

December 2, 2004

The Walton County Board of Commissioners held a called meeting on Thursday, December 2, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. in the Courthouse Annex V Conference Room, 132 East Spring Street, Monroe, Ga. Those present included Chairman Kevin Little, Commissioners Clinton Ayers, Michael Turner, Phil Green, Lamar Palmer, Gerald Atha and John Robinson, County Clerk Leta Talbird, County Attorney Ken Lander, Associate County Attorney Bill Childers, Personnel Director Janice Holland, Financial Officer Merridy McDaniel and Planning Director Mike Martin. A list of citizens and other employees in attendance at this meeting is on file in the auxiliary file under this meeting date.

David Willet of East Atlanta Properties offered a donation of 10.35 acres to the County for use as greenspace or parkland.

Chairman Little called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Green opened the meeting in prayer.

Commissioner Turner made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented, with requested the addition of acceptance of the land donation from East Atlanta Properties. Commissioner Ayers seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Robinson made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 8, 2004 meeting. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Chief Magistrate Judge Elect Mike Burke requested approval of a contract with Nextel for a cellular telephone. The Board discussed the possibility of reimbursing employees a certain amount each month for use of their personal cellular telephones rather than the County purchasing phones and entering into contracts. The Board also discussed the possibility of entering into a contract with one provider for all County cell phones. Commissioner Turner made a motion to approve reimbursement of \$50.00 per month to Mr. Burke for use of his personal cellular telephone. Commissioner Ayers seconded the motion. All voted in favor. After further discussion, Commissioner Turner made a motion to rescind the previous action. Commissioner Ayers seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously. Commissioner Ayers made a motion to table a decision on the matter until the 12-7-04 meeting. Commissioner Turner seconded the motion. All voted in favor. After further discussion, Commissioner Robinson made a motion to authorize the Chairman to look into the matter and to make a decision before January 1, 2005. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Ayers made a motion to table discussion of a proposal for health insurance coverage for former Commissioners. Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Personnel Director Janice Holland presented a request for approval of pay grade and job title for the position formerly funded by the Scrap Tire Grant. Commissioner Green made a motion to approve the request. Commissioner Turner seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Ayers made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Turner, to approve employee new hires as presented. All voted in favor.

The Board discussed a request from Chief Superior Court Judge Marvin Sorrells regarding establishment of the salaries of Juvenile Court Judges. Chairman Little stated that he would discuss the matter with Judges Ott and

Johnson. Commissioner Turner made a motion to table a decision on the matter. Commissioner Ayers seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

John Strauss of the Public Defender's Office requested the Board approve a personnel budget allocation for Investigator David Boswell. Commissioner Atha made a motion to approve the request. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Financial Officer Merridy McDaniel presented contracts and budgeted purchases of \$2,500.00 or greater for the Board's approval. Associate County Attorney Bill Childers updated the Board about the negotiations held between the County and Monroe Utilities Network regarding tap fees for the new Government Building and the new Jail addition. Commissioner Green made a motion to approve contracts and purchases as presented. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion. After further discussion, Commissioner Green rescinded his motion and Commissioner Palmer rescinded his second. Commissioner Turner made a motion to approve all contracts and purchases as presented except for the tap fees. Commissioner Atha seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Commissioner Atha made a motion to approve payment of the tap fees. Commissioner Green seconded the motion. Commissioners Green, Atha & Palmer voted in favor of the motion. Commissioners Ayers, Turner & Robinson opposed the motion. Chairman Little voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried 4-3.

Commissioner Ayers made a motion to approve the donation of capital assets (hazardous materials equipment) acquired through a grant to the cities of Monroe, Loganville & Social Circle. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Robinson made a motion to adopt a resolution regarding fiscal accountability for volunteer firefighter funds. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Turner made a motion to approve a Zero Balance Agreement with Athens First Bank for the Animal Control Department's account. Commissioner Ayers seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Walton County Chamber of Commerce President Teri Wommack presented a contract for services for the Board's consideration. Commissioner Robinson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Atha, to approve the contract. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Atha made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Robinson, to approve a contract with E.R. Snell, Inc. for Walton County's portion of DOT Contract OSAP0M002906 - Construction of left turn lanes on SR 11 @ Bold Springs Road. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Green made a motion to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Walnut Grove for improvements to Park Street and to give the Chairman the authority to execute the contract. Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Turner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Robinson, to approve an Intergovernmental Contract with the Joint Development Authority of Jasper, Newton, Morgan and Walton County regarding the Research Park Project. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Turner made a motion to approve a contract with APAC Southeast, Inc. for Walton County's portion of a DOT contract for

intersection improvements on SR 20 and Sharon Church Road. Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Palmer made a motion to adopt a resolution for the transmittal of the Capital Improvement Element of the Impact Fee Program to the Northeast Georgia RDC for regional review. Commissioner Atha seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Green made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ayers, to accept the donation of land from East Atlanta Properties and to give the Chairman the authority to execute the necessary documents. All voted in favor.

The Board considered a Tax Assessors' Office recommendation to approve a refund for David B. Brock & Tamara K. Brock in the amount of \$645.46 for the floating base homestead exemption for tax year 2003 that was not posted to their account. Commissioner Ayers made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Atha, to approve the refund. All voted in favor.

The Board considered a Tax Assessors' Office recommendation to deny a refund request for First Data Merchant Services for 2003 taxes. The taxpayer requested the refund based on the Fair Market Value of equipment rather than the assessed value. Commissioner Ayers made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Tax Assessors' Office to deny the refund request. Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

County Clerk Leta Talbird presented 2005 Alcoholic Beverage License renewals for the Board's consideration. Commissioner Ayers made a motion to give the Chairman the authority to approve licenses for current license holders who have not yet submitted their renewal information as of this meeting date, but that neither the Chairman or County Clerk is authorized to issue renewal licenses after the close of business on December 30, 2004. Commissioner Turner seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously. Commissioner Green made a motion to approve 2005 Alcoholic Beverage License renewals as presented. Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

At 7:35 p.m., Commissioner Robinson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ayers, to enter into executive session to discuss litigation. Commissioners Ayers, Turner, Green, Palmer, Atha & Robinson voted in favor.

At 7:45 p.m. Commissioner Ayers made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Green, to return to regular session. Commissioners Ayers, Turner, Green, Palmer, Atha & Robinson voted in favor. No votes were taken while in executive session.

At 7:46 p.m., Commissioner Ayers made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Green, to adjourn the meeting. All voted in favor.

All documents of record for this meeting are on file in either the addendum book or auxiliary file under this meeting date.

KEVIN W. LITTLE, CHAIRMAN

LETA P. TALBIRD, CLERK

CLINTON AYERS, DISTRICT 1

MICHAEL TURNER, DISTRICT 2

HARRY P. GREEN, DISTRICT 3

LAMAR PALMER, DISTRICT 4

GERALD ATHA, DISTRICT 5

JOHN ROBINSON, DISTRICT 6