

Houston County Commissioners Meeting
January 23, 2018
Warner Robins, Georgia

The Houston County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday January 23, 2018 at the Houston County Annex in Warner Robins, Georgia with Chairman Stalnaker presiding and Commissioners Walker, Robinson, Thomson, and McMichael present. Also present were County Attorney Tom Hall, Director of Administration Barry Holland, Director of Operations Robbie Dunbar, Fire/HEMA Chief Jimmy Williams, Director of Purchasing Mark Baker, Tax Commissioner Mark Kushinka, Solid Waste Collections Billing Manager Larry Fairchild, Dwight Hobbs, Art MacDonald, Perry Houston County Airport Authority Chairman Billy Jerles, Perry Houston County Airport Authority members Ned Sanders, Danny Wilson and Marshall Parker, Airport Manager Jim Marquardt, Walton & Becky Wood, James Erdmanczyk, and Ansel Peck.

Chairman Stalnaker gave the invocation.

Lt. Col. Art MacDonald, US Air Force (ret.) led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and briefed the Board on his 22-years of military service. Having recently rotated off of the Perry-Houston County Airport Authority Mr. MacDonald commented that the airport was thriving and is a great asset to the Middle-Georgia community. He thanked the Board for their past and continued support of the airport. He spent most of his military career as a fighter pilot after graduating from the Air Force Academy and pilot training. He graduated the academy with a degree in Astronautics, began his career flying F-4 Phantoms in combat over Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia, and held various flying positions ending up in F-16's where he was a pilot instructor and then operational test pilot before coming to Robins AFB as a staff officer. After retiring from service, he worked as a financial advisor and planner for twenty years and also served for fourteen years on the Perry-Houston County Airport Authority with six years as chairman.

Chairman Stalnaker thanked Mr. MacDonald for his service to country and community and then presented him with a resolution of appreciation and several small gifts. Chairman Stalnaker recognized Perry-Houston County Airport Authority Chairman Billy Jerles and Authority member Ned Sanders each of whom thanked Mr. MacDonald for his service and dedication.

Chairman Stalnaker then recognized Tax Commissioner Mark Kushinka for his 30-year service milestone at Houston County and Solid Waste Collections Billing Manager Larry Fairchild for his 40-year service milestone. He presented each with a certificate, a pin and a check for their respective service to the County. Each introduced family members who were present to witness the presentation.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to approve the minutes from the meeting of January 9, 2018.

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Mr. Walker presented a request for approval to declare property located at 1052A Hwy 247, Kathleen, Georgia as surplus and allow it to be auctioned off to the highest bidder.

A motion was made by Mr. Walker, and seconded by Ms. Robinson. However, upon discussion Mr. Baker asked the Board to consider an internet auction process as a possible means to dispose of the property. After conferring with County Attorney Tom Hall, Mr. Walker amended his motion to include language that would allow either a sealed bid process or an internet auction process to sell the property.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to authorize the Purchasing Department to solicit sealed bids or bids thru internet auction process, for the purchase of the property and the building at 1052A Hwy 247, Kathleen, Georgia. The property and building will be sold to the highest responsible bidder. The County will reserve the right to reject any and all bids. The property is more particularly described as follows:

All that real estate situate, lying and being in the Eleventh Land District of Houston County, Georgia, in Land Lot 6 therein, being a portion of that property shown on a plat of survey prepared by Carl J. Story, Surveyor, dated January 22, 1963, a copy of said plat being of record in Map Book 8, Page 240, Clerk's Office, Houston Superior Court, which is more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a point where the center line of Georgia Highway No. 127 intersects the centerline of Georgia Highway No. 247, thence run North 20 degrees 50 minutes East along the center line of Georgia Highway No. 247 for a distance of 382.95 feet; thence run South 69 degrees 10 minutes East for a distance of 50 feet to a point on the easterly right of way line of Georgia Highway No. 247 and the point of beginning, from said point of beginning run North 20 degrees 50 minutes East along the east right of way line of Georgia Highway No. 247 for a distance of 85 feet to a point; thence run South 69 degrees 10 minutes East for a distance of 176.93 feet to a point; thence run South 20 degrees 50 minutes West for a distance of 85 feet to a point; thence run North 69 degrees 10 minutes West for a distance of 176.93 feet to the Point of Beginning.

This is the same property conveyed to the Board of Commissioners of Houston County from Jack West by the warranty deed at Deed Book 1053, Page 439, Clerk's Office, Houston Superior Court.

Mr. Walker presented a request for approval of a bid for a 2018 Ram 1500 Crew Cab Pickup Truck for use in the Tax Assessors Office. This truck was previously approved at the November 7th Board meeting for use in the Roads Department. When it was delivered it did not meet the specifications the County ordered for the Roads Department, however, it did meet the requirements on a request from the Tax Assessors office.

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Since this truck is under the \$25,000 budgeted in FY18 for the Tax Assessors staff recommends keeping this truck for their use and McLarty Dodge will deliver a truck that meets the original specifications for use in the Roads Department at the same price.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to approve the purchase of one new 2018 Ram 1500 Crew Cab Pickup Truck for use in the Tax Assessors office from Landers McLarty Dodge of Huntsville, AL for \$24,193. This vehicle purchase is funded by the 2012 SPLOST.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve the re-appointment of the following:

Library Board of Trustees

Julie Layne

02/02/2018/ to 02/01/2022

Chairman Stalnaker commented that Ms. Layne represents Robins AFB on the Library Board of Trustees.

