



**Columbia County Board of Commissioners Meeting
Minutes for Tuesday, February 15, 2022 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

Vice Chairman Richardson 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 1, 2022

Commissioner Melear made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 01, 2022 Board of Commissioners meeting as presented. Commissioner Skinner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

F. PRESENTATION AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chairman Duncan presented the February 15, 2022 agenda.

G. SPECIAL RECOGNITION, PRESENTATION, AND / OR DECLARATION

(G1) Presentation

(G1a) Carole Buki to speak against VA22-02-03.

Chairman Duncan requested that Carole Buki speak when Item 12b4 came up on the agenda.

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) FY2022 Service Agreement for Richmond County Medical Society Project Access, Inc.

Approved the service agreement with Project Access for fiscal year 2022.

(H1b) Property Tax Refund Request

Approved the property tax refund request from Mark Hopper in the amount of \$855.90 for overpayment of property taxes.

(H1c) Juvenile Court Independent Contract with Angela Chambers

Approved an agreement with Angela Chambers for court reporting services for Juvenile Court as an independent contractor at the rate of \$1,733.33 a month.

(H1d) Change of Commissioners Meeting from April 05, 2022 to March 29, 2022

Approved moving the April 05, 2022 Board of Commissioners meeting to March 29, 2022 in the Evans Auditorium at 6:00 p.m.

(H1e) Judicial Council ARPA Grant Addendum

Approved the addendum to the Judicial ARPA Grant in the amount of \$185,286.

(H1f) Department of Family and Children Services Board Appointments

Approved the reappointments of Sheila Wahman with term ending June 30, 2024, Vernon Thomas with term ending June 30, 2025 and Janis Tyrell-Smith with the term ending June 30, 2026.

(H1g) Purchase of Bandit Chipper for Roads and Bridges

Approved the purchase of a Bandit Chipper model 280XL for the amount of \$102,083.20 from Mason Tractor and Equipment.

(H1h) Purchase of Chevrolet Traverses for Sheriff's Department

Approved the purchase of three Chevrolet Traverses from Walker Jones Automotive for the total amount of \$88,002.

(H1i) Annual Approval of Bank Accounts

Approved all bank accounts as presented.

(H1j) Assignment of Private Road Name: Firefly Trail

Approved assigning the private road name Firefly Trail to a shared driveway access for parcels 026.030, 026.031, 026.004L, 026.004K and 026.038.

(H1k) Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Grovetown for internet transport to Heritage Park and Euchee Creek Park

Approved the intergovernmental agreement and service order with the City of Grovetown for Heritage Park and Euchee Creek Park.

(H1l) Justice Center Annex Courtroom Audio-Visual Solution proposal with NetPlanner

Approved a proposal with NetPlanner for Justice Center Annex Courtroom audio-visual in the not to exceed amount of \$73,500; 3503550-601090-35514.

(H1m) Contract with ATG for Backup Internet Connectivity for the Performing Arts Center

Approved a contract with ATG for backup internet connectivity for the Performing Arts Center at an annual cost of \$4,800; 5815810.533135.

(H2) Development and Planning Services Committee

(H2a) Atlanta Gas Light Relocation Agreement for Savannah Rapids Pavilion Parking Lot Expansion

Approved a relocation agreement with Atlanta Gas Light for the Savannah Rapids Pavilion parking lot expansion in the amount of \$19,347.64; 81104.13.015.

(H2b) Award BID# 2021036-BID2720 Columbia County Justice Center Annex Renovations to R.D. Brown Contractors, Inc.

Approved awarding the bid and entering into a contract with R.D. Brown Contractors, Inc. for the Columbia County Justice Center Annex renovation in the amount of \$1,684,000; 3503550.601090.35514.

(H2c) Alcoholic Beverage License, LN Wine & Liquor Inc dba Hot Shot Liquor

Approved the alcoholic beverage license for LN Wine & Liquor Inc. dba Hot Shot Liquor.

(H2d) Encroachment Agreement for Christopher West and Diana Monticelli

Approved an encroachment agreement for Tax Map 081 508.

I. DEBATE AGENDA

(I1) Unfinished Business

(I1a) Public Works and Engineering Services Committee

(I1a1) Resolutions 22-03 through 22-05 to establish Street Light Districts in Crawford Creek South Phase IX, Johns Landing, and Kellarie Section 5A - *Second Reading*

Vice Chairman Richardson made a motion to approve the second reading of Resolutions 22-03 through 22-05 to establish Street Light Districts in Crawford Creek South Phase IX, Johns Landing and Kellarie Section 5A. Commissioner Skinner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(I2) New Business

(I2a) Management and Internal Services Committee

(I2a1) Revisions to Comprehensive Policy Numbers 104.1 Definitions, 236.1 Catastrophic Leave, 216.1 Service Recognition, and 237.1 Personal Time Off

Commissioner Melear made a motion to approve the revisions to the Comprehensive Policy Number 104.1 Definitions, 236.1 Catastrophic Leave, 216.1 Service Recognition, and 237.1 Personal Time Off. Commissioner Skinner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(I2a2) Proclamation for Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education Month February 1-28, 2022

Commissioner Melear made a motion to approve the proclamation for Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education Month in Columbia County. Vice Chairman Richardson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(I2b) Development and Planning Services Committee

(I2b1) RZ22-02-01, Rezone from R-1 (Single Family Residential) to P-1 (Professional), Tax Map 068 Parcel 960, 2.77 +/- acres, located off Gateway Boulevard, and currently zoned R-1 (Single Family Residential).

