

After Agenda

**Board of Commissioners of Spalding County
Extraordinary Session
Monday, March 16, 2015
6:00 PM
Meeting Room 108, Courthouse Annex**

The Spalding County Board of Commissioners held their Extraordinary Session in Room 108 of the Spalding County Courthouse Annex, Monday, March 16, 2015, beginning at 6:00 p.m. with Chairman Rita Johnson presiding. Commissioners Bart Miller, Raymond Ray, Gwen Flowers-Taylor and Donald F. Hawbaker were present. Also present were County Manager, William P. Wilson Jr., Assistant County Manager, Eric Mosley, Janice Wallace for County Attorney Jim Fortune, and Kathy Gibson, Executive Secretary to record the minutes.

- I. **OPENING (CALL TO ORDER)** by Chairman Rita Johnson.
- II. **INVOCATION** led by Commissioner Donald Hawbaker.
- III. **PLEDGE TO FLAG** led by Commissioner Raymond Ray.

Motion/Second by Ray/Flowers-Taylor to amend the Agenda under New Business by adding an item #7 to consider approval of a grant request from the Spalding County Fire Department to apply for the FY 2015 Georgia Homeland Security Grant Program. Motion carried unanimously by all.

Motion/Second by Ray/Flowers-Taylor to amend the Agenda under Old Business by adding an item #1 to consider approval of the Resolution establishing a Moratorium on the Acceptance of Special Exceptions Applications for the Approval of Shooting Ranges and Shooting Training Facilities as a Home Occupation and the Issuance of Permits for Shooting Ranges and Shooting Training Facilities within Spalding County, Georgia. Motion carried unanimously by all.

IV. **PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS**

- 1. Consider proclamation designating March 23, 2015 as "Advo-kids CASA Day" in Spalding County.

Nadine Tift, Executive Director of Advo-kids CASA, accepted the award and stated she really did appreciate, on behalf of the Advo-kids CASA Association, the support of the Board and the Proclamation.

Motion/Second by Ray/Miller to accept and approve the proclamation designating Monday, March 23, 2015 as "Advo-

kids CASA Day” in Spalding County. Motion carried unanimously by all.

V. PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – None.

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.

Jennifer Burris, 208 N. Highland, stated that she has recently returned to the Highland neighborhood where as a child she felt safe and secure. Ms. Burris stated that most of the residents currently on the street are elderly and do not have the resources to have old furniture and appliances disposed of and as a result many of the homes have old appliances and furniture under carports and moved out onto the porches.

Ms. Burris requested a “Clean Up” day for the area and asked if the County could supply dumpsters and possibly inmates to help remove the debris for the carports and off of the porches. Ms. Burris stated that she would like to once again be able to say that she is proud to live in the Highland area and would like for the neighborhood to return to where people could go out and sit on their porch swings, people who took care of their neighbors’ children and enjoy the area.

Tim Jones, 650 Hamil Road, stated that he is working with some of the youth in the county and is here on their behalf. He introduced Rev. Chester Milner a retired local pastor and Rev. Robert Hunt youth leader of the Young Men of tomorrow. The youth have expressed an interest in being able to obtain summer jobs. They are asking that the Board let them know if there are any job opportunities available for these young people.

Chester Milner, 1531 Pineview Road, spoke in favor of summer jobs and suitable summer programs that would keep the youth occupied during the summer. He added that if there are any type of grants available for some structured summer programs to aid anyway that they can to provide jobs for these youth that they would work hard within their group to help in any way they can. Rev. Milner stated that they have been meeting with the youth in Spalding County trying to involve them in programs to keep them in school and out of gangs.

Rev. Robert Hunt, 605 High Falls Park Road, Lamar County. He stated that he is tired of losing our youth to the streets. Rev. Hunt wanted to know if it

were possible to have some of the gyms at the recreation centers opened to the youth at night for basketball games.

VII. MINUTES

- A. Consider approval of the Minutes for the February 16, 2015 Extraordinary Session, February 26, 2015 Zoning Public Hearing, March 2, 2015 Regular Meeting and March 2, 2015 Executive Session of the Spalding County Board of Commissioners.

Motion/Second by Ray/Miller to approve the Minutes for the February 16, 2015 Extraordinary Session, February 26, 2015 Zoning Public Hearing, March 2, 2015 Regular Meeting and March 2, 2015 Executive Session of the Spalding County Board of Commissioners. Vote carried unanimously by all.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Consider approval on second reading an ordinance establishing a speed limit of 25 miles per hour on Tri County Road.

