

# After Agenda

Board of Commissioners of Spalding County  
Extraordinary Session  
Monday, May 19, 2014  
6:00 PM  
119 E. Solomon Street, Meeting Room 108

The Spalding County Board of Commissioners held their Extraordinary Session in Room 108 in the Courthouse Annex, Monday, May 19, 2014, beginning at 6:00 p.m. with Chairman Samuel Gardner presiding. Commissioners Raymond Ray, Rita Johnson and Bart Miller were present. Commissioner Gwen Flowers-Taylor was absent. Also present were County Manager William P. Wilson Jr., Jim Fortune, County Attorney and Kathy Gibson, Executive Secretary to record the minutes.

I. **OPENING (CALL TO ORDER)** – Chairman Samuel Gardner.

II. **INVOCATION** – led by Commissioner Rita Johnson.

III. **PLEDGE TO FLAG** – led by Commissioner Raymond Ray.

#### IV. **PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS**

1. Consider Proclamation "nunc pro tunc" honoring the Griffin Exchange Club's "2013 Man of the Year" the Honorable Sydney R. Esary.

*Motion/Second by Ray/Miller to Proclamation "nunc pro tunc" honoring the Griffin Exchange Club's "2013 Man of the Year" the Honorable Sydney R. Esary. Motion carried unanimous by all.*

V. **PRESENTATIONS 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.

#### **Robert N. DeVane, 103 Lanbdir Circle, Barnesville, Georgia**

Expressed his concern over news stories that indicated that UGA employees were assigned work that a contractor was actually paid to do. He was also concerned that unlicensed contractors have been allowed to install gas piping at the UGA Experiment Station which later developed a serious gas leak in areas used by students, researchers and the public. This contractor was allowed to skirt the law, endanger the public and, as it appears, submit false billings to the Georgia State taxpayers for that work.

Mr. DeVane asked the Commissioners to intercede on behalf of the taxpayers by ordering a full, fair, criminal investigation into the allegations of wrong doing within the Maintenance Department at UGA Experiment station.

**Sharon Chatham, 1985 N. Walkers Mill Road, Griffin, Georgia**

Ms. Chatham is the manager at Ringgold Grocery and they are applying for a Beer License, she is requesting that the ordinance be changed from 300 feet to 150 feet in there are three dwellings in this area that have previously sold beer and are currently selling beer.

William Wilson, County Manager, stated that the only way to accommodate this request would be to change the County Ordinance, there is currently no provision within the Ordinance for a variance and the previous alcoholic beverage license was allowed to expire and was not renewed. A change in the Ordinance would apply County wide and would not be for this single location.

Chairman Gardner stated that there was a lot of work time and research invested in the new Alcoholic Beverage License Ordinances and any change to the ordinance would be county wide. The Board could not consider the request for a variance because the ordinance does not provide for variances.

**Michael Renew, 500 Aerodrome Way, Griffin, Georgia**

Mr. Renew stated that the Sheriff's Department has asked for the past three years for four extra positions in the Criminal Investigation Unit. He stated that these positions are needed as crime has increased. Mr. Renew requested that the Board look at the Budget again to see if they can't accommodate the cost of these four positions to help the citizens of Spalding County.

**VI. MINUTES**

1. Consider approval of the Minutes for the May 5, 2014 Regular Meeting and the Executive Session on May 5, 2014 of the Spalding County Board of Commissioners.

***Motion/Second by Ray/Johnson to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2014 Regular Meeting and the May 5, 2014 Executive Session of the Spalding County Board of Commissioners. Motion carried unanimous by all.***

**VII. CONSENT AGENDA – None.**

**IX. OLD BUSINESS**

1. Consider approval for a Transportation Program Service Agreement between Spalding County, the City of Griffin and Paragon Consulting Group.

Mr. Wilson advised that this item was tabled at the last meeting. The City of Griffin voted last week to approve this agreement and we are bringing this matter back to the Board for consideration tonight.

