

Bryan County Board of Commissioners – November 14, 2017

The regular meeting of the Bryan County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, November 14, 2017 in Pembroke. The following members were present: Chairman Carter Infinger, Commissioner Wade Price, Commissioner Rick Gardner, Commissioner Brad Brookshire, Commissioner Steve Myers and Commissioner Noah Covington. Also present: County Administrator Ben Taylor, County Clerk Donna Waters and County Attorney Lea Holliday.

Chairman Infinger called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Invocation was given by Commissioner Brookshire. Everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance. Visitors were recognized.

A discussion was held on the **agenda**. A motion was made by Brad Brookshire and seconded by Steve Myers to approve the agenda with the addition of an executive session to discuss real estate. Motion carried unanimously.

A discussion was held on the **minutes** of the October meetings. A motion was made by Noah Covington and seconded by Wade Price to approve the minutes of the October meetings as printed. Motion carried unanimously.

A discussion was held on the **consent agenda**. A motion was made by Brad Brookshire and seconded by Noah Covington to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

The following items were listed on the consent agenda:

**1. Approval of Tax Refunds**

- \*Real Property Appeal Refunds - \$165.08
- \*TAVT (Motor Vehicle) Appeals Refunds - \$2,255.75

**2. Approval of New Alcoholic Beverage License**

- \*Dilip Patel for Henderson Park Shell

**3. Approval of Access and Utility Easement**

- \*Bryan Land & Timber, LLC

**Richard Deal & Kay Proctor** with Lanier, Deal & Proctor, CPAs met with the board to present the **2016 Annual Financial Report**. The county is in a good financial standing at this time.

**Ben Taylor, County Administrator**, met with the board with several issues.

**\*Administrator's Monthly Report** for November 2017 included:

**-Comprehensive Plan Interactive Input Sessions** are scheduled for November 15 in Richmond Hill and November 16 in Pembroke. These sessions will allow the citizens an opportunity to offer insights and suggestions on the county's proposed comprehensive plan.

**-Belfast River Road Shoulder Widening Project** has been put out to bid. The bids should come back before the board at the meeting next month for approval.

**-Hendrix Park Concession Stand and Football Field Improvements** are progressing. The architect is almost completed with the plans. This project will be funded through SPLOST.

**\*Firefighter Cancer Coverage** – Effective January 1, 2018, Georgia law requires all legally organized fire departments to provide and maintain specific cancer insurance coverages for all members of the fire department that meet the definition of “firefighter” as defined in Code Section 25-4-2. This would include all full-time, part-time and volunteer firefighters. Subject to eligibility requirements, the Firefighter Cancer Insurance bill, House Bill 146, contains provisions for both a critical illness (lump sum) benefit and a disability (income replacement) benefit. ACCG-IRMA is offering coverages to counties that are designed specifically to be compliant with the provisions of HB 146. The coverage is being offered with a three (3) year rate guarantee, which provides stability in the county’s budgeting process. The insurance is relatively inexpensive at a cost of approximately \$15,000 per year. A motion was made by Noah Covington and seconded by Rick Gardner to approve the ACCG-IRMA Firefighter Cancer Coverage Application and Participation Agreement and the Resolution authorizing participation in the ACCG-IRMA Supplemental medical, accident, and disability fund. Motion carried unanimously.

**\*Library Board Appointment** – The Bryan County Library Board currently has two (2) vacancies. Ms. Sheila Fields completed her allowable terms of service and Ms. Erin Schultz has resigned from the Board for personal reasons. Ms. Fields represented north Bryan County and Ms. Schultz represented south Bryan County. Three (3) individuals have expressed their interest in serving as a representative for south Bryan County. The staff and trustees of the library are seeking north Bryan residents interest in filling that vacancy. A motion was made by Brad Brookshire and seconded by Steve Myers to appoint Sandra Elliott to the Bryan County Library Board to fill the unexpired term of Eric Schultz with a term of service to begin immediately and expire June 30, 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

**\*Impact Fee Ordinance** – The Georgia Impact Fee Act or O.C.G.A. 36-71-1 allows local governments to assess a development impact fee to growth that creates an impact of existing services that are provided by that government. This fee is charged at the time a building permit is issued for the construction of the structure. This is a valuable tool for the Commission to provide its current and future residents an equitable program for planning and financing public facilities to accommodate orderly growth. This is the first step in this process. Once the methodology report and Capital Improvement Element are completed and accepted by the Commission (which determines the maximum amount that may be charged new development), a resolution may be adopted to set a per unit fee schedule. This is the first reading of the ordinance and no action is required at this time.

A motion was made by Noah Covington and seconded by Wade Price to go into **executive session** to discuss real estate. Motion carried unanimously. The board went into executive session at 6:20 p.m. The board went back into regular session at 7:04 p.m.

A motion was made by Steve Myers and seconded by Brad Brookshire to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.