

AGENDA

McDUFFIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
April 21, 2009, 6:30 PM, Grand Jury Room, McDuffie County Courthouse

PUBLIC INPUT

Speakers:

Adjournment

ZONING HEARING

(Fred Guerrant)

- 1. Brad Smith – Side Setback – Deer Trail Rd.**
- 2. Ray Miles – Conditional Use Review – County Line Road**

Adjournment

COMMISSION MEETING

CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

Chairman Newton

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVALS

Agenda (Current)

Minutes (Regular Mtg. 04-01-09)

INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1. “Service Reward” (Chairman Newton)**
- 2. Announcement – Insurance Recovery \$2800 “Lost” in 6/2007 Phishing Scam (\$1,000 deductible)**
- 3. Announcement -ACCG Annual Meeting, April 25-28, Savannah Civic Center.**

OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Arthur Grimaud – Elias Subdivision (Chairman Newton)**

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Planning Board Recommendations (Chairman Newton)**
- 2. Declaration of Surplus Property/Equipment in New Govern’t Ctr. Area (Chairman Newton)**
- 3. Generator/UPS Requirement for IT Department (Kelly Evans)**
- 4. Declaration of Surplus Election Equipment (Gov. Deals) Phyllis Wheeler)**
- 5. Formal Approval of Budget Amendment for \$500 from Southern Nuclear Operating Company for Fire Service Small Equipment (Don Norton)**
- 6. SPLOST V Construction Bond Funds Investment (Don Norton, Jimmy Whitaker)**
- 7. Monthly Budget Report – March 2009 (Don Norton)**
- 8. Monthly Financial Report – March 2009 (Jimmy Whitaker)**

ADJOURNMENT

The McDuffie County Board of Commissioners held a regular Commission Meeting Tuesday evening, April 21, 2009, 6:30 PM, Grand Jury Room, McDuffie County Courthouse.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Charles G. Newton IV, Chairman
Sammie L. Wilson Sr., Vice Chairman
Rev. Fred D. Favors, Commissioner
Paul W. McCorkle, Commissioner
Wm. "Bill" M. Jopling, Commissioner

COUNTY REPRESENTATION:

Don Norton, County Manager
Annette Finley, County Clerk
Jimmy Whitaker, Finance Director
Stephen Sewell, EMA/Fire Services
Bruce Tanner, County Fire Chief
Tim Edwards, McDuffie County EMS
Ronnie Williamson, McDuffie County Sheriff's

MEDIA REPRESENTATION:

Office
WTHO Radio Station
McDuffie Mirror Newspaper
McDuffie Progress Newspaper

Tracy Neal, McDuffie County Sheriff's Office
Kelly Evans, Director, IT Department
Melanie McLendon, Planning Commission
Gail Newsome, Code Enforcement
Pam Workman, Finance Department

OTHERS PRESENT:

Seven (7) citizens attended.

PUBLIC INPUT

Speakers: 1) Ms. Dennie Taylor, 1065 Huntley Circle, Thomson
Re: 1065 North View Acres: Development of Section 8 in Area.
Referred to Thomson City Council (Area of Development in City Limits)

Adjourned: 6:35 PM

ZONING HEARING

Chairman Newton asked Director of the Planning Board, Fred Guarrant, to present these issues.

- 1) Brad Smith – Side Setback – 2872 Deer Trail Rd., Belle Meade Subdivision, Thomson
Fred reported that he had received an application from Brad Smith requesting a reduction in side setback for an addition to his residence located at 2872 Deer Trail Road. Brad had stated that he would like to add a dining room to the garage side of his house. In order to do so, he needs to extend his garage out on the east side of his house by approximately 10-12 feet. However, this would place the end of the garage within 8 feet of the side property line. Brad confirmed that he had discussed the proposed addition and setback with his neighbor, Ron Henson, whose house is 83' from the same property line. Fred reported there had been no public input regarding the application and the outside appearance of the addition would match the rest of the house. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the reduction in side setback (east side) to eight (8) feet.
- 2) Ray Miles – Conditional Use Review – 1115 County Line Road, Thomson
Fred reported that he had received an application from Ray Miles requesting a Conditional Use Review for a proposed auto mechanics garage to be located at his, 1115 County Line Road, house. Fred stated that it was Ray's request to be allowed to continue his engine repair business in his newly constructed garage building at that location. Note was made that Ray Miles was not present at the Zoning Hearing. The Planning Commission did not recommend approval of this request. They also noted that that regardless of the application, there were several "outstanding issues" related to Ray's building and property which included the erection of the new 30'X30' garage without a building permit, conducting business without a business license and an improper electrical service to the garage.