Mr. Thomson presented a request from the Engineering Department to release the cul-de-sac bond for Harley Estates Extension Subdivision, Phase 1 since Hialeah Drive has been extended as part of the construction of Harley Farms.

Additionally, Engineering is requesting the release of the maintenance bond for Forest Brooke Subdivision, Section 2, Phase 2, since it has been completed in accordance with the Comprehensive Land Development Regulations for Houston County, and to accept Misty Valley Lane and Bedfordshire Lane for maintenance purposes.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to approve the release of the cul-de-sac bond for Harley Estates Extension Subdivision, Phase 1 (Persons Banking Company Bank Letter of Credit #432945); and the release of the maintenance bond for Forest Brooke Subdivision, Section 2, Phase 2 (SunTrust Letter of Credit #70002348) and to accept the following roads recorded for maintenance purposes:

Misty Valley Lane
Bedfordshire Lane

605 feet or 0.11 mile
245 feet or 0.05 mile

Mr. Thomson presented a request from the Engineering Department to extend the maintenance bond for Forest Brooke and Stratford Hills Subdivisions since these portions have not been completed in accordance with the Comprehensive Land Development Regulations for Houston County. The extension will afford the developer time to perform the required work.

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Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to approve the extension of the maintenance bond (SunTrust Letter of Credit #700002339, expires February 2, 2018) for Forest Brooke Subdivision (Lots 273-276 and 305-311) and Stratford Hills Subdivision (Lots 277-281, 284-292 and 294-304). If the bond is not extended by February 2, 2018, the County will draw the bond and contract the work.

Mr. McMichael asked if the developer had plans to extend the bond.

Mr. Dunbar answered that the developer had indicated that he would extend.

Mr. McMichael presented a request for approval of a bid on the Phase 6 Landfill improvements project. After the bids were received it was decided that the design plans needed to be revised; however, since the project was bid at a unit cost price the design change did not result in a new low bidder. Staff recommends contract award to low bidder Peed Bros.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to approve award of the Phase 6 Landfill improvements project to Peed Bros. of Butler, GA in the amount of \$534,699.41. This project is funded by Solid Waste Capital Funds.

Mr. McMichael presented a request for approval of a bid on one new pick-up truck for use in the Public Buildings Department. Purchasing recommends award to the sole bidder Langdale Chevrolet for a 2018 Chevy Silverado.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to approve the award of one new 2018 Chevrolet Silverado pick-up truck for use in the Public Buildings Department from Langdale Chevrolet in the amount of \$24,652. This vehicle purchase is funded by the 2012 SPLOST.

Chairman Stalnaker commented that even though only one bid was received it was a very competitive price.

O.C.G.A. §21-2-131(1)(A) requires the governing authority to fix and publish qualifying fees no later than February 1st in an election year. Qualifying for these offices will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, March 5, 2018 and will end at noon on Friday, March 9, 2018 and will be held at the Board of Elections Office, Houston County Government Building, 801 Main Street, Perry, Georgia. The General Primary / Non-Partisan General Election will be held on May 22, 2018 and the General Election will be held November 6, 2018.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to approve the setting of qualifying fees for the 2018 General Primary / Non-Partisan General Election candidates for County offices as follows:

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State Court Judge	\$4,141
County Commission Chairman, Post 1	\$2,816
County Commissioner, Post 2	\$ 360
County Board of Education, District 2	\$ 108
County Board of Education, District 4	\$ 108
County Board of Education, Post 6-At Large	\$ 108

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to approve the payment of the bills totaling \$1,263,320.61.

Chairman Stalnaker made an announcement to remind everyone that the next Board meeting would be held on Tuesday, February 6th at 9:00 am at the Courthouse.

Chairman Stalnaker opened the meeting for Public Comments.

James Erdmancyk, 123 S. 3rd Street, Apartment 9, Warner Robins thanked the Chairman for assisting him while attending the state House committee meeting concerning distracted driving which was held at the Central Georgia Technical College recently.

Paul Brown, 113 Oklahoma Avenue, Warner Robins commented that he has noticed an increase in the presence of ants in the area and questioned whether the County had any plans in place to help control them.

Chairman Stalnaker commented that unfortunately there was no viable way to eradicate or effectively control the ants.

There being no further comments the meeting continued.

Chairman Stalnaker opened the meeting for Commissioners Comments.

Mr. Walker remarked that he was glad the County could recognize employees for their longevity and dedication while serving our citizens.

Ms. Robinson thanked everyone for attending and participating in the meeting.

Mr. Thomson remarked that he has personally seen an increase in Australian ants that actually seem to be beneficial as they eat aphids and other pests in the home garden.

Mr. McMichael remarked that he was glad County employees were recognized for their service and also thanked Mr. MacDonald for his service to the Air Force, the Airport Authority, the Rotary Club and to the community in general.

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Chairman Stalnaker reminded everyone to be conscious of the flu epidemic watching for symptoms and seeking treatment early. He also asked that in the wake of the three recent murders in Houston County that each citizen be active and aware helping law enforcement to bring those responsible to justice. Law enforcement professionals are working diligently to solve these crimes but need citizens to observe and report anything that may assist in that endeavor. Chairman Stalnaker also thanked Deputy Ricardo Merriweather who was providing security for the meeting.

Deputy Merriweather commented that he came to work for the Sheriff's office three weeks ago having been a deputy and homicide investigator in Macon-Bibb County for seven years. He agreed that the Sheriff's office needed the support of the public to be effective.

Motion to Adjourn by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all. Meeting adjourned.

Barry Holland
Director of Administration

Chairman

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner