

MINUTES

The Spalding County Board of Commissioners held their Regular Meeting in Room 108 in the Courthouse Annex, Monday, August 1, 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, Stephanie Windham for 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 Bart Miller.

IV. PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

1. Consider approval of a Proclamation commending Salaam Seafood, Inc. and the Amin Family for 30 years of service and commitment to the citizens of Spalding County.

Mr. Daa'ood Amin stated that he wanted to thank the Board and Spalding County citizens for their support for his business and his family over the past 30 years they have been in business.

Proclamation

SALAAM SEAFOOD, INC. CELEBRATES 30 YEARS IN BUSINESS

WHEREAS: Salaam Seafood, Inc., is a small business in Griffin, Georgia incorporated on May 22, 1986; and

WHEREAS: Salaam Seafood, Inc., is located at 503 E. Broadway Street where it has operated for 30 years; and

WHEREAS: Salaam Seafood, Inc. continues to be owned and operated by Daa'ood and Susie Baldwin-Amin, two of the original owners; and

WHEREAS: Salaam Seafood, Inc. has some of the best seafood in Spalding County, with a customer base that expands throughout the State of Georgia; and

WHEREAS: Salaam Seafood, Inc. has employed over 100 full and part time employees during its 30 years in business; and

WHEREAS: Salaam Seafood, Inc. is the oldest family owned and operated seafood restaurant in the City of Griffin and in Spalding County; and,

WHEREAS: Salaam Seafood and the Amin Family continue to foster economic growth and development in our community and are to be commended for their achievement; and,

NOW, THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED We, the Spalding County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim Saturday, August 6, 2016 as

“Salaam Seafood Day”

in Spalding County, Georgia and encourage the citizens to recognize Salaam Seafood and to continue to support the Amin Family owned business that has been serving this community for 30 years.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the County to be affixed this, the first day of August, in the year of our Lord, two thousand sixteen.

Rita C. Johnson, Chairperson

William P. Wilson, Jr., County Clerk

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Hawbaker to approve the Proclamation commending Salaam Seafood, Inc. and the Amin Family for 30 years of service and commitment to the citizens of Spalding County. Motion carried unanimously by all.

2. Consider approval of a Proclamation commending Georgia Family Connections for 25 years of service and commitment to the citizens of our State.

Regina Abbott and Jewel Walker-Harps were present to accept the Proclamation on behalf of Georgia Family Connections.

Proclamation

“25th Anniversary of Georgia Family Connection”

WHEREAS: In the early 1990’s, conditions for children and families in Georgia were among the worst in the nation, according to the Annie E. Casey Foundation’s KIDS COUNT report; and

WHEREAS: Georgia Family Connection was established in 1991 by Governor Zell Miller and the Georgia General Assembly to connect and convene key community members committed to improving the well-being of children and families; and

WHEREAS: By bringing everyone together, communities are able to better understand and address their most pressing concerns, and apply a disciplined approach to collaboration that allows them to make effective use of existing resources and services; and

WHEREAS: Georgia Family Connection is the only statewide network of its kinds in the country with partners in all 159 counties dedicated to the health and well-being of families and communities; and

WHEREAS: For a quarter century, Georgia Family Connection has been working at the local and statewide levels toward measurable better outcomes for the citizens of our state; and

WHEREAS: Spalding County Family Connection was founded in 1994 and is a member of the statewide Georgia Family Connection network; and

WHEREAS: The Spalding County Board of Commissioners is grateful to the Spalding County Family Connection for its service to the children and families of our community; and

WHEREAS: 2016 marks the 25th Anniversary of Georgia Family Connection, and it is fitting and proper that we recognize the accomplishments and years of service of this distinguished network.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SPALDING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS that this body commends Georgia Family Connection for 25 years of service and commitment to the citizens of our state and expresses our sincere gratitude to Spalding County Family Connections for its dedicated work connecting partners and improving the lives of children and families in our community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the County to be affixed this, the 1st day of August, in the year of our Lord, two thousand sixteen.

Rita Johnson, Chairperson

William P. Wilson, Jr., County Clerk

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Ray to approve the Proclamation commending Georgia Family Connections on 25 years of service and commitment to the citizens of Spalding County. Motion carried unanimously by all.

