

MINUTES

The Spalding County Board of Commissioners held their Extraordinary Session in Room 108 of the Courthouse Annex, Monday, March 21, 2016, beginning at 6:00 p.m. with Chairperson Rita Johnson presiding. Commissioners Bart Miller, Raymond Ray and Gwen Flowers-Taylor were present. Commissioner Donald Hawbaker was 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 Chairperson Rita Johnson.

II. **INVOCATION** led by Commissioner Gwen Flowers-Taylor.

III. **PLEDGE TO FLAG** led by Commissioner Bar Miller.

IV. **PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS**

1. Consider Proclamation "nunc pro tunc" honoring The Red Cross and proclaiming the Month of March 2016 as Red Cross Month in Spalding County.

Eric Mosley, Assistant County Manager, advised that he had presented the Proclamation on behalf of the Board of Commissioners to the American Red Cross on Saturday, March 19, during the smoke detector campaign. Approximately a month ago the County had a fatal fire on School Road, the Red Cross and volunteers went out into that area on Saturday and installed approximately 150 smoke detectors.

Motion/Second by Ray/Miller to approve the proclamation "nunc pro tunc" honoring the Red Cross and proclaiming the Month of March 2016 as Red Cross Month in Spalding County. Motion carried unanimously by all.

2. Dr. Randy Peters, President of Southern Crescent Technical College to give an update on the college's plans for the Ellis Crossing Shopping Center property purchased with 2008 SPLOST proceeds.

Dr. Peters explained why it is taking so long to get this project underway. He advised that although SCTC is in their second year of the Film School, Gov. Nathan Deal decided to charter the Georgia Film Academy with its own set of rules and guidelines. They then had to back track on their program which changed the plan and direction they initially had for this project.

Dr. Peters then reviewed the plans for the old Ellis Crossing shopping center. The buildings will be divided into four distinct areas: The Film School, Conferencing Space, Facilities and Operations, Economic Development and Adult Education.

The Film School will be housed in the old Winn Dixie building. The Film Program will consist of Set Building, a Film Studio, Four Classrooms, Faculty Offices, Paint and Carpentry Shop, Lighting and Grip, Hair and Make-up, Kitchen and Cantina.

Next to the Film School will be a small conference space and lobby area that everyone in the facility will be able to utilize. The Facilities and Operations Vice president and his staff will be relocated into this complex to provide oversight and supervision of the area. There will also be a loading dock to accommodate the complex.

The next section will be designed for Economic Development, SCTC is an Economic Development arm of the state government and they do contract training on a reimbursable basis. This area will include a Pearson Vue Testing Lab, Waiting Room, Administrative Suite, Computer Lab, Training Room and Industrial Lab.

The remaining section of the complex will be designated for Adult Education and will provide Classrooms, Computer Lab. Waiting Area, Administrative Suite, Conference area and Student Break area.

They are using the Construction Management Process for this project which is the same process they used when building the structure that houses the nursing program. Under this process, the architect and contractor work together to provide quality construction by the most cost effective means. The first priority for this project will be the film school, he advised that they anticipate the cost to complete this portion will be approximately \$5 m, which is the remainder of the 2008 SPLOST funding budget. They will look to private funding and the State of Georgia to complete the remaining renovations. They plan to open the Film School location in November 2016.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor asked if skills such as editing and camera operation would be part of the curriculum.

Dr. Peters advised that they would be adding those items to the curriculum, but initially and for the last two years, they have centered on teaching courses in the current curriculum that will complement the industry such as electrical, plumbing, framing carpentry and cosmetology.

Mr. Mosley asked Dr. Peters to explain the link between this program and the College and Career Academy.

Dr. Peters stated that many of the high schools in our county and in the Career Academy service area have expressed interest in training for the film industry. In the Griffin-Spalding area through the College and Career Academy there have been a number female students wanting to go into hair and make-up for the film industry. They will be placing these students in the cosmetology program at SCTC to give them an early start in that program and upon completion of that program they can go into the film school to learn how to utilize the skills they have acquired within the film industry. Faculty has also been discussing doing some of the Grip and Production Assistant training as a component of the College and Career Academy.

