

September 12, 2006

The Walton County Board of Commissioners held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, September 12, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Walton County Government Building, 303 South Hammond Drive, Suite 330, Monroe, Ga. Those present included Chairman Kevin Little, Commissioners Clinton Ayers, Michael Turner, Vickie Gasaway, Lamar Palmer, Gerald Atha and John Robinson, County Clerk Leta Talbird, County Attorney Kirby Atkinson, Personnel Director Karen Fraser, Finance Officer Christi Pickens 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.

The Board recognized the Walton County 4-H Wildlife Judging Team, which placed 2nd in the nation.

Chairman Little called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Gasaway opened the meeting in prayer.

Commissioner Turner made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented, with requested additions. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Turner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Palmer, to approve the minutes of the July 27, 2006 and August 1, 2006 board meetings. All voted in favor.

The Board considered a Planning Commission recommendation to approve an amendment to the Walton County Land Development Ordinance as shown on an errata sheet dated 6-1-06 - # 3 – Article 9, Section 100 – D. Clear Zone Requirements. Commissioner Turner made a motion to approve the amendment. Commissioner Atha seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

The Board considered a Planning Commission recommendation to approve a Conditional Use for a church on 6.546 acres located at 5121 Centerhill Church Road for Kim Yath. The effected property is owned by James D. Jackson and is further identified on WC Tax Map C 29, Parcel 75B. Chairman Little opened the public hearing on the matter. Kim Yath came before the Board in support of the Conditional Use. Linda LaClair, Lisa McNair, Pascal Myers, Linda McDaniel and Holli Senko spoke in opposition to the Conditional Use, citing increased traffic, inadequate sight distance and concerns about future growth in the area as reasons for opposition. A

petition signed by residents of the area was submitted for the record asking for the community to be kept strictly residential. Chairman Little closed the public hearing on the matter. Commissioner Turner asked Planning Director Mike Martin if there is a sight distance issue. Mr. Martin stated that the requirement is 550 feet and that the site distance at the property is 475 feet. Commissioner Turner stated that after hearing from everybody and from Mr. Martin, he feels like this is probably not a good site for this type of operation. Commissioner Turner made a motion to deny the conditional use. Commissioner Atha seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

The Board considered a Planning Commission recommendation to approve a rezone from A-1 to R-1 on 1.128 acres for one single-family residential lot for George W. Doster, Jr. & Anita Doster. The effected property is located on Cedar Ridge Road and is further identified on WC Tax Map C 91, Parcel 17 Split. Chairman Little opened the public hearing on the matter. Attorney John Spence, representing the applicant, came before the Board in support of the rezone. Mr. Spence submitted a letter preserving the applicant's Constitutional rights for the record. There was no one present in opposition to the rezone. Chairman Little closed the public hearing on the matter. Commissioner Atha made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Palmer, to approve the rezone. All voted in favor.

The Board considered a Planning Commission recommendation to deny a request by Bullard Land Planning for alterations to zoning conditions on Gum Creek Church Road for The Falls at Rocky Branch subdivision. The effected property is owned by William C. Lane, Jr., Executor and is further identified on WC Tax Map C 28, Parcel 113. Chairman Little opened the public hearing on the matter. Joe Moon of Bullard Land Planning came before the Board in support of the request. He stated that Phase I of the development is complete and Phase II is already platted. He stated that the applicant is requesting an alteration to the zoning condition that requires a 100-ft. undisturbed buffer along the property contiguous to Smith Estates to be waived to allow a 50-ft. transitional buffer and is requesting for the lot sizes to be reduced from 1 acre lots to ½ acre lots. Susan Boyett, representing the residents of Smith Road, spoke in opposition. Brad Johnson, Peter Pastori and Stan Peters also spoke in opposition. Bobby Bullard of Bullard Land Planning spoke in rebuttal. Chairman Little closed the public hearing on the matter. Commissioner Turner made a motion to deny the request. Commissioner Ayers seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

The Board held a public hearing to consider the extension of the moratorium on the Hard Labor Creek Regional Water Reservoir pool level boundaries and 150-ft. buffer. There was no one present in opposition to the extension of the moratorium. Commissioner Turner made a motion, seconded by

Commissioner Gasaway, to adopt a resolution extending the moratorium for 24 months. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Ayers made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gasaway, to accept the following rights of way: The Falls at Rocky Branch II – Kristen Lane, Callee Court, Rene Court, Caroline Way; Avery's Walk – Avery's Walk. All voted in favor.

Finance Officer Christi Pickens presented contracts & budgeted purchases of \$2,500.00 or greater for the Board's review. Commissioner Ayers made a motion to approve the contracts & purchases as presented. Commissioner Gasaway seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

The Board considered a request for acceptance of a seized vehicle for use by the Sheriff's Office. Commissioner Palmer made a motion to accept the vehicle. Commissioner Turner seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

The Board considered a request from Fire Chief Steve Couch for authorization to bid on fire engines offered on Ebay by Gwinnett County. Commissioner Palmer made a motion to approve the request. Commissioner Turner seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The Board considered a proposal submitted by Treadwell, Tamplin & Company for completion of the Fiscal Year 2005 audit. Commissioner Turner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Palmer, to accept the proposal. All voted in favor.

The Board considered a request from George Walton Academy for the an increase in the funding amount previously approved by the Board for improvements made on Michael Etchison Road. Commissioner Ayers made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Turner, to deny the request. All voted in favor.

Personnel Director Karen Fraser presented employee new hires, promotions and transfers for approval. Commissioner Gasaway made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ayers, to approve new hires, promotions and transfers as presented, for the record. All voted in favor.

