

Bryan County Board of Commissioners – August 14, 2018

The regular meeting of the Bryan County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, August 14, 2018 in Richmond Hill. The following members were present: Vice-Chairman Brad Brookshire, Commissioner Rick Gardner, Commissioner Noah Covington, Commissioner Steve Myers, and Commissioner Wade Price. Also present: County Administrator Ben Taylor, County Clerk Donna Waters and County Attorney Lea Holliday. Chairman Infinger was not present.

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

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

A discussion was held on the **minutes** of the July meetings. A motion was made by Noah Covington seconded by Wade Price to approve the minutes of the July 2018 meetings. Motion carried unanimously.

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

The following items were listed on the consent agenda:

1. Approval of Tax Refunds

*TAVT (Motor Vehicle) Appeals - \$99.75

2. Approval of 2018 Budget Amendments

Jeff Adams, Planning Director, met with the board with planning & zoning issues.

***Property Maintenance Enforcement Ordinance** – This ordinance revision pertains to the property maintenance ordinance which is used to abate nuisance property. The changes are recommended by the Planning Director in an effort to increase the effectiveness of the county's property maintenance code enforcement program. This is a first reading, no action required at this time.

A motion was made by Noah Covington and seconded by Wade Price to close the regular meeting for a planning & zoning public hearing. Motion carried unanimously. A motion was made by Noah Covington and seconded by Wade Price to open the public hearing. Motion carried unanimously. A **public hearing** was held on the **Trotter General, LLC Rezoning**. No one was present to speak on the rezoning. A motion was made by Noah Covington and seconded by Steve Myers to close the public hearing. Motion carried unanimously.

***Trotter General, LLC Rezoning** – The applicant is requesting a zoning change of a 3.09 acre lot from AR-1 to B-2 for the purpose of constructing a Dollar General retail store. The property is on the corner of Georgia Highway 204 and Porterfield Road in Ellabell, PID # 0311-199. A motion was made by Wade Price and seconded by Noah Covington to approve the rezoning request of Trotter General, LLC. from an AR-1 zone to a B-2 zone. Motion carried unanimously.

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

***Adoption of 2018 Millage Rate** – The five year history has been advertised and public hearings have been held on the adoption of the 2018 millage rate. The recommendation is to adopt the 2018 millage rate of 8.80 for the unincorporated areas of Bryan County, as well as for the cities of Pembroke and Richmond Hill. Also adopt the millage rate of 15.075 for the Board of Education and 1.50 for the School Bond Debt Service. This will be an aggregate sum of 25.375 for the unincorporated areas of Bryan County, as well as for the cities of Pembroke and Richmond Hill. A motion was made by Noah Covington and seconded by Steve Myers to approve the resolution adopting the 2018 Millage Rate as written. Motion carried unanimously.

***CRC Area Agency for Aging Contract** – Each year the Board of Commissioners have to approve the contract for services between the CRC and Bryan County for the senior congregate meals and transportation. The term of the contract will be for July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019. The senior congregate budgeted units/meals are increasing from 8,664 to 9,500 due to the growth on the senior center programs. A motion was made by Wade Price and seconded by Rick Gardner to approve the CRC Area Agency for Aging Contract. Motion carried unanimously.

***EMS Billing Contract** – Staff is recommending approval of Trinity EMS (TEMS) for the new EMS & Fire Transport billing contract with Bryan County. The previous firm had a 5% collection fee with a collection record of only 41% of billings for the last two years. Trinity EMS has quoted a 6.5% collection fee with an over 85% collection record with its other clients. A motion was made by Steve Myers and seconded by Noah Covington to approve the EMS Billing Contract to TEMS. Motion carried unanimously.

***Resolution Declaring 5/22/18 Election Results** – This resolution is authorizing the validation of the bond option mentioned in TSPLOST resolution and allows the board the opportunity to issue bonds for these projects if the board chooses to do so. This is the first step of many to issue bonds, so this does not finalize the board's decision to issue bonds. This step does keep the option open. A motion was made by Steve Myers and seconded by Rick Gardner to approve the resolution declaring the 5/22/18 election results. Motion carried unanimously.

Phillip Richardson met with the board to discuss safety and security concerns on the intersection of Ponderosa Road and Highway 17.

Keith Rose spoke with concerns over the traffic in the afternoon in the East Buckhead Subdivision due to school traffic.

Chris Cone spoke with concerns over the Buckhead Rezoning. This topic was originally to be heard tonight but was tabled by the Planning Commission. It will be heard again next month.

John Tanner spoke with concerns over the signs being put in the right of way of Highway 144; more housing development at this time with the traffic issues; and the need for another boat ramp in south Bryan County for the public to use.

A motion was made by Steve Myers and seconded by Rick Gardner to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:23 p.m.