

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

The Spalding County Board of Commissioners held their Regular Monthly Meeting in Room 108 in the Courthouse Annex, Monday, August 3, 2009, beginning at 6:00 o'clock p.m. with Commission Chairman Edward Goss, Jr. presiding and Commissioners Gwen Flowers-Taylor (arriving late at 6:07 p.m.), Eddie L. Freeman, Bob Gilreath and David Phillips present. Also present were County Manager William P. Wilson, Jr., County Attorney James R. Fortune, Jr. and Executive Secretary Teresa Watson.

- I. OPENING (CALL TO ORDER) – Chairman Edward Goss, Jr.**
- II. INVOCATION – Reverend Kevin Lobello, Griffin First United Methodist, Senior Minister**
- III. PLEDGE TO FLAG – County Attorney James R. Fortune, Jr.**
- IV. PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITION**

V. PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – N/A

VI. CITIZENS COMMENTS

1. Michelle Cannon desires to address the Board – Ms. Cannon was not present to speak.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Speakers must state their names and addresses and direct all comments to the Board only. Speakers will be allotted 5 minutes to speak on topics pertinent to the Board's jurisdiction. No speaker will be allowed to readdress the Board without express consent from a Board member. Outbursts from the audience will not be tolerated. Common courtesy and civility are expected at all times during the meeting.

Justin Wynne, 84 Collins Road, Williamson, Georgia

Mr. Wynne was present to request that commissioners consider extending the hours during which he can serve alcohol until 3 a.m. on Fridays from the current 2 a.m. This will be addressed later under County Manager's comments, noted Chairman Goss.

VIII. MINUTES

1. Consider approval of Minutes of the following: July 16 Joint Meeting of the Spalding County and City of Griffin Boards of Commissioners and the Griffin-Spalding County Airport Advisory Commission, July 20 Extraordinary Session, July 22 Public Hearing, July 28 Public Hearing, and the July 28 Special Called Meeting for Adoption of the 2009 Tax Levy.

Motion to approve all of the above-noted meetings, by Commissioner Freeman, seconded by Commissioner Phillips, carried by a vote of 4-0.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA – N/A

X. OLD BUSINESS

1. Consider approval, on second reading, Ordinance #2009-08 Business Registration Requirements to provide for new paragraph to be added to Section 60-184, Business Registration Required.

SPALDING COUNTY, GEORGIA
PART VI, LICENSING AND REGULATION
ORDINANCE NO. 2009-08

TO AMEND THE CODE OF SPALDING COUNTY, GEORGIA, TO PROVIDE FOR INSERTION OF NEW PARAGRAPH TO PART VI LICENSING AND REGULATION, CHAPTER 1 BUSINESSES AND OCCUPATIONS, SECTION 6-1084 BUSINESS REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Spalding County, Georgia under the Constitution and Laws of the State of Georgia is empowered by virtue of its police power to regulate the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Spalding County, Georgia;

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Spalding County have determined that it is in the best interests of the citizens of Spalding County, Georgia for certain amendments to be made to the Spalding County Code of Ordinances;

WHEREAS, it is deemed by the Board of Commissioners of Spalding County, Georgia that an amendment to the Spalding County Code of Ordinances is of substantial benefit to the public and in the promotion of the best interests and general welfare of the people;

WHEREAS, it is the intention of the Board of Commissioners of Spalding County, Georgia to fully exercise its power to address such conditions pursuant to the authority granted to Spalding County, Georgia by O.C.G.A. §§ 41-2-7 through 41-2-17;

NOW THEREFORE, it shall be and is hereby RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Spalding County, Georgia that the Spalding County, Georgia Code of Ordinances shall be and is hereby amended, as follows:

Section 1: The following paragraph shall be added to Section 6-1084 Business Registration Required in the aforementioned Part VI Licensing and Regulation, Chapter 1 Businesses and Occupations to read as follows:

“All persons desiring to secure a business registration shall fill out an application form which will contain such information as the County Manager, in his sole discretion, shall require. A driver’s license or other photo identification will be required, a copy of which shall be attached to the application, to ensure the identity of the applicant.”

Section 2: It is the intent of the Board of Commissioners of Spalding County, Georgia that the provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be made a part of the Code of Ordinances of Spalding County, Georgia, and that the sections of this Ordinance be numbered to accomplish such intent.

Section 3: The within and foregoing amendments to the Spalding County, Georgia Code of Ordinances shall become effective immediately upon adoption of this Ordinance.

Section 4: All Ordinances or resolutions in conflict herewith shall be and are hereby repealed.

