

Houston County Commissioners Meeting
Tuesday, January 21, 2020
Warner Robins, Georgia

The Houston County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 21, 2020, at the Houston County Annex in Warner Robins, Georgia, with Chairman Stalnaker presiding and Commissioners Walker, Thomson, McMichael, and Robinson present. Also present were Attorney Tom Hall, Director of Administration Barry Holland, Director of Operations Robbie Dunbar, Director of Personnel Ken Carter, Director of Purchasing Mark Baker, Fire / HEMA Chief Chris Stoner, Chief Building Inspector Tim Andrews, Roads Superintendent Travis McLendon, Public Buildings Superintendent Michael Phillips, Major Tommy Jackson, Capt. Randy Banks and Walton and Becky Wood.

Commissioner Thomson led the audience in the Invocation.

2nd Lt. David Noland, US Air Force led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and briefed the Board on his military service. He is currently serving as an Acquisitions Officer and C-17 cyber security program manager at Robins AFB. He has probably another three years on his assignment here at Robins AFB and feels that he has been very well received by our friendly and welcoming community which shows great support for the military. He grew up in the mid-west near Reno, Nevada and has also been stationed in Alaska. This is his second assignment to Robins AFB.

Chairman Stalnaker recognized Lt. Darin Meadows, Capt. Mike Stokes, Nathaniel Rawls, Benjamin Keen, Tim Andrews and Dihl Smith for their 30-year service anniversaries with the County presenting each with a certificate of achievement, a service pin and a check for \$300. The Board of Commissioners and each employee's department head thanked all for their exemplary service to our community.

Chairman Stalnaker then recognized Ms. Elaine Hollis who introduced the reigning Miss Warner Robins Olivia McMillan and the pageant princesses Abi Goss, Madison Sorrow, Kameron Griffith and Avery Miliner. Princesses Ilah Cate McKenzie, Millie McKenzie, Olivia Collins and Khloe Little were unable to attend the meeting. Chairman Stalnaker allowed each young lady to introduce herself and then he presented each with a pen and pencil set, county lapel pin and a writing journal.

Ms. Hollis thanked the Board of Commissioners and also the parents and pageant board members for their support of the pageant programs.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to approve the minutes of the meeting of January 7, 2020.

Mr. Walker presented a request for annexation from the City of Warner Robins.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to concur with a City of Warner Robins annexation request for the property described as:

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Tax Parcel No. 000770 009000 totaling 0.91 acres located at 1205 S. Houston Lake Road, with the stipulation that the County retain the property as a water customer.

Mr. Walker presented a request for abandonment of easement.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to authorize Chairman Stalnaker signing a Resolution abandoning a portion of a Houston County utility easement approving Mr. Jeffrey T. Pennington’s application for abandonment of a portion of a utility easement and further authorizing Chairman Stalnaker signing the quit-claim deed conveying the easement rights.

Director of Administration Barry Holland presented a second reading for alcohol license application.

Chairman Stalnaker closed the regular portion of the meeting and opened a Public Hearing.

Applicant Shetalben Patel, representing Shree Yogiji DBA Lake Mart, was present, there were no comments

Chairman Stalnaker closed the Public Hearing and reopened the regular meeting.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to approve the alcohol license application submitted by Shetalben Patel representing Shree Yogiji DBA Lake Mart convenience store for the retail sale of beer and wine located at 451 Lake Joy Road, Kathleen.

Mr. Thomson presented the qualifying fees for the 2020 election year.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to approve the setting of qualifying fees for the 2020 Election year candidates for County offices as follows:

Judge of Probate Court	\$2,173
Clerk of Superior Court	\$2,173
Sheriff	\$2,425
Tax Commissioner	\$2,173
Coroner	\$1,118
Chief Magistrate	\$2,173
Solicitor-General	\$3,561
County Commissioner – Post 3	\$ 360
County Commissioner – Post 4	\$ 360
County Commissioner – Post 5	\$ 360
Board of Education – District 1	\$ 216
Board of Education – District 3	\$ 216
Board of Education – District 5	\$ 216
Board of Education – Post 7 (At Large)	\$ 216

Mr. McMichael presented the final change order for the Davidson Road widening project.

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Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to authorize Chairman Stalnaker signing Change Order #2 (Final) on the Davidson Road Widening project with C.W. Mathews Contracting Company of Marietta, GA increasing the current contract amount of \$229,129.80 by \$18,988.38 bringing the final contract total to \$248,188.18. There is no increase in contract time.

Mr. McMichael presented a request for approval of a bid on the MSW Landfill Phase 3 Lift Station Improvements project.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve the award of the MSW Landfill Phase 3 Lift Station Improvements project to Gunnco Pump & Control, Inc. of Cumming, GA in the amount of \$61,668.38. This project is funded by the Solid Waste Capital Funds.

Ms. Robinson presented a request for grant acceptance from the Houston County Fire Department.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to approve Chief Stoner signing the Memorandum of Understanding – Funding Agreement with the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation accepting \$18,372 to be used toward the direct purchase of Eight Gas Monitor Kits and Calibration Equipment from Municipal Equipment Co. (Quote #411930-00).

Chief Stoner praised the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation for providing this type of amazing support and funding for local fire departments.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to approve the payment of the bills totaling \$1,281,532.50.

Chairman Stalnaker closed the regular portion of the meeting and opened Public Comments.

Chief Stoner thanked the Board for their continued support of the Fire Department and for approving the Firehouse Sub grant acceptance stating that the equipment funded by the grant will help to protect both the citizens of our community and our firefighters. He once again thanked the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation for their contribution to the department.

Chief Building Inspector Tim Andrews thanked the Board for their acknowledgement of his thirty years of service to the County and its citizens. He also acknowledged his wife, Karla, and his oldest son, Justin who were in attendance.

Lilli Nichols, 800 Flournoy Road, Elko expressed her concerns about the condition of Flournoy Road, Holt Road and Brown Hill Road. She contends that these dirt roads are not being maintained properly and it causes issues as more homes are built in the area and traffic is heavier.

Jonathan Gibbs, 162 Brown Hill Road, Elko agreed with Ms. Nichols that there has been a lot of residential growth in the area over the last year or two and that the roads are in rough condition.

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Levi Vedas, 141 Holt Road, Elko also agreed that these three roads are not being properly maintained.

Chairman Stalnaker asked Ms. Nichols, Mr. Gibbs and Mr. Vedas to speak with Mr. Dunbar and that the County would see what it could do to improve maintenance on these roads. He mentioned that there is a need to obtain right of way on these roads if the County were to consider paving them in the future.

As there were no further comments Chairman Stalnaker closed the Public Comments portion of the meeting.

Chairman Stalnaker opened the meeting for Commissioners Comments.

Mr. Thomson thanked everyone for coming and sharing their issues with the Board.

Mr. McMichael remarked that he was hopeful that right of way could possibly be obtained for Flournoy Road and other roads in the area in the near future.

Ms. Robinson thanked everyone for coming and participating in the meeting.

Mr. Walker thanked everyone for coming and was glad that the Board was able to recognize so many outstanding employees for reaching their 15, 20, 25 and 30-year service anniversaries.

Chairman Stalnaker reminded everyone of the upcoming 2020 census and the importance at the local, state, and national level of being counted. He also thanked everyone for attending the meeting and thanked the great employees of the County for their efforts.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Walker, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all, meeting adjourned.

Barry Holland
Director of Administration

Chairman

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner