

**DECEMBER 20, 2022  
JASPER, FLORIDA**

**REGULAR SESSION**

The Board of County Commissioners, Hamilton County, Florida, met in regular session on Tuesday, December 20, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room, 207 Northeast First Street, Jasper, Florida. Present were Commissioners Travis Erixton, Jimmy Murphy, Robert Brown, Robbie Roberson and Richie McCoy, a full Board being present. Also present were County Coordinator Louie Goodin and County Attorney Andy Decker.

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

**DISCUSSION OF ARENA PARKING / KITCHEN AREA**

Commissioner McCoy advised the Board that he met with staff regarding the kitchen at the arena which needs to be updated and repaired. County Coordinator Louie Goodin stated that the Maintenance Department will look at the facility to determine what repairs will need to take place. Regarding the parking area, Commissioner McCoy stated that he met with Road Superintendent Jimmy Daniels and discussed the possibility of expanding the back parking area and the need to have a deputy present for events to park trailers in a different manner. Mr. Goodin stated that he contacted the group that owns the property across from the arena and they are only interested in selling the property.

**DISCUSSION OF OBSOLETE BUILDINGS AT ARENA AND OLD VOTING PRECINCT**

The Board discussed the need to remove some of the old buildings, fire pits and trees to allow for additional space at the arena.

- Motion by Commissioner Roberson to remove the old buildings, fire pits and trees (problem trees) as discussed. Second was made by Commissioner Erixton, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

## **SHIP / CDBG PROGRAM / CDBG-CV – STATUS REPORT**

Ship Administrator Spencer Nabors was unable to be in attendance for the meeting. County Coordinator Louie Goodin stated that according to Mr. Nabors that there was nothing new to report regarding Ship and the new CDBG programs.

County Attorney Andy Decker advised the Board that DEO has agreed to the appeal and meritoriously conceded for the CDBG-CV to be awarded to Hamilton County. The Board thanked everyone involved in the appeal process.

## **PUBLIC HEARING – SE 22-1 PETITION BY MATHEW COHEN REQUESTING A SPECIAL EXCEPTION BE GRANTED AS PROVIDED FOR IN SECTION 4.5.5.9 OF THE LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS FOR A CAMPGROUND IN AN AGRICULTURE – 4 (AG-4) ZONING DISTRICT ON PROPERTY LOCATED IN HAMILTON COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Chairman Brown recessed the regular Board meeting and called the public hearing (SE 22-1) to order at 6:10 p.m.

County Coordinator Louie Goodin advised that the applicant has withdrawn the application and that no Board action would be required.

Chairman Brown reconvened the regular Board meeting at 6:12 p.m.

## **BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

The Board reviewed the current Board appointments list and agreed that Commissioner Roberson would accept all previous Board appointments for District 2 with Commissioner Erixton to accept all previous Board appointments for District 4. Commissioner McCoy agreed to be the Chairman for the TDC and the other VAB member.

## **DISCUSSION OF COUNTY CELL PHONE PLAN**

- Motion by Commissioner McCoy to purchase county owned cell phones for the two (2) new Commissioners. Second was made by Commissioner Murphy, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

## **GREEN POINT RESEARCH – REQUEST FOR ADDENDUM TO ORIGINAL DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT – DAVID HAUSENAUER**

David Hausenauer addressed the Board and explained the request being submitted for an addendum to the original Development Agreement previously approved in 2020 with Green Point Research. Mr. Hausenauer explained the market changes and resources for the Green Point Research project and stated that need for the economic incentive. County Attorney Andy Decker advised Mr. Hausenauer that he was not in a position to recommend the addendum due to the need for additional information as to the sale of the property and the current structure of the business.

After a brief discussion, the Board agreed to continue the addendum until the January 17, 2023, Board meeting to allow legal staff to review the requested information.

## **CORONAVIRUS STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUND PROGRAM (AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN) – THOMAS HOWELL FERFUSON P.A. – STATUS REPORT AND UPDATES**

A status report was filed with the Board from Thomas Howell Ferguson P.A., regarding the American Rescue Plan. The report outlined the discussion with Windstream as to an amendment to the previous build agreement to be in compliance with 2FR200.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

- Motion by Commissioner McCoy to approve the consent agenda. Second was made by Commissioner Erixton, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

## **ROAD PAVING PROJECTS – STATUS REPORT**

Kellan Bailey, with North Florida Professional Services, provided the Board with a status report on the current road projects.