Motion to approve on second reading Ordinance #2009-08, by Commissioner Phillips, seconded by Commissioner Freeman, carried by a vote of 4-0.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider approval of new 2009 Alcoholic Beverage License – Wholesale Distributor – Beer Only – for Chad Alton Floyd, owner of Georgia Craft Distributing, LLC, located at 1606-D Old Atlanta Road, Griffin, Georgia.

Mr. Wilson stated this operation has met all requirements.
Commissioner Flowers-Taylor arrived to the meeting, resulting in a full voting board.

Motion to approve 2009 Alcoholic Beverage License, Wholesale Distributor, Beer Only, for Georgia Craft Distributing, LLC, by Commissioner Freeman, seconded by Commissioner Phillips, carried by a vote of 4-1 with Commissioner Flowers-Taylor voting in opposition.

2. Consider request of Parks and Recreation to match fundraising efforts for two participants to represent Spalding County in the National Senior Olympics competition in San Francisco August 6-12, 2009.

Mr. Wilson reminded commissioners that Parks and Recreation had made this request for a match to their raised funds several weeks ago. They were told to utilize fundraising efforts as much as possible and they successfully raised \$655. They are now asking for matching funds in the amount of \$655.

Motion to approve a match of fundraising efforts, by Commissioner Phillips, seconded by Commissioner Gilreath.

Discussion followed, and Commissioner Flowers-Taylor suggested they approve an amount greater than just a match to assist with the expenses since these two representatives would certainly incur more than the \$1200 in raised funds.

Motion/second were amended to provide for \$1000 collectively to the two Parks and Recreation representatives, and motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

3. Consider bid award for the Thomaston Mill Village Park’s 1300’ walking trail paved asphalt project located at 599 North Ninth Street, Griffin, Georgia.

This was one of three projects approved by Board during the latter part of this past fiscal year. The successful bidder was South Eastern Paving in the amount of \$17,780, which was below the estimated \$22,000. They do comply with the written specifications of the bid, and construction of the walking trail will begin as soon as possible.

Motion to approve South Eastern Paving as successful bidder in the amount of \$17,780, by Commissioner Freeman, seconded by Commissioner Gilreath, carried by a vote of 5-0.

4. Consider approval of final plat of Sun City Peachtree Subdivision – Pod 39 located off Jordan Hill Road – 58 lots.

Mr. Wilson advised Sun City Peachtree Subdivision has met all the criteria for submission of this final plat and he recommended approval.

Motion to approve final plat of Sun City Peachtree Subdivision – Pod 39 located off Jordan Hill Road for 58 lots, by Commissioner Phillips, seconded by Commissioner Freeman, carried by a vote of 5-0.

5. Consider acceptance of Right-of-Way Deed for Dusky Sap Court, Fiery Skipper Drive and Spring Forest Boulevard (Sun City Peachtree Subdivision – Pod 39).

Mr. Wilson reported these streets have been inspected and are ready for acceptance. He recommended conditional approval to reflect that final overlay pavement for streets within Sun City Pod 39 shall be completed when the total completed home construction reaches 80% of lots or by August 3, 2012, whichever comes first.

Motion to approve acceptance of Right-of-Way Deed for Dusky Sap Court, Fiery Skipper Drive and Spring Forest Boulevard (Sun City Peachtree Subdivision – Pod 39) with the condition that final overlay pavement for streets within Sun City Pod 39 shall be completed when the total completed home construction reaches 80% of lots or by August 3, 2012, whichever comes first, by Commissioner Freeman, seconded by Commissioner Flowers-Taylor, carried by a vote of 5-0.

6. Consider adoption of the Resolution for the Five (5) Year Partial Comprehensive Plan Update, the Capital Improvement Element (CIE) and Short Term Work Program (STWP) for 2009.

Mr. Wilson stated this is the final step in the approval process of our Comprehensive Plan Update. He provided a plan overview and noted this should complete the process.

ADOPTION RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Spalding County, The City of Orchard Hill and the City of Sunny Side has prepared a partial update of the Comprehensive Plan as well as an annual update to the Capital Improvements Element and Short Term Work Program; and

WHEREAS, the partial update of the Comprehensive Plan as well as an annual update to the Capital Improvements Element and Short Term Work Program was prepared in accordance with the Development Impact Fee Compliance Requirements and the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Local Comprehensive Planning established in the Georgia Comprehensive Planning Act of 1989 and a public hearing was held on March 27, 2009 at the Spalding County Annex, Room 108, 119 East Solomon Street, Griffin, GA 30223; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Community Affairs, after review of the draft update of the Comprehensive Plan as well as an annual update to the Capital Improvements Element and Short Term Work Program has found these to be in compliance with the Georgia Comprehensive Planning Act of 1989.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Spalding County does hereby adopt the partial update to the Comprehensive Plan, covering the 5-year period of 2008-2012, as well as the annual update to the Capital Improvements Element and Short Term Work Program as per requirements of the Georgia Planning Act of 1989.

