

**Houston County Commissioners Meeting
July 2, 2019
Perry, Georgia**

The Houston County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, July 2, 2019, at the Houston County Courthouse in Perry, Georgia, with Chairman Stalnaker presiding and Commissioners Thomson, Walker, Robinson and McMichael present. Also present were Attorney Tom Hall, Director of Administration Barry Holland, Director of Operations Robbie Dunbar, Director of Personnel Ken Carter, Director of Purchasing Mark Baker, Fire / HEMA Chief Chris Stoner, Chief Building Inspector Tim Andrews, Public Buildings Superintendent Michael Phillips, MIS Systems Administrator Eric Mitchell, Ansel Peck and Walton and Becky Wood.

Chairman Stalnaker led the audience in the Invocation.

Lt. Col. Rolf Holmquist, USAF led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and then detailed his military career. He currently serves as Wing Chaplain, 78th Air Base Wing, Robins where he has been for two years. Before commissioning into the Air Force Chaplain Corps, he served on active duty beginning in 1986 as an Administrative Specialist and later as a Chaplain Assistant for many years. He separated as a Tech Sgt. and then commissioned as a 2nd Lt. Chaplain Candidate in 1997 to 2001. He was accessed into active duty in the fall of 2001 as a Chaplain at Scott AFB, IL. He has been married for over 30 years and has three grown children, a son serving as a navigator in the AWACS program and two daughters in college. He has been deployed several times including Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. He stated that he really appreciates the love and respect that the military members feel here in the middle Georgia community.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve the meeting minutes of June 18, 2019 and June 25, 2019.

County Attorney Tom Hall made a blanket statement for the benefit of all applicants for Special Exceptions for home occupations that even if the Board of Commissioners approves an application, neighborhood covenants may still impose certain restrictions upon or against home occupation businesses. These restrictive covenants are superior to any action taken by the Board of Commissioners. The actions taken by the Board will not change any provision within the covenant that prohibits any commercial or business activity.

Chief Building Inspector Tim Andrews presented Special Exception Applications #2262 and #2271 simultaneously.

Chairman Stalnaker closed the regular meeting and opened the Public Hearing portion of the meeting.

Special Exception Applicant #2262 was present. There was no opposition.

Special Exception Applicant #2271 was present. There was no opposition.

There being no comment Chairman Stalnaker reopened the regular meeting.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to approve Special Exception Application #2262 submitted by Doris Ramirez, and Special Exception Application #2271 submitted by LeKeisha Nelson Hill to include any and all stipulations as noted on the Zoning & Appeals recommendation and Section 95 Requirements staff report.

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Mr. Andrews gave both applicants approved for a home occupation instruction on the next step of the process which is obtaining their occupational business license from the Commissioner's office.

Mr. Andrews presented Special Exception Applications #2274 thru #2277.

Mr. Walker disclosed that he owns property close to the Weatherford's on Bear Branch Road but felt that it presented no conflict.

Mr. Thomson asked if there was adequate parking available at 100 Waterfront Way pursuant to Application #2277 submitted by the Pike's.

Mr. Andrews felt that there was adequate parking available.

Mr. McMichael disclosed that he attends church with Mr. and Mrs. Marcum but felt that it presented no conflict.

Chairman Stalnaker closed the regular meeting and opened the Public Hearing portion of the meeting.

Special Exception Applicant #2274 was present. There was no opposition.

Special Exception Applicant #2275 was present. There was no opposition.

Special Exception Applicant #2276 was present. There was no opposition.

Special Exception Applicant #2277 was present. There was no opposition.

There being no comment Chairman Stalnaker reopened the regular meeting.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve the following applications to include any and all stipulations as noted on the Zoning & Appeals recommendations and Section 95 Requirements staff report:

Applicant #2274	David & Jennifer Pollack	Plumbing
Applicant #2275	Cecil & Terri Marcum	Inflatable Rentals
Applicant #2276	Jay & Amy Weatherford	Trim and Siding
Applicant #2277	Kenneth & Tia Pike	Yoga Studio

Mr. Andrews again gave each applicant approved for a home occupation instruction on the next step of the process which is obtaining their occupational business license from the Commissioner's office.

Ms. Robinson presented a request from the Superior Court Accountability Court for renewal of service contracts.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to authorize Chairman Stalnaker signing a contract for services with NAMI of Central Georgia to provide transportation services for participants of the Houston County Accountability Court; and, to sign contracts with both NAMI of Central Georgia and

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Infinite Health Wellness, LLC to provide therapeutic counseling services and healthcare education for participants of the Houston County Accountability Court. Each of the contract terms will be effective July 1, 2019 and terminate June 30, 2020.

Ms. Robinson presented an update to the 2017 Radar list for school speed time zones.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to approve an update to the 2017 Radar List for school speed time zones as follows:

Elementary Schools:	7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Middle Schools:	7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
High Schools:	7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Chairman Stalnaker commented that the Georgia DOT would need to approve of the changes.

