

Minutes
 Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3rd Floor
 225 North Board Street
 December 12, 2023

The Thomas County Board of Commissioners met on the above date in a regular scheduled meeting at 9:00 a.m. at the Historic Courthouse, Commission Chambers, with the following board members present:

Zippy Vonier, Chairman, Dist. 8
 Jeremy G. Rich, District 1 (absent)
 Kenneth E. Hickey, District 3
 Wiley Grady, District 6

Donnie Baggett, Vice-Chair, Dist. 5
 Moses Gross, District 2 (absent)
 Mark NeSmith, District 4
 Phillip V. Brown, District 7

Staff present was County Manager Michael J. Stephenson, County Attorney Bruce Warren, Planning Director Ken Gay, Public Works Director Tony Bodiford, Emergency Services Director Derrick Ogletree, Sheriff Carlton Powell, and County Clerk Celeste Tyler

News/Media present: Jill Holloway, Thomasville Times Enterprise

Chairman Vonier called the meeting to order, and Commissioner Wiley Grady gave the invocation.

Chairman Vonier recognized Commissioner Brown who made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 28, 2023 Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith voting aye.

Chairman Vonier recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the December 12, 2023 agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Grady. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith voting aye.

Chairman Vonier recognized County Manager who recommended approving the 2023 Budget Amendment 23-12-1. Chairman Vonier recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the 2023 Budget Amendment 23-12-1. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith voting aye.

2023 BUDGET AMENDMENT 23-12-1
GENERAL FUND (100)
December 12, 2023

Account	Description	Original 2023 Budget	Amended Budget
Revenues			
100-39-9060	Carryover of Funds	0	2,000,000
	Total		
Net Increase to Revenues			<u>\$2,000,000</u>

Account	Description	Original 2023 Budget	Amended Budget
Expenses			
100-9010-61-1004-000	Transfer Out-Capital Imp Fund	0	2,000,000
	Total		
Net Increase to Expenses			\$2,000,000

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Chairman Vonier recognized Commissioner Hickey who made a motion to approve the 2024 Budget Resolution for all funds. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Grady. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith voting aye.

**Thomas County
2024 Budget Resolution
All Funds**

Whereas, the Thomas County Board of Commissioners is required by Georgia law to approve balanced budgets for all funds; and

Whereas, the Board of Commissioners held a public hearing on Monday, November 13, 2023, as required by Georgia law to receive public comment on the proposed budget; and

Whereas, the Board of Commissioners has carefully considered the interests of the citizens of Thomas County, the requirements of public services provided thereunto and the extent of financial resources available to county government.

Now therefore be it resolved that the following budgets are adopted and approved effective on January 1, 2024:

General Fund			
	Revenues	\$	28,126,512
	Expenses	\$	28,126,512
Unincorporated Services			
	Revenues	\$	1,353,254
	Expenses	\$	1,353,254
Drug Education Fund			
	Revenues	\$	30,000
	Expenses	\$	30,000
Sheriff's Drug Forfeiture Fund			
	Revenues	\$	100,000
	Expenses	\$	100,000
Sheriff's Federal Drug Forfeiture Fund			
	Revenues	\$	40,000
	Expenses	\$	40,000
Enhanced 911 Fund			
	Revenues	\$	1,888,372

Expenses	\$	1,888,372
Fire District 1, 2 & 3 Fund		
Revenues	\$	2,997,600
Expenses	\$	2,997,600
Emergency Services Fund		
Revenues	\$	7,755,718
Expenses	\$	7,755,718
Health Benefits Fund		
Revenues	\$	5,250,000
Expenses	\$	5,250,000
Airport Fund		
Revenues	\$	10,000
Expenses	\$	10,000
Law Library Fund		
Revenues	\$	40,000
Expenses	\$	40,000
County-wide 2017 SPLOST Fund (Project Length)		
Revenues	\$	42,000,000
Expenses	\$	42,000,000
Thomas County 2017 SPLOST-CPF (Project Length)		
Revenues	\$	33,374,713
Expenses	\$	33,374,713
Thomas County Area Transit		
Revenues	\$	1,439,125
Expenses	\$	1,439,125
Impact Fees Fund		
Revenues	\$	50,000
Expenses	\$	50,000
Hotel/Motel Tax Fund		
Revenues	\$	340,000
Expenses	\$	340,000
Recreation Fund		
Revenues	\$	672,579
Expenses	\$	672,579
ARPA - Grant Fund		
Revenues	\$	8,600,000
Expenses	\$	8,600,000

Approved this the twelfth day of December 2023.

Chairman Vonier stated that upon his review of the submitted documents for a Package Beer & Wine License request, all requirements according to Thomas County's ordinance have been met. The applicant

is Digneshkumar Patel, Shree RAM 2023, LLC, dba Raceway #6999 and is located at 2500 Highway 84 Bypass, Thomasville, Georgia 31792.

Chairman Vonier recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to approve the application for a Package Beer & Wine license for Digneshkumar Patel, Shree RAM 2023, LLC, dba Raceway #6999, Thomasville, Georgia. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hickey. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith voting aye.

Chairman Vonier recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to approve the 2024 Board of Commissioners' Meeting Schedule. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith voting aye.

2024 Board of Commissioners' Meeting Schedule

January	9	23
February	13	27
March	12	26
April	9	23
May	14	28
June	11	25
July	9	23
August	13	27
September	10	24
October	8	22
November	12	26
December	10	

Chairman Vonier recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the 2024 Thomas County Holiday Schedule. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith voting aye.

2024 Holiday Schedule

Holiday	Date Observed
New Year's Day	Monday, January 1st
Martin Luther King, Jr.	Monday, January 15 th
Memorial Day	Monday, May 27 th
Independence Day	Thursday, July 4 th
Labor Day	Monday, September 2 nd
Thanksgiving	Thursday, November 28 th
Christmas Holidays	Tuesday, December 24 th & Wednesday, December 25 th
*Mandatory Leave (unpaid)	Friday, November 29 th

Board Appointments:

Chairman Vonier recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to appoint Sharon Fykes to the Elections and Registration Board. This will be her first term, and the term will expire on 12/2026. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith voting aye.

Chairman Vonier recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to re-appoint Dr. James Story to the Recreation Advisory Board and appoint Herb Williams to the Recreation Advisory Board. Both terms will expire on 12/26. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith voting aye.

Chairman Vonier recognized Commissioner Hickey who made a motion to re-appoint Scott Rich to the Thomas County Assessor Board. His new term will expire on 12/2026. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Grady. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith voting aye.

Reports:

Chairman Vonier recognized County Manager Stephenson who requested approval to designate inactive EMS accounts as "Doubtful Accounts". The requested accounts total \$466,661.38 and represent accounts in 2019 and 2020 that have remained inactive for the last two years.

Chairman Vonier recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to move the inactive accounts as presented to "Doubtful Accounts". The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith voting aye.

Chairman Vonier recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to award the bid to Lewis Steel Works, Inc. for Roll-Off Containers for \$38,950. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith voting aye.

Commissioner Grady made a motion to award the bid to Willacoochee Industrial Fabrics for Woven Geotextiles. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith voting aye.

Commissioner Grady made a motion to award the bid to Martin Marietta for Aggregate Rock. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith voting aye.

Commissioner Grady made a motion to award the bid to Delta Landscape for Hydroseeding Materials. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith voting aye.

Commissioner Grady made a motion to award the bid to multiple vendors, as presented, for Public Works Warehouse Supplies. Commissioner Baggett seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith voting aye.

Commissioner Grady made a motion to award the bid to multiple vendors, as presented, for Office Supplies. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith voting aye.

Commissioner Grady made a motion to award the bid to multiple vendors, as presented, for Janitorial Supplies. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hickey. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith voting aye.

Chairman Vonier recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to ratify the purchase of fuel made on December 4, 2023 from Petroleum Products for \$2.2308/gal. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nesmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith voting aye.

Chairman Vonier recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to approve the bid award to R. Carlton Powell for the warden's house (to be moved) located at 2261 Cone Road, Thomasville, Georgia for \$1,200. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Grady. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith voting aye.

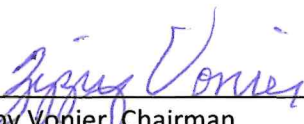
Commissioner Baggett made a motion to accept the bids and quotes for the Thomas County Animal Services Building as presented for \$1,530,401.83. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith voting aye.

Commissioner Baggett made a motion to accept bids for Turnout Gear from Municipal Equipment (\$6,818) and AEST Fire and Safety (\$23,100). The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith voting aye.

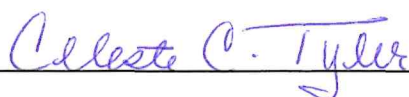
Commissioner Baggett made a motion to approve the recommendation to return a Motor Blade (90" articulated Quad Saw from ATMAX Equipment for the purchase price of \$19,116.50). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Grady. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith voting aye.

Chairman Vonier recognized Commissioner Hickey who announced that the Public Works Committee meeting is scheduled for 8:30 am on December 20, 2023.

Chairman Vonier recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith, voting aye. The meeting adjourned at 9:24 a.m.



Zippy Vonier, Chairman

ATTEST: 

County Clerk, Celeste C. Tyler