

Minutes  
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
225 North Board Street  
April 27, 2021

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:

**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**

Moses Gross, Dist. 2

Mark NeSmith, Dist. 4

Zippy T. Vonier, Dist. 8

Staff present was County Manager Michael J. Stephenson, County Attorney Bruce Warren, Planning Director Ken Gay, Zoning Administrator Donna Holbert, Fleet Services Director Jamie Parrott, and County Clerk Celeste Tyler.

News/Media present: none

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

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2021 Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Rich, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Brown recognized County Manager Stephenson who introduced the newly hired Thomas County Public Library Director, Holly Phillips. Ms. Phillips has been with the Moultrie Library for the last 12 years, with the last 9 of those serving as Director. Ms. Phillips currently resides in Mitchell County.

Chairman Brown declared a public hearing and recognized Donna Holbert, Zoning Administrator. Donna Holbert introduced application 21-4-1. Britt Wetherington agent for property owner, Mary Sue Castleberry has applied for a rezoning from Ag (Agricultural) to R-2 (Residential, Single Family) on a 5.6 acre, more or less portion of a 42.72 acre, more or less, parcel. The entire parcel is zoned Agricultural and R-2 along the portion of the parcel fronting Hwy. 84 East. The 5.6 acres, more or less, portion is located in the Agricultural portion of the parcel and has two existing homes. If approved, the zoning change will allow for the two existing homes known as 70 and 100 Vanncastle Lane to be located on individual parcels. The Planning Staff recommends approval of this application.

With no further comments, Chairman Brown closed the Public Hearing. Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve application 21-4-1. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Rich, and Vonier voting aye.

**Open Meeting to Citizens:** Chairman Brown recognized Mr. Tim Horchler of 101 Inwood Acres, Thomasville, Georgia who asked the Board to consider the removal of the Confederate monuments from the Courthouse lawn. He suggested an appropriate new location might be a cemetery that has the remains of Confederate soldiers. Chairman Brown recognized Ms. Shirley Jackson of 727 Crowley Road, Thomasville, Georgia. Ms. Jackson wanted to follow-up on whether or not the employees of the County had undergone any diversity or cultural sensitivity training. Commissioner Grady commented that the

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Department Heads had undergone training (February 22, 2021), and a revised employee conduct policy would be reviewed at the next Personnel Committee meeting.

**Reports:** Chairman Brown recognized County Manager Stephenson who presented a proposal from Network Technology Solutions (NTS) for the Judicial Center. Commissioner NeSmith had questions regarding the recurring monthly cost and the \$150.00 per hour charge for work done outside of the agreement. Commissioner Grady asked if this expenditure would come out of the General Fund. County Manager Stephenson responded yes, that it could come out of the Rainy-Day account or from the reimbursed COVID-19 monies that have not been earmarked but would be eligible.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to approve the NTS proposal as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Grady. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Rich, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Brown recognized County Attorney Warren who recommended adopting a resolution for the De-annexation from the City of Thomasville for four Baytree Drive lots that are part of the Brookwood School campus.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to adopt the Brookwood De-annexation Resolution. 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.

### **BROOKWOOD DEANNEXATION RESOLUTION**

294 Baytree Drive #068BTH 011, 332 Baytree Drive 3068BTH 012, 340 Baytree Drive #068BTH 013 & 358 Baytree Drive #068BTH 014

WHEREAS, Brookwood School, Inc., has requested the Council of the City of Thomasville to deannex the property described above; and

WHEREAS, O.C.G.A. §36-36-22 provides that the governing authority of the County adopt a resolution consenting to such deannexation;

NOW THEREFORE, the Thomas County Commission adopts the following resolution:

Resolved that the Thomas County Board of Commissioners hereby consents to the deannexation of the above reference property and that it be made a part of the unincorporated area of Thomas County, Georgia.

ADOPTED this 27<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021.

**Thomas County Commission**

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to ratify the diesel fuel purchase from Coastal Plains Farmers CO-OP for \$1.96/gal. on April 23, 2021. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Rich, and Vonier voting aye

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to declare three ambulances as surplus and to be sold on GovDeals online auction. 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 recognized Commissioner Rich who made a motion to ratify 2020 Budget Amendment 21-4-1 and 2021 Budget Amendment 21-4-2. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Rich, and Vonier voting aye.

