

Bryan County Board of Commissioners – August 11, 2015

The regular meeting of the Bryan County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, August 11, 2015 in Richmond Hill. The following members were present: Chairman Jimmy Burnsed, Commissioner Wade Price, Commissioner Carter Infinger, Commissioner Rick Gardner, Commissioner Steve Myers, and Commissioner Noah Covington. Also present: County Administrator Ben Taylor, County Clerk Donna Waters, and County Attorney Lea Holliday.

Chairman Burnsed called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Invocation was given by Commissioner Gardner. 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 Noah Covington to approve the agenda with one amendment. Motion carried unanimously.

A discussion was held on the **minutes** of the July 14, 2015 regular meeting. A motion was made by Noah Covington and seconded by Steve Myers to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2015 minutes as printed. Motion carried unanimously.

A discussion was held on the **consent agenda**. A motion was made by Carter Infinger 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 New Occupational Tax Certificates

- *Chainey Oglesby – Country Corner Store
- *Jennifer Reid – Savannah Pub Tour
- *David Newlin – Capt. David Newlin Fishing Charters
- *Sam & Odetta Smiley – SOS Logistics, LLC
- *Kimberly & Jerrell Taylor – KBC Pallets
- *Lisa Smallwood – A Girls Best Friend
- *Heather Ratliff – Heaven Ward Bouncy
- *Jonathan Goodman – Cornerstone Homes, LLC

2. Approval of Tax Refunds for July Appeals

\$2,536.66 for Real Property and \$523.32 for Motor Vehicles

A public hearing was held on the **millage rate**. No one was present to speak at the public hearing.

John Grotheer, Finance Director, met with the board to discuss the **millage rate**. The recommendation is to set the millage rate for FY 2015 at 9.150 mills, which is unchanged from the previous year. A motion was made by Steve Myers and seconded by Noah Covington to adopt the 2015 millage rate at 9.15 mills for the unincorporated areas of Bryan County; 9.15 mills for the incorporated areas of the City of Pembroke; 8.15 mills for the incorporated areas of the City of Richmond Hill; 15.537 mills for public education; and the levies of .890 mills for Jerico Subdivision for road paving

improvements. The aggregate sum of 24.687 mills on the taxable property in the unincorporated areas of Bryan County for county and public education purposes, besides State Tax of .05 mills, making a total levy for the year 2015 for Bryan County in the unincorporated areas 24.737 mills. The aggregate sum of 24.737 mills on the taxable property in the incorporated areas of the City of Pembroke; the aggregate sum of 23.737 mills on the taxable property in the incorporated areas of the City of Richmond Hill; and the aggregate sum of 25.627 mills on the taxable property in the Jerico Subdivision. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Steve Myers and seconded by Carter Infinger to approve the **resolution** for the services to be provided with the **Insurance Premium Roll Back Tax** with the addition of fire protection. Motion carried unanimously.

“Copy Resolution”

Richard Deal with Thigpen, Lanier, Westerfield & Deal met with the board to review the 2014 annual financial report for Bryan County.

Ben Taylor, County Administrator, presented the planning & zoning issues to the board.

1. **Case # SD 2081-15 – John Hopkins** is seeking approval for the Article XI Preliminary Plat and Construction Plan for Belfast River Landing. The property description is 28.77 acres located at Belfast River Road @ Belfast Siding Road, map & parcel # 057-100. The current zone is R-1. The proposed development is 18 single family homes. A motion was made by Steve Myers and seconded by Noah Covington to approve the Article XI Preliminary Plat and Construction Plan for Belfast River Landing for John Hopkins on the condition that Soil and Erosion plans be approved by NRCS before any clearing or construction begins and all items identified in the letter be revised as noted. Motion carried unanimously.
2. **Case # SD 2086-15 – Dunham Marsh Partners, LLC** is seeking approval for a Revised Article XI Preliminary Plat and Construction Plan for Dunham Marsh Phase 3C. The current zone is PUD. The original plat showed a total of 298 lots, which should not change. The density is just being shifted from one area to another. The proposed development is a total of 38 lots proposed for Phase 3C, 23 lots in original plat on May 21, 2007, revised to increase by 1 lot on October 5, 2010, revised to increase by 4 lots on November 11, 2014. A motion was made by Rick Gardner and seconded by Carter Infinger to approve the Revised Article XI/Preliminary Plat Approval for Dunham Marsh Partners, LLC on the condition that all items in the Engineer’s letter are met before site development plan is approved. Motion carried unanimously.

