



**Columbia County Board of Commissioners Meeting
Minutes of Tuesday, August 6, 2024 at 6:00 PM
Evans Government Center Auditorium, Evans, Georgia**

Present at the meeting included:

Chairman Douglas R. Duncan, Jr.
Vice Chairman Connie M. Melear
Commissioner Donald Skinner, Sr.
Commissioner Michael W. Carraway
Commissioner Alison G. Couch
County Manager Scott Johnson
Deputy County Manager Matt Schlachter
Deputy County Manager Glenn Kennedy
County Attorney Chris Driver
County Clerk Patrice R. Crawley

Division Directors:

Leanne Reece – Internal Services
Scott Sterling – Planning Services
Paul Scarbary - Development Services
Kyle Titus - Engineering Services
John Luton - Community Services
Chief Jeremy Wallen - Fire Services
Michael Blanchard - Technology Services
Stacey Gordon - Water Utility Services
County Staff

Members of the Media and Public

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Duncan called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

B. INVOCATION

Commissioner Skinner gave the invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

County Manager Johnson led the pledge to the American flag.

D. ROLL CALL / QUORUM

Chairman Duncan declared a quorum with five Commissioners present.

E. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

(E1) July 16, 2024 Board of Commissioners Meeting

(E2) July 16, 2024 Millage Public Hearing minutes

(E3) July 23, 2024 Millage Public Hearing minutes

Vice Chairman Melear made a motion to approve the July 16, 2024 Millage Public Hearing & Commission Meeting minutes and the July 23, 2024 Millage Public Hearing minutes. Commissioner Couch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

F. PRESENTATION AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chairman Duncan presented the August 06, 2024 minutes.

G. SPECIAL RECOGNITION, PRESENTATION, AND / OR DECLARATION

H. CONSENT AGENDA

In accordance with Columbia County Code of Ordinance Section 2-81(6), the following items were voted on collectively. Vice Chairman Melear made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Commissioner Couch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(H1) Community and Emergency Services Committee

(H1a) Vehicle Allowance for the Box Office Manager II at the Performing Arts Center

Approved a vehicle allowance A for the Box Office Manager II at the Performing Arts Center to be retroactive to June 30, 2024.

(H2) Public Works and Engineering Services Committee

(H2a) Authorize McGill and Associates to perform the survey for the Watson Bailey Road Improvements

Approved authorizing McGill and Associates to perform the survey for the Watson Bailey Road improvements in the amount of \$15,000; 91317.22.015.

(H2b) Lighting Services Agreements with Georgia Power at the Intersections of Hereford Farm Rd @ Lawrence Dr and Louisville Rd @ Old Louisville Rd for Safety Lighting

Approved the proposals from Georgia Power to install safety lighting at the intersections of Hereford Farm Road @ Lawrence Drive and Louisville Road at Old Louisville Road in the amount of \$1,008; 2342710.522080.20502.

(H2c) Overhead Easement to Georgia Power at 1 Dolphin Way (Parcel # 071 012)

Approved an Overhead Easement with Georgia Power for parcel 071012.

(H2d) Georgia Power Relocation Agreement for Hardy McManus Rd Widening, PI No 0013704

Approved the Georgia Power Relocation Agreement for Hardy McManus Road widening in the amount of \$319,836; 91329.24.015.986.

(H2e) Construction Agreement with CSX Transportation, Inc. for the Hardy McManus Rd Widening Project

Approved the Construction Agreement with CSX Transportation, Inc. for the Hardy McManus Road widening project in the amount of \$945,721; 91329.24.015.986.

(H2f) Independent Contractor Agreement with Pond & Company for the Clary Cut / Old Union Road Alignment and Intersection Improvements Project

Approved an Independent Contractor Agreement with Pond & Company for the conceptual design development services related to Clary Cut @ Old Union Road alignment and intersection improvements project in the amount of \$29,776; 91335.24.010.

(H2g) Change Order 2 with ER Snell Contractor, Inc. for the Horizon South Pkwy Widening Project

Approved change order number 2 with ER Snell Contractor, Inc. for the Horizon South Parkway widening project in the amount of \$217,805.40; 91309.24.015.

(H2h) Acceptance of Improvements at Southwind Village Phase III-B

Approved the acceptance of improvements at Southwind Village Phase III-B as depicted on the plat by Southern Partners dated June 25, 2024 contingent upon staff's approval.

(H2i) Acceptance of Water Utility Improvements along Magnolia Court

Approved the acceptance of water utility improvements along Magnolia Court as shown on the plat from H&C Surveying, Inc dated May 29, 2024 contingent upon staff's approval.