3. Spalding County would like to recognize the accomplishments of local community leader, Erykah Vinson, for the organization and leadership of the Griffin Samaritans Community Development Group for the facilitation of 3rd Annual Back to School Explosion.

Eric Mosley, Assistant County Manager, advised that through the efforts of Ms. Erykah Vinson and The Griffin Samaritan they collected and distributed back to school supplies to approximately 1,000 children who will be starting back to school this week.

V. PRESENTATIONS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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.

Bill Burns, 830 Blossom Court, Sun City, Griffin, GA. Spoke regarding building codes in Spalding County and problems experienced in Pod 30 of Sun City Peachtree with the water lines.

Peter Phelps, 804 Dusky Sap Court, Sun City, Griffin, GA. Spoke with regard to Pickleball complex.

VII. MINUTES -

1. Consider approval of minutes for the July 18, 2016 Spalding County

Board of Commissioners Extraordinary Session and the July 28, 2016 Spalding County Board of Commissioners Zoning Public Hearing.

Motion/Second by Ray/Miller to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2016 Spalding County Board of Commissioners Extraordinary Session and the July 28, 2016 Spalding County Board of Commissioners Zoning Public Hearing. Motion carried unanimously by all.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA – None.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

1. **Application #16-02Z:** William H. Shapard, Jr., Sally Shapard Peek, Emily Shapard King and Robert P. Shapard, III, Owner - SW North Griffin, LLC, Agent - 3470 North McDonough Road (2 acres located in Land Lot 79 of the 2nd Land District) - requesting a rezoning from R-2, Single Family Residential and AR-1, Agricultural and Residential, to C-1, Highway Commercial.

Motion/Second by Ray/Miller to approve on second reading Application #16-02Z: William H. Shapard, Jr., Sally Shapard Peek, Emily Shapard King and Robert P. Shapard, III, Owner - SW North Griffin, LLC, Agent - 3470 North McDonough Road (2 acres located in Land Lot 79 of the 2nd Land District) - requesting a rezoning from R-2, Single Family Residential and AR-1, Agricultural and Residential, to C-1, Highway Commercial. Motion carried unanimously by all.

2. Lift from the table and consider appointment of a committee for the naming of the Fire Department Administration Building as per the Policy for the Naming of Facilities and Erecting Plaques, Monuments, Major Markers and Artwork.

Commissioner Hawbaker appointed **Helen Grayson.**

Commissioner Miller appointed **Mike Crowder.**

Chairperson Johnson appointed **Greg McClarin.**

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor appointed **Joann Phinazee.**

Commissioner Ray advised he would provide his appointment tomorrow.

X. NEW BUSINESS -

1. Consider request for Outside Amplification Permit from Bonita Gates to hold family campout and BBQ at the 408 Ellis Dairy Road, Griffin, Georgia beginning at 3:00 p.m. on August 12, 2016 and ending at 3:00 p.m. on August 14th, 2016.

William Wilson, County Manager, advised that Ms. Gates contacted the office earlier today to advise that this event has been cancelled and there is no need for this permit.

2. Consider not to exceed bids for construction of a Pickleball Facility at Wyomia Tyus Olympic Park.

Mr. Wilson stated that in an attempt to complete this project in time for a tournament, we worked with Gordian Group, who is a State contract group, to see what could be done under State contracts. The original SPLOST budget for the Pickleball Facility was \$957,000. The design submitted to the Board of Commissioners by Paragon was estimated at \$1,447,000.

The County received three 'not to exceed' bids from the Gordian Group, the low bid was \$2.1 million and we have been negotiating with the low bidder, Astra. We have received their suggestions for items to be deducted from their bid. If we took all of their deductions, their bid would still be in the \$1.7 million range for a drastically changed facility from what we anticipated.

Mr. Wilson stated that staff recommends that we reject all of the bids received and that we move ahead with bidding out this project as we would any other project and bring the bids back to the Board at the September 19th meeting.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor asked why the bids for the project were so much higher than the projected cost presented by Mr. Phelps and his group during the SPLOST presentations. She asked if there was a possibility the project could be broken down in stages and one part of the project constructed now with another portion constructed at a later date.