***Motion/Second by Ray/Johnson to lift this item from the table for consideration of the Transportation Program Service Agreement between Spalding County, the City of Griffin and Paragon Consulting Group. Motion carried unanimously.***

Commissioner Johnson asked for confirmation that this contract would result in a \$10,000 reduction in the amount paid by the county for this service.

Mr. Wilson confirmed that the County had budgeted \$60,000 for FY2014 for this position and that under this contract the County would only have to pay \$50,000 for the service as contracted through Paragon Consulting Group.

Commissioner Ray asked how many applicants had been interviewed for this position.

Mr. Wilson advised that approximately 15 to 16 applicants have responded to the advertisement for this position and of these applications approximately a dozen were interviewed jointly by himself and Griffin City Manager, Kenny Smith. No successful candidate had emerged from these interviews.

Mr. Wilson advised that the City of Griffin and Paragon have signed the contract and it is ready for consideration by the Board.

***Motion/Second by Ray/Johnson to approve of the Transportation Program Service Agreement between Spalding County, the City of Griffin and Paragon Consulting Group.***

Commissioner Ray stated that there has been a lot of discussion around the recently adopted purchasing ordinance. However, he sees this agreement as a rare opportunity for the citizens of Spalding County based on the need of the community and the cost savings that this agreement represents. This is an option where we can actually help our community instead of hindering it by continuing to search for someone when we have a competent, knowledgeable, experienced person who can fill the slot.

Commissioner Miller stated that he is in favor of the agreement with Paragon, he simply does not like the way that it has been handled. Commissioner Miller expressed his feelings that we spent months establishing the Purchasing Ordinance and here we are not adhering to the Ordinance voted on by the Board.

***Motion carried 3-1 (Miller).***

2. Consider approval of revised contract with Reunited Training & Counseling, Inc., and Good Samaritans Community Development Group, Inc.

Mr. Wilson advised the original contract was for Fairmont Community Center, Ambucs Park and City Park. We were notified last week by Good Samaritans that through their arrangement with the school system they will be continuing their

program at A.Z. Kelsey instead of conducting the program at Fairmont Community Center and that anyone from the community will be welcomed into that program. In addition, they would also like to provide this service at City Park; however, due to there being no air conditioning at Ambucs Park they feel they would not get the participation to justify the program. This group has asked to modify the agreement from the original three locations down to one location at City Park.

Jim Fortune, County Attorney, verified that the only change in the contract is adjustment from three locations to one, the remainder of the contract is unaffected.

Commissioner Miller asked if this group has a contract with the school system and wanted verification that anyone in the Fairmont Community area would be given the opportunity to participate in the program at A.Z. Kelsey.

Mr. Wilson stated that he had not received anything from the Board of Education to confirm that the program will be available at A.Z. Kelsey during the summer at this time no one at the school or from the School System has responded.

***Motion/Second by Miller/Johnson to approve the revised contract with Reunited Training & Counseling, Inc., and Good Samaritans Community Development Group contingent upon confirmation from the school or the school system that they have a valid contract to provide these services at A.Z. Kelsey. Otherwise, the matter will be put on hold and will have to come back before the board at a later time. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

## **X. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Conduct public hearing to consider the establishment of street light district for Sun City Peachtree -Pod 28B.

***Motion/Second by Ray/Johnson to move into a public hearing to establish street light districts for Sun City Peachtree – Pods 28B and 29A. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

No public comments were made.

***Motion/Second by Ray/Johnson to adjourn the public hearing to establish street light districts for Sun City Peachtree – Pods 28B and 29A. Motion carried unanimously by all***

2. Consider approval of street light district for Sun City Peachtree -Pod 28B.

***Motion/Second by Miller/Johnson to approve street light district for Sun City Peachtree – Pod 28B. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

3. Conduct public hearing to consider the establishment of street light district for Sun City Peachtree -Pod 29A.

***Motion/Second by Ray/Johnson to move into a public hearing to establish street light districts for Sun City Peachtree – Pods 28B and 29A. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

No public comments were made.