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

***SR 144 Roundabout** – The roundabout on SR 144 at Belfast River Road and Captain Matthew Freeman Drive is complete.

***Henderson Park Tennis Court Complex** – A new tennis court complex at Henderson Park was budgeted in SPLOST VI in the amount of \$600,000. We have gotten back our plans back from the architect. The plans include ten (10) courts and an all purpose building approximately 2100 square feet to include bathrooms, storage, meeting room, and outdoor pavilion. We hope to begin construction in the fall.

***Road Resurfacing List** – A list of the top 12 roads needing resurfacing was given to the board for their review.

***Road Striping for 2016** – A list of the road striping for 2016 was given to the board for their review.

***ISO Evaluation and Re-Inspection Preparation** – Bryan County Emergency Services has been working with Skip Starling of the National Fire Services office. Mr. Starling specializing in optimizing through allocation of resources to achieve the best ISO score out there. Recent changes in ISO ratings have negatively impacted some of our resident's insurance premiums. Mr. Starlings, along with Freddy Howell and his staff, is reexamining issues such as water sources and equipment.

***ACCG Defined Benefit Retirement Plan** – The Bryan County employee's retirement is currently under a Defined Benefit Plan with GEBCorp under the umbrella of ACCG. From time to time, changes are made to the adoption plan. When changes are made, it is necessary for the county to adopt a resolution to amend and restate our plan document, execute the restated Adoption Agreement, and file the Plan with the IRS. A motion was made by Steve Myers and seconded by Carter Infinger to adopt the resolution to adopt the amended and restated plan and authorize the Chairman to execute the restated 1-1-2015 adoption agreement and the IRS Form 2848. Motion carried unanimously.

***GDOT Lighting Assistance Agreement** – This agreement is between Bryan County and the Georgia Department of Transportation and pertains to the Roundabout Lighting assistance as part of the SR 144 widening project. In an effort to implement effective traffic management, Bryan County has requested a permanent GDOT project lighting package once the final Roundabout is complete when SR 144 is widened. This agreement states that GDOT will install all materials and equipment necessary for the Roundabout Lighting on the SR 144 widening/reconstruction project. It further states that the county will assume the responsibility for the operation, repair, energy costs, and maintenance of the lighting system. A motion was made by Steve Myers and seconded by Noah Covington for the Board of Commissioners to enter into agreement with GDOT for the installation of the Roundabout Lighting. Motion carried unanimously.

***City of Richmond Hill Annexation** – Elbow Cay Land Holdings, LLC wishes to annex the remainder of their parcel into the city limits of Richmond Hill. This property is already a portion of a larger parcel that is currently located within the municipal boundaries of Richmond Hill. The annexation is for 11.76 acres of parcels 055-004/055-005 now parcel 054-086-18. No action is required unless the County has objection.

***Adoption of the Personnel Policy Amendments** – The personnel policy was recently removed from the ordinances in an attempt to make them more reactive to the needs of the organization and reflect more of a norm in recent trends in county government. This recently adopted ordinance also validated the ability of the county to establish Personnel Policies by resolution. A motion was made by Steve Myers and seconded by Carter Infinger to approve the resolution. Voting for: Myers, Covington, Infinger. Voting against: Price and Gardner. Motion carried.

***Middle Coastal Unified Development Authority and GSRA is Greater Savannah Regional Alliance (MCUDA/GSRA) Board Appointment** – Dell Keith was appointed for a four year term on October 14, 2014 by the Board of Commissioners to the MCUDA/GSRA Board. His term was to expire June 30, 2018. The MCUDA/GSRA is a joint development authority made of membership from 13 counties. Since Dell Keith has moved to Wayne County, we need to have someone else appointed to serve the balance of his term. Brad Brookshire has requested to be appointed in place of Dell Keith. A motion was made by Rick Gardner and seconded by Steve Myers to appoint Brad Brookshire to the Middle Coastal Unified Development Authority and GSRA is Greater Savannah Regional Alliance with a term to expire on June 30, 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

***Quit Claim Deed to Release any Interest in Hobart Property** – There was a bond transaction with Hobart in 1977. Hobart conveyed the property to the Bryan County Industrial Development Authority, which was dissolved by the county commission several years ago. The property was then leased back to the Hobart Corporation with the end of the term being September 2002. The property should have been conveyed back to Hobart in 2002, but due to an oversight this never occurred. A motion was made by Steve Myers and seconded by Noah Covington to authorize the execution of this Quit Claim Deed to release any interest in the Hobart property and convey this property to the Hobart Corporation. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.