Commissioner Skinner made a motion to approve the request for a rezoning from R-1 to P-1 for property located at Tax Map 068 Parcel 960 for a proposed medical clinic subject to the following conditions:

Health Department:

A connection to sewer must be made.

Planning:

Prior to issuance of a building permit, all building elevations must be approved by the Planning

Commission. Finish materials shall include brick, stone, stucco, cementitious fiber, glass, or a combination thereof. Metal may be used as a roofing or accent material. Alternate materials may be approved by the Planning Commission on a case by case basis.

Commissioner Galeas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(I2b2) VA22-02-02, Variance to Section 90-139 Buffers & Screening, Tax Map 068 Parcel 960, 2.77 +/- acres, located off Gateway Boulevard, and currently zoned R-1 (Single Family Residential).

Commissioner Skinner made a motion to approve the request for a variance to Section 90-139 Buffers & Screening for property located at Tax Map 068 Parcel 960 to remove the fence from the structural buffer requirement subject to the following condition:

Planning:

A structural component is not required for any buffer adjacent to Tax Map 068 Parcel 539C. Any buffer adjacent to this parcel shall be planted or utilize existing vegetation as required by Section 90-139 Buffers & Screening of Columbia County Code.

Commissioner Galeas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(I2b3) VA22-02-01, Variance to Section 90-98 List of Lot & Structure Requirements, Tax Map 078 Parcel 144, 8.84 +/- acres, located at 475 Columbia Industrial Boulevard, and currently zoned M-2 (General Industrial).

Commissioner Skinner made a motion to approve the request for a variance from Section 90-98 List of Lot and Structure Requirements for property located at Tax Map 078 Parcel 144 to revise building setbacks for proposed and existing buildings. Commissioner Melear seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(I2b4) VA22-02-03, Variance to Section 34-1 Major Site Grading, Tax Map 060 Parcel 1628, 17.6 +/- acres, located off Crestwood Parkway, and currently zoned R-2 (Single Family Residential).

Tyler Findley, who represents the applicant, requested that items VA22-02-03 and VA22-02-04 be withdrawn without prejudice.

Carole Buki spoke about her concerns about the variance.

Commissioner Skinner made a motion to approve the request for a variance to Section 34-1 Major Site Grading for property located at Tax Map 060 Parcel 1628 to reduce the required buffer with the following conditions:

1. The twenty-five (25) foot buffer shall include both natural vegetation and a structural element, such as a privacy fence or wall. The fence must be a minimum of 6 feet in height, and must present a finished appearance to the neighboring properties. Natural vegetation within the buffer is to remain undisturbed, and shall be supplemented with additional plantings where necessary to create a sufficient visual screen. Additional plantings are to be coordinated with the County Landscape Architect during preliminary plat review, and must be installed prior to final plat approval. The fence shall be maintained by the Homeowners Association.

2. The proposed road, Crestwood Parkway Extension shall be connected to the current road, Crestwood Parkway.

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

(I2b5) VA22-02-04, Variance to Section 34-1 Major Site Grading, Tax Map 060 Parcel 1630, 13.4 +/- acres, located off Bronco Pass, and currently zoned R-2 (Single Family Residential).

Commissioner Skinner made a motion to approve the request for a variance to Section 34-1 Major Site Grading for property located at Tax Map 060 Parcel 1630 to reduce the required buffer with the following conditions:

Planning:

1. The buffer is reduced to 0 feet only for the portion of the property line along the Bronco Pass extension between the new road and the Bartram Trail PUD. This reduction applies only to the property line on the north side of the project running northeast, and does not apply to the majority of the northern boundary where the property line is angled northwesterly.

2. The buffer along the northwesterly angled property line is reduced to 25 feet.

3. The buffers along the northern property lines shall consist of existing and/or planted vegetation that creates an attractive landscaped screen for the adjacent development. Landscaping plans for this portion of the buffer must be coordinated with the County Landscape Architect and must be approved with the preliminary plat submittal.

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

(I3) Items Added at the Meeting

J. LEGAL MATTERS

(J1) Resolution Number 22-07 to Regulate and Provide for the Issuance of the Columbia County General Obligation Refunding Bond Series 2022 to finance the cost of advance refunding a portion of the GO Bond Series 2017 and Resolution 22-08 to provide for a private placement of the GO Bond Series 2022 in 2027

Commissioner Melear made a motion to approve Resolution Number 22-07 to Regulate and Provide for the Issuance of the Columbia County General Obligation Refunding Bond Series 2022 to finance the cost of advance refunding a portion of the GO Bond Series 2017. Commissioner Skinner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Melear made a motion to approve Resolution Number 22-08 to Regulate and Provide for the Issuance of the Columbia County General Obligation Refunding Bond Series 2027 to finance the cost of advance refunding a portion of the GO Bond Series 2022. Commissioner Skinner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

K. REQUESTS FOR REVIEW BY COMMITTEE

L. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PARTICIPATION

M. EXECUTIVE SESSION

(M1) Property

(M1a) SSB Manufacturing Company parcel number 069 001G for permanent and temporary easement needed for the Horizon South Parkway Road Widening Project.

Vice Chairman Richardson made motion to approve \$177,451.00 to SSB Manufacturing Company parcel number 069 001G for permanent and temporary easement needed for the Horizon South Parkway Road Widening Project. Commissioner Melear seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

N. ADJOURNMENT

At 6:38 p.m. Commissioner Galeas made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chairman Richardson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Signature on File

Gary L. Richardson, Vice Chairman

Signature on File

Patrice R. Crawley, County Clerk