

Minutes  
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
225 North Board Street  
February 25, 2020

The Thomas County Board of Commissioners met on the above date in a regular scheduled meeting at 6:00 p.m. at the Historic Courthouse, Commission Chambers, with the following board members present:

<b>Phillip V. Brown, Chairman, Dist. 7</b>	<b>Wiley E. Grady, Vice-Chair, Dist. 6</b>
Rev. Jeremy G. Rich, Dist. 1	Moses Gross, Dist. 2
Kenneth E. Hickey, District 3	Mark NeSmith, Dist. 4
Donnie L. Baggett, Dist. 5	Zippy T. Vonier, Dist. 8

Staff present was County Manager Michael J. Stephenson, County Attorney Bruce Warren, Planning Director Ken Gay, and County Clerk Celeste Tyler.

News/Media present: Patti Dozier, Thomasville Times Enterprise and Chris Hurst, WPAX

Chairman Brown called the meeting to order, and Commissioner Rich gave the invocation.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2020 Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vonier. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Rich, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Brown declared a Public Hearing in regards to Application 20-2-1, applicant Thomas County Board of Commissioners.

Chairman Brown recognized County Manager Stephenson who reviewed the application and text changes for the Land Use Standards Ordinance and the Zoning Policies, Procedures and Standards. He also highlighted section 4.230 Standards of Review #10 of the current ordinance. He stated that the recommendation of eliminating this section would remove any ambiguity the staff would have in determining an adverse effect to property values.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner NeSmith who addressed Planning Director Ken Gay on the "reasonable time" verbiage that is listed in Section 4.260 Action by Board of Commissioners #2. Commissioner NeSmith wanted confirmation that at the conclusion of a Public Hearing, the Board of Commissioners could make a decision or have the option to defer a decision to a future meeting. County Attorney Warren agreed that both options exist.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve application 20-2-1 that would amend the Thomas County Land Use Standards Ordinance Section 4.000 Administrative Standards and the Thomas County Zoning Policies, Procedures, and Standards. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion passed 7-1 with Chairman

Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Hickey, NeSmith, Rich and Vonier voting aye. Commissioner Gross voted nay.

In the Open Meeting to Citizens Chairman Brown recognized Mayubrhai Patel of 801 E. Water Street, Bainbridge, Georgia 39817. Mr. Patel is the convenience store owner of Pantry #1 located at 9083 GA Hwy 33, Pavo, Georgia 31778 and is requesting a Beer and Wine License at said location.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to approve the application for a Beer and Wine License as requested by Mayubrhai Patel for Pantry #1 located at 9083 GA Hwy 33 Pave, Georgia 31778. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hickey. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Rich, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Brown recognized Roger Walker of 15770 N US Hwy 319, Thomasville, Georgia who congratulated Laura Nichols on her promotion and the good work she does for Thomas County. He also encouraged the Board of Commissioners to continue Capital Improvement planning and expressed concern over the closing of the Merrville polling location.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Rich who made a motion to ratify the 2019 End of Year Budget Amendment 20-2-1, as presented below. Commissioner Baggett seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Rich, and Vonier voting aye.

**2019 BUDGET AMENDMENT 20-2-1 - 2019 End of Year  
February 18, 2020**

**GENERAL FUND (100)**

	<b>Increase/Revenues</b>	<b>Increase/Expenses</b>
<b>Revenues</b>		
TAVT Tax	500,000	
LOST	120,600	
<b>Expenses</b>		
<b>Department</b>		
Board of Elections		26,000
Commissioners Office		29,000
District Attorney		7,400
Public Defender		300
Drug Squad		22,000
Humane Society		22,400
Public Works/Debt Service		350,500
Sanitation		163,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>620,600</b>	<b>620,600</b>

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**DRUG EDUCATION FUND (230)**

	<b>Increase/Revenues</b>	<b>Increase/Expenses</b>
<b>Revenues</b>		
Drug Fines	5,000	
<b>Expenses</b>		
DARE Program		5,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>5,000</b>

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**EMERGENCY SERVICES FUND  
(273)**

	<b>Decrease/Expenses</b>	<b>Increase/Expenses</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
<b>Department</b>		
EMS		274,392
Emergency Rescue		32,293
ES Administration		121,194
Other Financing Uses	427,879	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>427,879</b>	<b>427,879</b>

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**Hotel/Motel Fund (275)**


	<b>Increase/Revenues</b>	<b>Increase/Expenses</b>
<b>Revenues</b>		
Hotel/Motel Tax	182,000	
<b>Expenses</b>		
Tourist Product Development		182,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>182,000</b>	<b>182,000</b>

Commissioner Rich also made a motion to approve the fund transfer from the Unincorporated Fund Balance to the General Fund in the amount of \$599,353.68. Commissioner Baggett seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Rich, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to appoint Emergency Services Director Derrick Ogletree as the Region 8 EMS Advisory Board Member. Commissioner Baggett seconded

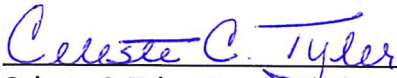
the motion. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Rich, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Hickey seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Rich, and Vonier voting aye. Meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m.



Phillip V. Brown, Chairman

ATTEST:



Celeste C. Tyler, County Clerk