

The McDuffie County Board of Commissioners held a regular Commission Meeting Tuesday evening, April 20, 2010, 6:30 PM, Grand Jury Room, McDuffie County Courthouse.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

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

COUNTY REPRESENTATION

Sammy Fowler, County Attorney
Don Norton, County Manager
Penny Salley, County Clerk
Bruce Tanner, County Fire Chief
Don Clauson, Director, Solid Waste Dept.
Bob Howard, Director, Recreation

Department

MEDIA

WTHO Radio Station
McDuffie Progress Newspaper
McDuffie Mirror Newspaper

OTHERS

Kenneth Usry, City of Thomson
Don Powers, City of Thomson

PUBLIC INPUT

Speakers: None
Adjournment: 6:30 PM

ZONING ISSUES

No Issues

COMMISSION MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Newton acknowledged a quorum of commissioners present and welcomed everyone in attendance.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

APPROVAL

Agenda (Current)

A motion to approve the current Agenda with the following listed changes was made by Jopling, seconded by Wilson and passed unanimously.

Change Items 8 and 9 in New Business to 11 and 12

Adding New Item 8: Approval of Water/Sewer Commission Meeting

Action Items.

Adding New Item 9: Request to Lift Hiring Freeze for Sheriff's Administrative

Clerk.

Adding Item 10: Payment for Three (3) New Vehicles in the Sheriff's Department.

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Minutes (Regular Mtg. 4/7/10)

A motion to approve the minutes of the regular Commission Meeting held 4/7/10 was made by Jopling, seconded by Wilson and passed unanimously.

INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Request for Donations for Family "Y" Scholarship Program (DeDe Keir)
2. ACCG Annual Meeting April 24-27, 2010

3. **Mayor Kenneth Usry Wishes to Address Board Re: Railroad Street Plans**
Mayor Usry and City Administrator Don Powers discussed Railroad Street and Government Center parking access issues.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Request to Lift Hiring Freeze for Elections Superintendent Position (Chairman Newton)

Due to the resignation of current Elections Superintendent Phyllis Wheeler, effective April 30, 2010, and a recommendation by Chairman Newton, a motion was made by Jopling to lift the hiring freeze and fill the open position, seconded by Wilson and passed unanimously.

2. Update Concerning Inmate Health Care Situation (Chairman Newton)

Don stated that Sheriff Marshall would like to pursue hiring a private company to handle inmate health care. The cost of hiring the company would be approximately \$128,000.00 per year with an increase of no more than 3% per year for the next three (3) years. This cost includes routine medical, dental and pharmaceutical fees, but does not include major medical issues that would need hospitalization. In the last 12 months the cost for inmate health care was approximately \$192,000 for non-emergency care, but additional cost analysis is being done.

After a lengthy discussion, a motion was made by Jopling to give the authority to the County Manager to work with Sheriff Marshall in obtaining cost effective inmate medical coverage, seconded by Favors and passed unanimously.

3. Consideration of Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant Application (Bob Howard)

Chairman Newton asked Bob Howard, Director, Recreation Department, to address this matter.

After discussion and a recommendation from Bob, a motion was made by Favors to approve the LWCF grant application for \$40,000 for the planned skate park at the Pitt Street Park, seconded by Wilson and passed unanimously.

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4. Consideration of Georgia Forestry Commission Grant (Chief Tanner)

Chairman Newton asked Bruce Tanner, County Fire Chief, to address this matter.

Chief Tanner has requested to use grant proceeds and budgeted funds to purchase new fire hose. This is a 50/50 matching grant the cost of the hose being \$3,000.12, the cost to the County being \$1,500.06 coming from budgeted funds in small equipment.

A motion was made by Jopling to approve the purchase of the new fire hose with grant funds and budgeted funds, seconded by Favors and passed unanimously.

5. Award of Pest Control Bid (Don Norton)

Chairman Newton asked Don Norton, County Manager, to address this matter.

After discussion a motion was made by Wilson to accept the three (3) year pest control bid from B&D Pest Control for yearly cost of \$4,560.00, seconded by Jopling and passed unanimously.

6. Adoption of Resolution to Update SunTrust Visa Credit Card Account (Don Norton)

Chairman Newton asked Don Norton, County Manager, to address this matter.

A motion was made by Favors to adopt the resolution to add the name of Penny Salley and remove the name Annette Finley from the SunTrust Visa credit card account, seconded by Jopling and passed unanimously.

7. Final "Corrective" Budget Amendments for 2009 (Don Norton)

Chairman Newton asked Don Norton, County Manager, to address this matter.

After a lengthy discussion a motion was made by Jopling to adopt the budget amendments with the exception of changing the name on the "Special Account" for the 2009 fiscal year, seconded by McCorkle and passed unanimously.

8. Approval of Water/Sewer Commission Meeting Action Items (Chairman Newton)

A motion was made by McCorkle to approve the reimbursement of \$4,979.80 from the W&S "Renewal and Extension" budget as opposed to the SPLOST Capital budget for the pump rebuild at the Augusta Road Water Plant, as well as to approve \$58,500.00 from SPLOST IV for freeze prevention and the engineering study for the Augusta Road Water Plant upgrade, along with upgrades to fire hydrants and water lines on Lee Street and Main Street to improve fire protection, seconded by Wilson and passed unanimously.

9. Request to Lift Hiring Freeze for Sheriff's Administrative Clerk (Don Norton)

Chairman Newton asked Don Norton, County Manager, to address this matter.

Sheriff Marshall has requested that the hiring freeze be lifted, due to the retirement of his current clerk, Daisy Hobbs.

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A motion was made by Wilson to lift the hiring freeze for the administrative clerks position in the Sheriff's Department, seconded by Favors and passed unanimously.

10. Request to Pay for Three (3) New Vehicles in the Sheriff's Department (Don Norton)

Chairman Newton asked Don Norton, County Manager to address this issue.

Three vehicles have been purchased by the Sheriff's Department to be paid for out of the General Fund in the amount of \$93,657.00, a budget amendment will be made at the May 5th meeting.

11. Monthly Budget Report – March 2010 (Don Norton)

Don reported that as of March 31, 2010, with 25% of the year lapsed, the County had collected \$ 7,111,578.44 or 41.6% of the projected YTD revenue for the General Fund. With 25% of the year lapsed, the YTD General Fund Expenditures were \$8,843,920.17 or 27.4%.

12. Monthly Financial Report – March 2010 (Don Norton)

Don Norton, reported on all bank accounts showing a grand total of \$26,642,432.00 as of March 31, 2010; Hotel/Motel revenue reflects a YTD \$32,573.00 or a total of -17.43% less than on the same date in 2009; Local Option Sales Tax Collections are YTD \$657,325.00 or a total of -2.21% decrease from the same date in 2009; SPLOST IV Revenue/Expenditures report a cumulative revenue total of \$17,818,007 with a balance of \$452,850 plus \$489,359 interest earnings; SPLOST V revenues reflect \$3,848,171 as of March 31,2010; expenditures are \$1,829,850.

ADJOURNMENT

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

McDUFFIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Charles G. Newton IV, Chairman

ATTEST:

Penny Salley, County Clerk