

August 4, 2020

The Walton County Board of Commissioners held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 4, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Historic Walton County Courthouse. Those participating in the meeting included Chairman Kevin Little, Commissioners Bo Warren (via telephone), Mark Banks, Timmy Shelnett, Jeremy Adams, Lee Bradford and Kirklyn Dixon, County Clerk Leta Talbird, Finance Director Milton Cronheim, Planning Director Charna Parker, Human Resources Director Karen Fraser and County Attorney Chip Ferguson.

MEETING OPENING

Chairman Little called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Shelnett gave the invocation.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion: Commissioner Adams made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Commissioner Dixon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Decision on Planning Commission recommendation to approve Z20050006–
Rezone 1.29 acres from I1 to A for commercial agriculture uses – Applicant:
Walton County/Owner: Steve Astrin – 3941 Ebenezer Church Road - Map/Parcel
C1840049 – District 4

Chairman Little opened the public hearing on the matter. Planning Director Charna Parker stated that the Planning Commission proposed this rezone. She stated that the current I1 zoning is clearly out of character for the area. Ms. Parker stated the Planning Department has received calls from the Sheriff's Office regarding a business operating at this location. She stated the Sheriff's Office was receiving complaints that vehicles were being hauled in and out of the property at all hours of the day and night and that the vehicles were being partially dismantled on site. She stated that the Planning Department has also received complaints from residents in the vicinity. Ms. Parker stated that there is no record of any business license being issued for businesses operated on the property. J.C. Johnson, who owns property adjacent to the subject property and Tony Wall, spoke in support of the rezone. Attorney Harger Hoyt, representing the property owner and the tenant, spoke in opposition to the rezone. He stated that Georgia law requires that a sign with the date of the public hearing must be posted on the property for at least 15 days prior to the public hearing. He stated that various businesses have operated on the property and that no citations have been issued. Mr. Hoyt stated that he believes the owner still meets the grandfather clause and if the zoning is changed to A it would diminish the value of the building. Tenant John Blackwell spoke in opposition. He stated that he is a professional truck driver and carries cars all over the United States. He stated he picks up junk cars and cars going to auction. He stated that he had filled out a business license application and he was told by Code Officer Matt Greer to put up an 8 ft. privacy fence. Steve Astrin, owner of the subject property, also spoke in opposition to the rezone. (*The Planning*

Commission case file and minutes with more detailed information are on file as part of the record in the auxiliary file of this meeting.) Chairman Little closed the public hearing on the matter.

Motion: Commissioner Bradford made a motion to approve the rezone from II to A. Commissioner Shelnett seconded the motion. Commissioners Warren, Shelnett, Bradford and Adams voted in favor. Commissioner Dixon opposed the motion. The motion carried 5-1.

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

Approval of LU20060002 and Z20060001– Land Use Change from Suburban to Employment Center and Rezone 2.93 acres from A1 to B2 for lawn care business with conditional use for outside storage and waive transitional buffer – Applicant: Daniel Mohr/Owner: Helen Knight – 3171 Hwy. 81 - Map/Parcel C0470071 – District 2

Chairman Little opened the public hearing on the matter. Planning Director Charna Parker presented the case. There was no opposition. Chairman Little closed the public hearing on the matter.

Motion: Commissioner Banks made a motion to approve the land use change and rezone as presented. Commissioner Shelnett seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Acceptance of Green Space - Bridge Gate on the Alcovy Subdivision

Motion: Commissioner Bradford made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Adams, to accept the green space. All voted in favor.

ORDINANCES

Amending Article II of the Code of Walton County so as to Modify Walton County's Development Impact Fee Ordinance and to Modify the Applicable Development Impact Fees and to Provide for Related Matters

Motion: Commissioner Adams made a motion to table the matter until the Board gets further insight and clarification regarding the proposed distribution of the fees. Commissioner Banks seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Walton County Speed Zone Ordinance Update

Motion: Commissioner Dixon made a motion to adopt the updated ordinance. Commissioner Shelnett seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of July 7, 2020 Meeting Minutes
2. Contracts & Budgeted Purchases of \$5,000.00 or greater

3. Declaration of Surplus Property
4. Extension of DFCS Lease

Motion: Commissioner Shelnett made a motion to approve the Administrative Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Warren seconded motion. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTIONS

Adoption of FY 2021 Budget

Motion: Commissioner Banks made a motion to go back to last year's budget. The motion died due to lack of a second. Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve the FY 2021 budget and to freeze all new positions, with the exception of EMS, until January 2021 contingent upon the adoption of the roll back millage rate. Commissioner Bradford seconded the motion. Commissioners Warren, Shelnett, Bradford, Adams and Dixon voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Banks opposed the motion. The motion carried 5-1.

Adopting the 2020 Millage Rates for Walton County

Motion: Commissioner Bradford made a motion to adopt the millage at the roll back rate of 10.677 and the special fire district millage rate of 01.335. Commissioner Dixon seconded the motion. Commissioners Warren, Shelnett, Bradford, Adams and Dixon voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Banks opposed the motion. The motion carried 5-1.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Amendment to Walton County Civil Service Personnel Rules & Regulations

Motion: Commissioner Shelnett a motion to approve the amendment. Commissioner Bradford seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

PUBLIC WORKS

Paving Donation Agreements - Reliant Homes, LLC

Motion: Commissioner Bradford made a motion to approve the agreements. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Acceptance of Bid - Old Zion Cemetery Road Culvert Replacement Project

Motion: Commissioner Banks made a motion to accept the bid from Georgia Bridge & Concrete LLC in the amount of \$695,000.00. Commissioner Shelnett seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

APPOINTMENT

NEGRC Council Private Sector Representative

Motion: *Commissioner Dixon made a motion to re-appoint Joyce Chambers. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.*

Walton County Board of Appeals – District 1 Representative

Motion: *Commissioner Warren made a motion to appoint Jim Kwater. Commissioner Banks seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: *Commissioner Adams made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bradford, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.*

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