3. The Archway Community Image Work Group would like to update the Board on the "IN Spalding" branding campaign they are developing.

Kristen Miller, Archway Partnership Professional, gave an overview of the Archway Mission. She stated that there is an Executive Committee that oversees the entire process and advised that Spalding County, City of Griffin and the Griffin-Spalding Board of Education are the three funding partners for this initiative. Additionally they have other stakeholders involved in the process they are the Chamber of Commerce, the Development Authority, Spalding Regional Hospital, UGA Griffin, Southern Crescent Technical College, NAACP and Sun City.

Griffin-Spalding is the twelfth Archway Community in the State of Georgia. Archway Partnership Professionals are in a community for a specific amount of time to help launch initiatives and to help make them sustainable. Once the initiative becomes sustained, Archway will then graduate the community. Current graduates of this program are Colquitt, Clayton, Glenn and Whitfield Counties.

Although the Executive Committee oversees the entire process, the real work happens in the Issue Work Groups. The Issue Work Groups are made up of citizens that live, work and have a passion or interest in a particular priority area. These groups meet periodically to talk about what the priorities and issues are within

the community, then the issues are presented to UGA to see what resources can be brought into this priority area to help solve the issue, or citizens within the work group can suggest solutions.

The five priority plans being focused on for the Griffin-Spalding area are: Community Health and Wellness, Education for a Quality Workforce, Community Development to Enhance the Quality of Life, Community Image and Communication, and Intergovernmental Collaboration.

Ms. Miller stated that tonight they are presenting a potential recommendation from one of the Issue Work Groups, the group is the Community Image and Communication Group. She then introduced Clay Davis who is on the Archway Executive Committee as a representative of Sun City and is also a member of the Image and Communication Work Group.

Clay Davis advised that they have had approximately four meetings with 20 to 25 people attending each meeting. The meetings were open to the public and the citizens were invited into the session to talk about image and communication. The group realized that everyone who attended wanted the community to have a better self-image, opposed to a better external image of what we are doing inside of Spalding County. They felt that the dated reference of "Old Mill Town" is an image of the past that needed to be gotten away from and started a dialog on what we wanted the image to be. From there the group asked the University of Georgia to do some research on branding and they went out to four counties and brought back examples of what those counties had done in the branding arena. The group realized that branding is a multifaceted endeavor, it is more than just "what we look like", it's how we approach the citizens and how we change a self-image.

Mr. Davis stated that as the group has moved through the process they have kept four things in mind: There are a number of good things going on inside of Spalding County that many of the citizens simply do not understand. Watch out for funding constraints. Recommendations must be visually appealing. Lastly, this must be a coordinated effort between the parties involved. Mr. Davis then asked of the Board that while viewing the presentation, they focus not only on the strategic view, but on the tactical view as well.

Brian Miller stated that he is a native of Griffin, Georgia, born and raised, he graduated from Griffin High School in 2000. He advised that Griffin has been his home except for a few years when he attended college, lived in Italy and then in New York City. He returned to the Griffin area in 2011 with the plan to remain only 6 months, but during that time he began to get involved in the community. He stated that he was on the committee and was part of the branding initiative for the City of Griffin.

Mr. Miller then stated that at the last meeting of the Community Image and Communications Work Group they talked about the joint branding initiatives between communities like Rome-Floyd County, Metter-Candler County and how those counties and cities are really working together in all areas of their community. He stated that he was compelled to see how the City of Griffin and Spalding County could work together not only behind doors in meetings, but how as two separate entities to show a unified face to the citizens.

Mr. Miller stated that when the City of Griffin explored their branding initiative in 2011 and 2012 they found that Griffin was many things to many different people and the "Growing

Together” tag line represents growing together as a community. He then discussed how he came up with the “In” branding initiative for the joint branding of the two entities. He stated that the citizens have a tendency to focus on the things that Henry and Fayette Counties have that Griffin and Spalding County don’t have instead of focusing on the many things that the City of Griffin and Spalding County do have to offer.