Ms. Fraser presented a job description for a proposed Stormwater Environmental Technician position. Planning & Development Director Mike Martin reviewed the Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit & Compliance Plan and Scope of Work with the Board. After further discussion, Commissioner Turner made a motion to table a decision on the matter until the September 28, 2006 meeting. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion; voted and

carried unanimously.

At 7:15 p.m., Commissioner Robinson entered the meeting.

The Board considered a request from the Traffic Operations Department to eliminate an Equipment Operator II position and substitute an Administrative Specialist II position. Commissioner Robinson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Turner, to table a decision on the matter until the September 28, 2006 meeting. All voted in favor.

Sheriff Joe Chapman requested that the Board approve making all Major and Captain positions within the Sheriff's Department appointed positions. Sheriff Chapman explained that the change would apply only to new hires or those employees promoted into those positions in the future. Commissioner Gasaway made a motion to approve the request for prospective positions. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Personnel Director Karen Fraser presented alternatives to resolve a pension issue for employee Stacy Myers. Commissioner Ayers made a motion to approve a recommendation that 5.0% interest be paid on the frozen benefit, compounded annually. Commissioner Gasaway seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Ayers made a motion to ratify actions taken by the Walton County Water & Sewerage Authority at its meeting on August 22, 2006. Commissioner Turner seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Fire Chief Steve Couch and Kim Embry of the Walton County School District Public Information Office requested approval to apply for a grant from the Walton County Hospital Trust for funding of pandemic education materials. Commissioner Turner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gasaway, to approve application for the grant. All voted in favor.

Chief Couch requested authorization to apply for a Department of Homeland Security 2006 Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Fund grant. Commissioner Robinson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Turner, to approve application for the grant. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Ayers made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gasaway, to approve application for Federal assistance for the USDA- Natural Resources Conservation Service. All voted in favor.

John Snyder of Walton County Habitat for Humanity requested a one-year extension of CHIP Grant No. 04m-y-147-1-2907 and approval to amend the grant to allow Habitat to build its third house where Habitat sees the most

need and best use of the funds. Commissioner Turner made a motion to approve the extension and the amendment to the CHIP grant. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Facilities Manager Joyce Chambers presented a preliminary list of surplus equipment for the Board's review. Ms. Chambers requested the authority to schedule a surplus auction and to work with the Purchasing Agent in sending out requests for proposals for an auctioneer. Commissioner Robinson made a motion to declare the preliminary list of equipment surplus. He further moved to authorize Ms. Chambers to move forward with the surplus auction. Commissioner Turner seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Ms. Chambers requested the Board approve changing the name of the Public Facilities Department to the Facilities/Risk Management Department. Commissioner Turner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gasaway, to approve the department name change. All voted in favor.

The Board considered an amendment to a tower lease agreement with T Mobile. County Attorney Chris Atkinson reviewed the terms of the amendment with the Board. Commissioner Turner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Palmer, to approve the amendment. All voted in favor.

The Board considered a contract with Now House, Inc. for the Evening Reporting Center for the Walton County Juvenile Court. Commissioner Turner made a motion to approve the contract. Commissioner Gasaway seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

The Board considered a contract with Traylor Business Systems, Inc. for a Personal Property Verification Program for the Tax Assessors Office. Commissioner Atha made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gasaway, to approve the contract. All voted in favor.

The Board considered a proposal from Precision Planning, Inc. for a Transportation Master Plan. Commissioner Ayers made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gasaway, to accept the proposal. All voted in favor.

The Board considered a proposal from Precision Planning, Inc. to design intersection improvements at Bold Springs Road and Carl Davis Road. Commissioner Gasaway made a motion to table a decision on the matter until the September 28, 2006 meeting. Commissioner Atha seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Atha made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Palmer, to approve a proposal from Ross & Associates for the annual update of the Impact Fee Program. All voted in favor.

The Board discussed an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Walnut Grove for patching on Old Hwy. 138 and for resurfacing of Habersham Circle. Commissioner Ayers made a motion to table a decision on the matter until the September 28, 2006 meeting in order to find out the labor costs associated with the project. Commissioner Turner seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Turner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gasaway, to accept Local Assistance Grant funds on behalf of the Development Authority of Walton County. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Turner made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2007 LARP request list. Commissioner Gasaway seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Ayers made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Turner, to approve a Rebanding Agreement with Motorola for Central Communications. All voted in favor.

The Board considered an agreement with the Walton County School District for use of the Old Monroe Area High School sports facilities. Commissioner Turner made a motion to approve the agreement contingent upon alteration of Section 5, which addresses insurance coverage for loss or damage to the facilities. Commissioner Atha seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Robinson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Turner, to appoint Kevin Little as voting delegate for the ACCG Fall Policy Conference. All voted in favor.

The Board considered a request to return the property formerly used by the County as the Mount Vernon Road trash compactor site to the heirs of the original owner, Mr. John Gunter. Commissioner Palmer made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gasaway, to authorize Chairman Little to execute the documents necessary to return the property to the heirs of John Gunter, as was the original intent of the parties at the time the property was deeded to the County. All voted in favor.

County Attorney Kirby Atkinson updated the Board on a proposed Speed Bump Ordinance. He stated that he plans to have a draft document ready for the Board's review at the September 28, 2006 meeting.

Paul Mullins spoke during the public comment segment of the meeting. Mr. Mullins provided each Commissioner a copy of a DVD regarding alternative

water supply sources.

At 8:25 p.m., Commissioner Turner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gasaway, 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

VICKIE M. GASAWAY, DIST. 3

LAMAR PALMER, DISTRICT 4

GERALD ATHA, DISTRICT 5

JOHN ROBINSON, DISTRICT 6