**2020 BUDGET AMENDMENT 21-4-1 - 2020 End of Year  
April 27, 2021**

**GENERAL FUND (100)**

	<b>Increase/Revenues</b>	<b>Increase/Expenses</b>
<b>Revenues</b>		
LOST	500,400	
<b>Expenses</b>		
<b>Department</b>		
Board of Elections		65,000
Administrative Services		10,000
Buildings-Custodial		4,000
District Attorney		400
Sheriff's Office		10,000
Jail		95,000
Drug Squad		90,000
Coroner		2,000
Humane Society		27,000
Sanitation		87,000
Library		110,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>500,400</b>	<b>500,400</b>

**UNINCORPORATED FUND  
(200)**

	<b>Increase/Revenues</b>	<b>Increase/Expenses</b>
<b>Revenues</b>		
Building Licenses & Permits	50,000	

<b>Expenses</b>		
Emergency Operations/Equipment		50,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>

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**EMERGENCY SERVICES FUND (273)**

	<b>Increase/Revenues</b>	<b>Increase/Expenses</b>
<b>Revenues</b>		
Ambulance Fees	400,000	
<b>Expenses</b>		
<b>Department</b>		
Emergency Rescue		210,000
ES Administration		190,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>400,000</b>	<b>400,000</b>

**HOTEL MOTEL FUND(275)**

	<b>Increase/Revenues</b>	<b>Increase/Expenses</b>
<b>Revenues</b>		
Hotel Motel Tax	114,000	
<b>Expenses</b>		
Marketing Expense & Distributions		114,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>114,000</b>	<b>114,000</b>

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**AIRPORT FUND(785)**

	<b>Increase/Revenues</b>	<b>Increase/Expenses</b>
<b>Revenues</b>		
Timber	10,000	
<b>Expenses</b>		
Other Supplies		10,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>10,000</b>

**2021 BUDGET AMENDMENT 21-4-2**  
**GENERAL FUND (100)**  
**April 27, 2021**

<b>Account</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Original 2021 Budget</b>	<b>Amended Budget</b>	<b>Difference</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
100-2180-51-1100	Salaries-Clerk of Court	389,772	365,062	-24,710
100-2180-51-2100	Group Insurance	100,000	90,000	-10,000
100-2180-51-2200	Social Security (FICA)	29,267	27,367	-1,900
100-2180-51-2400	Retirement Cont.	19,800	19,000	-800
100-2180-51-2600	Unemployment Ins.	600	500	-100
100-2180-51-2700	Workers Compensation	4,300	2,800	-1,500
100-2190-51-1100	Salaries-Judicial Center Services	0	24,710	24,710
100-2190-51-2100	Group Insurance	0	10,000	10,000
100-2190-51-2200	Social Security (FICA)	0	1,900	1,900
100-2190-51-2400	Retirement Cont.	0	800	800
100-2190-51-2600	Unemployment Ins.	0	100	100
100-2190-51-2700	Workers Compensation	0	1,500	1,500
100-2190-52-2230	Judicial Center Network	0	26,988	26,988
100-2190-52-2232	Security-IT Services	0	1,020	1,020
100-2190-52-2234	Clk of Court-IT Services	0	33,480	33,480
100-2190-52-2236	Superior Court Judges-IT Serv	0	5,100	5,100
100-2190-52-2238	District Atty-IT Services	0	7,140	7,140
100-2190-52-2240	Probate-IT Services	0	10,740	10,740
100-2190-54-2400	Computers	0	43,964	43,964
100-9010-61-2005	Rainy Day Account	431,285	302,853	-128,432
	<b>Total</b>			<b>0</b>

**Net Increase to Expenses**

\*Move Custodian position to Judicial Center Services from Clerk of Court

\*Add IT Services to Judicial Center Budget

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**2021 BUDGET AMENDMENT 21-4-2**  
**PROJECT TO DATE BUDGET - SPLOST 2017-CPF (329)**  
**April 27, 2021**

Account	Description	Original 2021 Budget	Amended Budget	Difference
<b>Expenses</b>				
329-4131-54-1405	Enon Road	1,037,500	1,117,500	80,000
329-4200-52-1310	Contracted Const/Road Striping	0	230,360	230,360
329-9010-57-9000	Contingencies	3,031,110	2,720,750	-310,360
	<b>Total</b>			<b>0</b>

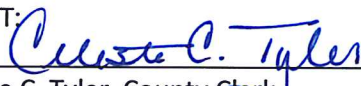
**Net Increase to Expenses**

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The upcoming committee meetings were announced. The Personnel Committee will meet at the Historic Courthouse on April 28, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. The Purchase Committee will meet at the Historic Courthouse on May 4, 2021, and the Public Property Committee will meet at the Historic Courthouse on May 6, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Rich, and Vonier voting aye. The meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

  
 Phillip V. Brown, Chairman

ATTEST:  
  
 Celeste C. Tyler, County Clerk