William Wilson, County Manager, advised that this is the second and final reading and the signs would be erected this week.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Miller to approve on second reading an ordinance establishing a speed limit of 25 miles per hour on Tri County Road. Motion carried unanimously by all.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

1. Consider approval of the Resolution establishing a Moratorium on the Acceptance of Special Exceptions Applications for the Approval of Shooting Ranges and Shooting Training Facilities as a Home Occupation and the Issuance of Permits for Shooting Ranges and Shooting Training Facilities within Spalding County, Georgia.

Commissioner Ray advised that the Moratorium was approved by the Board of Commissioners at their Public Zoning Meeting on February 26, 2015, this is the Resolution establishing the Moratorium.

William Wilson stated that the Moratorium would go into effect today and would expire on June 30, 2015.

Motion/Second by Ray/Flowers-Taylor to approve the Resolution Establishing a Moratorium on the Acceptance of Special Exceptions Applications for the Approval of Shooting Ranges and Shooting Training Facilities as a Home Occupation and the Issuance of Permits for Shooting Ranges and Shooting Training Facilities within Spalding County,

Georgia. Vote carried unanimously by all.

X. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider request from Griffin Spalding Hospital Authority to approve grant funding to the Spalding County Board of Health for flu shots.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Ray to approve the request from the Griffin Hospital Authority to approve grant funding to the Spalding County Board of Health for flu shots. Motion carried unanimously by all.

2. Consider approval of Rural Fire Defense Cooperative Lease Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding between the Georgia Forestry Commission and Spalding County.

Mr. Wilson advised that this is an annual Memorandum of Understanding between Spalding County and the Georgia Forestry Commission. It states that the Georgia Forestry Commission will assist us in fire prevention, fire containment and fire control in the county should we request their assistance.

Motion/Second by Ray/Flowers-Taylor to approve the Rural Fire Defense Cooperative Lease Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding between the Georgia Forestry Commission and Spalding County. Motion carried unanimously by all.

3. Consider request from Spalding County Fire Department to apply for FY 2014 Assistance to Firefighters Grant for a Driver Simulator.

Motion/Second by Ray/Miller to approve the request from the Spalding County Fire Department to apply for FY 2014 Assistance to Firefighters Grant for a Driver Simulator.

Glen Polk, Deputy Fire Chief, Administration, advised that under the Fire Prevention and Safety Area of the Assistance to Firefighter Grant, this is an eligible project for these funds. This simulator is similar to the ACCG simulator that has been coming to the County periodically. It will be set up as a Fire Department apparatus; however, with additional software it can be made available to other departments. Dep. Chief Polk also advised that the funding would provide for training of personnel to operate the equipment.

Motion carried unanimously by all.

4. Consider purchase of a replacement generator for the Gary Reid Fire Station utilizing Emergency Management Performance Grant Funding.

Jamie Clark, Deputy Fire Chief, Operations advised that Doyle Electric was the low bid for the project and has been very responsive to additional requests. The generator brand quoted but has been utilized at the CI for years without a problem.

Motion/Second by Ray/Flowers-Taylor to approve the purchase of the generator for the Gary Reid Fire Station from Doyle Electric, low bidder, in the amount of \$34,315.00 utilizing Emergency Management Performance Grant Funding. Motion carried unanimously by all.

5. Consider recommendation from Public Works Department to increase fee charged for installation of driveway pipes.

Mr. Wilson advised that the increase in fee is the first such increase since 2004. He stated that since 2004 the cost of the pipes have remained the same; however, since that time the cost of the dirt and materials to cover the pipes has increased dramatically. Mr. Wilson advised that the county currently has 15", 18" and 24" pipes that are installed and the standard length for these pipes is 20'. Mr. Wilson stated that the increase in rates reflect the FEMA utilization rates for the equipment and the actual costs for manpower and materials used to install the pipe.

Motion/Second by Ray/Miller to approve the recommendation of the Public Works Department to increase the fee charged for installation of driveway pipes in the amount of: 15" pipes from \$800 to \$1,200; 18' pipes from \$820 to \$1,300 and 24" pipes from \$880 to \$1,400.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor advised that she was no comfortable charging the citizens based on FEMA rates because the County owns the equipment and the taxpayers paid for the equipment. She further stated that the FEMA rates are based rates if the equipment was being rented. She advised that she feels the rates may be more than what the equipment is actually costing us. Commissioner Flowers-Taylor then asked if this is a service that the county is required to provide.

Mr. Wilson advised that it is not a service that the county is required to provide. The county chose to provide the service to insure that all of the driveway pipes throughout the county meet the requirements established by the county. He further stated that the land owner, contractor or individual can come in and purchase the pipe and have someone else install it, then the pipe would have to be inspected by public works to insure proper installation.

Commissioner Hawbaker expressed his concern over the rate not being increased since 2004 and asked that every department research their fees

for services to make sure that the actual costs for the services are being covered by the amount being charged for the service. He stated that he is wondering why it has taken so long and what other services within the county for which we are not being property reimbursed.

Motion carried 4-1 (Flowers-Taylor).

6. Consider 800 MHz Intergovernmental Agreement proposed by City of Griffin.

Mr. Wilson stated that in Paragraph 2 of the Intergovernmental Agreement it states:

“The County is the owner and operator of an 800 MHz radio communications system (hereinafter the “system”) having sufficient capability of serving all public service communication needs of both the County and City, including use in dispatching public safety communications through the County’s E911 Emergency Dispatch Network. . .”

Mr. Wilson asked that the paragraph be amended to end after “... needs of both the County and City”. The remainder of the paragraph is fine. He feels that any reference to 911 should be removed from the contract, as the 911 Center and E911 is a separate function from 800 MHz

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor then suggested that after the “(hereafter the “system”) that it state:

“having sufficient capability to serve all of its clients.”

She stated that 911 is a client, the hospital is a client, the Fire Department is a client, the Sheriff’s Department is a client and the City of Griffin is a client.

Consensus of the Board is to remove all reference to 911 from the contract and to revise the sentence to read

“...having sufficient capability to service all the needs of the system users.”

Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Flowers-Taylor to approve the 800 MHz Intergovernmental Agreement proposed by the City of Griffin with the changes discussed for paragraph 2 as discussed. Motion carried unanimously by all.

7. Consider approval of a grant request from the Spalding County Fire Department to apply for the FY 2015 Georgia Homeland Security Grant Program.

Commissioner Ray stated that the FY 2015 Georgia Homeland Security Grant Program and now open to receive applications; however, the deadline for submission is April 2, 2015 and that is why we need to amend the agenda to request approval to submit this grant. The Fire Department plans to purchase a Fire Extinguisher Simulator for \$11,170.65 and 200 CERT Kits for individuals who participate in CERT training this year in the amount of \$7,438.30 bringing the total being requested to \$18,608.95. There is no County match required for this grant.

Motion/Second by Ray/Flowers-Taylor to approve the request of the Spalding County Fire Department to apply for the FY 2015 Georgia Homeland Security Grant in the amount of \$18,608.95. Motion carried unanimously by all.

XII. REPORT OF COUNTY MANAGER

Mr. Wilson stated that he had talked to Matt Bidwell this morning and asked him to get some additional information for consideration by the Board. He advise that he had asked for:

- The number of subscribers on the insurance who met or exceeded the deductible for the past two to three years.
- The number of subscribers who have had zero claims for the last three years.

Mr. Wilson stated that he had recovered an email from Kelly Leger regarding potential Summer Programs. Last year funding for Summer Programs was removed from the Parks and Recreation budget due to the Ramos programs. Kelly has asked that the Program be reinstated and we will present this to the Board with some definitive numbers at the April 6th meeting. Projections are they will be asking for approximately \$9,000. They are projecting a total of 50 children participating, 25 per site, City Park and Fairmont Park. They will be offering the program for \$30 per week, per child and they are planning a six week camp. The program will require a total four camp staff members under the counselor position, two to work at each site.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor suggested the County explore the possibility of obtaining funds through the Work Force Development program to staff the Summer Camp program. She stated that this is regional funding and we should be able hire local youth to staff the counselor positions for the Summer Program.

XIII. REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Hawbaker – stated that he was glad to hear from Mr. Jones and Reverends Milner and Hunt and he does support us finding a way, if at all possible, to assist them in getting idle youth to work. He stated that

he is glad to see men step up and try to redirect and rechannel idle youth time and attention toward things in life that really matter.

