

The McDuffie County Board of Commissioners held a regular Commission Meeting Tuesday evening, September 21, 2010, 6:30 PM, Grand Jury Room, McDuffie County Courthouse.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

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

COUNTY REPRESENTATION

Don Norton, County Manager
Penny Salley, County Clerk
Bruce Tanner, Fire Chief
Eric Reisinger, Public Works Director
Raymond White, IT Director
Pam Workman, Assistant Finance Director
Linda Thurmond, Chief Tax Appraiser

MEDIA

McDuffie Progress Newspaper
McDuffie Mirror Newspaper
WTHO

OTHERS

Two (2) others attended

1st 2011 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

Chairman Newton asked County Manager Don Norton to present the FY 2011 Budget.

Don presented a budget with projected revenues of \$ \$12,350,174 reflecting a 1.4% increase over FY 2010 with proposed appropriations of \$12,307,714 and a contingency of \$42,460.

There was discussion about the local Library Director position. Susan Harris will be retiring in 2011, the State will no longer fund the position, supposed to be temporary. The County has been approached by Lillie Crowe, Director, Bartram Trail Regional Library about funding half of Ms. Harris's salary at a cost of \$6,000, this would allow Ms. Harris to continue as a part time employee for half of the year, The City would pick up another \$6,000. If the position is not funded, the Library will be closed to the public on Monday and Saturday of each week.

Additionally, two of the cell tower audits have been completed with good results. The suggestion was made to allow Linda Thurmond, Chief Tax Appraiser, to complete three additional cell tower audits this year and complete the remainder of the audits in 2011, with a cost of \$900 for each tower. Approximately \$18,000 with at least a revenue offset.

After discussion it was decided to allow both of the above to be added in the FY 2011 budget as well as keep the Georgia Forestry part time secretary position, leaving a balanced budget with a contingency of \$36,460 as of this date.

Adjournment: 6:50 PM

PUBLIC INPUT

Speakers: 1. Ms. Angela Miller-Hudgeon: Presented a petition and expressed concerns about speeding and safety in Northview Acres Subdivision. Additional information to be collected and discussed at a future Board meeting as appropriate.

Adjournment: 7:00 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 Favors offered the invocation and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVALS

Agenda (Current)

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

Minutes (Regular Mtg. 9/1/10)

A motion to approve the minutes of the regular Commission Meeting held 9/1/10 was made by Wilson, seconded by Jopling and passed unanimously.

INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. 2010 Legislative Leadership Conference, October 4th and 5th, Atlanta Marriott Marquis (May wish to cancel October 4, 2010 Work Session)
The Work Session scheduled for October 4, 2010 has been cancelled.
2. Trick or Treat Saturday, October 30th rather than Sunday October 31st.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Status Update Concerning Government Center Construction

Chairman Newton asked Jud Bryant, Program Manager, to address this matter.

Financial Report:

As of the August 2010 pay application from R.W. Allen, the Government Center is approximately 65 % complete. There is approximately \$452,342.17 in Owner held retainage and \$115,530.14 in Owner approved change orders. There has been \$9,046,843.43 of the construction completed and \$5,315,898.88 to be completed.

Site Lighting:

Georgia Power is currently in the process of revising the site lighting package. Jud will provide the information to the Board as soon as it is available.

Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment:

Wakefield Beasley has completed all on site meetings with department heads and will be providing a comprehensive package of systems and furniture to the Board as soon as it is completed.

Veterans Memorial Fountain/Reflecting Pool:

A request has been made for the County Commission to review its earlier decision to use a reflecting pool as the focal of the Veterans Memorial. The request was made due to the fact that in the early stages of design and as part of the presentations made to the public a fountain was shown in the location now under consideration for the Veterans Memorial. RW Allen has been asked to generate a cost as to the fountain that will be presented in October.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Status Update Concerning Information Technology Needs at New Government Center

Chairman Newton asked Raymond White, IT Director, to address this matter.

Raymond has recommended that the Board approve a contract in the amount of \$29,600 from EDI to assist in designing low-voltage systems for the Government Center. The contract will include services as follows:

Data/Voice/CATV Cabling System	\$12,600
Equipment Bid Specifications	\$10,500
Project Management moving of existing IT Center	\$5,000
Mapping assessment of optimal Access Point Coverage	\$1,500

After discussion and a recommendation from Raymond a motion was made by Jopling to approve the contract with EDI in the amount of \$29,600 to be paid from bond proceeds, seconded by Wilson and passed unanimous

2. Discussion Concerning Downtown WIFI Connection

Chairman Newton asked Raymond White, IT Director, to address this matter.

