

Minutes
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3rd Floor
225 North Board Street
July 12, 2022

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:

Mark NeSmith, Chairman, Dist. 4
Rev. Jeremy G. Rich, Dist. 1 (absent)
Kenneth E. Hickey, District 3
Phillip V. Brown, District 7

Wiley E. Grady, Vice-Chair, Dist. 6
Moses Gross, District 2 (absent)
Donnie L. Baggett, District 5
Zippy T. Vonier, District 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, Emergency Services Director Derrick Ogletree, Capt. Steve Jones, Building and Maintenance Director Lyndall Knight, and County Clerk Celeste Tyler.

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

Chairman NeSmith called the meeting to order and gave the invocation.

Chairman NeSmith recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 28, 2022 Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman NeSmith and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and Vonier voting aye.

Open Meeting to the Citizens: Chairman NeSmith recognized Candee Henderson of 1453 Egg and Butter Rd. South, Thomasville, GA. who informed the Board that she would be out of the country for a month visiting grandchildren but would soon return to continue her initiative to promote 100% renewable energy by 2035. She also spoke briefly on carbon credits.

Under New Business Chairman NeSmith recognized County Manager Stephenson who recommended contracting with Community Outreach Training Center, Inc., specifically Sharon Edwards, Founder/CEO to administer the ARPA Grant Program for Households. Ms. Edwards has worked in a similar capacity for the City of Thomasville and comes highly recommended.

Chairman NeSmith recognized Commissioner Brown who made a motion to approve the recommendation and authorize the County Manager to negotiate a contract with Community Outreach Training Center. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman NeSmith and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and Vonier voting aye

Chairman NeSmith recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to declare the following vehicles surplus and to authorize the sale of the vehicles on GovDeals online auction. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman NeSmith and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and Vonier voting aye.

AUCTION SURPLUS LIST

Unit# 13-249 2014 Dodge Charger 2C3CDXAT6DH721951
Unit# 12-212 2006 Chevy Suburban 3GNGK26G66G240223

Reports:

Chairman NeSmith recognized County Manager Stephenson who recognized Zoning Administrator Donna Holbert. Donna introduced rezoning application #22-7-2. This application was filed by Tyler Graybill, Teramore Development, LLC, agent for property owner, Margaret Ragin. The request is to rezone property located at the intersection of U.S. Hwy 19 N and Ga. Hwy. 202 (Northeast corner) located on Map 54, Parcel 130 consisting of 10.09 acres, more or less, from Ag (Agricultural) to CG (Commercial General) to allow for the construction of a retail store (Dollar General). Donna stated that approval from GDOT has been given, and entrances and exits to the store will be on HWY 19 N and GA HWY 202. The staff from the Planning and Zoning Department is recommending approval of the application.

The County Manager recognized Planning Director Ken Gay who gave an update on the Evergreen Brook Apartments project. A technical review was held and several items with utilities will need to be addressed. Ken also asked for road issues to be resolved. An update on the new apartments on Colonial Dr. was given. Things are moving along well now. Inspections continue to be conducted, and the State Fire Marshall has been present. The Planning and Zoning Department has not received any recent complaints on flooding,

Commissioner Brown inquired about a new hotel. Ken stated that a Home to Suites, a Hilton property, is coming to Thomasville and will be located across from Harbor Freight. The project is ready to go. The plans have been reviewed and permits will probably be pulled next week.

Chairman NeSmith recognized Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to ratify the purchase of diesel fuel from Petroleum Products for \$4.4590/gal on June 28, 2022. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman NeSmith and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and Vonier voting aye.

Commissioner Vonier made a motion to ratify the purchase of fuel from Petroleum Products for \$3.5321/gal on July 7, 2022. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hickey. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman NeSmith and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and Vonier voting aye.


Commissioner Vonier made a motion to ratify bid approval for Fire Turnout Gear from Municipal Equipment for \$68,922.00. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hickey. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman NeSmith and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and Vonier voting aye.

Commissioner Vonier made a motion to ratify bid approval for Fire Engine Equipment totaling \$35,706.15. The purchase of the Fire Engine Equipment is contingent on the purchase of the fire truck from Sweetwater, TN. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman NeSmith and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman NeSmith recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to ratify approval to transfer \$100,000 of the capital outlay project funds to the Thomas County Public Library. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Grady. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman NeSmith and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and Vonier voting aye.

The upcoming committee meetings were announced. The Emergency Services Committee will meet on July 19, 2022 at the Historic Courthouse at 8:30 a.m., and the Public Works Committee will meet on July 20, 2022 at the Historic Courthouse at 8:30 a.m.

Chairman NeSmith recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman NeSmith and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and Vonier voting aye. The meeting adjourned at 9:27 a.m.



Mark NeSmith, Chairman

ATTEST: 

Celeste C. Tyler, County Clerk