

August 4, 2015

JASPER, FLORIDA

REGULAR SESSION

The Board of County Commissioners, Hamilton County, Florida, met in regular session on Tuesday, August 4, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Meeting Room, 207 Northeast First Street, Jasper, Florida. Present were Commissioners Robert Brown, Randy Ogburn, Josh Smith, Beth Burnam and Buster Oxendine, a full Board being present. Also present was County Attorney John McCormick County Coordinator Louie Goodin and Attorney Cliff Adams.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Josh Smith and led in prayer by John McCormick with the Pledge of Allegiance being led by Chairman Smith.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Motion by Commissioner Burnam to approve the Consent Agenda. Second was made by Commissioner Oxendine, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

HAMILTON COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Economic Development Director Ms. Ramsey was not able to attend the meeting due to being out of town.

VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK – STATUS REPORT

Veteran Service Officer Bo Beauchemin gave the Board a status report on the Veterans Memorial Park. Mr. Beauchemin advised the Board that Clyde's Welding is still working on top portion of the pavilion and doesn't have a completion date as of yet. The Board directed County Coordinator Louie Goodin to discuss the project with Mr. McGhin to determine a completion date. Mr. Beauchemin also stated that FDOT has generously donated twenty-five (25) azaleas and mulch for the park. Mr. Beauchemin also discussed with the Board that Social Security benefits have increased for certain veterans.

NW 23RD BLVD - DEED ACCEPTANCE

Attorney Cliff Adams gave the Board a status report on the right-of-way acquisition of NW 23rd Blvd. Mr. Adams presented two (2) deeds for the Board to accept from James Billy Blair and Thomas Dale Blair, as trustee of the Blair Family Trust. Mr. Adams also stated that he has agreed to an easement from Hamilton Energy for their right-of-way and will continue to pursue the remaining four (4).

- Motion by Commissioner Burnam to accept the two (2) Blair deeds as recommended by Attorney Adams for the NW 23rd Blvd. right-of-way. Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

HAMILTON COUNTY FACELIFT/ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY – HEATHER CRUCE – REQUEST FREE LANDFILL FEES

Heather Cruce addressed the Board on behalf of an organized group that will have a spring clean and a fall facelift for Hamilton County in memory of Brady Fraley. Ms. Cruce explained the group's intent and requested that the tipping fees for the clean-up effort be waived. Ms. Cruce also stated that the bags used in the cleanup effort will be recognizable. The Board suggested having several key people responsible for the disposal of the trash/garbage; however, after realizing that this will only be taking place on certain days, the Board agreed that staff would be on notice of the trash disposal at the Landfill. Mr. Goodin advised the Board that volunteer forms will be available at his office.

- Motion by Commissioner Oxendine to waive the Landfill tipping fees for the group as requested by Ms. Cruce. Second was made by Commissioner Ogburn, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

LYNN LAKES OUTLET DRAINAGE PIPE ISSUE – JOSEPH C. SMITH

Joseph Smith addressed the Board and presented the Board with pictures of a skimmer that was removed by the County Road Department when the pipe on the south end of the lake was replaced. Mr. Smith explained the purpose of

the skimmer and the benefits of it being in place for a number of years. Mr. Smith advised the Board that the pond was originally constructed as a retention pond. After a lengthy discussion of the issues with the pond, Commissioner Brown stated that he would work with Mr. Smith and Road Superintendent James Bell to resolve the issue and possibly rebuild the skimmer. Mr. Smith also questioned legal staff as to the ownership of the pond.

ROAD PAVING PROJECTS – STATUS REPORT

Engineer Greg Bailey gave the Board a status report on the current road and building projects.

CR-143 – Mr. Bailey advised the Board that the contractor is approximately 90% complete with the resurfacing project. The Board also discussed a settlement issue in a certain area of the road and after a review of the situation; Mr. Bailey recommended that the Board allow Scruggs to make the necessary repair at a cost of \$5,000 to \$10,000. The Board agreed by unanimous consent for Scruggs to make the repair.

NW 16TH AVE. – Mr. Bailey advised the Board that FDOT has approved the plans for the NW 16th Ave. Scrap project and requested permission to let the bids for the project.