Raymond has made the recommendation to turn the downtown WIFI access over to the Chamber of Commerce. Raymond has concerns that if the County provides the wireless service that IT will be responsible for problems that citizens and businesses may have.

Chairman Newton has asked Raymond to get an estimate for repairing the equipment, as well as an estimate for the annual maintenance fees. There will be further discussions and research outside the Commission meeting and it will be brought back before the Board at a later date.

There was no action taken at this time.

3. Additional Revenue to Volunteer Firefighter Reimbursement

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

The McDuffie County Fire Rescue Service has received a check in the amount of \$2,500 from Dixie Pipeline for volunteer firefighter reimbursement for the pipeline explosion in July of this year. Chief Tanner has made the recommendation to allow the budget amendment showing \$2,500 as revenue income and increase the line item for Volunteer Firefighter Reimbursement.

After a recommendation from Chief Tanner, a motion was made by Jopling to allow the budget amendment to increase the line item for Volunteer Firefighter Reimbursement by \$2,500, seconded by Wilson and passed unanimously.

Commissioner McCorkle has concerns that the Sheriff's Department has also received money from Dixie Pipeline, County Manager to follow up.

4. Request to Lift Hiring Freeze for Equipment Operator Position in Roads Dept.

Chairman Newton asked Eric Reisinger, Public Works Director to address this matter.

Eric has requested that the hiring freeze be lifted in order to fill a position that was recently vacated due to termination. The position he is requesting to fill is a street maintenance worker with a pay grade of 7A. The total salary and benefits package is \$23,716.77. There will also be a promotion from within the Road Department to fill the equipment operators position, that became vacant.

After discussion and a recommendation from Eric, a motion was made by McCorkle to lift the hiring freeze for a street maintenance worker with a pay grade of 7A, seconded by Wilson and passed unanimously.

5. Request to Reclassify Administrative Secretary in Road Dept. to "Administrative Assistant" Position (5% Salary Adjustment)

Chairman Newton asked Eric Reisinger, Public Works Director to address this matter.

Eric has made the recommendation to reclassify the position of administrative secretary to administrative assistant with a 5% salary adjustment. The request is being made due to the increased responsibilities that have been placed on the position.

A motion was made by McCorkle to approve the reclassification of the administrative secretary in the Road Department to administrative assistant with a 5% salary adjustment, seconded by Jopling. A roll call vote was requested by Commissioner Wilson. The results are as follows with Reverend Favors being absent:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
McCorkle	✓	
Newton	✓	
Wilson		✓
Jopling	✓	

The motion passed with a two to one vote, with Commissioner Wilson voting no.

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6. Consideration of Contract for Adult Day Care Services at Senior Center

Commissioner McCorkle requested that the matter be postponed until all of the Commissioners were present.

7. Monthly Budget Report – August 2010

Don Norton reported that as of August 31, 2010, with 66.7% of the year lapsed, the County had collected \$3,798,678.08 or 69.1% of the projected YTD revenue for the General Fund. With 66.7% of the year lapsed, the YTD General Fund Expenditures were \$3,908,731.72 or 68.2%.

8. Monthly Financial Report – August 2010

Pam Workman, reported on all bank accounts showing a grand total of \$18,629,079.00 as of August 31, 2010; Hotel/Motel revenue reflects a YTD \$116,430.00 or a total of -3.93% less than on the same date in 2009; Local Option Sales Tax Collections are YTD \$1,767,918.00 or a total of 12.16% increase from the same date in 2009; SPLOST IV Revenue/Expenditures report a cumulative revenue total of \$17,818,007 with a balance of \$150,551.00 plus \$489,748.00 interest earnings; SPLOST V revenues reflect \$5,454,683.00 as of August 31,2010; expenditures are \$1,829,850.00. Of the \$17,655,000.00 in Bond Construction Funds for the new Government Center Project, \$9,118,455.27 had been spent as of August 31, 2010.

ADJOURNMENT

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

McDUFFIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Charles G. Newton IV, Chairman

ATTEST:

Penny Salley, County Clerk