Mr. Miller then demonstrated how the “In” in Spalding and the “In” in Griffin could work together jointly by focusing on, and highlighting the things that we do have to offer the residents. That is what we want people to think about: Live IN Spalding County (Sun City Peachtree), Play IN Spalding County (Spalding County Parks and Recreation), Learn IN Spalding (Griffin-Spalding County School System), Invest IN Spalding (Griffin-Spalding Development Authority) and Work IN Spalding County (Caterpillar) and the numerous other industries in the county. He advised that the City liked the “In” concept so much they have already began using it at the City of Griffin: It’s IN Griffin (Bank Street Cafe), and It’s IN Griffin (Safehouse Coffee) many people right here in Griffin do not know that Safehouse Coffee is one of the top 10 coffee shops in the country.

Mr. Miller stated that this was not a City initiative, he had approached this undertaking as a private citizen. He advised that as he sat in the meeting and saw what other communities were accomplishing through joint branding and how great their initiatives have been in moving those communities forward, he wanted to do the same for Griffin and Spalding County. So instead of asking what he could do, he went home and the joint branding presented tonight is the end result.

Mr. Miller stated that he is passionate about his home town and making a difference in this community. He advised that this is one way that he can use his talents in helping to move us forward not only as a City but jointly with the County. He advised that the Chamber of Commerce has already contacted him and asked to take the Griffin-Spalding and put Chamber of Commerce under it so they can start using it as their new logo.

Kristen Miller stated that the Executive Committee has not voted on or approved this concept. She wanted to advise the Board of this concept since the Archways Committee has been getting inquiries wanting to utilize the concept.

V. PRESENTATIONS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Consider approval of financial statements for the eight months ended February 29, 2016.

Jinna Garrison, Administrative Services Director, stated that she was available to answer any questions the Board may have regarding the financial statements.

Chairperson Johnson asked if SPLOST funding would be included in the financial statements.

Ms. Garrison advised that it will be included next year under new funds would be a 2015 SPLOST Capital Projects Fund and a 2015 SPLOST Debt Service Fund.

Motion/Second by Ray/Miller to approve the financial statements for the eight months ended February 29, 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.

No one signed up for citizen comments.

VII. MINUTES -

1. Consider approval of minutes for the March 7, 2016 Spalding County Board of Commissioners Special Called Meeting, the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Executive Session and the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Miller to approve the minutes of the March 7, 2016 Spalding County Board of Commissioners Special Called Meeting, the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Executive Session and the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting. Motion carried unanimously by all.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA- None.

IX. OLD BUSINESS – None.

X. NEW BUSINESS-

1. Consider approval of employee health insurance renewals for FY 2017.

Matt Bidwell from MSI reviewed the health insurance renewal options for the Board.

Option 1 is the County will go to a one choice plan instead of two. The one choice option will cover medical costs at 90% after the deductible is met and it will have a medical deductible of \$3,750. The premium for family coverage will be reduced from the current \$244 per pay period to \$200 per pay period.

Mr. Bidwell did advise that reducing the premium for family coverage may cause an increase in employees signing up for family coverage; however, he doesn't anticipate it being a significant increase in number.

Option 2 would be eliminating the medical premium for the individual employee. He advised against this option as it would be very costly to the County. He also advised that according to staff, the only complaints regarding the medical insurance premiums had come from employees with family coverage.

Mr. Bidwell then reviewed the Health Risk Assessment incentive bonus for employees who qualified and advised that the dental insurance premium would remain the same for the upcoming year.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Ray to approve the Option 1 as presented for medical coverage, to include the HRA rewards program and the dental coverage as presented. Motion carried unanimously by all.

2. Consider Outside Amplification Permit request for Stepping Stones Educational Therapy Center located at 141 Futral Road to host a Fundraiser on April 30, 2016 from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Kathy Gibson advised that the permit request had been

forwarded to Community Development and to the Sheriff's Department and that both departments had approved the permit request.

