



**Columbia County Board of Commissioners Meeting
Minutes for Tuesday, November 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
John Luton - Community & Leisure Services
Chief 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 6:00 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) November 02, 2021 Board of Commissioners, (E2) November 07, 2021 Planning Advance and (E3) November 07, 2021 Planning Advance Executive Session

Commissioner Melear made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 02, 2021 Board of Commissioners meeting, November 07, 2021 Planning Advance meeting and November 07, 2021 Planning Advance Executive Session meeting as presented. Commissioner Skinner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

F. PRESENTATION AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

(F1) Move Item H1a Agreement with Engel Entertainment from Consent Agenda to Debate Agenda Item I2a3, (F2) Add Item I3a1 LMIG SAP Striping and Signage Project 2021 and (F3) Add Item I3b1 Amendment #3 for Ambulance, Emergency and Non-Emergency Medical Services with Gold Cross EMS

County Manager Johnson requested to move item H1a Agreement with Engel Entertainment from Consent Agenda to Debate Agenda item I2a3, add item I3a1 LMIG SAP Striping and Signage Project 2021 and add item I3b1 Amendment #3 for Ambulance, Emergency and Non-Emergency Medical Services with Gold Cross EMS. Chairman Duncan presented the November 16, 2021 Agenda with the requested change and

addition of items.

G. SPECIAL RECOGNITION, PRESENTATION, AND / OR DECLARATION

(G1) Presentation

(G1a) Several people to speak concerning RZ21-11-03 rezoning and (G1b) Several people to speak concerning RZ21-11-04 rezoning

Chairman Duncan stated that all people who would like to speak will do so during the appropriate item.

(G2) Declaration

(G2a) Proclamation to Russell Lahodny with the Columbia County Chamber of Commerce proclaiming November 27, 2021 as Small Business Saturday in Columbia County

Commissioner Melear presented a Proclamation to Russell Lahodny, Columbia County Chamber of Commerce, declaring November 27, 2021 as Small Business Saturday in Columbia County, Georgia.

H. CONSENT AGENDA

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

(H1) Management and Internal Services Committee

(H1a) ~~Agreement with Engel Entertainment~~ - moved to Debate Agenda Item I2a3

This item was moved to the Debate Agenda Item I2a3 during the approval of the Agenda.

(H1b) FY 2022 Service Agreement for Safe Homes of Augusta

Approved the Service Agreement with Safe Homes of Augusta.

(H1c) Request to add four unfunded recruit positions to Fire Service staffing.

Approved the addition of four unfunded recruit positions to the Fire Services Division staffing.

(H1d) FY2021 Emergency Management Performance Grant Application

Approved the Fiscal Year 2021 Emergency Management Performance Grant application and acceptance with the Georgia Emergency Management Homeland Security Agency for the amount of \$37,216; 1010318.433019.

(H1e) Budget Amendment for Fire Services Fund

Approved the amendment of the Fire Services budget to include \$434,742 of additional property tax revenues.

(H1f) Donation from Judge Carl Brown

Approved the acceptance of a donation from Retired Judge Carl Brown in the amount of \$1,402.45 to Juvenile Court to be used in the court's ongoing service to the youth of Columbia County; 2140701.477003.

(H1g) Revision to Comprehensive Policy Number 603.1, Procurement

Approved the amendment to the Comprehensive Policy Number 603.1 Procurement.

(H1h) Proposal from dbIntegrations to repair the Crestron unit in Judicial Center Courtroom 4

Approved the proposal from dbIntegrations to repair the Crestron unit in courtroom 4 in the amount of

\$11,130.37 with approval for Finance to transfer the funds from General Fund Contingency to the IT department budget.

(H1i) Comprehensive Policy Number 733.1 Technology Physical Security

Approved the creation of Comprehensive Policy Number 733.1 Technology Physical Security.

(H1j) Modify Cisco Enterprise Agreement to include Duo

Approved a modification to the Cisco Enterprise agreement to include Duo in the amount of \$62,547.33 over a three year period, with approval for Finance to transfer \$18,867.33 from General Fund Contingency to the IT department budget for FY2021-2022.

(H2) Development and Planning Services Committee

(H2a) Contract with Orion Waste Solutions for Countywide Refuse Services RFP 2021024-RFP1415

Approved the contract with Orion Waste Solutions for refuse services for county government facilities and operations.

