



**Columbia County Board of Commissioners Meeting
Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 6:00 PM
Evans Government Center Auditorium, Evans, Georgia**

Present at the meeting included:

Chairman Douglas R. Duncan, Jr.
Vice Chairman Gary L. Richardson
Commissioner Connie M. Melear
Commissioner Donald Skinner, Sr.
Commissioner Dewey G. Galeas
County Manager Scott Johnson
Deputy County Manager Glenn Kennedy
Deputy County Manager Matt Schlachter
County Attorney Chris Driver
County Clerk Patrice R. Crawley

Division Directors:
Paul Scarbary - Development Services
Kyle Titus - Engineering Services
Scott Sterling - Planning Services
Chief Wallen - Fire Services
Michael Blanchard - Technology Services
County Staff

Members of the Media and Public

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Duncan called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

B. INVOCATION

Commissioner Galeas 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) February 02, 2021

Commissioner Skinner made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 02, 2021 Board of Commissioners meeting as presented. Commissioner Melear seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

F. PRESENTATION AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chairman Duncan presented the February 16, 2021 Agenda.

G. SPECIAL RECOGNITION, PRESENTATION, AND / OR DECLARATION

(G1) Special Recognition

(G1a) Columbia County 2020 Employee of the Year, Jamarius Tate with Fire Rescue

Commissioner Galeas presented a plaque to Jamarius Tate with Fire Rescue as Columbia County 2020 Employee of the Year.

(G1b) Columbia County 2020 Team of the Year, Roads & Bridges On-Call Team

Vice Chairman Richardson presented a plaque to the Roads & Bridges On-Call Team as Columbia County 2020 Team of the Year.

(G2) Presentation

(G2a) Board of Election Chair Larry Wiggins to extend a thank you.

Board of Elections Chairman Larry Wiggins thanked the Board of Commissioners and county staff for their support and assistance which contributed to the success of the 2020 elections.

(G2b) Ryan Wilson to speak in favor of rezoning request RZ21-02-01.

Ryan Wilson spoke during item I1a1.

(G2c) Tim Drennen to speak against rezoning request RZ21-02-01.

Tim Drennen spoke during item I1a1.

(G2d) Ivey Barnett to speak against rezoning request RZ21-02-01.

Ivey Barnett spoke during item I1a1.

H. CONSENT AGENDA

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

(H1) Management and Internal Services Committee

(H1a) Service Agreement for Project Access FY2020

Approved the Service Agreement for Project Access for FY2020.

(H1b) Change of Commissioners Meeting from April 06, 2021 to March 30, 2021

Approved changing the Board of Commissioners meeting from April 06, 2021 to March 30, 2021.

(H1c) Resolution No. 21-01 Amending the Bylaws of the Local Emergency Planning Committee

Approved Resolution Number 21-01 Amending the Bylaws of the Local Emergency Planning Committee.

(H1d) Annual Bank Accounts

Approved the annual bank accounts as presented.

(H1e) Purchase of Lease Accounting Software from LeaseQuery

Approved the purchase of lease accounting software from LeaseQuery in the amount of \$14,650.

(H1f) Support Agreements for Ciena Network Equipment, Software, and Services

Approved the support agreements for Ciena Network Equipment, Software and Services in the amount of \$146,700.14; 5515530.533035.

I. DEBATE AGENDA

(I1) New Business

(I1a) Development and Planning Services Committee

(I1a1) RZ21-02-01, Rezone from R-A (Residential Agricultural) to S-1 (Special), Tax Map 041 Parcel 066, 5.5+/- acres, located at 5959 Boulder Court, and currently zoned R-A (Residential Agricultural).

Ryan Wilson explained his plans for the proposed dog boarding kennel and requested approval of the rezoning.

Tim Drennen and Ivey Barnett stated their reasons for requesting disapproval of the rezoning.

Commissioner Skinner made a motion to disapprove the request for a rezoning from R-A to S-1 for tax

map 041 066 for the addition of a dog boarding kennel. Commissioner Galeas seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Richardson, Commissioners Melear, Skinner and Galeas voted in favor of the motion. Chairman Duncan opposed the motion. The motion carried.

(I1a2) RZ21-02-02, Rezone from M-1 (Light Industrial) and R-A (Residential Agricultural) to R-1 (Single Family Residential), Tax Map 040 Parcel 063, 83+/- acres, located off Swint Road and Old Appling Harlem Highway, and currently zoned M-1 (Light Industrial) and R-A (Residential Agricultural).

Commissioner Skinner made a motion to rezone from M-1 to R-A the property located at tax map 040 063. Vice Chairman Richardson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(I1a3) VA21-02-01, Variance to Section 90-135 Signs, Tax Map 074A Parcel 023, 3.97+/- acres, located at 457 Park West Drive, and currently zoned C-2 (General Commercial).

Commissioner Skinner made a motion to approve the request for a variance to Section 90-135 Signs for the property located at tax map 074A 023 to permit the square footage of the freestanding sign subject to the following conditions:

Planning:

1. The total sign face area allowed is 370.5 square feet in accordance with the sign permit application approved October 2020.

2. This variance shall not permit replacement of the sign in the event of additional damage requiring removal or replacement of the sign structure.

Vice Chairman Richardson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(I1a4) VA21-02-02, Variance to Section 90-53 List of Lot and Structure Requirements, Tax Map 077 Parcel 041W, 1.23+/- acres, located at 4181 Mullikin Road, and currently zoned R-1 (Single Family Residential).

Commissioner Skinner made a motion to approve the request for a variance to Section 90-53 List of Lot and Structure Requirements for tax map 077 041W in order to reduce the required setbacks to 10 feet from each property line. Commissioner Melear seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(I1a5) Hearing on the suspension of the Alcohol Beverage License for Tumbleweeds Tavern DBA Backyard Tavern

Columbia County Code Enforcement Manager Dana Rhodes stated the original complaint was that the business did not meet the Alcoholic Beverage Licensing requirement of having a full service kitchen. She presented the findings of their investigation and subsequent actions of the Code Enforcement department to initiate suspension of the Alcoholic Beverage License for Tumbleweeds Tavern DBA Backyard Tavern. Backyard Tavern Operating Manager Chad Miller presented a timeline of events relating to the investigation and notice of suspension, as well as information on the renovations underway to bring the establishment into compliance with County Code.

Alcoholic Beverage Licensee Janice Williams explained her misunderstanding of the Code of Ordinance requirements for a full service kitchen, and their desire to bring the business into compliance as quickly as possible.

Commissioner Skinner made a motion to uphold the suspension of the Alcohol Beverage License for Tumbleweeds Tavern DBA Backyard Tavern until fully compliant with applicable county codes or the expiration of the current license. Commissioner Galeas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

J. LEGAL MATTERS

K. REQUESTS FOR REVIEW BY COMMITTEE

L. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PARTICIPATION

M. EXECUTIVE SESSION

(M1) Property

(M1a) Hereford Farm and Blanchard Road intersection improvement project, Hereford Farm Development Parcel 5, Tax Parcel 067 091E

Vice Chairman Richardson made a motion to approve \$500 to Hereford Farm Development parcel 5 to obtain right of way and/or easements for the intersection of Hereford Farm Road and Blanchard Road. Chairman Duncan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(M1b) Resolution Number 21-03, Declaration of Taking and Order by Condemnation for a portion of tax map 078 H 382 Springlakes Community Association, Inc. for the Dowling Drive Sewer line project

Vice Chairman Richardson made a motion to approve Resolution Number 21-03, Declaration of Taking and Order by Condemnation for a portion of tax map 078H 382 Springlakes Community Association, Inc. for the Dowling Drive Sewer Line project. Commissioner Galeas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(M1c) Resolution Number 21-04, Declaration of Taking and Order by Condemnation for a portion of tax map 077 059G Christ Church, Presbyterian of Augusta, Inc. for the widening of Furys Ferry Road

Vice Chairman Richardson made a motion to approve Resolution Number 21-04, Declaration of Taking and Order by Condemnation for a portion of tax map 077 059G Christ Church, Presbyterian of Augusta, Inc. for the widening of Furys Ferry Road. Commissioner Melear seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(M1d) Resolution Number 21-05, Declaration of Taking and Order by Condemnation for a portion of tax map 068 350 Vicki G. Kerr for the widening of Lewiston Road

Vice Chairman Richardson made a motion to approve Resolution Number 21-05, Declaration of Taking and Order by Condemnation for a portion of tax map 068 350 from Vicki G. Kerr for the widening of Lewiston Road. Commissioner Skinner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

N. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:10 p.m. Commissioner Galeas made a motion to adjourn. Vice Chairman Richardson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Signature on File

Douglas R. Duncan, Jr., Chairman

Signature on File

Patrice R. Crawley, County Clerk