COMMISSION MEETING

CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

Chairman Newton called the meeting to order, acknowledge a quorum of commissioners present and welcomed everyone in attendance.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner/Reverend Favors offered the invocation which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVALS

Agenda (Current)

A motion was made by McCorkle to approve the current agenda with the addition of adding an Executive Session, (Commissioner Favors' request) to discuss personnel; motion was seconded by Wilson and passed unanimously.

Minutes (Regular Mtg. 4-1-09)

A motion to approve the minutes of the regular Board of Commission Meeting Held on April 1, 2009 was made by Wilson, seconded by Jopling and passed unanimously.

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INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. A "Certificate of Appreciation" along with a small bouquet of flowers was awarded to Ms. Melanie McLendon for having been employed with the McDuffie County Planning Board for 21 years on June 9, 1987. Due to unintentional miscommunication, Ms. McClendon did not attend the Board meeting held April 1 at which time she was scheduled.
2. Announcement – Our insurance company, ACCG-MARSH, has replaced \$2826.48 of the June 2007 Phishing Scam and are pursuing the collection of the entire amount. If successful, the \$1000 deductible will also be returned to the County. With this current \$2826.48, we have now collected \$6187.31 of the total amount \$7187.31 resulting from the Phishing Scam which took place on June 20, 2007.
3. Announcement – ACCG Annual Meeting, April 25-28, Savannah Civic Center.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Arthur Grimaud – Elias Subdivision:** Chairman Newton reviewed Mr. Grimaud’s request in making changes for the previously approved subdivision development at Cobbham Road (Hwy. 150) and I-20. After a lengthy discussion was held regarding this matter, Chairman Newton recommended approval of the following changes and conditions, using the Lot Layout Plan for Elias Station dated January 26, 2007, by Civil Design Solutions, L.L.C. With new changes in mind, Chairman Newton also referred to the previously approved conditions set forth by the Planning Board in their Executive Summary regarding Elias Station Subdivision /Arthur Grimaud dated March 5, 2009.

Lots #4 through #9 Only
Min. 1700 sq. ft. Heated Living Area
Min. 450 sq. ft. Garage
Side Walks to be Poured Subsequently After All 6 Houses are Built
All Houses to be Stick-Built

A motion was made by McCorkle to approve the recommendation; motion was seconded by Jopling and passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Planning Board Recommendations:** Chairman Newton reviewed the 2 issues heard earlier during the Zoning Hearing and asked for action from the Board of Commissioners:

A. Brad Smith – Side Setback – Deer Trail Road

A motion to uphold the Planning Commission’s recommendation and approve the application from Mr. Brad Smith was made by Favors, seconded by McCorkle and passed unanimously.

B. Ray Miles – Conditional Use Review – County Line Road

Chairman Newton reviewed the Planning Board’s recommendation and recommended approval of the Conditional Use Review application with the following stipulations:

- 1) Activity to be screened from County Line Road.
- 2) Work Hours to be: 7 AM to 7 PM, 6 days/week, NO SUNDAYS.
- 3) All federal and state environmental requirements are met.
- 4) That the same guidelines applied to Justin Gunn, 1889 Central Road on February 17, 2009 is followed (refer to Minutes dated February 17, 2009)

A motion to approve this recommendation was made by McCorkle, seconded by Wilson and passed unanimously.

2. **Declaration of Surplus Property / Equipment in New Government Center Area:** Chairman Newton announced and recommended that all properties within the area of the new City-County Government Center be declared as “surplus” before any demolition or “sell off” steps can be taken on any property, etc., regardless of the means. There is no “bid process” for this matter but the County does have the responsibility to gain the most value of any item for the McDuffie County constituents.

After discussion, a motion to approve this recommendation was made by Jopling, seconded by Wilson and passed unanimously.

Note was made that the process date for any action to be taken on this matter will be forthcoming.

3. **Generator/UPS Requirement for IT Department:** Chairman Newton asked Director Kelly Evans to present this matter.

Kelly reported that April 10th, 2009 at approximately 11 PM, the McDuffie County IT Department was struck by lightning. The strike burned the generator switching panel and two of the smaller UPS’s. J & T Service Center, Inc. was called to help bring the generator back online. They replaced the switching panel and advised that we had been struck. Kelly advised the purchase of a much heavier and more suitable UPS unit at this time.

The following three (3) quotes were received from vendors with GovConnection being low bidder at a total cost \$4,598.39 and is being recommended for this purchase.

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Freight Type</u>	<u>Freight</u>	<u>Total</u>
CDWG	\$5,352.58	FedEx 2 Day Freight	\$639.45	\$5,992.03
PC Mall	\$5,308.00	AID T Day Freight	\$442.96	\$5750.96
GovConnection	\$4,468.39	3-5 Day Freight		\$130.00
\$4,598.39				

Note was made that this item is not a budgeted item for the 2009 McDuffie County IT Department approved budget. Funds for this purchase will come from Contingency.

