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**Houston County Commissioners Meeting**

**November 3, 2015**

**Perry, Georgia**

The Houston County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 3, 2015 at the Houston County Courthouse in Perry, Georgia with Chairman Stalnaker presiding and Commissioners Thomson, McMichael, Walker and Robinson present. Also present were Director of Administration Barry Holland, Human Resources Director Ken Carter, Community Planner Jake Cox, Purchasing Director Mark Baker, Director of Operations Robbie Dunbar, Chief Tax Appraiser James Moore, Walt and Becky Wood, Ansel Peck, Robins Regional Leadership Class Representative Michael Carter and County Attorney Tom Hall.

Commissioner Walker led the audience in the Invocation.

Darin Gaymon, former US Army and TSgt in the Air Force Reserves, led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and detailed his 5-year military career. Working with flight instruments and radar surveillance equipment he served in overseas assignments in Korea and Germany and also stateside in Colorado. He remarked that although military service is not for everyone that he enjoyed it and tried to make the best of it. His service allowed him to complete his degree in electrical engineering later on. He now works with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). He came to Houston County years ago to be closer to his daughter. He remained here and eventually remarried and now raises his blended family of five children.

Chairman Stalnaker recognized Reverend McIntosh of the Green Grove Missionary Baptist Church and then read a proclamation recognizing their 135th anniversary as a church. Reverend McIntosh introduced church clerk Ms. Brenda King and several friends of the church who were in attendance.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the meeting of October 20, 2015.

County Attorney Tom Hall made a blanket statement for the benefit of all applicants for Special Exceptions for home occupations that even if the Board of Commissioners approves an application, neighborhood covenants may still impose certain restrictions upon or against home occupation businesses. These restrictive covenants are superior to any action taken by the Board of Commissioners. The action taken by the Board will not change any provision within the covenant that prohibits any commercial or business activity.

Chairman Stalnaker announced that Mr. Hall would present Items 1 and 2 since Mr. Andrews was unable to attend the meeting due to family business.

Re-Zoning Application #1917 and Special Exception Application #1916 for a home occupation business were presented by Mr. Hall. He explained that both applications meet the appropriate County regulations and came to the Board with unanimous recommendations for approval from Planning & Zoning on #1917 and Zoning & Appeals on #1916. Ms. Robinson asked if the property in question on Re-Zoning Application #1917 was contiguous to other industrial properties. Mr. Hall replied that it was contiguous. Mr. McMichael remarked that, if approved, this development would improve the area measurably.

Chairman Stalnaker then opened a public hearing on Re-Zoning Application #1917 and Special Exception Application #1916 for a home occupation business.

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William and Wendy Bellamy, applicants for Re-Zoning Application #1917, were present but had nothing further to add.

Curtis Hoskins applicant for Special Exception Application #1916 was present but had nothing further to add.

There was no opposition to either application.

There being no public comments, the meeting was continued.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously to approve Re-Zoning Application #1917 submitted by William and Wendy Bellamy.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously to approve Special Exception Application #1916 for an Internet Sales & Training Business submitted by Curtis Hoskins to include any and all stipulations as noted on the Zoning & Appeals recommendation and Section 95 Requirements staff report.

Chairman Stalnaker asked each applicant to contact Mr. Andrews in the morning to receive further instructions.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously to approve the disbursement of a $450 clothing allowance to those twenty-six Sheriff’s Department personnel identified in a memorandum from Sheriff Talton dated October 22, 2015. Total disbursement is $11,700.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously to approve the award of the Brock Road paving and maintenance project to Womack Paving of Gray, GA in the amount of $27,206.25. This is a 2001 SPLOST funded resurfacing project.

Chairman Stalnaker remarked that he would be glad when this project is completed because he has received many phones calls about it. Mr. Thomson remarked that the bids were likely lower due to the fact that the road had been rocked several times in the past and this will provide a relatively solid base for the new pavement.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously to approve the award of one new 2016 Ford Expedition for use in the Engineering Department to Brannen Motor Company of Unadilla, GA at a cost of $29,251.85. This vehicle is to be funded by HOST fees.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously to approve Chairman Stalnaker to sign Change Order #1 with Pyles Plumbing & Utility Contractors on the Water Systems improvement project serving Pitts Road and Hwy. 26. The original contract amount of $79,031 will be reduced by $6,660 to $72,371 with no change in contract time.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously to approve the payment of bills totaling $3,093,438.88.

Chairman Stalnaker then opened the meeting for public comments.

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Mr. Walton Wood, 426 Sandefur Road, Kathleen wished both Chairman Stalnaker (November 4th) and Commissioner Thomson (November 6th) happy birthdays.

Mr. Ansel Peck, 109 Latham Drive, Warner Robins expressed his gratitude to the Board for their kindness and concern during his recent illness. He also stated that the citizens of the County should thank the Board for their outstanding leadership and for their first class staff.

There being no further public comments, the meeting was continued.

Chairman Stalnaker then asked for comments from the Commissioners.

 Mr. Walker wished the Chairman and Commissioner Thomson happy birthday and

 also thanked the outstanding County employees for serving our citizens so well.

Ms. Robinson also wished both a happy birthday and expressed her thanks to the employees as well.

Mr. Thomson remarked he was proud to serve.

Mr. McMichael wished both happy birthday and thanked the other Board members for their service to the County.

Chairman Stalnaker mentioned the upcoming State of the Community Luncheon to be held Wednesday, November 4th, at 11:30 a.m. at the Houston County Board of Education Annex Auditorium at which he will be one of the panelists.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

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