***Motion/Second by Ray/Johnson to adjourn the public hearing to establish street light districts for Sun City Peachtree – Pods 28B and 29A. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

4. Consider approval of street light district for Sun City Peachtree -Pod 29A.

***Motion/Second by Johnson/Ray to approve street light district for Sun City Peachtree – Pod 29A. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

5. Consider approval of final plat for Sun City Peachtree Subdivision -Pod 31B.

***Motion/Second by Ray/Johnson to approve the final plat for Sun City Peachtree Subdivision – Pod 31B. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

6. Consider acceptance of Right-of-Way Deed for Eagle Drive and Bentgrass Court Pod 31B Sun City Peachtree Subdivision.

***Motion/Second by Miller/Ray to accept the Right-of-way deed for Eagle Drive and Bentgrass Court in Pod 31B of the Sun City Peachtree Subdivision. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

7. Consider approval of revised FY 2014 CSBG Application utilizing \$30,840.21 in carryover funding.

Mr. Wilson stated that we were notified late on Thursday that the Federal Government had approved the utilization of these carryover funds. In April of this year the Board approved the \$119,190 agreement. These additional funds will allow us to restore funding to the Youth and Family Development Program and to increase the funding for Meals on Wheels.

***Motion/Second by Ray/Miller to approve the revised FY 2014 CSBG Application utilizing \$30,840.21 in carryover funding. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

8. Consider approval of a contract with Budget Vet, LLC to provide veterinary services to dogs or cats being held at the Spalding County Animal Shelter.

Mr. Fortune advised that Spalding County recently adopted an Ordinance requiring that any animal adopted from the Spalding County Animal Shelter be spayed or neutered prior to adoption. This contract will provide spay and

nurturing services to the Spalding County Animal Shelter at a reasonable cost. All fees are to be paid by the individuals adopting the animal prior to the animal being released to the new owner.

***Motion/Second by Ray/Johnson to approve a contract with Budget Vet, LLC to provide veterinary services to dogs or cats being held at the Spalding County Animal Shelter. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

9. Consider request of the Parks Department for funding the cost to replace a Snapper ZTR mower that was destroyed by fire last month.

Mr. Wilson advised this is to replace a ten year old ZTR mower that caught on fire and burned. This is an older mower and parts for this mower are only available on the secondary used market. It has been determined that it is cost prohibitive to repair this mower. We have obtained pricing through a Georgia State contract for replacing that mower of \$5999.04. We are requesting that the funding come from the Commissioners contingency, there are sufficient funds in the contingency to cover these costs. If we can get a mower cheaper, we will do so; however we are requesting authorization for up to the \$5999.04.

***Motion/Second by Ray/Johnson to approve the request of the Parks Department for funding to replace a Snapper ZTR mower that was destroyed by fire from the contingency fund in an amount up to \$5999.04. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

10. Consider approval for the Spalding County Human Resource Department to apply for the 2014 ACCG -Group Health Benefits Program Health Promotion & Wellness Grant.

Mr. Wilson advised that this is a grant that the County applies for every year and we have been successful in receiving this grant for the past several years. The funds from this grant are used for our employee Spring into Fitness event which was held last week at Wyomia Tyus Park. The County meets all of the qualifications and staff recommends that the County apply for this grant.

***Motion/Second by Johnson/Ray to approve the Spalding County Human Resource Department applying for the 2014 ACCG – Group Health Benefits Program Health Promotion & Wellness Grant. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

11. Consider approval of agreement with the Association County Commissioners of Georgia Civic Affairs Foundation Inc. for a Georgia County Internship Program Grant in the amount of \$2,000.

