

Bryan County Board of Commissioners – December 12, 2017

The regular meeting of the Bryan County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, December 12, 2017 in Richmond Hill. The following members were present: Chairman Carter Infinger, Commissioner Rick Gardner, Commissioner Brad Brookshire, Commissioner Noah Covington and Commissioner Wade Price. Also present: County Administrator Ben Taylor, County Clerk Donna Waters and County Attorney Lea Holliday. Commissioner Steve Myers was not present.

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

A discussion was held on the **agenda**. A motion was made by Wade Price and seconded by Brad Brookshire to approve the agenda as printed. Motion carried unanimously.

A discussion was held on the **minutes** of the November meetings. A motion was made by Brad Brookshire and seconded by Wade Price to approve the minutes of the November meetings as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

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

The following items were listed on the consent agenda:

**1. Approval of Tax Refunds**

\*Real Property Appeal Refunds - \$841.54

**2. Approval of Alcoholic Beverage License**

\*Sean Frederick Beebe for Surf & Turf 144, LLC

**3. Approval of Economic Development Agreement**

\*Orafol Americas Inc.

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

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

**-TSPLOST** – We have met with the Mayors to establish the timelines and are currently awaiting the Intergovernmental Agreements from the cities. We plan to have a called meeting of December 18 to call for a referendum and the election will be held on May 22, 2018.

**-Capital Improvement Plan** – The Southern Plan is complete and the Northern Plan should be complete in the near future. The proposed capital improvement plan consists of funds from the General Fund, SPLOST, Impact Fees and TSPLOST, which can change if TSPLOST is not approved. The General Fund and SPLOST will primarily fund the resurfacing program and project engineering. The Impact Fees and TSPLOST will fund the construction. Without TSPLOST, construction costs must be shifted to the General Fund, which would lead to a millage rate increase. The initial three projects in the proposed list consists on intersection improvements to Port Royal/Harris Trail Road; Belfast River Road/Harris Trail Road; Belfast River Road/Belfast Keller Road.

**\*Southeast Corrections MOU Agreements** – Bryan County entered into an agreement with Southeast Corrections in November 2014 to provide probation services for Bryan County State Court and Bryan County Superior Court. It is time to renew these Memorandum of Understanding Agreements. A motion was made by Brad Brookshire and seconded by Noah Covington to approve the Memorandum of Understanding Agreement for probation services between Bryan County State Court and Southeast Corrections, LLC and Bryan County Superior Court and Southeast Corrections, LLC for a period of 1/1/18 through 12/31/22 and authorize the Chairman to execute same. Motion carried unanimously.

**\*GEFA Loan** – The Board of Directors of the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) has approved Bryan County's loan application for a Georgia Fund loan in the amount of \$2,900,000. This project will expand the North Bryan County Interstate Centre wastewater treatment facility and land application system (LAS), purchase 23 acres of land, construct a new LAS on Belvedere Road, construct a pump station, install sanitary sewer and force main, purchase an existing water well from the city of Savannah, and related appurtenances. A motion was made by Noah Covington and seconded by Brad Brookshire to approve the resolution authorizing the Chairman and County Clerk to execute the Loan Agreement, the Note, and any related documents necessary to the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the Loan Agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

**Mike Vaquer**, as representative for the Greater Savannah Homebuilders Association (which includes Bryan County) met with the board to discuss the Impact Fee Ordinance. The Homebuilders Association is requesting the board halt the passing of the Impact Fee Ordinance at this time and go back to square one. They feel as though the Capital Improvement Element has not been done correctly.

**\*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 second step in this process. Once the Methodology Report and Capital Improvement Element are 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. Once a resolution is adopted, collection may proceed. This is the second reading of this ordinance. A motion was made by Brad Brookshire and seconded by Noah Covington to approve the Impact Fee Ordinance. Motion carried unanimously.

**\*2018 LMIG Application** – LMIG Funds are supplied by the Georgia Department of Transportation for paving projects annually. Bryan County's annual allocation for 2018 is \$443,398.42. Applications are due by January of each year and a 30% match is required from the local government, which equates to \$133,019.53. LMIG is used primarily for resurfacing projects in the past. The upcoming year's recommended LMIG road resurfacing lists consists of two (2) roads. The first is resurfacing of Ash Branch Road from the intersection of Sims Road to the intersection of I.G. Lanier Road. This is approximately 1.7 miles in length with an average width of 22 feet. The total estimated cost of the project for resurfacing and striping is approximately \$290,000. The second is resurfacing of Harveytown Road from SR 30 to SR 30. This is approximately 1.7 miles in length with an average width of 18 feet. The total estimated cost of the project for resurfacing and striping is approximately \$290,000. Additionally,

we have a revised Priority Road List for FY 2017 for resurfacing of Bailey Plantation Drive from Cartertown Road to terminus. This is approximately 0.4 mile in length with an average width of 20 feet. The total estimated cost for the project is approximately \$55,000. A motion was made by Noah Covington and seconded by Wade Price to approve the 2018 LMIG Road Priority List and revised 2017 Road Priority List and submission of the 2018 LMIG Grant Application. Motion carried unanimously.

**\*Interstate Centre Road Paving Contract Award** – A bid opening was held on the Interstate Centre Boulevard Phase II Road Extension Project. A total of two (2) bids were received. These bids were: McLendon Enterprises, Inc. in the amount of \$994,328.80 and R. B. Baker Construction in the amount of \$1,088,444. The Development Authority’s Engineer, Thomas & Hutton has reviewed the bid proposals for the project and recommends award of the contact to McLendon Enterprises, Inc. A motion was made by Noah Covington and seconded by Brad Brookshire to approve the award of the contract of the Interstate Centre Boulevard Phase II Road Extension Project to McLendon Enterprises, Inc. in the amount of \$994,328.80. Motion carried unanimously. This project is being funded from the sale of property at the Interstate Centre.

**\*FY 2018 Budget Resolution Consideration** – Each year, the County is required by state law to adopt a budget to include revenues and expenditures by departments for the following year. The first resolution establishes a special district of the unincorporated area and specifies that revenues collected from this area fund those services. The second resolution adopts the proposed FY 2018 budget. A motion was made by Brad Brookshire and seconded by Noah Covington to approve the FY 2018 Bryan County operating budget resolutions. Motion carried unanimously.

**\*Belfast River Road Paving Contract Award** – Bids were received for the widening of Belfast River Road. A total of six (6) bids were received for the work which includes a two foot shoulder widening along both sides of Belfast River Road from the intersection of Harris Trail Road to the intersection of Belfast Keller Road. The low bidder was East Coast Asphalt, LLC in the amount of \$115,828. A motion was made by Noah Covington and seconded by Wade Price to award the contract in the amount of \$115,828.00 to East Coast Asphalt, LLC for the Belfast River Road Widening Project. Motion carried unanimously.

Several citizens spoke with their concerns over the **Intersection of Belfast River Road and Harris Trail Road.**

A motion was made by Noah Covington and seconded by Wade Price to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:13 p.m.