Motion/Second by Miller/Ray to approve the Outside Amplification Permit for Stepping Stones Educational Therapy Center located at 141 Futral Road to host a Fundraiser on April 30, 2016 from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously by all.

3. Consider approval on first reading Ordinance 2015-005 amending Part VII, Chapter 1, Section 7-1004 to provide for a no parking on Quilly Street from Elm Street to the Griffin City Limit.

Mr. Mosley stated that this request has been approved by the Sheriff's Department and Code Enforcement. He advised that many of the residents in this area are utilize the street as overflow parking which blocks the through lanes for traffic and emergency vehicles.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor asked where the people attending ball games would park. She expressed her concern that the parking lot at those ball fields has not been restriped in quite some time and asked how many cars the lot would accommodate.

Mr. Mosley stated that he didn't have that information, but would be happy to inquire.

Commissioner Miller asked how many teams will be playing on that field this year. He stated that at one time there were approximately 50 teams that utilized that location.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Ray to table this item to the first meeting in April to allow staff the time to advise the parking load. Motion carried unanimously by all.

4. Consider approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Griffin to establish the Griffin/Spalding Business and Tourism Association.

Mr. Fortune stated that he and City Attorney Drew Whalen reviewed the document and determine that it needed to be reworked. He stated that they should have the document revised and ready for the first meeting in April.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Ray to table until the first meeting in April to allow legal representation to review the agreement. Motion carried unanimously by all.

XI. REPORT OF COUNTY MANAGER

- ✓ Toppan USA, Inc. will have their Grand Opening on Thursday, April 7, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- ✓ The Archway Follow-Up Retreat has been scheduled for Monday, August 29, at the Spalding County Senior Center Banquet Hall.
- ✓ The tentative date for the 2017 Archway Retreat is Thursday and Friday, February 2nd and 3rd, 2017. Mr. Wilson will reserve Big Blue for those dates
- ✓ Spalding County is sponsoring a Blood Drive on Tuesday, March 29th from 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
- ✓ The Housing Authority and the Salvation Army have approached us

about partnering with them in a park facility adjacent to new “The Oaks” complex on Meriwether Street.

- ✓ The Archways Partnership is hosting a Griffin-Spalding Existing Industries Appreciation Breakfast on Wednesday, April 20th from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. at the Griffin-Spalding Welcome Center.
- ✓ A Public hearing is scheduled for Monday, March 28, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. on the Pickleball Facility to be located at Wyomia Tyus Olympic Park. The meeting will be held at Room 108 of the Annex Building.
- ✓ The Final Public Meeting for the City-County Comprehensive Transportation Plan is scheduled for Tuesday, April 5, 2016 from 4:00 -7:00 p.m. in Meeting Room 108 of the Spalding County Annex.

XII. REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor thanked Kristen Miller, Clay Davis and Brian Miller for coming in and presenting on the rebranding. She stated that we are doing a lot of different things and working well with the other governmental entities. She feels that the face that we have presented to the community in the past is one of division and she thinks that it is a good idea and is beneficial for the city and the county to present a united face to the public.

She expressed her thanks to William Wilson and Eric Mosley for getting the beavers out of one of her constituent’s ravine in her yard.

Commissioner Ray thanked Officer Jim Green in Code Enforcement for handling the issue that he presented to him in a quick and professional manner.

Commissioner Ray wanted everyone to know that on March 24th at 6:00 p.m. at the Welcome Center there will be a GOP candidate forum. So if you want to hear what the candidates have to say you can attend this forum, it is open to the public.

Commissioner Miller stated that he had known Brian Miller for many years, he knew him when he participated in football at Parks and Recreation. He stated that he and his family are good people and he is glad that Brian has come back to the Griffin area.

Chairperson Johnson thanked Dr. Randall Peters, Kristen Miller, Clay Davis and Brian Miller for presenting this evening. She stated that both presentations were excellent and she had learned a lot with regard to both initiatives.

XIII. CLOSED SESSION – None.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion/Second by Miller/Flowers-Taylor to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m. Motion carried unanimously by all.

/s/ _____
Rita C. Johnson, Chairperson

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