Mr. Wilson stated that the Board approved for the County to apply to the ACCG Civic Affairs Foundation for a grant for an Internship. We were awarded that grant that is 200 hours at \$10.00 per hour for an intern. This is a contract with the Foundation for the grant and we will begin advertising immediately.

***Motion/Second by Ray/Miller to approve the agreement with the ACCG Civic Affairs Foundation Inc. for a Georgia County Internship Program Grant in the amount of \$2000. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

12. Consider authorizing funding of May 26, 2014 Memorial Day Holiday for all County employees.

Mr. Wilson stated that he and Ms. Garrison have analyzed the revenues and expenditures for the last 10 ½ months and it appears that the funding will be available to fund the Memorial Day Holiday.

***Motion/Second by Johnson/Miller to consider authorizing funding of the May 26, 2014 Memorial Day Holiday for all county employees. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

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

1. Griffin Spalding Area Transportation Committee meeting will be this Wednesday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, at 1:30 p.m. in Room 108 of the Courthouse Annex.
2. Public Zoning Meeting on Thursday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 6:00 p.m.
3. The College and Career Academy will meet next Tuesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, at the old Taylor Street Middle School Library at 11:30 a.m.
4. The Budget Public Hearing is scheduled for Monday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 5:00 p.m. just before our regular meeting at 6:00 p.m.
5. We had pretty good participation at our Spring into Fitness event.

## **XII. REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Miller** – Commissioner Miller wanted to confirm that there were no promotions and no raises in the FY 2015 Budget.

Mr. Wilson advised that there is a 1% cost of living raise for all elected officials as approved by the State to include County Commissioners. The Tax Commissioner, Board of Elections and the Clerk of Court have a part time position in each department going to full time. There is a new part time position in the Recreation Department and the new Assistant County Manager position.

Commissioner Miller provided a statement that he derived from some of the paperwork he has received from the airport. He highlighted a section that stated as follows:

*“Geometric Standards – Georgia Code 32-9-8 specifies that an airport in existence prior to July 1, 1978, shall not be denied a license because of the failure to meet minimum standards prescribed with regard to geometric layout; however, we strongly encourage the airport to develop a plan to address the following issues in an upcoming project:”*

Commissioner Miller stated that since the Griffin-Spalding Airport was in existence prior to July 1, 1978 why the airport isn't grandfathered in with respect

to the geometric layout.

**Johnson** – Commissioner Johnson wanted to congratulate the graduates from the University of Georgia and the other students that graduate this month.

**Ray** – Commissioner Ray stated that everyone involved in the Relay for Life at the Kawanis Fairgrounds did a good job and he wanted to thank everyone involved and who participated in this event.

He wanted to remind everyone that tomorrow is voting day and asked that everyone please take the time to make your voice heard.

Memorial Day is next week and Commissioner Ray wanted to take a moment to say thank you to all of our Veterans and service members for their past and current service and to anyone contemplating going into a branch of service.

Commissioner Ray wanted to comment on something that Commissioner Miller had addressed. Commissioner Ray would like for there to be a workshop between the City of Griffin, Spalding County Government, the Airport Authority and the Georgia Department of Transportation. Robert Mohl, of the Airport Authority, sent Commissioner Miller and I a lot of paper work and in reviewing the paperwork there appears to be a lot of conflicting information.

Commissioner Ray stated that the City of Griffin, Spalding County Government, the Airport Authority and GDOT need to sit down and discuss the items that need to be addressed at the current airport and look at the costs of the new airport so that we better understand what is being asked and, in turn, so that we can educate the taxpayer on why these changes are needed. In order for us, as Commissioners, to do what is best for our constituents in Spalding County we need complete and factual information.

Consensus of the Board was to ask for the joint workshop with the City of Griffin, Airport Authority and representatives for GDOT who could provide definitive answers to questions.

**Gardner** – No comments.

**XIII. CLOSED SESSION – None.**

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

***Motion/Second by Ray/Johnson to adjourn at 6:41 p.m. Motion carried unanimously by all.***