I. DEBATE AGENDA

(I1) Unfinished Business

(I1a) Development and Planning Services Committee

(I1a1) Resolution 24-40 Amending the Fee Schedule for Building Standards - *Second Reading*

Commissioner Skinner made a motion to approve the Second Reading of Resolution 24-40 Amending the Fee Schedule for Building Standards. Vice Chairman Melear seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(I2) New Business

(I2a) Management and Internal Services Committee

(I2a1) Resolution 24-38 to Establish a Millage Rate for Purposes of Computing Ad Valorem Taxes on Property in Columbia County, Georgia for Calendar Year 2024

Vice Chairman Melear made a motion to approve Resolution 24-38 as presented and authorize the Chairman to sign all required forms and documents. Commissioner Couch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(I2b) Development and Planning Services Committee

(I2b1) RZ24-07-04, Rezoning from C-2 (General Commercial) to C-3 (Heavy Commercial) with a Conditional Use for Light Industrial Uses, 3905 Roberts Road, Tax Map 078C Parcel 142, 1.1 +/- acres and currently zoned C-2 (General Commercial).

Commissioner Skinner made a motion to approve the request for the rezoning from C-2 to C-3 with a conditional use for Light Industrial Uses for property located at tax map 078C parcel 142. Commissioner Carraway seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(I2b2) VA24-07-03, Variance to Sections 90-98 List of lot & structure requirements, 90-139 Buffers & screening, and 90-147 (i)(11) Use provisions, 3905 Roberts Road, Tax Map 078C Parcel 142, 1.1 +/- acres and currently zoned C-2 (General Commercial).

Commissioner Skinner made a motion to approve the request for the variance for property located at tax map 078C parcel 142 to reduce the front building setback to 50 feet from the centerline of Roberts Road, reduce the rear building setback to 10 feet, reduce the side building setback to 5 feet on the western property line, waive buffer requirements on the eastern and western property lines, and waive the 10 foot structural buffer requirement subject to the following condition:

Planning:

Prior to issuance of 2025 Occupational Taxes for the subject property, the outdoor storage area shall be screened with slats, fabric, or another approved method of screening.

Commissioner Couch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(I2c) Public Works and Engineering Services Committee

(I2c1) Resolution 24-41 Amending the Tap Fee Schedule for Water Utility - *First Reading*

Commissioner Carraway made a motion to approve the First Reading of Resolution 24-41 Amending the Tap Fee Schedule for Water Utility. Commissioner Couch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(I3) Items Added at the Meeting

J. LEGAL MATTERS

K. REQUESTS FOR REVIEW BY COMMITTEE

L. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PARTICIPATION

(L1) Andy Kingery explained traffic issues on Conn Drive and Mullikin Road with school traffic.

Andy Kingery stated his concerns about the traffic on Conn Drive and Mullikin Road.

M. EXECUTIVE SESSION

(M1) Personnel

(M1a) Salary Adjustments

Vice Chairman Melear made a motion to approve the salary adjustments for the Columbia County Sheriff's Office as presented in attachment A to be retroactive to the pay period beginning July 28, 2024 with no budget impact. Commissioner Skinner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(M2) Property

(M2a) Donation from Junior Food Stores of West Florida, Inc. parcel 029030D to obtain temporary and permanent easements for the Harlem force main project.

Commissioner Carraway made a motion to accept the donation from Junior Food Stores of West Florida, Inc. parcel 029030D to obtain temporary and permanent easements for the Harlem force main project. Commissioner Couch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(M2b) William Blanchard parcel 069A003 for the extension of Jackson Way.

Commissioner Carraway made a motion to approve \$295,000 to William Blanchard parcel 069A003 for the extension of Jackson Way. Commissioner Couch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(M2c) Michael & Linda Joesbury parcel 060053A, Brett, Kelly, Joel & Elizabeth McKenney parcel 060005F and Horace Luke parcel 060004A to obtain right of way and/or easements for the Hereford Farm Road widening project.

Commissioner Carraway made a motion to approve \$44,600 to Michael & Linda Joesbury parcel 060053A, \$3,500 to Brett, Kelly, Joel & Elizabeth McKenney parcel 060005F and \$55,900 to Horace Luke parcel 060004A to obtain right of way and/or easements for the Hereford Farm Road widening project. Commissioner Couch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

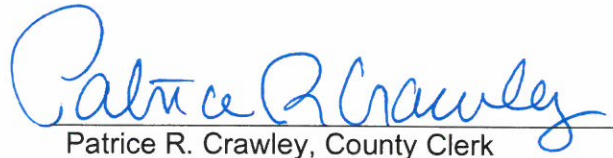
(M2d) Resolution number 24-42, Declaration of Taking and Order by Condemnation for a portion of tax map 067095 for improving, widening, paving, aligning and maintaining of Hereford Farm Road. Commissioner Carraway made a motion to approve resolution number 24-42, Declaration of Taking and Order by Condemnation for a portion of tax map 067095 for improving, widening, paving, aligning and maintaining of Hereford Farm Road. Commissioner Couch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

N. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Couch made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:27 p.m. Commissioner Carraway seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.



Douglas R. Duncan, Jr., Chairman



Patrice R. Crawley, County Clerk