

July 3, 2018
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JASPER, FLORIDA

REGULAR SESSION

The Board of County Commissioners, Hamilton County, Florida, met in regular session on Tuesday, July 3, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Meeting Room, 207 Northeast First Street, Jasper, Florida. Present were Commissioners Robert Brown, Randy Ogburn, Beth Burnam, Josh Smith and William Mitchell, a full Board being present. Also present was County Coordinator Louie Goodin and County Attorney Cliff Adams.

The meeting was called to order by Madam Chairman Burnam and led in prayer by Commissioner Smith with the Pledge of Allegiance being led by Madam Chairman Burnam.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to approve the Consent Agenda. Second was made by Commissioner Mitchell, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

HAMILTON COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY – STATUS REPORT

Hamilton County Economic Development Director Susan Ramsey gave the Board a status report on the current economic development projects. Ms. Ramsey advised the Board that she is working on the draft document for the available grants regarding the Jennings I-75 exit and looks forward to receiving the resolution from the Board in support of the funding opportunities.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UPDATE

Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Karen Williams provided the Board with an update on the Chamber's activities and future projects. Ms. Williams stated that the current Chamber membership is at 135 and that the annual banquet will be held on September 27, 2018.

SHIP / CDBG PROGRAM – STATUS REPORT

Ship Administrator Spencer Nabors presented the Board with a status report for Ship and CDBG. Mr. Nabors stated that there is nothing new to report regarding the Ship program. Mr. Nabors then advised the Board that he will be meeting with the CATF members from each district next week prior to submitting the CDBG application.

Annise Smith addressed the Board requesting a reimbursement for Christopher and Heather Smith. Ms. Smith presented the Board with a letter outlining the situation where a \$425 inspection fee was paid for a home that wasn't eligible through the program and stated

that the Smiths were not made aware of the issue until they had already paid for the inspection. Mr. Nabors responded to the letter and explained his recollection of the issue and after a brief discussion the Board took the following action:

- Motion by Commissioner Smith to approve the reimbursement to Christopher and Heather Smith for the \$425 inspection fee from the General Fund. Second was made by Commissioner Mitchell, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Mr. Nabors then advised the Board that he would reimburse the Board for the \$425.

PUBLIC HEARING – PETITION FOR ROAD CLOSURE – WILLIAM P. LANGDALE III

Madam Chairman Burnam recessed the regular meeting and called the public hearing (Petition for Road Closure) to order at 9:17 a.m.

County Attorney Cliff Adams explained the action before the Board to vacate, abandon, discontinue, close and renounce all right of the county and the public to all of those parts or portions of NW 34th Avenue from NW 4th Drive to CR-145 and that portion of NW 4th Drive from CR-145 to the westerly right-of-way line of the proposed new NW 4th Drive. Mr. Adams also stated that the petitioner has donated the right-of-way for the newly proposed road.

There being no questions or comments from the public or Board, Madam Chairman Burnam closed the public hearing and reconvened the Board meeting at 9:20 a.m.

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to adopt and sign the resolution for the road closure and accept the deed from Mr. Langdale for the right-of-way for the new road. Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Commissioner Smith requested that staff make every effort to utilize the current survey stakes rather than requiring a new survey to re-stake the right-of-way.

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT – PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES PRESENTATION

SRWMD Executive Director Hugh Thomas introduced Katie Kelly, the Legislative and Governmental Affairs Chief with the district. Mr. Thomas presented the Board with a check for the payment in lieu of taxes. Ms. Kelly provided the Board with a presentation and overview of the works of the district and also discussed the major projects and initiatives for Hamilton County. Ms. Kelly also announced that the district would be having a public meeting on Thursday, July 5th at 6:00 p.m. to discuss water resources.

ROAD PAVING PROJECTS – STATUS REPORT

Engineer Greg Bailey gave the Board a status report on the current road projects.

CR-137 – Mr. Bailey stated that the CR-137 construction project is proceeding according to schedule and the contractor has completed the milling of the road and is now working on the widening.

SW 79TH DRIVE – Mr. Bailey stated that the contractor has completed the paving project and is now correcting the erosion issues.

NW 104TH AVE., CHANBRIDGE DRIVE, NW 35TH DRIVE AND OAK STREET - Mr. Bailey advised the Board that NW 104th Ave., Chanbridge Drive and NW 35th Drive have been let for bids and will be returned on July 23rd.

SW 55TH DRIVE – Mr. Bailey advised the Board that the SW 55th Drive paving project has also been let for bids and will be returned on July 23rd. County Coordinator Louie Goodin stated that after the 2nd bid request for the asbestos abatement there were no bids submitted. County Attorney Cliff Adams explained that after the 2nd advertisement with no bids that the Board can make a determination to hire a contractor and waive the competitive bid policy.

