

December 4, 2007

The Walton County Board of Commissioners held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, December 4, 2007 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 Commissioners Clinton Ayers, Michael Turner, Vickie Gasaway, Lamar Palmer, and Gerald Atha, County Clerk Leta Talbird, County Attorney Kirby Atkinson, Personnel Director Karen Fraser, Finance Director Linda Hanna 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. Chairman Little was not present at the meeting. Commissioner John Robinson passed away on November 15, 2007.

Commissioner Atha 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 Palmer made a motion to appoint Commissioner Atha as Interim Vice Chairman. Commissioner Ayers seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Turner made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Commissioner Gasaway seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Ayers made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 1, 2007 and November 6, 2007 meetings. Commissioner Turner seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

The Board considered a Planning Commission recommendation to approve a rezone from B-1 to B-3 for a Garage, Tire Sales, Welding, Towing, Equipment Repair and Impound Lot with variance for an existing business on 11.04 acres for Clint's Garage, Tire Sales and Service (Russell C. and Barbara Bennett) – Z07090029. The affected property is located at 5464 Georgia Highway 138 S.W. and is further identified on WC Tax Map C 30, Parcels 207, 208 and 209. Vice Chairman Atha opened the public hearing on the matter. The applicant, Russell Bennett, came before the Board in support of the rezone. He stated that the purpose of the rezone is to bring his existing business into compliance with current codes. Charles Foster spoke in opposition to the rezone. He stated the he is very concerned about the impact of his property value, noise from the diesel engines bringing vehicles into the impound lot, and expansion of the impound lot. Planning Director Mike Martin stated that the impound lot will be in the area that is already fenced in. Vice Chairman Atha closed the public hearing on the matter. Commissioner

Gasaway made a motion to approve the rezone with a variance waiving the 100 ft. setback from residential properties with the stipulation that only the existing fenced area will be used as an impound lot. She further moved to refund the application fee since the rezone is a result of changes made in the Land Development Ordinance. Commissioner Ayers seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

The Board considered a Planning Commission recommendation to approve a rezone from B-1 to B-2 for a Business Center on 2.775 acres for Bullard Land Planning – Z07100001. The affected property, owned by Paulette B. Britt, is located at 2890 U.S. Highway 78 and Broadnax Mill Road and is further identified on WC Tax Map C 44, Parcel 46. Vice Chairman Atha opened the public hearing on the matter. W.H. Britt came before the Board in support of the rezone. He stated that he has people who want to lease building space but the businesses are not allowed under the current zoning. There was no one present in opposition. Vice Chairman Atha closed the public hearing on the matter. Commissioner Ayers made a motion to approve the rezone. Commissioner Turner seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The Board considered a Planning Commission recommendation to approve a land use amendment from Office/Professional to Commercial and a rezone from B-2 to B-3 on 2.86 acres for Rob Enterprises, Inc. – LU07100002 & Z07100003. The affected property is located at 1645 Georgia Highway 138 and is further identified on WC Tax Map C 76, Parcel 51A. Vice Chairman Atha opened the public hearing on the matter. Robert Harrington came before the Board in support of the request. He stated that he wants to add additional warehouse space on the back 2 acres of the property. He stated that the front portion of the property would remain retail space. There was no one present in opposition. Vice Chairman Atha closed the public hearing on the matter. Commissioner Turner made a motion to approve the land use amendment and rezone as requested. Commissioner Gasaway seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The Board considered a Planning Commission recommendation to approve amendments to the WC Land Development Ordinance, amending Article 4, Part 1 and Article 1, Section 170, Page 5 as shown on errata sheet dated 10-01-07 – OA07100004. Associate Planning Director Charna Parker reviewed the proposed amendments with the Board. She explained that the first amendment adds language regarding sod in platted subdivisions for all residential zoning districts and the seconded amendment changes land use designations into character areas. Commissioner Turner made a motion to approve the amendments as presented. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

The Board considered adoption of a Walton County Truck Route Ordinance. County Attorney Kirby Atkinson suggested the matter be tabled in order to review logging regulations that pertain to the proposed ordinance. Commissioner Palmer made a motion to table a decision on the ordinance. Commissioner Ayers seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Finance Director Linda Hanna presented contracts and budgeted purchases of \$2,500.00 or greater for the Board's consideration. Commissioner Ayers made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gasaway, to approve contracts and purchases as presented. All voted in favor.

The Board considered a budget amendment in the amount of \$2,000.00 for the Sheriff's Department adding a donation from Windstream to the department revenue. Commissioner Ayers made a motion to approve the budget amendment. Commissioner Gasaway seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Road Superintendent Steve Chandler presented proposed scrap tire disposal fees for the Board's consideration. Commissioner Turner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Palmer, to approve the scrap tire fees as presented. All voted in favor.