Mr. Dunbar indicated that these changes would be included on the master speed study submitted to the DOT. He also confirmed that there would be no proposed change in the current speed zones for each school, as they differ in speed limit depending on the roadway, but rather the change is only to the times that the speed zones would be in effect.

Mr. Thomson presented a request from the City of Perry for de-annexation of a property located off Moody Road.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to authorize the Board of Commissioners signing the Resolution that will consent to the de-annexation of the property owned by Alexis Investments designated as Tax Parcel ID Number OP0490 056000 containing 49.43 acres by the Houston County Tax Assessors from the City of Perry to Houston County.

County Attorney Tom Hall clarified that the motion is authorizing the Board of Commissioners to sign the resolution that will consent to the de-annexation of the property but also represents a concurrence with the request to accept the property back into the unincorporated area of the County.

Mr. Thomson presented a request from the Houston County Public Works Department to name a section of roadway, place it into the Houston County Road Inventory and set the speed limit.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to authorize the Board of Commissioners signing the Resolution that will place the 0.26 mile cul-de-sac section of roadway left by the Georgia Department of Transportation's completion of the improvements to the intersection of SR 49/US41/Houston Lake Road/Houston Road on the Houston County Road Inventory, name the cul-de-sac section of roadway Pullen Court and set the speed limit at twenty-five miles per hour (25MPH).

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Mr. Dunbar explained the necessity of this action due to the Georgia DOT's reconfiguration of the intersection of Houston Road and Hwy. 41 and explained that the only people affected would be three currently non-operating businesses on the Peach County side of the roadway. County staff did meet with Peach County P & Z about the matter. He explained that the new section of roadway would be named Pullen Court after the Pullen family and Ms. Katherine Vinson Pullen who owns Vinson Valley and has been a great community partner who has donated right of way to the County in the past.

Chairman Stalnaker asked Mr. Dunbar to notify all appropriate agencies of the newly named section of roadway.

Mr. McMichael presented a proposal for the MSW Landfill Phase 6, Stage 1, Cells 1-3 construction project.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to approve the award of the MSW Landfill Phase 6, Stage 1, Cells 1-3 construction project to Strack, Incorporated of Fairburn, GA in the amount of \$3,507,138.33. This project is funded by Solid Waste Funds.

Mr. McMichael presented a request for approval of a bid for the Newberry Road Improvements project.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve the award of the Newberry Road Improvements project to Everett Dykes Grassing Co., Inc. of Cochran in the amount of \$482,148. This project is funded by the 2006 SPLOST.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve the payment of the bills totaling \$2,396,330.16.

Chairman Stalnaker closed the regular meeting and opened the Public Comment portion of the meeting.

Walton Wood, 426 Sandefur Road commented that last night's Channel 13 WMAZ's report on the progression of leadership at Robins AFB was very well done and said he was proud that the Board of Commissioners and the citizens of this County overwhelmingly support the military's mission.

Ansel Peck, Burns Drive, Warner Robins remarked that although he was unable to attend the recent special-called Board meeting adopting the FY20 budget he felt that the County's department heads and employees should be commended for their dedication to the process.

Director of Operations Robbie Dunbar introduced three summer interns working with the Engineering Department: Rebekah Evans, Brock Woodard and Dawson Dooley. They have been performing various tasks throughout the County during their internship and he described each as very bright, well-mannered and professional young people.

Chairman Stalnaker spoke to them about the practical side of engineering that they are currently experiencing as interns versus the classroom instruction received through schooling.

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There being no further comments Chairman Stalnaker closed the Public Comment portion of the meeting.

Chairman Stalnaker then opened Commissioners Comments portion of the meeting.

Mr. McMichael thanked everyone for coming remarking that it was a productive meeting and he asked everyone to remember the significance of Independence Day.

Ms. Robinson thanked everyone for coming and wished everyone a happy July 4th.

Mr. Walker also wished everyone a safe and happy July 4th and thanked the summer interns for their efforts.

Mr. Thomson thanked the interns and then thanked Lt. Col. Holmquist for tending to the spiritual aspects of the military members. He also thanked Walton Wood for being his friend and for his past service in the Navy.

Chairman Stalnaker remarked that the next regularly scheduled Board meeting would be at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 16th at the Warner Robins Annex. He also announced that there would be three required public hearing on the tax digest and proposed millage rate. The first public hearing will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 17th at the Warner Robins Annex; the second public hearing will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 18th at the Warner Robins Annex; the third public hearing will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, July 26th at the Warner Robins Annex to be followed at 11:30 a.m. by a special-called Board meeting to adopt the millage rate. He commented that we now know that the tax digest has grown this year better than it has in the recent past. The three public hearings are required by law because the County does not intend to rollback the millage rate but rather will keep it at the same level as last year. Finally, he wished everyone a happy and safe July 4th and reminded everyone to stay hydrated in the sweltering heat that we have been experiencing.

There being no further comments Chairman Stalnaker closed the Commissioners Comments portion of the meeting.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all. Meeting adjourned.

Barry Holland
Director of Administration

Chairman

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner