

Minutes  
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
225 North Board Street  
March 10, 2020

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:

**Phillip V. Brown, Chairman, Dist. 7**  
Rev. Jeremy G. Rich, Dist. 1  
Kenneth E. Hickey, District 3  
Donnie L. Baggett, Dist. 5

**Wiley E. Grady, Vice-Chair Dist. 6 (absent)**  
Moses Gross, Dist. 2  
Mark NeSmith, Dist. 4 (absent)  
Zippy T. Vonier, Dist. 8

Staff present was County Manager Michael J. Stephenson, County Attorney Bruce Warren, Purchasing Agent Alicia Wiese, Public Works Director Tony Bodiford, 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 Hickey gave the invocation.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 25, 2020 Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vonier. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Gross, Hickey, Rich, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Brown declared a public hearing for the Board of Commissioners to consider a resolution transmitting a draft Capital Improvements Element (CIE) 2020 Annual Update report, relating to the County's impact fee program, to the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission for regional review pursuant to the Georgia Planning Act of 1989. Any persons wishing to be heard on the Capital Improvements Element Annual Update are invited to attend.

Chairman Brown recognized Bill Ross of Ross & Associates. Mr. Ross explained the Capital Improvements Element (CIE) update as a five- year community improvement program. Chairman Brown asked if there was anyone present who wished to comment. Being none, the public hearing was closed.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Hickey who made a motion to approve the Resolution to transmit the draft Capital Improvements Elements 2020 Annual Update report to the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission for review. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. Motion carried unanimously with Chairman Brown, and Commissioners Baggett, Gross, Hickey, Rich, and Vonier voting aye.

*Georgia, Thomas County*

**Transmittal Resolution**  
***Capital Improvements Element Update***  
***Thomas County, Georgia***

WHEREAS, Thomas County adopted a Capital Improvements Element as an amendment to the *Thomas County Comprehensive Plan*; and

WHEREAS, Thomas County has prepared a 2020 Annual Update to the adopted Capital Improvements Element (including financial data for fiscal year 2019); and

1. WHEREAS, the 2020 Capital Improvements Element Annual Update was prepared in accordance with the "Development Impact Fee Compliance Requirements" and the "Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Local Comprehensive Planning" adopted by the Board of Community Affairs pursuant to the Georgia Planning Act of 1989, and a duly advertised Public Hearing was held on March 10, 2020, at 9:00 A.M. at the Thomas County Historic Courthouse, 225 N. Broad Street, Thomasville, Georgia;
2. BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Thomas County does hereby submit the 2020 Capital Improvements Element Annual Update to the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission for Regional and State review, as per the requirements of the Development Impact Fee Compliance Requirements.

Adopted this 10th day of March, 2020.

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phillip V. Brown, Chairman

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Celeste C. Tyler, Clerk

Chairman Brown recognized County Manager Stephenson who expressed appreciation of the 14 employees (Group 27) who recently completed the Deming Orientation course. He, along with Commissioner Gross, presented certificates to the participants.

Chairman Brown recognized Public Works Director Tony Bodiford who updated the Board of Commissioners on the request from the Georgia Department of Transportation for input concerning the impact of closing the bridge at CR 360/Old US 84 @ CSX #636964L. He also stated that the residents of Boston were in favor of the closure.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to move forward with the CR 360/Old US 84 @ CSX #636964L. Commissioner Hickey seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Gross, Hickey, Rich, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Brown recognized Aaron Coch of Silvis, Ambrose, Lindquist & Coch, P.C., 220 S. Hansell Street, Thomasville, Georgia. Representing Williams Land Holdings, Inc., Mr. Coch requested Final Plat Approval for Phase III of Jamestowne at Madison Grove.



Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Hickey who made a motion to approve the Final Plat for Phase III of Jamestowne at Madison Grove. Commissioner Baggett seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Gross, Hickey, Rich, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Brown recognized Rodney Lewis of 10021 GA Hwy 202, Ochlocknee, Georgia 31773 who was seeking a 1-day permit for “The Babylon Benefit” on May 16, 2020 at the Deep South Fair Grounds in Thomas County. After discussion and recommendation from the Sheriff’s Department to coordinate efforts between the organizer and the local charities who will benefit, Commissioner Hickey made a motion to table the vote until the March 24, 2020 meeting. Commissioner Vonier seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Gross, Hickey, Rich, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Brown recognized County Manger Stephenson who distributed three handouts to the Board. The first promotional flyer was provided by Thomas County Transit and highlighted Early Voting at the new Elections and Registration Building. Citizens can easily call and a book a ride to the new facility located at 1402 East Jackson Street, Thomasville, Georgia. Early Voting concludes on March 20, 2020. The second handout was a SPLOST Recap (Public Works) comparing previous years to the 2017 SPLOST budget where the total miles-- inclusive of resurfaced, widened, and new road construction, equate to 102.69. The third handout was a copy of a News Release by the Department of Public Health addressing COVID-19 (Corona Virus). Mr. Tim Coram, Assistant EMS Director, answered questions from Commissioner Gross regarding precautions and preparedness implemented within the department.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to ratify the diesel purchase from Petroleum Products \$1.5999/gal on March 4, 2020. Commissioner Rich seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to approve the bid recommendations from the Purchasing Committee. Commissioner Baggett seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Gross, Hickey, Rich, and Vonier voting aye. They are as follows:

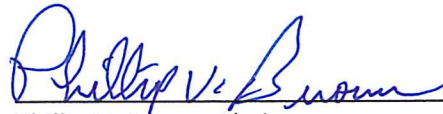
Fire Turnout Gear	Municipal Equipment	\$50,818
Skid Steer	Flint Equipment	\$66,745
Road Side Spraying Chemicals	Coastal Plains	\$42,448.05
Annual Road Signs	Vulcan	\$21,273.59
Ranges at Oakfield Irrigation	Johnson’s Lawn Care	\$21,500
Sheriff’s Office Vehicle Equipment (grant funded)	Howard Technology Solutions	\$24,884
Sheriff’s Office Vehicle Equipment	Howard Technology Solutions	\$16,704
Patrol Rifles	Pinetree Gun and Pawn	\$9,501.84

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Hickey who made a motion to approve the plans for a concrete crossing on Hansell Road as submitted by Oil-Dri. Commissioner Gross seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Gross, Hickey, Rich, and Vonier voting aye.

A reminder of the Fleet Services Committee on March 19, 2020 and the Emergency Services Committee meeting on March 23, 2020 was given.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Hickey who made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Rich seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Gross, Hickey, Rich, and Vonier voting aye.

Meeting adjourned at 9:32 a.m.



Phillip V. Brown, Chairman

ATTEST:



Celeste C. Tyler, County Clerk