

Minutes
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3rd Floor
225 North Board Street
July 13, 2021

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 (absent)
Kenneth E. Hickey, District 3
Donnie L. Baggett, Dist. 5

Wiley E. Grady, Vice-Chair, Dist. 6
Moses Gross, Dist. 2 (absent)
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, Public Works Director Tony Bodiford, Building and Maintenance Director Lyndall Knight, Asst. Director Building and Maintenance Johnnie Clark; Purchasing Agent Alicia Wiese, Sheriff Carlton Powell, and County Clerk Celeste Tyler.

News/Media present: Pat Donahue, Thomasville Times Enterprise; Chris Hurst WPAX

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

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 22, 2021 Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Open Meeting to Citizens

Chairman Brown recognized Lucinda Brown of 103 Halcyon Way, Thomasville, GA who asked for a commitment from the Board for community engagement in the plan for the American Rescue Plan and a resolution declaring as such. Chairman Brown recognized Ms. Shirley Jackson of 727 Crowley Road, Thomasville, Georgia who asked questions regarding the Cares Act funding for overtime pay in correlation with the American Rescue Act Premium Pay and asked additional questions regarding monies for broadband and transit. Chairman Brown recognized Mr. Nate Tyler of 208 Cloverdale Dr., Thomasville, GA who addressed partnership in getting messages out in the community in regards to the distribution of funds from the American Rescue Plan to help underserved populations. County Manager Stephenson asked Ms. Brown to submit her questions in writing in order for him to not overlook anything.

County Manager's Report

County Manager Stephenson presented the 2021 Property Tax Levy Schedule to the Board of Commissioners. The Tentative Millage Rates will be set at the Tuesday, July 27, 2021 regular Board of Commissioners Meeting, and the Final Millage Rates and Ley Taxes being set at the Tuesday, August 24, 2021 regular Board of Commissioners' Meeting. To date, the County Manager plans to recommend a reduction in the property tax rate for the eighth year in a row.

County Manager Stephenson recognized Zoning Administrator Donna Holbert who introduced Application (21-7-1) by the Thomas County Board of Commissioners to amend the Thomas County Land Use Standards Ordinance, Section 3.000 Land Use Standards. Section 3.260 Supplemental Regulations, Section 3.269 Solar Energy Facility. A Public Hearing will be held on July 27, 2021 regarding this application.

County Attorney's Report

County Attorney Warren presented a request from the City of Ochlocknee for a Temporary Construction Easement. The city is undergoing a water project, and the easement would expire upon the competition of the erection of the water tower.

Chairman Brown recognized Chairman Hickey who made a motion to approve the request from the City of Ochlocknee for a Temporary Construction Easement. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioner Baggett, Grady, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Committee Reports

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to ratify the purchase of diesel fuel from Petroleum Products for \$2.2251/gal on June 23, 2021. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Commissioner Vonier made a motion to accept Motorola as the sole radio vendor. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Commissioner Vonier made a motion to ratify the bid approval for the purchase of Fire Turnout Gear for \$61,308.00 from Municipal Equipment. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Commissioner Vonier made a motion to ratify the annual bid approval for Road Signs from Vulcan for \$25,010.18. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hickey. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioner Baggett, Grady, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Commissioner Vonier made a motion to ratify the acceptance of the six-month bid for Hydroseeding Materials from Delta Landscape as needed. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Commissioner Vonier made a motion to ratify the acceptance of the six-month bid for Concrete Drainage Pipe from Foley Products as needed. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hickey. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Commissioner Vonier made a motion to ratify the acceptance of the six-month bid for Aggregate Rock from Martin Marietta as needed. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Commissioner Vonier made a motion to ratify the acceptance of the six-month bid for Woven Geotextiles from WinFab as needed. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hickey. The motion was approved

unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Commissioner Vonier made a motion to ratify the bid approval for the purchase of a 25-ton Electric Cool/Gas Heat Unit from Lang Mechanical for \$69,258.00. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Commissioner Vonier made a motion to approve the site plan for the Sheriff's Shooting Range. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Commissioner Vonier made a motion to approve \$156,619.00 for contracted work for the Sheriff's Shooting Range and in-kind work by County crews valued at \$100,800.00. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Commissioner Vonier made a motion to authorize the Public Works Director to proceed with hiring an Engineer to work up the Engineering and Soil Erosion Plans for the Sheriff's Shooting Range. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to delay the Southside Station project until next year citing the cost of materials and the lack of bids in the majority of the categories. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

The upcoming committee meetings were announced. The Emergency Services Committee will meet at the Historic Courthouse on July 19, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. The Public Works Committee will meet at the Historic Courthouse on July 21, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. The Purchasing Committee will meet at the Historic Courthouse on August 3, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Hickey 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, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye. The meeting adjourned at 9:31 a.m.



Phillip V. Brown, Chairman

ATTEST:



Celeste C. Tyler, County Clerk