(H2b) Rejection of the Bid #2021032-BID2720 for Construction of The Market

Approved the rejection of bid #2021032-BID2720 for construction of The Market.

(H2c) Columbia County Sheriff's Office Administration Building Furnishings Purchase, File Storage Carousel

Approved the purchase and installation of Lektriever Carousels from Kardex Remstar, LLC in the amount of \$152,745.02; 22820.32.055.

(H2d) Acceptance of the right of way improvements, utility easements and detention pond for the White Oak Business Park (Extension of Innovation Parkway)

Approved the acceptance of the right of way improvements, utility easements and detention pond as specified and depicted on a plat prepared by Jachens Land Surveying Inc. dated October 08, 2021 for the White Oak Business Park extension of Innovation Parkway Plat.

I. DEBATE AGENDA

(I1) Unfinished Business

(I1a) Public Works and Engineering Services Committee

(I1a1) Resolutions 21-40 and 21-41 to establish Street Light Districts in Dolmen, Longford & Wicklow at Canterbury Farms and Whispering Pines, Section 4A - *Second Reading*

Vice Chairman Richardson made a motion to approve the second reading of Resolutions 21-40 and 21-41 to establish street light districts in Dolmen, Longford & Wicklow at Canterbury Farms and Whispering Pines, Section 4A and to authorize Georgia Power to proceed with installation per their proposal. Commissioner Galeas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(I1a2) Purchase of a RC Mower for Roads & Bridges - *Tabled from November 02, 2021*

Vice Chairman Richardson made a motion to approve the purchase of a RC tracked slope mower from Jet Vac Equipment Company, LLC for Roads & Bridges for the amount of \$61,000; 2342720.601081. Commissioner Skinner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(I2) New Business

(I2a) Management and Internal Services Committee

(I2a1) Small Business Saturday Proclamation

Commissioner Melear made a motion to proclaim November 27, 2021 as Small Business Saturday in Columbia County. Vice Chairman Richardson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(I2a2) Resolution Number 21-44 Agreeing to be Bound by the Memorandum of Understanding between the State of Georgia and Certain Local Government Entities Concerning the National Distributor and J&J Settlements and Directing the Execution of the "Acknowledgment and Agreement to be Bound by Memorandum of Understanding," "Subdivision Distributor Settlement Participation Form," and "Janssen Settlement Participation Form."

Commissioner Melear made a motion to approve Resolution Number 21-44 Agreeing to be Bound by the Memorandum of Understanding between the State of Georgia and Certain Local Government Entities Concerning the National Distributor and J&J Settlements and Directing the Execution of the "Acknowledgment and Agreement to be Bound by Memorandum of Understanding," "Subdivision Distributor Settlement Participation Form," and "Janssen Settlement Participation Form". Commissioner Galeas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(I2a3) Agreement with Engel Entertainment - *Tabled to December 07, 2021*

Commissioner Melear made a motion to postpone the agreement with Engel Entertainment until the December 07, 2021 Commissioners meeting. Commissioner Skinner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(I2b) Development and Planning Services Committee

(I2b1) Request for a fee waiver for application VA21-10-06 variances to Section 90-53 List of Lot and Structure Requirements and 90-132 Nonconforming Uses of Land and Structures located at tax map 072D 045

Commissioner Skinner made a motion to deny the request for a fee waiver for application VA21-10-06. Vice Chairman Richardson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(I2b2) RZ21-11-01, Major S-1 (Special) Revision, Tax Map 068 Parcel 013, 5.71 +/- acres, located at 213 South Old Belair Road, and currently zoned S-1 (Special).

Commissioner Skinner made a motion to approve the request for a major revision to the current S-1 zoning for property located at Tax Map 068 Parcel 013 subject to the following condition:

Planning:

Along the southwest property line, additional landscaping, in the form of trees and shrubs, shall be required up to the existing play area located approximately 300 feet from the southwest corner of the property. The tree locations shall be staggered in relation to the existing trees on Mural Lake Court.