Commissioner Hawbaker then reviewed the time line of the SPLOST proposals and the progress since the time this all started and his frustration over the time it has taken to get this project going. He further stated that the whole process with Gordian Group has been a major disappointment. He advised that he will be voting to put this out to public bid to see what that process will generate since the Gordian process was a complete disappointment.

Commissioner Ray stated that this project started out at \$957,000 and has grown to \$2.4 million through this process. We cannot afford that based on the SPLOST that was passed by the citizens of this community. We cannot accept a tournament that has been arranged by anyone other than representatives of the Spalding County government as Spalding County cannot accept the liability of such a tournament if the facility is not ready to host the event. Commissioner Ray then asked T. J. Imberger and Brian Upson to advise why the cost of this project went up so drastically.

T. J. Imberger, Superintendent of Public Grounds, advised that he isn't sure if the price went up or if the appropriate amounts were allocated by the Pickleball Association when it was presented to the Board for consideration. We were tasked with getting the project off of paper and into reality at the chosen location.

Brian Upson, President of Paragon Consulting, stated that he didn't know where the original numbers for this project came from, but at the meeting held with the Pickleball Association his company was given a layout which was a long rectangular configuration. The site location they were presented was not conducive to that configuration so they had to break the design up in to 8 courts and 4 courts with the remaining courts to the rear of the property. What Paragon presented was site specific. We were instructed to cover the layout for the 8 court and the 4 court, so we included covers for those two portions of the project. We were then tasked with designing a concession stand which led to part of the delay in getting the design back because architectural design for the concession stand was not part of the original request. He stated that he cannot speak to the original scope of the project, he can simply advise what his firm was charged with designing.

Mr. Upson advised that he believed the price arrived at by the Pickleball Association was based on the original configuration of the project; however, when you “lay it on the ground” at the proposed location utilizing the conditions presented, the configuration had to be broken up to accommodate the areas available for construction.

Mr. Upson further stated that his firm had arrived at an estimate for the construction of this project by consulting with people who construct these type of facilities. They solicited recent contract prices on grading, storm drainage, water, sanitary, sewer and they came up with an estimate of \$1.44 million for this project.

He advised that they are willing to take the project and publically bid it with their current plans and include some alternates to allow for a review of the total costs as well as other variations to the cost such as covering 8 courts instead of 12. So if there is a need to reduce the price, then we will be able to do it within the bid documents.

Chairperson Johnson asked that the Pickleball Association look at this as a setback. We may not get the tournament you are wanting right now, but by going through this process we are going to get the same Pickleball Facility that you first envisioned. She stated that she believes once we have the facility the tournaments will happen, people are going to come.

Motion/Second by Ray/Flowers-Taylor to reject all bids received on the Pickleball Facility to date. Motion carried unanimously by all.

Motion/Second by Ray/Flowers-Taylor to bid out the current plans as prepared by Paragon for the Pickleball Facility at Wyoming Tyus Olympic Park. Motion carried unanimously by all.

Motion/Second Ray/Flowers-Taylor that we notify the tournament director that, at this time, we are not in a position accept the tournament identified in March of 2017 as the Atlantic South Regional. Motion carried unanimously by all.

3. Consider approval of final plat for Sun City Peachtree Subdivision - Pod 10.

Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Flowers-Taylor to approve the final plat for Sun City Peachtree Subdivision Pod 10. Motion carried unanimously by all.

4. Consider acceptance of Right-of-Way Deed for Beautyberry Drive and Bellflower Court Pod 10 (Sun City Peachtree Subdivision).

Motion/Second by Ray/Hawbaker to accept the Right-of-Way deed for Beautyberry Drive and Bellflower Court, Pod 10, Sun City Peachtree Subdivision. Motion carried unanimously by all.

5. Consider approval of final plat for Sun City Peachtree Subdivision - Pod 11.

Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Ray to approve the final plat for Sun City Peachtree Subdivision – Pod 11. Motion carried unanimously by all.

6. Consider acceptance of Right-of-Way Deed for Foxtail Court, Burberry Court, Petunia Drive and Marigold Court Pod 11 (Sun City Peachtree Subdivision).

Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Ray to accept the Right-of-Way deed for Foxtail Court, Burberry Court, Petunia Drive and Marigold Court, Pod 11, Sun City Peachtree Subdivision. Motion carried unanimously by all.

7. Consider approval of final plat for Sun City Peachtree - Pod 12.

Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Ray to approve the final plat for Sun City Peachtree Subdivision – Pod 12. Motion carried unanimously by all.

8. Consider acceptance of Right-of-Way Deed for Salvia Court, Pod 12, (Sun City Peachtree Subdivision)

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Ray to accept the Right-of-Way deed for Salvia Court, Pod 12, Sun City Peachtree. Motion carried unanimously by all

9. Consider approval of final plat for Sun City Peachtree Subdivision - Paperwhite Drive and portion of Del Webb Boulevard.

Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Flowers-Taylor to approve the final plat for Sun City Peachtree Subdivision – Paperwhite Drive and a portion of Del Webb Boulevard. Motion carried unanimously by all.

10. Consider acceptance of Right-of-Way for Paperwhite Drive and portion of Del Webb Boulevard (Sun City Peachtree Subdivision).

Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Flowers-Taylor to accept the Right-of-Way for Paperwhite Drive and a portion of Del Webb Boulevard in the Sun City Peachtree Subdivision. Motion carried unanimously by all.

11. Set a date for a Public Hearing to establish street lighting districts for Sun City Peachtree - Pods 10, 11, 12 and Paperwhite Drive and Del Webb Extension Phase I.

Mr. Wilson suggested that a Public Hearing be set for August 15th, 2016 which will give us enough time to advertise and consider it at the next Board meeting.

Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Ray to set August 15, 2016 as the date for a Public Hearing to establish street light districts for Sun City Peachtree, Pods 10, 11, 12 and Paperwhite Drive and Del Webb Extension Phase I. Motion carried unanimously by all.

12. Consider 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 Brashier Street from 35 M.P.H. to 25 M.P.H.

Mr. Wilson advised that this is a request from residents in this area who have contacted Commissioner Ray. The Sheriff has visited the street and evaluated the request and has recommended that the speed limit for this road should be reduced.

Motion/Second by Miller/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 Brashier Street from 35 M.P.H. to 25 M.P.H. Motion carried unanimously by all.

13. Consider cancellation of the September 5, 2016 Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting due to the observance of the Labor Day Holiday.

Motion/Second by Miller/Ray to cancel the September 5, 2016 Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting due to the observance of the Labor Day Holiday. Motion carried unanimously by all.

14. Chairperson Johnson would like to give an update on the Griffin-Spalding Archway Project.

Chairperson Johnson advised that a list of projects for each committee had been attached to the Agenda and all of the projects have been updated. The Archways Executive Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 3rd. She stated that the rebranding of "In Spalding" is moving along. She also reminded everyone that the six month intergovernmental retreat is scheduled for Monday, August 29th, at the Senior Center. She encouraged everyone to attend.

15. Griffin-Spalding Business & Tourism Association update by Commissioners Flowers-Taylor and Hawbaker.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that she did not get to attend the entire meeting; however, she was able to view most of the Rosenwald Tourism Spotlight presentation and she felt that it was a well thought out and well put together film reflecting the African American experience that more people need to understand. She added that she was amazed at the affect that the Rosenwald schools had on the South.

Commissioner Hawbaker stated that it was a very moving film and if you missed it, it was an excellent documentary on an immigrant who came to America, lived the American dream and shared his fortune throughout his life and after his death.

Commissioner Hawbaker added that Commissioner Flowers-Taylor is the Spalding County Representative on the new Griffin-Spalding Business & Tourism Association and he was appointed as the Sun City Peachtree Representative to this Association. They had their first organizational meeting on July 25th over at the Chamber of Commerce. Daa'ood Amin was voted in as Chairman of the Association and Bill Thielman was voted in as the Treasurer. He added that they had hired a part-time assistant for Kenda Woodard.

XI. REPORT OF COUNTY MANAGER

- SPLOST Collections - Update. For the month of June \$737,364.54 he is happy to report. We had estimated \$700,000 per month and in the three months of collections it was estimated \$2.1 million would be collected and actual collections come to \$2,082,833.89.

