

Houston County Commissioners Meeting
October 15, 2019
Warner Robins, Georgia

The Houston County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday October 15, 2019, at the Houston County Annex in Warner Robins, Georgia, with Chairman Stalnaker presiding and Commissioners Walker, McMichael and Robinson present. Also present were County 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, Assistant Chief David Newman, Jim Taylor, Walton and Becky Wood and Ansel Peck.

Chairman Stalnaker announced that Mr. Thomson would not be able to attend the meeting due to a personal situation.

Commissioner McMichael led the audience in the Invocation.

Col. Dion Flynn, USAF Reserves led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and then detailed her military career. Born in Mississippi and raised in Chattanooga, TN she is a 1995 graduate of the Air Force Academy. Her first duty assignment was at Holloman AFB in New Mexico and then she came to Robins AFB where she was first a program manager for a Special Operations Forces support team and then served as an Executive Officer in the Avionics Directorate. After five years of active duty service she got out and then spent her time as a military spouse and working for two different Chambers of Commerce in South Carolina and in Arizona. She joined the Reserves and performed varying duties such as being a legislative fellow for U.S. Senator Patty Murray, a Branch Chief-Senate Appropriations and Congressional Issues, and 6 years as a legislative liaison at the Pentagon, before coming back to Robins AFB first as HQ AFRC Section Commander and then the position she now holds as Chief-AGR Transition at AFRC/A1. She remarked that the community here loves and embraces the military and its families

Chairman Stalnaker then read a proclamation recognizing firefighter Joseph LeMaster who was recently named Firefighter of the Year for 2019 by the Georgia State Firefighters Association. He was originally presented this award during the 2019 Georgia Fire Service Conference awards ceremony recently held in Albany. He started his firefighter career in 2001 at the Central Joint Fire Department in Ohio and after moving to Georgia in 2005 he joined the Houston County Fire Department where he now serves as a Lead Instructor.

Chief Stoner thanked firefighter LeMaster for his service to the department and remarked that this is the third year in a row that the Houston County Fire Department has been the recipient of this individual award.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Walker to approve the minutes from the October 1, 2019 meeting. Upon voting Mr. McMichael, Mr. Walker, and Ms. Robinson voted yes. Motion carried.

Chairman Stalnaker briefed the Board on two items that needed to be added to the agenda and asked for a motion to do so. Board appointments to the Middle Flint Behavioral HealthCare Community Service Board would be added as Item 9A while consideration of a 90-day moratorium on the granting of commercial driveway permits which would access residential streets would be added as Item 9B.

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Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Ms. Robinson to add Items 9A and 9B to the agenda. Upon voting Mr. Walker, Ms. Robinson and Mr. McMichael voted yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Walker presented a personnel request from the MIS Department.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. McMichael to approve the hiring of Hector Rios Soriano to fill the vacant Computer Network Technician position at a Grade 15-B effective October 16, 2019. Upon Voting Mr. Walker, Mr. McMichael and Ms. Robinson voted yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Walker presented a request for annexation into the City of Warner Robins.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Ms. Robinson to concur with a City of Warner Robins annexation request for the property described as:

Tax Parcel No. 00074E 166000 totaling 0.644 acres located on Houston Lake Road south of Chantilly Drive, with no access to Chantilly Drive from the property and no master water meter to serve the property with County water.

Upon voting Mr. Walker, Ms. Robinson and Mr. McMichael voted yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Walker presented a request for annexation into the City of Warner Robins.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. McMichael to concur with a City of Warner Robins annexation request for the property described as:

Tax Parcel No. 000770 004000 totaling 1.2 acres located at 1256 Houston Lake Road.

Upon voting Mr. Walker, Mr. McMichael and Ms. Robinson voted yes. Motion carried.