- Motion by Commissioner Burnam to allow NFPS to let the bids for the NW16th Ave. project. Second was made by Commissioner Ogburn, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

GIBSON PARK – Mr. Bailey stated that the contractor has installed the additional mats and grouted the joints. Chairman Smith stated that the wall is washing dirt onto the ramp. The Board requested that Mr. Bailey take a look at the issue and make a recommendation to the Board.

SW 90TH BLVD. – Chairman Smith requested that Mr. Bailey check SW 90th Blvd. from the Friendship Cemetery to US Hwy. 41 to determine the amount of milling required to mill the existing right-of-way.

NW 38TH TERRACE – Commissioner Brown requested that Mr. Bailey give the Board a cost estimate to pave the existing milled road.

SW 95TH STREET – Commissioner Ogburn presented the Board with a letter from Dorothy Warren and Betty J. Lamb with their consent for the county to remove trees and widen SW 95th Street for the record. The Board agreed by unanimous consent to allow the project to proceed.

NW 60TH BLVD / NW 31ST CIRCLE – Chairman Smith questioned legal staff as to the procedure where a couple of roads within the Timberlake Subdivision need to have the sides pulled to eliminate water from ponding on the road. After a brief discussion, County Attorney John McCormick advised Chairman Smith to contact the homeowner’s association prior to making the necessary repairs to the road.

CIRCLE OF LIFE ASSISTED LIVING - AMELIA TOMPKINS / MILTON SMITH

County Coordinator Louie Goodin discussed with the Board the available property in the Town of White Springs. Mr. Goodin advised the Board that the 4.75 acres that is owned by the Woodard’s is available and that the asking price is \$230,000 with Mr. Woodard stating that he would be willing to negotiate. Mr. Goodin also stated that the Camp family is not willing to subdivide their property for less than sixty (60) acres. Commissioner Oxendine stated that he was concerned about the request of Mr. Smith but was supportive of the project. Mayor of White Springs Rhett Bullard stated that the Town of White Springs doesn’t have land that would be suitable for the project and explained the economic benefit that the project would bring to the Town of White Springs. After a lengthy discussion, the Board stated that the Development Authority needs to be involved in providing the land and incentives for the Circle of Life Assisted Living facility. County Attorney John McCormick suggested that the Board allow staff to check with other counties to see what incentives were provided for the same type of facility. The Board stated that according to Mr. Smith he has made an application to the Development Authority and that it will be heard at their next meeting on August 27th to which the Board stated that they would be in attendance to support the request by Mr. Smith. The Board also stated that they would like to see the business keep things local.

DISCUSSION OF ACQUISITION FOR ADDITIONAL PARKING AREA FOR HEALTH DEPARTMENT

County Coordinator Louie Goodin advised the Board of an estimate to remove the asbestos shingles from the existing home at approximately \$4,000.

Mr. Goodin also stated that according to the Property Appraiser's office that the assessed value of the property is \$15,786. After a lengthy discussion of the property, the Board agreed to make the following counter offer:

- Motion by Commissioner Oxendine to make a counter offer to Ratliff and Associates in the amount of \$13,000. Second was made by Commissioner Ogburn, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

VALUE ADJUSTMENT BOARD – APPOINTMENT

The Board agreed to allow Commissioner Robert Brown to serve along with Chairman Smith on the Value Adjustment Board.

SW 31ST STREET – ROAD CLOSURE

Chairman Smith advised the Board that this item would be continued until the applicant files a petition to close SW 31st Street.

APPROVE BILLS

- Motion by Commissioner Brown to approve the bills (vouchers 110233 – 110427 and checks 049156 – 049245) and to add an invoice in the amount of \$500 from Steve Curry (NW 23rd Blvd.) as recommended by attorney Cliff Adams. Second was made by Commissioner Oxendine, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

SVEC – BAYNARD WARD

Baynard Ward, with SVEC, discussed with the Board several local partnerships that benefit the counties that they serve. The first is a scholarship program for a graduating High School Senior and an EMS benefit program for local EMS personnel. The Board thanked Mr. Ward for their support of the community.

