

**WORKSHOP SESSION  
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2012 (6:00 p.m.)**

The scheduled Workshop Session of the Tift County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Grady Thompson on Tuesday, February 7, 2012, at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room of the Administrative Building. Members of the Commission present including Chairman Thompson were Vice Chairman Robert Setters and Commissioners Mike Jones, Donnie Hester, Sherry Miley, Buck Rigdon and Melissa Chevers.

**Public Comments:** None

**Appointments:**

1. Mr. Savage, Tift County High School Band Director addressed the Board and talked about the trip to Hawaii for the Tift County High Blue Devils Band Brigade. He thanked the Board for any and all support they gave and told them that the trip turned out really well. The reason for the trip of course was to honor soldiers and sailors who lost their lives in the bombing of Pearl Harbor. The band was name Grand Championship of the parade out of 23 bands that marched. After the 2 year project, a lot of hard work and determination, they brought home the trophy which Mr. Savage brought to show to the Board.

**Informational Items for Discussion Only:** None

**Public Hearings:**

**A. TC-ZA-11-03: Petition by Betty Miley, Larry Duncan, Lyle Vandenberg, Charlie Childs, CG and Kathleen Simmons, Owners request a Zoning change from AU ( Agricultural use) to RR (Rural Residential) Zoning district to reflect the existing rural residential use of existing parcels and to allow for new rural residential development consistent with the surrounding area:** Julia Shewchuk gave the nature of the request and the staff report stating that staff has reviewed this petition and determined that it is in compliance with the Standard for the Exercise of Zoning Powers and recommends approval. It also comes from the Planning and Zoning Committee as an approval

**B. TC-TA-11-01 and TC-ZA-11-04: Petition by Tift County to adopt the proposed Tift County Unified Land Development Code and the proposed Tift County Zoning Map:** The County Manager explained that there were some issues that staff had to work out before adopting of the request. It has been re-advertised and will go before the Planning Commission and will come back to this Board for consideration at the March meeting.

**Items to be discussed for Regular Session on February 13, 2012:**

**C. Request for 2012 Relay for Life to use Friendly City Park Facility:** Craig Sowell gave the staff report and recommendation of approval for this yearly request. There have been no problems in the past when this event has been held at this facility. All the necessary documents have been completed and turned in to administration.

**D. Resolution to hold ownership of Old High Mast Lighting at Brighton Road Interchange:** Jason Jordan addressed this issue with the Board stating that DOT will be rebuilding the Brighton Road Interchange. They have sent us a Resolution for the Board's consideration requesting the DOT to install new high mast lighting at this interchanges and to allow Tift County to maintain ownership of the old lighting presently at the interchange.

**E. Right of Way Request from UGA:** Jason Jordan advised the Board that the University System of Georgia Board of Regents request that Tift County Quit Claim 0.191 acres of County owned right of way that will allow them to have enough land to place their new drive way once the DOT has completed the new Brighton Road Interchange at I-75.

**F. Resolution/Tift Lift Application for FY 2013:** The County Manager advised that this is the yearly application to continue the operation of Tift Lift through the Department of Transportation. The application totals \$109,976 and the funds will be utilized as follows: \$106,616 for operating and \$3,360 for a new computer system that will be compatible with the new DOT tracker program that will be in operation in the future.

**G. GEMA Statewide Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement:** The County Manager gave the history and facts of this item. The State of Georgia is vulnerable to a wide range of natural or man-made disasters/emergencies. The Georgia Emergency management Act as amended (The Act) gives the local governments of the State the authority to make agreements for mutual aid assistance in emergencies and through such agreements to ensure the timely reimbursement of cost incurred by the local governments during

emergencies and to provide available resources where needed. The current agreement has been in place for 10 years and expires in 2012.

**H. Renewal Lease Agreement with Brookfield Community Club:** The County Clerk advised that this is a yearly renewal lease. The original Lease was for \$1.00 per month and each year the lease has been renewed with no changes. The Board will need to vote to renew the lease to keep it currently in place as it is now.