- The City of Griffin Leadership Development Institute – 2016 Program Schedule starts August 18th. The City always allows County employees to participate in this program. It is a very good leadership development program and this year we have our Deputy Warden, Anthony Washington, Code Enforcement Officer, Mike Heath, Accounts Payable Tech, Tina Ackiss, Lead Telecommunicator, Stephanie Phillips, Nutrition Services Program Supervisor, Jacoya Clinkscales and our Water Department Administrative Assistant, Charlie Tillman will be attending this year.
- One Time Special Return from ACCG Workers' Compensation Fund Chairman Johnson and he will be accepting a check on Wednesday, August 3rd at 4:30 p.m. for approximately \$29,811.
- Griffin-Spalding 6-Month Intergovernmental Mini-Retreat at the Senior Center on August 29 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- Commissioner Flowers-Taylor asked that we start discussions on the Village Node Concept due to the changes that were recently made to the future land use map. Proposed Meeting on August 15, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. to start discussions and explore Village Node Concept 101 because many of the current Commissioners were not here when the Village Node Concept was developed and do not know the history behind it and the Comprehensive Plan.

Commissioner Hawbaker, Flowers-Taylor and Ray advised that they would not be able to attend on that date.

Mr. Wilson suggested September 19th at 9 a.m. as a tentative date for this meeting.

- Need to set a date for a "Light Up The Fields" event at the Soccer Fields at Wyomia Tyus Park. Would like to do it this month, it will have to be at 9:00 at night.

Consensus of the Board is to have the "Light Up The Field" event August 15th at 9:00 p.m. after the next Board Meeting.

- Tourism Project Development Report was received and he sent everyone an electronic copy of the report.
- Senior Nutrition Program celebrates 1 year of service. Wednesday, August 3rd, we will be celebrating at the Senior Center at 11:00 a.m. and all of the Commissioners are invited to attend.
- 2015 Spalding County – 2015 Sales Ratio Study results released we were at 39.52 out of a possible 40.
- Governmental Affairs, we are hosting on Thursday morning at the Senior Center at 7:30. Denise Quick from the United Way will be our speaker.
- Tomorrow at Power Lunch the DOT Commissioner Russel McMurry at UGA Griffin Campus at 11:45 will be speaking.

XII. REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS

Donald Hawbaker

- Congratulate Wavepoint Griffin on the opening of their resource center for veterans located in the old Courthouse.
- Thank Public works for the awesome job they continue to do on a variety of projects they continue to be very responsive. He stated that he appreciates

what William Wilson, Eric Mosley and Tim Crane do on a daily basis to address the problems that arise in the County.

- Congratulate all of those who won in the recent run-off elections and wish them luck in the November General Election.

Gwen Flowers-Taylor

She stated that although she hasn't had an opportunity to review the Tourism Project Development Report she hopes that the report talks about the old jail. It is a piece of history that we have in Spalding County. It is available, the building is well preserved and is a significant part of our history.

Suggestion that the welcome center be made more visitor friendly and she feels it was a good recommendation to make those items that are of historical significance to Spalding County be more accessible to the general public.

Excited about the potential tourism resources in the County.

Raymond Ray

Attaboys to Public Works for removing the tree on Meadow Lane Drive there was an issue and it was responded to very quickly.

Congratulations to all the candidates who won the run-off election.

School starts back this week, there will be children out there and please exercise all of the caution that you can in school zones and around bus stops.

Bart Miller

No comments.

Rita Johnson

Regarding the Pickleball we have suffered a setback, but it is not the end of the game.

Mr. Wilson stated that he has been amazed by the number of people visiting the historic land marks in Spalding County as a direct result of the new Pokemon Go app. There are now people in the cemetery at all hours of the day attempting to catch Pokemon. The City of Griffin is now offering t-shirts for those who get the most points during the week and register them. The City also has something on their Facebook page. There are people learning about the history of Spalding County by playing Pokemon Go.

XIII. CLOSED SESSION – None.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion/Second by Ray/Miller to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 p.m. Motion carried unanimously by all.

/s/ _____
Rita C. Johnson, Chairperson

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