After discussion, a motion was made by Wilson to accept the low bid from GovConnection in the amount of \$4,598.39; motion was seconded by Jopling and passed unanimously.

4. **Formal Approval of Budget Amendment for \$500 from Southern Nuclear Operating Company for Fire Service Small Equipment:** Chairman Newton asked County Manager Don Norton to address this matter.

Don stated that this is a matter of formality only and since all budget amendments which increase or decrease the overall County budget need to go before the Board of Commissioners, he felt that this one should also. The \$500 check from Southern Nuclear Operating Company is for equipment in Fire Rescue Service in the 2009 budget year, there is no negative fiscal impact as these funds would be added to the Fire Rescue budget in line item 53-1600 Small Equipment and would be spent as needed for equipment purchases. Don recommended allowing the \$500 show as revenue income in the Fire Rescue Revenue Account and increase the line item for Small Equipment 53-1600 by \$500 in the Fire Rescue budget. A motion to approve this recommendation was made by Jopling, seconded by McCorkle and passed unanimously.

5. **Declaration of Surplus Election Equipment (Gov. Deals):** Chairman Newton asked County Manager Don Norton to present this matter since Superintendent of Elections, Phyllis Wheeler, was absent.

Don stated that in order to clear some of the Election Office of items no longer in use, he recommended that the following items be classified as "surplus" in an effort to sell or dispose of if selling is not possible:

- 10 Sequoia Pacific Voting Equipment, Inc. Privacy Voting Booths (for use in areas using paper ballots).
- 10 Metal Ballot Boxes (for use with paper ballots).
- 9 Black rolling supply carts.
- 10 Blue storage bins

After discussion, a motion to approve this request was made by Jopling, seconded by McCorkle and passed unanimously.

6. **SPLOST V Construction Bond Funds Investment:** After giving some background information, Chairman Newton asked County Manager Don Norton and County Finance Director Jimmy Whitaker to present this matter.

Jimmy reported that five (5) locally located banks along with Ga. Bank and Trust of Augusta, Ga. had submitted proposals for consideration by the Board in placing the SPLOST V Bond Construction proceeds. A summary of interest rates by these banks is copied below and made a part of these minutes.

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After discussion, a motion was made by Jopling to approve depositing up to \$6,000,000 in a checking account with Queensborough National Bank at an interest rate of 1.30%, up to \$6,000,000 in a savings account with Georgia Bank and Trust at an interest rate of 1.75%, and leave \$6,000,000 with LGIP at a current interest rate of .93% unless Georgia Bank and Trust decide they want another \$6,000,000 at 1.75%; motion was seconded by McCorkle and passed unanimously.

7. **Monthly Budget Report – March 2009:** Chairman Newton asked County Manager Don Norton to present this report.

Don reported that as of March 31, 2009 with 25% of year lapsed; the County had collected \$1,981,243.34 or 15.2% of the projected YTD revenue for the General Fund. With 25% of the year lapsed, the YTD General Fund Expenditures were \$3,314,293.01 or 25.8%. The amount over 25% is not a real concern because these expenditures include one extra payroll accounting for about \$200,000.

10. **Monthly Financial Report – March 2009:** County Finance Director Jimmy Whitaker, continued with the report on all bank accounts showing a grand total of \$26,753,346.10 as of March 31, 2009; Hotel/Motel revenue reflects a YTD total of \$39,438.13 or 0.03% above the same date in 2008; Local Option Sales Tax Collection are YTD \$672,154.50 or 23.65% increase from 2008 on

the same date last year; and SPLOST IV Revenue/Expenditures report a cumulative revenue total of \$17,818,007 plus \$487,724 earned interest; SPLOST V Revenue/Expenditures report a cumulative revenue total of \$359,394 with no expenditures as of this date plus \$62 earned interest. SPLOST V funds are being set aside for bond debt service payments on the City-County Building Complex.

At this time, a motion was made by Wilson to enter into an Executive Session to discuss personnel; motion was seconded by Favors and passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Topic of Discussion: Personnel

After entering into the Session, it was agreed upon by all that an Executive Session was not needed or required for the specific subject matter and it would be discussed later

A motion to leave the Executive Session and resume the regular Commission Meeting was made by Favors, seconded by Jopling and passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items to come before the Board at this time, a motion to adjourn was made by Wilson, seconded by McCorkle and passed unanimously.

McDUFFIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Charles G. Newton IV, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Annette Finley, County Clerk