
- Unsafe housing abatement update. Today we tore down the first house of 2016. It was in the Highland Mill area. We had scheduled to abate 12 houses and 4 were torn down by the property owners. The Board has approved abatement of the remaining 8 properties and those will come down during the month of October.
- Jo Ellis, Senior Center Supervisor, passed away on Thursday, September 29th. Jo was very special to the County and to our Seniors.
 - The Senior Center will hold a “Celebration of Life” for Jo on Wednesday, October 5, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
 - Visitation will be on Friday, October 7, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Conner Westbury Funeral Home
 - Her funeral service will be on Saturday, October 8th at 10:00 a.m. at Oak Hill Baptist Church.
- The Marquis de Lafayette Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution are planning a commemorative service for Revolutionary War Soldier Solomon Strickland on Saturday, October 22, 2016 at a location off of Smoak Road. A proclamation will be presented to the family at the October 17th meeting.

Commissioner Hawbaker volunteered to present the Proclamation to the Strickland Family at the commemorative service on Saturday, October 22nd.
- Zombierfest is this weekend, Saturday, October 8th, from 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. 6th Street will be closed between Bank Street and East Solomon.

VIII. REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Donald Hawbaker- He wanted to echo Mr. Wilson’s comments about Jo Ellis, it is a huge loss for the county and he sends out his prayers for her family.

Commissioner Gwen Flowers-Taylor – Stated that since Mr. Wilson had been able to work with the City of Griffin on the storm water. Would it be possible to talk to the City of Griffin about a special rate for irrigation rate for all of the parks?

Mr. Wilson advised that the Water Authority meets next Wednesday and the County does have a special rate for the wastewater treatment plant, he stated that he would have added to that agenda to ask the City if we can get the same rate for irrigation in the parks. He added that the contract negotiations are coming up with the Water Authority and the City of Griffin he will also make it a part of that new contract where any irrigation that the County has will be at a reduced rate.

Commissioner Raymond Ray – Also wanted to echo every ones sentiments regarding Jo Ellis, she was a Spalding County Sweetheart and she will be sorely missed.

Commissioner Bart Miller – Wanted to share his condolences regarding Jo Ellis, she will be greatly missed.

He stated that he didn't want to appear as the "bad guy" on the Pickleball project; he voted for the \$957,000 project and he realizes that the costs have been reduced, but he is depending on the facility to be low maintenance and he will be watching to make sure that this facility remains low maintenance.

Chairperson Rita Johnson extended condolences to the Ellis family on the loss of Ms. Jo.

Chairperson Johnson stated that she would be giving an update on Main Street and the new jobs that have been established at the next meeting.

IX. 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 Ray/Flowers-Taylor to enter into closed session at 7:10 p.m. Motion carried unanimously by all.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Hawbaker to adjourn closed session at 7:49 p.m. Motion carried unanimously by all

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Ray to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Motion carried unanimously by all.