**GIBSON PARK** – Mr. Bailey stated that the SRWMD permit has been approved for the project with the information being forwarded to FWC for approval.

**SCRAP / SCOP FDOT** – Mr. Bailey discussed the possibility of changing the CR-141 scope of work from the West Bridge to SR-6 to SR-6 to Jennings.

- Motion by Commissioner Roberson to make the change concerning CR-141 for the FDOT 5 Year Program submittal. Second was made by Commissioner Murphy, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

**LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATIONS** – The Board agreed to allow the three (3) Legislative Appropriations to be the following: Arena Roof / New Facility, new EOC and Health Department and Lift Station for SR-129 / I-75 Interchange.

## **COUNTY FIRE SERVICE AND MUNICIPAL FIRE SERVICE CONTRACTS**

Fire Coordinator Henry Land advised the Board that staff is working on a draft Fire Services Agreement with the City of Jasper. Jennifer Hightower, Town of Jennings City Manager, and Samantha Prueter, Town of Jennings Mayor, was present to discuss the Fire Services between the Board and the Town of Jennings. Ms. Hightower explained the current fire inventory and budget for the Town and noted the number of calls that have been run that are outside of their city limits. Ms. Hightower and Ms. Prueter questioned the Board as to whether there could still be negotiations with the Board for fire services or a possible mutual aid agreement. County Attorney Andy Decker discussed the history of the contract negotiations and action taken by the Board that has been voted down by the Town Council. Ann Spry addressed the Board and shared

concerns of the response time to her residence due to Jennings stating that as of January 1, 2023, they would no longer be responding to calls outside of the city limits. After a lengthy discussion, Mr. Decker suggested that staff discuss with the appropriate individuals or the Town Council as to their intentions for fire services. The Board explained the reason for voting to start a new county-wide fire service to guarantee a response to county residents. Ms. Spry stated that she doesn't agree with a county-wide fire department due to the response time. Mr. Goodin and other Board members explained the current response from the volunteer departments and the City of Jasper.

Mr. Land presented the Board with an update for the full-time fire service and provided a list of things that will need to be addressed prior to being ready to hire individuals.

### **APPROVE BILLS**

- Motion by Commissioner McCoy to approve the bills (vouchers 157834 – 158089 and checks 069711-069818). Second was made by Commissioner Erixton, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

### **DEED ACCEPTANCE – TDC POWER RIGHT OF WAY**

- Motion by Commissioner Roberson to declare an emergency and to accept the deed as presented by legal staff from Kenny and Marsha Newsome. Second was made by Commissioner Murphy, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

### **CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- County Coordinator Louie Goodin advised the Board that FDEP is requiring that the asbestos in the old Holiday Inn be mitigated and that bids have been let and will be due back on January 13<sup>th</sup> with the Board to consider during the January 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- Mr. Goodin also stated that Representative Shoaf and Senator Simon will be in Hamilton County on Thursday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> to meet with Commissioners and staff as to the upcoming legislative session. Mr. Goodin announced that the Legislative Delegation meeting will be held on Friday, January 13, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. in the Board room.
- Mr. Goodin also stated that the debris from the old Holiday Inn would be charged to the Road Department if approved by the Board, the Board agreed by unanimous consent.
- The Board announced that the Christmas Parade for the Town of Jennings will be on Thursday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> and that Board members will be in attendance for the Murphy Cane Grinding on December 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Commissioner Roberson questioned staff as to the Crossroads Fire Station construction, to which Mr. Goodin advised that NFPS is drafting the plans for the project.
- Commissioner McCoy also stated that he would check on the road to Bee Haven Bay fishing area and have Nutrien to make the necessary repairs.
- Commissioner Murphy requested that the Board consider traveling to the Madison County Hospital and do a site visit of the facility.
- The Board agreed to visit the School District property that is adjacent to the Annex.
- The Board also stated that they would be in attendance for the Courthouse Christmas luncheon.

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 7:39 p.m.

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ROBERT BROWN, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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GREG GODWIN, EX-OFFICIO CLERK