Commission:

Left and right turn lanes shall be installed by the applicant prior to issuing the certificate of occupancy for any new buildings on this property. The site will be designed and operated to ensure that traffic on South Old Belair Road is not impeded by traffic accessing this property. As stated in the Project Access Improvement Manual, other existing development driveways/streets that fall within the construction limit of the left turn lane shall be taken into consideration during the design of the new left and right turn lanes. Commissioner Galeas seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Richardson and Commissioner Melear opposed the motion. Chairman Duncan and Commissioners Skinner and Galeas voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

(I2b3) RZ21-11-02, Conditional Use for Massage, Tax Map 073G Parcel 084, 0.5 +/- acres, located at 4436 Columbia Road, and currently zoned P-1 (Professional).

Commissioner Skinner made a motion to approve the request for a Conditional Use for Massage for Tax Map 073G Parcel 084 subject to the following condition:

Planning:

Massage businesses are limited to one suite on the property at any given time. This is intended to allow multiple businesses to operate in the single suite.

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

(I2b4) RZ21-11-03, Rezone from R-A (Residential Agricultural) to C-2 (General Commercial), Tax Map 028 Parcel 039, 0.905 +/- acres, located at 1803 Appling Harlem Road, and currently zoned R-A (Residential Agricultural).

Commissioner Skinner made a motion to disapprove the request for a rezoning from R-A to C-2 for property located at Tax Map 028 Parcel 039. Commissioner Galeas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Laurie Jordan and Kim Cain stated their reasons why this request to rezone the property should not be approved.

(I2b5) RZ21-11-04, Rezone from R-2 (Single Family Residential) and PUD (Planned Unit Development) to PRD (Planned Residential Development), Tax Map 073 Parcels 040 & 046C, 5.25 +/- and 34.2 +/- acres, located at 4315 & 4299 Owens Road, and currently zoned R-2 (Single Family Residential) and PUD (Planned Unit Development).

Commissioner Skinner made a motion to allow the applicant to withdraw without prejudice the request for a rezoning from R-2 and PUD to PRD for properties located at Tax Map 073 Parcels 040 & 046C for a proposed single family residential subdivision on the properties. Commissioner Melear seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Dee Castillo, Jacob Elliott, Jeri Whitworth, Lynn Mays and Frank Spears stated their reasons why this request for rezoning should not be approved.

(I2b6) VA21-11-01, Variance to Section 90-147(a)(2) & (i)(3) Use Provisions, Tax Map 072A Parcels 335 & 190, 0.491 +/- acres and 9.54 +/- acres respectively, located at 4292 Washington Road and 4272 Washington Road, and currently zoned C-2 (General Commercial).

Commissioner Skinner made a motion to approve the request for a variance to Section 90-147 (a)(2) & (i)(3) Use Provisions for properties located at Tax Map 072A Parcels 335 & 190 to permit an existing drive thru to remain and expansion of the drive thru onto adjacent property subject to the following condition: Planning:

Prior to approval of the submitted site plan, a recorded easement agreement pertaining to the drive-thru and any other associated required easements between the property owners of tax map 072A parcels 335 & 190 shall be provided to the Columbia County Planning Department.

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

(I3) Items Added at the Meeting

(I3a) Public Works and Engineering Services Committee

(I3a1) Bid # 20210399-BID3313, LMIG SAP Striping and Signage 2021

Vice Chairman Richardson made a motion to award and approve the 2021 LMIG SAP Striping and Signage contract to Peek Pavement Markings in the amount of \$208,559.65 with the condition that the project must be started within 30 calendar days from issuance of notice to proceed. Commissioner Galeas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(I3b) Management and Internal Services Committee

(I3b1) Amendment #3 for Ambulance, Emergency and Non-Emergency Medical Services Agreement with Gold Cross EMS

Commissioner Galeas made a motion to approve amendment number three to the agreement with Gold Cross EMS for Ambulance, Emergency and Non-Emergency Medical Services. Commissioner Skinner 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) Personnel

(M1a) Employee lump sum merit payment for all eligible employees

Commissioner Melear made a motion to approve 2% lump sum merit payment to be distributed to all eligible employees prior to January 01, 2022. Vice Chairman Richardson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(M2) Property

(M2a) Permanent easement for parcel 061 085A from M. T. Co.

Vice Chairman Richardson made a motion to accept the donation of a permanent easement for parcel 061 085A from M. T. Co. Commissioner Skinner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

N. ADJOURNMENT

At 6:59 p.m. Commissioner Galeas made a motion to adjourn the meeting. 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