SHIP / CDBG PROGRAM – STATUS REPORT

Ship Administrator Spencer Nabors was not present for the meeting. Chairman Smith questioned County Attorney John McCormick about the Ship

contract with ITC. Mr. McCormick stated that he would bring the contract back for the Board to review at 1:30 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no correspondence and announcements.

Chairman Smith recessed the Board meeting at 11:00 a.m. until the 1:30 p.m. budget workshop.

Vice-Chairman Robert Brown called the Board meeting back to order at 1:30 p.m. in the absence of Chairman Smith.

BUDGET WORKSHOP

Clerk of Court Greg Godwin discussed the budget briefly and County Auditor Ken Daniels gave the Board an overview of the budget. Mr. Daniels discussed the areas of concern and the Board began reviewing the budget.

SHERIFF DEPARTMENT

- Motion by Commissioner Oxendine to reduce the budget of the Sheriff's Department to \$4,564,422.00. Second was made by Commissioner Ogburn, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

Commissioner Oxendine discussed the possible transferring of Travis Erickson from the Maintenance Department to the Road Department and hire a couple of assistants creating a lawn maintenance for the entire county including the parks and outside recreation fields. Staff will discuss this change and make a recommendation at the next budget workshop.

- Motion by Commissioner Oxendine to make the following changes to the Maintenance Department:

1. Remove \$4,200 from the Health Department repairs.
2. Remove \$1,000 from Small Tools and Equipment.

Second was made by Commissioner Burnam, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

VETERANS SERVICE DEPARTMENT

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to reduce the travel back to \$1,750. Second was made by Commissioner Oxendine, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

COUNTY HEALTH AND WELFARE DEPARTMENT

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to reduce the Meridian Behavioral Healthcare request to \$22,500. Second was made by Commissioner Burnam, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

- Motion by Commissioner Oxendine to remove the 16' Lawn Trailer at \$2,800. Second was made by Commissioner Burnam, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to reduce the Supervisor of Elections budget back to \$215,401.00. Second was made by Commissioner Oxendine, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Chairman Smith returned to the meeting at 4:00 p.m..

ROADS AND BRIDGES

➤ Motion by Commissioner Oxendine to make the following changes:

1. Remove the increase of \$33,000 from Gas, Oil and Lube.
2. Remove the increase of \$9,075 from Road Materials.
3. Remove the Wheel Loader at \$205,000.
4. Remove the Grade-all at \$350,000.
5. Remove the Regular Cab pick-up at \$22,928.
6. Add a F-250 Crew Cab pick-up at \$27,783.

Second was made by Commissioner Ogburn, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

The Board discussed having a boom and winch placed on the service truck. Staff will get a quote for this and report back to the Board at the next budget workshop.

LANDFILL

➤ Motion by Commissioner Oxendine to remove the request for a pick-up at \$25,000. Second was made by Commissioner Burnam, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

The Board discussed the request from the City of Jasper for the Board to fund half of a new pick-up to be used by the Animal Control Department. After a lengthy discussion, the Board directed staff to review the agreement with City of Jasper for animal control.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

➤ Motion by Commissioner Oxendine to remove the request for a pick-up at \$27,984. Second was made by Commissioner Ogburn, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

The Board discussed the request for a roof for the EMS building and a cover for the ambulances. Mr. Goodin stated that the immediate need is for approximately \$24,000 to re-roof the building and will get the Board a price on a free standing building for the ambulances.

LAND USE DEPARTMENT

The Board discussed the possibility of restructuring the agreement with NFPS for the Land Use and after a brief discussion agreed for NFPS to present a proposal as to what they would charge to continue providing the Land Use services.

The Board requested that staff have Sheriff Reid be present at the next budget workshop and for the Clerk to provide a salary projection for a possible salary increase. The Board also announced that the next budget workshop will be at 7:30 p.m. on August 18, 2015.

There being no further business before the Board, the Vice - Chairman adjourned the meeting at 5:14 p.m.

JOSH SMITH, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

GREG GODWIN, EX-OFFICIO CLERK