**I. Name Change Only on Beer License:** The County Clerk advised that Action Billiards currently holds a beer license but it was a joint ownership. The owner that the license name was in has decided to sell his interest in the business to the joint partner therefore the license name will need to be changed. Mr. Hawes has completed the application and the Criminal History and Fingerprints have been completed. It comes to the Board with an approval from the Sheriff.

**J. Renewal of beer License for Jeta Patel at 2620 Whiddon Mill Road:** The County Clerk advised the Board that the Alcohol License for this store was not renewed prior to January 1, 2012. There were several attempts made to contact Ms. Patel to get them renewed in a timely manner even after January 1<sup>st</sup> however by January 20, 2012 she still had not renewed. Code Enforcement along with the County Clerk, Sheriff's Department and the State of Georgia Field Representative with the Bureau of Tobacco and Alcohol locked down the coolers at this store on January 20, 2012. There are some pending citations that Ms. Patel needs to clear up with the State. Since it has gone well beyond the automatic renewal date the Board will need to make the decision to renew the license or not. Staff will be asking for a motion to table for 30 days until we can gather some further information from the state.

**K. Appointment to Keep Tift Beautiful Board:** The County Clerk advised the Board that Leeann Culbreath has resigned from this Board. The Chairman of the Keep Tift Beautiful Board advised that Mary L. Mallow has shown interest in being appointed to this Board and has submitted a Board Application for the Commissioner's consideration. There are no other applications on file for a position on this Board.

**L. Appointments to Development Authority:** The County Clerk advised that there are two (2) positions that expired at the end of January and one (1) position that expires at the end of February. The positions on the Constitutional Authority are currently held by Richard Golden and Lawrence Norman Hill. The position on the Statutory Authority is currently held by Frankie Mathis. The County Clerk also advised the Board of the names of the applicants that have turned in applications to be considered as well as the three (3) already holding these positions. They are: Lynn Lovett, money Veazey, Greg Crumley and Ronald Nixon. The Board will need to go through the properly adopted process of appointing members to Boards and Authorities at the Regular Meeting.

Commissioner Miley commended those serving and stated that it is impressive to see this many folks come forward with a willingness and interest to serve. The ones that are currently sitting on this Board have done a good job and for those wishing to be considerate, hats off to them for stepping up to the plate.

**M. Selection of Architect:** Jason Jordan advised the Board that per the direction of the Board from the January meeting, the County Attorney and Staff has met with McCall & Associates and Glen Gregory & Associates to go over what is expected of them by Tift County and a RFP has been sent to each Firm to be completed and returned. That has been completed and the County Attorney has reviewed each Request for Proposals. Each Board member was given the results to review before making the decision at the Regular meeting.

**County Manager Items:** None

**Commissioners Comments:**

Commissioner Chevers reminded everyone of the Sock Drive and stated that Representative Ton McBrayer had donated one thousand pair of socks to the Drive and she challenged Ricky Justice and County Attorney Tony Rowel to meet or go beyond this amount. She also would like for everyone to know the kind of folks that Tift County has on staff. Recently she along with the entire staff of Animal Control participated in a fund raiser and they placed first in the table "theme" decorations. She also advised that during the event Animal Control received a call and one of the officers left the event to attend to the call. She commended them for a job well done however she is concerned about some of the cages. They are badly ragged out and she would like to see the Animal Control get some new cages for the animals.

Vice Chairman Setters commended Code Enforcement along with the Sheriff Department and Special Projects Manager for handling a situation in his district this week in a very timely manner.

**Executive Session:** Motion to go into Executive Session for legal and land acquisition was made by Commissioner Chevers, seconded by Commissioner Miley. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to close Executive Session was made by Commissioner Chevers, seconded by Commissioner Rigdon. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Thompson adjourned the meeting.

Signatures for these minutes will be found on the next page.

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Chairman Grady Thompson, District 7

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Vice Chairman Robert Setters, District 3

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Commissioner Donnie Hester, District 1

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Commissioner Melissa Chevers, District 2

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Commissioner Sherry Miley, District 4

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Commissioner F. W. (Buck) Rigdon, District 5

ATTEST:

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Commissioner C. Michael Jones, District 6

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County Clerk 2/7/2012