Mr. McMichael presented a request for approval of a bid on one new 2-ton extended cab truck and chassis for use in the Roads Department.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Ms. Robinson to approve the award of one new 2020 Ford F-550 2-ton extended cab truck and chassis for use in the Roads Department from Brannen Ford of Perry at a cost of \$41,991.90. SPLOST 2012 will fund the purchase of this vehicle. Upon voting Mr. McMichael, Ms. Robinson and Mr. Walker voted yes. Motion carried.

Mr. McMichael presented a request for approval of a bid on the Moss Oaks Road improvement project.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Walker to approve the award of the Moss Oaks Road improvement project to Reeves Construction of Macon in the amount of \$2,095,814.50. This is a 2012 SPLOST funded project. Upon voting Mr. McMichael, Mr. Walker and Ms. Robinson voted yes. Motion carried.

Chairman Stalnaker commented that Moss Oaks Road is a dirt road off the back-end of the industrial park near Gilmer (Graphic Packaging) and includes a bridge replacement.

Ms. Robinson presented a Memorandum of Agreement with Middle Flint Area Community Service Board.

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Motion by Ms. Robinson second by Mr. Walker to authorize Chairman Stalnaker signing a Memorandum of Agreement between Houston County and Middle Flint Area Community Service Board for the purposes of providing contracted clinical treatment services for the Mental Health Accountability Court. The agreement term will expire June 30, 2020. Payment under this agreement will come from the Mental Health Accountability Court grant. Upon voting Ms. Robinson, Mr. Walker and Mr. McMichael voted yes. Motion carried.

Ms. Robinson presented a sales contract to purchase additional land for the new Lake Joy Road Fire Department facilities.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. McMichael to authorize Chairman Stalnaker signing the Sales Contract with Debra D. Cherry in order to purchase a tract of land of 0.43 acres adjacent to the land purchased earlier by the Board for the new Lake Joy Road Fire Department facilities and to further authorize the payment of the purchase price of Seventy Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$73,500.00) and closing costs associated with the purchase and authorizing the Chairman to sign all closing documents.

The property is more particularly described as follows:

All that tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in Land Lot 136 of the Tenth Land District of Houston County, Georgia, being known and designated as Lot 5, containing 0.43 acres, more or less, according to a plat of survey of record in Plat Book 33, Page 85, Clerk's Office, Houston Superior Court. Said plat and the record thereof are incorporated herein by reference for all purposes.

Upon voting Ms. Robinson, Mr. McMichael and Mr. Walker voted yes. Motion carried.

Chairman Stalnaker pointed out that the land purchase includes a house that is on the property. This is the property that is closest to the temporary driveway that has been established for the new Lake Joy Road Fire Station and EMA Headquarters facilities and construction is underway with great progress being made.

County Attorney Tom Hall advised the Board that the owner is ready for a quick close on Monday, October 21st.

Ms. Robinson presented a request to accept GEMA-HS Grant #54 for GSAR equipment sustainment.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Walker to authorize Chairman Stalnaker signing an agreement with the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency accepting Grant #54 in the amount of \$52,520 to be utilized for GSAR equipment sustainment.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. McMichael to approve the payment of the bills totaling \$1,155,785.26. Upon voting Ms. Robinson, Mr. McMichael and Mr. Walker voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Walker to approve the appointment of the following individuals to the Middle Flint Behavioral HealthCare Community Service Board for the terms effective on 10/16/2019 thru 10/15/2022:

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Gail Robinson, Post 3 Commissioner, Houston County
Cullen Talton, Sheriff, Houston County
Sean Whilden, VP/CFO, Houston Healthcare

Upon voting Mr. McMichael, Mr. Walker voted yes, and Ms. Robinson abstained. Motion carried.

Mr. Walker presented a request for a moratorium on the granting of commercial driveway permits on residential streets.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. McMichael to approve a moratorium on the granting of commercial driveway permits onto residential streets for a period of ninety-days from this date. Any such driveway that is in progress may be considered by the Board of Commissioners during the moratorium. Upon voting Mr. Walker, Mr. McMichael and Ms. Robinson voted yes. Motion carried.