- Motion by Commissioner Brown to waive the competitive bid requirements as established by the Board and allow staff to negotiate with a vendor / contractor for the asbestos abatement. Second was made by Commissioner Mitchell, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

The Board also directed staff to investigate the possibility of allowing the county to do the asbestos abatement and tear down the remaining structure. Mr. Bailey also advised the Board that a bid proposal will be required for the CEI services due to the project connecting to the FDOT right-of-way.

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to allow staff to let bids for the CEI services for the SW 55th Drive paving project. Second was made by Commissioner Mitchell, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

SE 141ST BLVD. – Mr. Bailey advised the Board that the SE 141st Blvd. paving project has been let for bids and will be due back on July 23rd.

OAK STREET – Mr. Bailey advised the Board that the right-of-way issue with the Railroad has been resolved and that FDOT has approved for the project to be let for bids.

CR-249 – Mr. Bailey stated that only one (1) bid was received for the CR-249 repair project and that the bid was not acceptable and recommended that the project be re-bid. After a brief discussion, the Board agreed for the Road Department to make the repair.

NW 34TH BLVD. (DIP) – Mr. Bailey advised the Board that staff is still waiting on the restoration plans from the POA.

CR-152 – Mr. Bailey advised the Board that construction for the CR-152 Lap Project is scheduled to next week.

SEPTIC TANK REGULATIONS – Mr. Bailey discussed with the Board the impact of the new septic system rules. Mr. Bailey stated that for property under one (1) acre that a standard ATU with a drain field will be required with an approximate \$8,000 increase in cost. Mr. Bailey stated that the purpose is to reduce the nitrogen levels.

COURTHOUSE RENOVATIONS / SECURITY

County Engineer Greg Bailey discussed with the Board preliminary plans for the Courthouse Security renovations and the need to install a steel beam in order to support the glass wall. The Board discussed the plans and is waiting on the final draft for approval by the Board prior to the project being let for bids.

DISCUSSION OF COUNTY WEBSITE

Madam Chairman Burnam discussed with the Board the need to update and change the county website. After a brief discussion, the Board directed staff to present the information for the website for approval by the Board.

RESOLUTION – SUPPORT FOR GRANTS TO IMPROVE EXIT 467 (FIRST EXIT) ON I-75

- Motion by Commissioner Smith to approve the resolution in support of grants for the improvement of the I-75 Exit in Jennings. Second was made by Commissioner Mitchell, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

DISCUSSION OF COMPENSATION FOR VECTOR CONTROL OFFICER

County Coordinator Louie Goodin explained the situation with the compensation for the Vector Control Officer. Commissioner Mitchell stated that the Board should provide compensation for the officer. After a brief discussion, the Board agreed to allow payment for the 13.5 hours previously logged and to provide compensation for the any future hours worked. The Board directed Mr. Goodin to discuss the issue with the Sheriff and report back to the Board at the next meeting.

APPROVE BILLS

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to approve the bills (vouchers 130836 – 131067 and checks 057693 – 057781). Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- County Coordinator Louie Goodin advised the Board that staff has been in discussion with the affected departments for the proper wording of the CEMP and that a workshop with the Board may be necessary.
- Mr. Goodin also stated that he had a skype call with Project Bark and there appears to be a renewed interest in the project.
- Mr. Goodin stated that he would be on vacation the week of July 23rd.
- Commissioner Mitchell commended Recreation Director Chuck Burnett for the Fireworks show.
- Commissioner Mitchell also requested that the Board consider milling a portion of NW 79th Drive.
- Commissioner Brown discussed with the Board the issues with constituents requesting street lights just outside of the city limits. The Board directed staff to check with Duke Energy regarding the placement of lights and the cost associated.
- Commissioner Brown also stated that he was present for the Special Olympics send off and that the athletes were excited.
- County Attorney Cliff Adams gave the Board a status report on the Florida Association of Counties conference and specifically discussed the code enforcement issues.
- Mr. Adams also reminded the Board of the need to purchase the Board and Department Heads cell phones for county business.
- The Board agreed to hold the 1st budget meeting on July 17th at 4:00 p.m.
- Madam Chairman Burnam also gave the Board a report on the FAC Conference and stated that she was surprised that much of the discussion was on the effect of opioids.
- Madam Chairman Burnam also stated that the Fireworks Shows in Jennings and Jasper were very impressive.
- Madam Chairman Burnam requested that the appointment of Mariela Garcia to the Original Florida Tourism Task Force be placed on the agenda for the next Board meeting.

There being no further business before the Board, Madam Chairman Burnam adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

BETH BURNAM, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

GREG GODWIN, EX-OFFICIO CLERK

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