The Board considered a request from the Sheriff's Office to approve the loan/lease of two vehicles from Horton Monroe. Sheriff's Office Finance Officer Tammy Kirk stated that the cost to lease two used vehicles would be \$250.00 each per month and that the vehicles would be returned every six months and would be replaced by different vehicles. She stated that the annual cost of \$6,000.00 would be paid from the drug forfeiture account. Commissioner Ayers made a motion to approve the request. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Finance Director Linda Hanna presented a proposed 2008 payroll schedule for the Board's consideration. Commissioner Turner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ayers, to approve the 2008 payroll schedule as presented. All voted in favor.

Road Superintendent Steve Chandler presented a list of proposed SPLOST Phase II Road Projects for the Board's consideration. Commissioner Turner made a motion to approve the list as presented. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Personnel Director Karen Fraser presented employee new hires and transfers. Commissioner Ayers made a motion to approve new hires and transfers as presented, for the record. Commissioner Turner seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Ms. Fraser presented an Employee Benefits Committee recommendation to explore Compressed Work Week scheduling. Commissioner Ayers stated that detailed plans for test departments should be prepared and submitted to the Board before a decision is made on whether to approve testing of Compressed Work Week Scheduling. No action was taken on the matter.

Jimmy Parker of Precision Planning, Inc. gave an update on short-term water supply availability and an update on the Hard Labor Creek Reservoir project.

Commissioner Turner made a motion to ratify actions taken by the Walton County Water & Sewerage Authority at its meeting held on November 27, 2007. Commissioner Ayers seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

County Attorney Kirby Atkinson presented a resolution approving the Walton County Water & Sewerage Authority proceeding with an amendment to the Walton County Water and Sewerage Authority Revenue Note (Reservoir Project) Series 2006; Authorizing the approval and execution of an amendment to the Intergovernmental Contract with such Authority relating to such Revenue Note; and for other purposes. Commissioner Ayers made a motion to adopt the resolution and to modify the execution of the resolution by Commissioner Atha as well as the incumbency certificate and to modify the date on the incumbency certificate as needed and likewise to ratify any acts of the Walton County Water and Sewerage Authority that necessitate a change in date because of the change in financing. Commissioner Gasaway seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The Board considered a Tower Lease Agreement with Salem Communications for tower space on a tower located 1621 Piney Grove Road for the County's 800 MHz radio antennas and microwave dish. County Attorney Kirby Atkinson stated that there needs to be verification that the County holds certain liability insurance required by the contract and that certain indemnification language needs to be removed. Commissioner Turner made a motion to approve the lease agreement conditioned upon final approval by the County Attorney prior to execution of the documents. Commissioner Gasaway seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

County Attorney Kirby Atkinson requested the Board table a decision on the extension of a tower lease agreement with Crown Castle International. Commissioner Ayers made a motion to table a decision on the matter until the January 8, 2008 meeting. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Mr. Atkinson reviewed an Indemnification Agreement with Rusty Maisel to provide for the display of the exhibit “American Soldiers and Their Bibles” at the Historic Courthouse. Commissioner Ayers made a motion to approve the agreement. Commissioner Turner seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Ayers made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Palmer, to appoint Sharon Queen and Shannon Smith to The Partnership for Families, Children & Youth Board representing Commission District 5. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Turner made a motion to appoint the following alternate members to the Hard Labor Creek Reservoir Management Board: Commissioner Atha as alternate for Commissioner Palmer, Commissioner Gasaway as alternate for Commissioner Turner, Commissioner Ayers as alternate for Chairman Little and Wendell Geiger as alternate for Timmy Shelnett. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

The Board considered approval of 2008 Alcoholic Beverage Licenses. Commissioner Palmer made a motion to approve the licenses as presented. Commissioner Turner seconded the motion. Commissioners Ayers, Turner, Atha and Palmer voted in favor of the motion with Commissioner Gasaway abstaining. The motion carried. A list of approved licenses is on file in the auxiliary file under this meeting date.

Commissioner Turner made a motion to approve Local Certification Acceptance (LCA) additions to the County Road Inventory adding new subdivision roads previously accepted by the County. Commissioner Gasaway seconded the motion. All voted in favor. A list of roads included in this LCA is on file in the auxiliary file under this meeting date.

Chief Deputy Bruce Wright requested the Board approve a shooting range for law enforcement training/certification on the inert landfill site located on Roscoe Davis Road. The Board requested the Sheriff’s Office complete additional testing before considering approval of the shooting range. No action was taken.

At 7:50 p.m., Commissioner Ayers made a motion to enter executive session to discuss real estate acquisition. Commissioner Gasaway seconded the motion. Commissioners Ayers, Turner, Gasaway and Palmer voted in favor.

At 8:35 p.m., Commissioner Turner made a motion to return to regular session. Commissioner Gasaway seconded the motion. Commissioners Ayers, Turner, Gasaway and Palmer voted in favor. No decisions were made

and no votes were taken while in executive session.

At 8:36 p.m., Commissioner Turner made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Gasaway seconded the motion. 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.

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GERALD ATHA, VICE CHAIRMAN

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LETA P. TALBIRD, CLERK

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CLINTON AYERS, DISTRICT 1

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MICHAEL TURNER, DISTRICT 2

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VICKIE M. GASAWAY, DIST. 3

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LAMAR PALMER, DISTRICT 4