Chairman Stalnaker reminded everyone that there would be a short Executive Session after Public Comments and Commissioners Comments. There will be no action taken as a result of the session.

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

As there were no comments Chairman Stalnaker closed the Public Comments portion of the meeting and opened Commissioners Comments.

Mr. McMichael thanked everyone for coming and remarked that he was also thankful for the recent rain.

Ms. Robinson thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Mr. Walker thanked everyone for coming and remarked that it was great to live in Houston County.

Chairman Stalnaker thanked the Houston County Sheriff's Deputy for providing security during the meeting. He thanked Chief Stoner, Firefighter LeMaster and also the Fire Department staff for the job they do protecting our County. He remarked that the Lake Joy Road detour was back open and sooner than expected. He then asked Chief Stoner the status of the clean-up in the aftermath of the train derailment near the Hwy. 247 Spur.

Chief Stoner said that the roads are open as well as the railways. There are still some remaining train cars that need to be removed but that they are out of the way of any railway operations. He also said that the gas line was still in the process of being repaired and restored to service.

There being no further comments Chairman Stalnaker closed the Commissioners comments.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Walker to enter into Executive Session for Attorney/Client matters per O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1). Upon voting Mr. McMichael, Mr. Walker and Ms. Robinson voted yes. Motion carried.

Upon returning to the Boardroom Chairman Stalnaker reconvened the regular Board meeting.

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Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. McMichael to adjourn the meeting. Upon voting Mr. Walker, Mr. McMichael and Ms. Robinson voted yes. Motion carried.

Barry Holland
Director of Administration

Chairman
Mr. Thomson will not sign as
he was not at the meeting
Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

EXECUTIVE SESSION AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF HOUSTON

AFFIDAVIT OF PRESIDING OFFICER

Tommy Stalnaker, Chairman of the Houston County Board of Commissioners, being duly sworn, states under oath that the following is true and accurate to the best of his knowledge and belief:

1.

The Houston County Board of Commissioners met in a duly advertised meeting on October 15, 2019.

2.

During such meeting, the Board voted to go into executive session.

3.

The executive session was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

4.

The subject matter of the closed portion of the meeting was devoted to the following matter(s) within the exceptions provided in the open meeting law:

Consultation with the county attorney or other legal counsel to discuss pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the county or any officers or employee or in which the county or any officer or employee may be directly involved as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1);

Discussion of tax matters made confidential by state law as provided by O.C.G.A.

§ 50-14-2(2) and (insert the citation to the legal authority making the tax matter confidential) _____;

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- Discussion or voting on:
- Authorizing a settlement as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(1)(A);
- Authorizing negotiations to purchase, dispose of, or lease property as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(1)(B);
- Authorizing an appraisal as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(1)(C);
- Entering a contract for the purchase, disposal of, or lease of property as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(1)(D);
- Entering into an option to purchase, dispose of, or lease property as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(1)(E);
- Discussion or deliberation on the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a county officer or employee as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(2);
- Interviewing candidates for executive positions as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(2);
- Other (describe the exemption to the open meetings law): _____
as provided in (insert the citation to the legal authority exempting the topic) _____.

5.

- During the course of the closed session devoted to exempt topics, an incidental remark regarding a non-exempt topic or an attempt to discuss a non-exempt topic was made.
- The attempt was immediately ruled out of order and attempts to discuss same ceased immediately.
- The attempt was immediately ruled out of order. However, the comments did not cease, so the closed/executive session was immediately adjourned without discussion or action being taken regarding any non-exempt topic.

6.

Minutes were taken of this meeting and will be filed and held for in camera inspection only.

This _____ day of October, 2019.

Tommy Stalnaker, Chairman
Houston County Board of Commissioners

Sworn to and subscribed before me this _____ day of October, 2019.

Notary Public
My commission expires:
