

January 20, 2015

JASPER, FLORIDA

REGULAR SESSION

The Board of County Commissioners, Hamilton County, Florida, met in regular session on Tuesday, January 20, 2015, at 6:00 p.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, Attorney Cliff Adams and County Coordinator Louie Goodin.

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.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION – POSTHUMOUSLY RECOGNIZING ISADORE UDELL FOR HIS YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO HAMILTON COUNTY

The Board presented Ms. Helen Udell, the wife of Isadore Udell, with a plaque recognizing the late Mr. Udell for his years of dedicated service to the county.

ROAD PAVING PROJECTS – STATUS REPORT

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

CR-135 – Mr. Bailey advised the Board that the Hunter Creek Bridge construction project is complete and that the bridge is open.

GIBSON PARK RENOVATIONS – Mr. Bailey gave the Board a status report on the renovations at Gibson Park. Mr. Bailey stated that the contractor is currently working on the parking lot and retention area.

CR143 – Mr. Bailey reminded the Board that the bids for the CR-143

paving project are due Tuesday, January 27th at 2:00 p.m.

SHIP / CDBG PROGRAM – STATUS REPORT

Ship Administrator Spencer Nabors presented the Board with a status report on the Ship program. Mr. Nabors provided the Board with a list of qualified homeowners and requested that he be allowed to proceed with the applications. Mr. Nabors also advised that the top three (3) applicants were moved from the Ship program.

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to approve the list as recommended by Mr. Nabors with ITC. Second was made by Commissioner Burnam, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

2ND PUBLIC HEARING – PETITION FOR SPECIAL EXCEPTION – SE 14-03 – SUWANNEE RIVER VALLEY GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB, LLC

Chairman Smith recessed the regular Board meeting and called the public hearing to order at 6:15 p.m.

Land Use Administrator Megan Carter explained the action before the Board regarding Special Exception 14-03. Ms. Carter stated that the request from the Suwannee River Valley Golf & Country Club, LLC was to have ATV riding trails at the subject property and also stated that the Planning and Zoning Board unanimously denied the special exception. Ms. Carter briefly discussed the staff analysis of the request as stated in the summary of the proposed Special Exception. Jon Carleen, planner for the Suwannee River Valley Golf & Country Club, reviewed the presentation material with the Board and answered questions. Chairman Smith questioned Mr. Carleen about the fact that they are already riding the ATV's and advertising for special events. Cheryl Goodbread spoke with the Board in support of the special exception request. Ms. Goodbread stated that she could go to Stone Mountain Ga. and Madison County to ride ATV's but wanted to have the opportunity to stay in Hamilton County. Silvio Cavaceppi, a nearby homeowner on SW 79th Terrace, stated his concern with the fact that the ATV Park has already been built and is being operated without a proper permit and that the noise from the park is disturbing. Linda Crews also spoke in opposition to the park and stated that the ATVs utilizing the park are very loud. Penny Mickler, a resident that lives on SW 79th Terrace, was opposed to the park and questioned why they are already operating the park. Nancy Kropp, a resident of the Suwannee Woods Subdivision, stated that

she was in opposition to the opening of an ATV Park. Danny Carlton, a security guard at the Country Club, stated that he was in favor of the ATV Park and stated that everything that was being said about the development of the park is not accurate. Randy Crouse, a resident on NW 79th Terrace, stated his opposition to the Park and discussed the noise level and clearing of the property. George Roberson stated that he was confused about the item being on the agenda; however, the Chairman clarified that the public hearing was indeed on the agenda to which Mr. Roberson finally realized that the hearing was about the special exception. Cheryl Goodbread again addressed the Board about several of the neighbors' concerns that people riding the ATV's would venture out onto the road and on to other property; however, she couldn't leave the property due to it being fenced. Ms. Goodbread also stated that noise is just noise. Jon Carleen then discussed the ATV Park again and assured the Board and public that there would not be adverse effects on the surrounding landowners. Jerome Law addressed the Board and stated that PCS Phosphate is very noisy, however, it provides jobs and is progress and that sometimes people just have to deal with progress. Jack Vinson addressed the Board regarding the need to have businesses ect. in Hamilton County. He stated that Mr. Doobay has spent a lot of money in Hamilton County and hasn't got much out of it and then stated that he was in support of the ATV Park.

There being no further comments from the public or Board, Chairman Smith closed the public hearing at 7:25 p.m.

- Motion by Commissioner Oxendine to deny the request for special exception SE 14-03 (Suwannee River Valley Golf & Country Club). Second was made by Commissioner Burnam, motion passed with a three (3) to two (2) vote. Voting for the motion was Commissioner Oxendine, Burnam and Smith, against was Commissioner Brown and Ogburn.

Commissioner Ogburn stated that he supported the ATV Park due to it being good for the County as a whole and that you can't always say no because it affects other people. Commissioner Oxendine also questioned Mr. Doobay about the email that was sent to Linda Crews due to the threatening nature of it.

CONTINUATION OF SHIP / CDBG PROGRAM – STATUS REPORT

Mr. Nabors presented the Board with a list of contractors in order for the Board to approve.

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to approve the list of contractors based on the recommendation of ITC (Mr. Nabors). Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Motion by Commissioner Oxendine to approve the Consent Agenda and approved Item 6 (ITC CDBG payment) pending an executed contract from DEO. Second was made by Commissioner Ogburn, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

NW 23RD BLVD DEED ACCEPTANCE

Attorney Cliff Adams gave the Board an update on the right-of-way acquisition for NW 23rd Blvd. and presented the Board with the deed for parcel #8 (Tommy and Elaine McCulley) for approval.

- Motion by Commissioner Burnam to approve and accept the deed for parcel #8 (Tommy and Elaine McCulley) for the NW 23rd Blvd. right-of-way. Second was made by Commissioner Oxendine, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Later in the meeting, Attorney Adams advised the Board that he met with attorney A.J. Decker who represents the Marine's and Robinson's. The county's offer is \$5,700; however, they are requesting \$9,000 which would include the attorney's fee.

- Motion by Commissioner Burnam to authorize staff to negotiate up to \$9,000 which will include the attorney's fee for the Marine's and Robinson's property. Second was made by Commissioner Ogburn, motion carried with a four (4) to one (1) vote. Voting against the motion was Chairman Smith.

DISCUSSION OF EMS DIRECTOR'S POSITION

Commissioner Oxendine spoke with the Board about the operation of the EMS Department and how well things have gone since Mr. Leggett became the assistant director. Commissioner Oxendine suggested making Mr. Leggett the EMS Director and removing current director Henry Land. The Board stated that they were not comfortable discussing the issue or taking action until Mr. Land can be a part of the discussion. The Board discussed a possible offer in order to keep Mr. Leggett in Hamilton County due to Taylor County having offered him a higher paying position. County Coordinator Louie Goodin advised the Board that he has not discussed Mr. Leggett's resignation with Mr. Land. The Board agreed to allow Chairman Smith and Mr. Goodin to meet with Mr. Land and Mr. Leggett to discuss the EMS Director's position tomorrow morning and if a special meeting is needed to notice the meeting for later in the week.

PROJECT BARK – DISCUSSION

County Coordinator Louie Goodin gave the Board an update on Project Bark and stated that there is currently no change in the progress of the project. Mr. Goodin stated that he would seek to contact the owner's tomorrow.

JENNINGS LIBRARY ADDITION – BID AWARD

The bid results for the Jennings Library Addition were as follows:

1. Top of the Mountain - \$94,899.00
 2. Plumb Level Construction - \$69,000.00
- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to award the bid for the Jennings Library Addition to Plumb Level Construction Company in the amount of \$69,000.00. Second was made by Commissioner Burnam, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

DISCUSSION OF REDISTRICTING

Attorney Cliff Adams discussed with the Board that public hearings are not required for the approval process of the redistricting. Mr. Adams stated that the maps should be published for two (2) weeks. After a brief discussion of the issue, the Board agreed to hold a public hearing on February 17, 2015.

RESOLUTION – BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

County Attorney John McCormick presented the Board with a copy of the resolution that will make the Board of County Commissioners the Board of Adjustment.

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to approve the resolution appointing the Board of County Commissioners as the Board of Adjustment. Second was made by Commissioner Oxendine, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

FRIENDSHIP CEMETERY ROAD – REQUEST TO RELOCATE

County Attorney John McCormick spoke with the Board about the need to relocate the Friendship Cemetery road due to a recent acquisition of property. Mr. McCormick presented the Board with a map of where the road will need to be relocated to and advised the Board that the existing road will need to be closed before the relocation can be done. The Board agreed for Mr. McCormick to proceed with the closing of the road and the Cemetery agreed to pay for the survey and for the county to build the road.

ANTIOCH CEMETERY – DISCUSSION

Chairman Smith advised the Board that the road to the Antioch Cemetery has been graded and maintained by the county for years and that Coggins is planning to cross the road with their pivot irrigation. The Board agreed for County Coordinator Louie Goodin to schedule a meeting with the Coggins group and their attorney with Chairman Smith and the County Attorney.

JENNINGS BLUFF PROPERTY

Chairman Smith and Mr. Goodin gave the Board an update regarding the Jennings Bluff property acquisition. After a brief discussion, the Board agreed to remove the trees using the Road Department as soon as possible. Attorney Cliff Adams reviewed the map with the Board and Mr. McCormick regarding the clearing of the easement by the county for the SRWMD.

APPROVE BILLS

- Motion by Commissioner Brown to approve the bills (vouchers 106481 – 106785 and checks 047681 – 047774). Second was made by Commissioner Oxendine, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- County Coordinator Louie Goodin advised with the Board that the Orchard Church is requesting to rent the old band room only on Sundays and not the auditorium. The Board agreed to not split the rent and to leave the rental at \$200 per week.
- Commissioner Ogburn discussed with the Board Brown Street in White Springs. Commissioner Ogburn advised the Board that the road is currently graded by the county and dead ends; however, the Town of White Springs is providing water and sewer and has made a road to the home and the homeowner is requesting the county to maintain the new road. The Board approved for the road to be milled due to be a small area as long as the Town has a utility easement.
- Commissioner Burnam gave the Board an update on the SVTA and stated that SVTA staff is disputing the findings of OIG. The SVTA Board agreed to send a letter stating actions being taken to resolve the issues.
- Commissioner Brown questioned staff as to the records from the old Hospital and their availability.
- Commissioner Oxendine requested that NW 86th Blvd. be placed on the agenda for the next meeting and will be requesting to mill the unpaved portion of the road.
- Chairman Smith discussed with the Board the development of a new Board room and suggested that staff take a look at the Development Authority's conference room.
- Chairman Smith also requested Mr. Goodin to check on the process of the Landfill accepting aluminum cans.

- Commissioner Oxendine made the Board aware that the Road Department mechanic was called out to assist with the repair of the Compactor at the Landfill on Saturday, due to garbage being stacked up.
- Mr. Goodin advised the Board that the Leachate issue at the Landfill is almost complete.

There being no further business before the Board, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

ATTEST:

JOSH SMITH, CHAIRMAN

GREG GODWIN, EX-OFFICIO CLERK