Commissioner Hawbaker stated that Ms. Burris spoke about Highland Mill Village and he wanted to commend Eric Mosley and Public works for the work that has been done in the area. He stated that he appreciated them jumping on the Facility Dude request when it came in. He stated that he had received positive feedback regarding Public Work's commitment to excellence and putting that into action.

Commissioner Hawbaker also stated that on March 4th, 2015 it was the 150th anniversary of the second inaugural address of Abraham Lincoln.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that she was troubled by the Sheriff's Department Gang presentation that was made this morning. She stated that she feels that intervention is a better way to deal with some of the problems in the community. She further stated that instead of hiring additional law enforcement officers and outfitting them, she would like to see recreation facilities opened for access by the youth and the money be spent on creating more activities for the youth in the community.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor further stated that she feels that someone should ask the people in the community what they would like to see to make the community better. She also suggested that the Sheriff send someone to the Black on Black Crime in the Community Conference. She stated that this conference is open to all law enforcement and that several employees from Parks and Recreation attended the conference in the past and they came back from that program with ideas on how to get grants.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that she felt the presentation was very informative and she is excited that the County is willing to look at the problem and how to address the issues that are arising. She further stated that there are things that can be done, we simply need to be educated on what is available and avoid having a knee jerk reaction to the problem at hand.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor also inquired into the extra positions at the Sheriff's Department that were discussed during the retreat and the possibility of the money that was allocated for those positions being reallocated to address staffing for the gang taskforce.

Commissioner Ray stated that he would like to give a few Atta boys tonight:

- ✓ One to Public Works for the sign improvement on Lamar County Line Road at the railroad intersection. That was a bad situation, they went out and did everything they could to make that intersection safer.

- ✓ One to the Fire Department for working diligently and taking advantage of grants that are available. You are saving the County money and improving the resources for the Fire Department and the citizens of the county.
- ✓ One to Sheriff Beam, Inv. Tony Little and Special Agent Sam Jones for the presentation this morning and providing us with the information that they presented this morning. As Commissioner Flowers-Taylor said, it was very enlightening and it is something that we need to pay attention to and start working toward a resolution in some manner.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor added that she would like to see the County try to work out some type of Amnesty Day, where we could bring in some roll off containers for the citizens to clean off their carports, porches and clean up their yards. Then Code Enforcement could go in periodically and patrol to make sure that the problem doesn't reoccur.

Commissioner Miller asked for an update on Gainer Road, at the corner, the trailer where there were dogs and junk in the yard.

Mr. Wilson stated that a Facility Dude work order had been entered on the matter and he would have to check and get back to Commissioner Miller with an update.

Commissioner Miller then asked when paving would begin on Carver Road and Moose Lodge Road.

Mr. Wilson advised that he has spoken B.J. Martin who will be taking Anthony Duke's place at the end of the month and he is going to be meeting with Tim Crane this week. He advised that he had told both that it is Priority #1 to get the resurfacing bids out.

Mr. Wilson stated that we have the GSATC (Griffin-Spalding Area Transportation Committee) meeting on Wednesday, March 18th at 1:30 p.m.

Commissioner Miller stated that he wanted to thank Public Works for all of the patching of the roads they have had a full time job for the last three to four months.

Commissioner Miler also requested that someone provide the Board with the information on what it is going to cost the County pay our half of the airport operating expenses for the next three years. He also requested that the Airport Authority be restricted from giving a raise to their employees unless the City and the County agree on it. He stated that every time the City employees get a raise, the airport employees have also gotten a raise and if the County can't give our employees a raise, then we shouldn't give a group that we are funding a raise.

Commissioner Johnson stated she feels the work sessions are working, we are receiving a lot of informative information on matters of which we need to be aware. She further stated that the communication this morning regarding the gangs was something that needed to be said. She stated that the gang issue has been a problem for quite some time and now it has been brought to the forefront for us address. At lease it gives us the opportunity to decide what ne next step should be.

Commissioner Johnson also stated that the group is going to have to work hard toward accomplishing the priorities that were discussed at the retreat and asked Mr. Wilson how soon the curbside garbage pickup issue could be readdressed.

Mr. Wilson advised that he would try to have something for the Board on March 30th. He stated that budgets are due Friday, March 20th, and that he, Eric and Jinna will start going over them on Monday.

XIV. CLOSED SESSION – None.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

***Motion/Second by Ray/Flowers-Taylor to adjourn at 7:23 p.m.
Motion carried unanimously by all.***