Motion to approve, by Commissioner Phillips, seconded by Commissioner Flowers-Taylor, carried by a vote of 5-0.

7. Consider approval of the revised Acceptance Testing Procedure proposed by M/A-Com and Stephen Macke.

Mr. Wilson stated he had provided copies for commissioners on this item prior to the meeting. This applies only to the laptop components, used primarily by the police/sheriff's departments and fire departments for both City and County. Software vendors must communicate and this inability to communicate on the part of Sunguard is delaying the laptop process, but radios were distributed today. Interfacing with the laptops will happen at such time as that completes.

Motion to approve, by Commissioner Phillips, seconded by Commissioner Flowers-Taylor, carried by a vote of 5-0.

8. Consider approval of Department of Justice grant for \$18,840 for the Spalding County Enforcement Compliance Project for the benefit of Spalding County residents, including the cities of Griffin, Sunny Side and Orchard Hill.

This recent grant opportunity opened up with a 12-hour window for application. Mr. Freeman's daughter, Eden, facilitated this application, and the County decided to apply for a couple of the portable carts that display messages and/or speed limits of oncoming vehicles with no required match in the amount of \$18,840.

Motion to approve, by Commissioner Freeman, seconded by Commissioner Phillips, carried by a vote of 5-0.

9. Consider, on first reading, Ordinance #2009-10 for implementation of four-way stop at the following intersections: 1) Macon Road and County Line Road, and 2) South 6th Street and County Line Road, recommended by the Sheriff's Office.

One of these recommendations came at the request of Commissioner Phillips and the Griffin-Spalding Area Transportation Committee. Mr. Wilson will ensure they post warnings well ahead of implementation because both these locations constitute drastic changes. He will see to it that they follow uniform traffic control recommendations with large signs, and discussion followed. Mr. Wilson will request the news media's assistance with a public education effort, as well. Rumble strips are already on the Lamar County side and can be installed on the Spalding County side if desired at the South 6th Street/County Line Road site. It was noted that residents object to the sound produced by rumble strips. The solar-powered signs similar to what Henry County has used on Mt. Carmel were discussed. Mr. Wilson noted the County could purchase several and use them in these locations, then move to other sites.

Motion/second to approve on first reading Ordinance #2009-10 with exploration of the LED signs and available grant monies for same, by Commissioners Phillips and Freeman, carried by a vote of 4-1 with Commissioner Gilreath voting in opposition.

10. Consider, on first reading, Ordinance #2009-11 to provide for speed limit revisions and additions on various County roads as recommended by the Sheriff's Office.

Motion to approve, by Commissioner Freeman, seconded by Commissioner Flowers-Taylor, carried by a vote of 3-1 with Commissioner Gilreath opposing and Commissioner Phillips temporarily absent from the room.

11. Consider, on first reading, Ordinance #2009-12 to provide for a new school zone and speed limits therein for Rehoboth Road Middle School as recommended by the Sheriff's Office.

Motion/second to approve, by Commissioners Freeman and Flowers-Taylor, carried by a vote of 4-0 with Commissioner Phillips temporarily absent from the room.

12. Consider, on first reading, Ordinance #2009-13 to provide for speed limit revisions to the thirty miles per hour in certain urban or residence districts as recommended by the Sheriff's Office.

Motion to approve on first reading Ordinance #2009-13, by Commissioner Freeman, seconded by Commissioner Flowers-Taylor, carried by a vote of 5-0.

13. Consider request of County Attorney to execute permanent water line easement and temporary sewer construction easement for the City of Griffin Community Development Block Grant Project.

This is the City's CDBG project and represents permanent water line easements and temporary sewer construction easements as reviewed and recommended by County Attorney Jim Fortune. Once construction is complete, they will repave the entire street and not just patch the center of the street where they must dig up the water and sewer lines.

Motion to approve, by Commissioner Freeman, seconded by Commissioner Flowers-Taylor, carried by a vote of 5-0.

XII. REPORT OF COUNTY MANAGER

- Reminder: The Spalding County Tax Commissioner visited with the Revenue Department last Friday and our tax digest was approved as submitted.
- A date for a workshop to discuss an Ethics Ordinance was set for 5 p.m., Monday, August 10.
- Mr. Wilson said he and Chairman Goss have talked about requesting assistance from our local legislative delegation with regard to Kyle Cobb amendment (financial ceiling limit) and the impact of revaluation efforts on County revenue. They will solicit input from the Board of Education with regard to the Kyle Cobb amendment.
- In working on the 2010 LARP, Mr. Wilson advised he had used the same list from last year since no awards were made due to budget shortfalls. For the 2008 LARP, we bid out and the low bid was \$700,000. The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) contract price was \$344,000 and Mr. Wilson will get estimates for that in today's current dollars. He noted the only available funding for resurfacing may, in fact, be SPLOST monies. The County in 2009 and 2010 for LARP will be treated as a let project which means GDOT pays 100% but the number of miles resurfaced will be greatly reduced. GDOT relays they hope to have 2010 funds available if appropriated from the legislature. The County asked for a let project because we have no monies budgeted for resurfacing. Commissioner Freeman again asked to consider the possibility of purchasing paving equipment and having the County do its own paving projects.
- Current code reads that establishments cannot sell on Sunday nor on any weekday between 2 a.m. and 10 a.m. and not past midnight on Saturday. Mr. Wynne and County Rock wants to change from 2 a.m. to 3 a.m. on Fridays, so he can recoup some of the loss he is experiencing. The earliest referendum that won't require a single issue special election will be July 2010 when there will be a general primary election. Otherwise, the estimated cost is roughly \$18,000 to the County. A November referendum would push for time constraints, anyway, and the \$18,000 cost is not budgeted. Mr. Wilson noted the Board can change this text with an amendment that must pass first and second reading. The consensus was to place on first reading on the August 17, 2009 agenda, with second reading as quickly as possible after that.
- The Farmers Growing Market that currently displays in the One Griffin Center parking deck on Saturdays wants to expand into Airport Road Park and Memorial Drive Plaza. He requested that commissioners consider this request. Consent was given pending no conflict with City ordinances.
- Minimum Housing Code – Central Georgia EMC requires an inspection from building inspections when power has been off for six or more months to a County resident. Mr. Wilson suggested that enforcement personnel also inspect the dwelling for minimum housing at the same time, which is a broad jump from way things are handled now on a complaint basis. Development of the Minimum Housing Code took several months and this would help to make a dent in the large number of substandard dwellings. Perhaps this would allow an easing into the identification of substandard housing, and he recommended thoughtful consideration.
- A discussion was held with Chairman Goss as to what the County's policy will be for replacement due to loss, theft, damage. He will research policies of other counties, and he requested input from other commissioners, as well.
- Mr. Wilson noted he was proud to announce issuance of radios today.
- Chairman Goss asked about the East Griffin old mill where just walls remain standing, and Mr. Wilson advises an inspection has been done and the Unsafe Building Abatement Appeals Board made a recommendation, but that recommendation is currently being appealed.

XIII. REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS

Freeman

The Highland Mill property has seen some improvement in clearing away debris. They have moved trash out by maybe half and have agreed to continue diligently with cleanup.

Flowers-Taylor

She asked if Mr. Wilson could get Code Enforcement or someone to the area of Northside Drive and North Hill Street. At 7 p.m. this past Friday there were many cars and tents put up with food, playing cards and throwing dice. There were perhaps fifteen or more cars there at the corner store with loud music and people openly selling drugs. Many problems exist there with loitering, drugs, alcohol, fighting and public urination. Law-abiding citizens would not be amenable to patronizing the area, and something needs to be done.

Phillips

Rehoboth Road School opened today and they seriously need to implement a second entrance. This is a single entrance/exit facility. Traffic congestion was tremendous with bottleneck issues all over. Mr. Wilson will work with Bruce Ballard to explore means of traffic mitigation. Sheriff Stewart said many schools were experiencing the initial overcrowding and would hopefully settle down.

Gilreath

He asked if there were now fences securing all radio tower sites. Mr. Wilson replied no, stating that he is working with one vendor who has partial fencing but not complete. Wild Plum Road's tower needs this fence completed. Commissioner Gilreath said County personnel had gone out to the Runaway Lakes area and did good job on the dam and rights-of-way. He has received many accolades and was very pleased. Mr. Wilson reported he will let Public Works know of the positive comments.

Goss

No comments.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion/second to Adjourn at 7:17 p.m., by Commissioners Freeman and Phillips, carried by a vote of 5-0.

Chairman

County Clerk

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