

**WORKSHOP SESSION  
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TUESDAY, MAY 8, 2018**

The scheduled Workshop Session of the Tift County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Grady Thompson on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 at 6:00 pm in the Commissioner's Meeting Room of the Charles Kent Administration Building. Members of the Commission present in addition to Chairman Thompson were Vice Chairman Stan Stalnaker and Commissioners Robert Setters, Greg Wood, Donnie Hester, Melissa Hughes and Fred "Buck" Rigdon.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Frankie Mathis expressed his concerns regarding Tift Lift services. He stated that he is aware of the changes that are taking place in the department that handles Tift Lift and just wants to be sure that the service doesn't suffer because of the changes.

Cherysh Green, Tift County Adult Felony Drug Court Director, expressed her gratitude for the Board's support of the Adult Felony Drug Court Program. She have a brief update of the program.

**COUNTY MANAGER'S COMMENTS:**

County Manager Jim Carter spoke about the County's transit program. Mr. Carter assured concerned citizens that Tift Lift will remain a service of Tift County. There are two (2) types of riders – pay ridership and human services riders. Currently, Tift County only provides pay ridership. The County's plan is not to decrease the service but to increase the level of service. A large portion of citizens are being under served. By using a Third Party Operator (TPO) which would allow the addition of human services riders, would allow for a greater percentage of the citizens of Tift County to use this service. The Transportation Development Plan put together by the Southern Georgia Regional Commission recommends that the County use eight (8) vans to provide service to both types of ridership. Current employees (drivers) of Tift Lift may be eligible for employment with the TPO if they meet the employment criteria of that TPO.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

- A. Public Hearing to Review and Transmit the Greater Tift County and Cities of Omega, Tifton and TyTy Comprehensive Plan Update to the Southern Georgia Regional Commission and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for Review

County Manager Jim Carter stated that a Public Hearing will be held at the May 14, 2018 meeting to receive citizen input to the Comprehensive Plan Update.

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**ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED AT REGULAR SESSION, MAY 14, 2018 MEETING:**

- A. **Transmittal of Comprehensive Plan Update to DCA for Review:** County Manager Jim Carter stated that the Comprehensive Plan Update must be submitted to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for review. This letter will authorize that review. The Board indicated its desire to place item "A" on the Regular Agenda.
- B. **Purchase of Six (6) Vehicles for Sherriff's Dept, CID and Magistrate Court:** Colonel Larry Taylor requested the purchase of five (5) patrol vehicles. Col. Taylor also stated that the quote received includes a sixth vehicle which would be for Magistrate Court. He is asking for approval to purchase these six (6) vehicles from Don Jackson Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram in the amount of \$134,940. The Board indicated its desire to place item "B" on the Consent Agenda.
- C. **Approval of Utility Facility Encroachment Permit for USDA:** Public Works Director Jason Jordan stated that application has been made by USDA-ARS-SWC, Southwest Watershed Research Center for a utility facility encroachment permit. Currently, USDA has a weir installed/constructed on Whiddon Mill Road. They wish to replace the existing one. The Board indicated its desire to place item "C" on the Consent Agenda.
- D. **Declaration of Taking for EB Hamilton Project for Temporary Easement:** Public Works Director Jason Jordan stated that a declaration of taking is needed for a parcel for the EB Hamilton project for a temporary construction easement for the construction and maintenance of a drainage culvert. The temporary construction easement is estimated for two (2) years. The parcel is owned by Adcock Family Properties, LLC. It is a 1.01 acres and the compensation for the parcel is \$1,250. The Board indicated its desire to place item "D" on the Consent Agenda.
- E. **Declaration of Taking for EB Hamilton Project for Right of Way:** Public Works Director Jason Jordan stated that a declaration of taking is needed for a parcel for right of way for a drainage culvert for the EB Hamilton project. This parcel is owned by Adcock Family Properties, LLC. It is 0.02 acres and compensation for this parcel is \$150. The Board indicated its desire to place item "E" on the Consent Agenda.
- F. **Declaration of Taking for Forest Lakes Entrance Project:** Public Works Director Jason Jordan stated that a declaration of taking is needed for construction and maintenance of a safe roadway and entrance to Forest Lakes Subdivision. The parcel is located on land lot 194 in the 6<sup>th</sup> district containing 0.563 acres. This taking will allow the entrance to be realigned which will allow ingress and egress to the subdivision in a manner that is significantly safer for the traveling public. The Homeowners Association of Forest Lakes is to pay for this taking and for engineering resulting from this action. The Board indicated its desire to place item "F" on the Consent Agenda.
- G. **Purchase of Mowers for Recreation Department:** Recreation Director Craig Sowell received two bids for mowers – Powerhouse Outdoor for two (2) mowers with buyback is \$11,370.64 and Chris' Mower for two (2) mowers with buyback is \$11,198.00. Board indicated its desire to place item "G" on the Consent Agenda to purchase two (2) mowers from lower bidder – Chris' Mower.

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- H. **Replacement of Lights at D.L. Lastinger Recreation Area:** Recreation Director Craig Sowell stated that the switchgear at several parks need to be upgraded. A quote received from Smith Electric outlines the costs as follows: Orr Park - \$14,500; Sertoma Park - \$17,700; Connor Park - \$17,700 and Eve Park - \$28,000. The total cost is \$77,900 and would be paid from SPLOST V. Sowell stated that there are several underground splices that need to be addressed at Eve Park. Board asked Sowell to get prices on repairing these splices. The Board indicated its desire place item "H" on the Regular Agenda to consider the pricing received for repairing the splices at Eve Park.
- I. **Resolution No. 2018-06 – Declaration of Surplus Vehicles/Equipment:** County Clerk Miriam Jordan stated that this list contains one (1) vehicle and several pieces of equipment. The Board indicated its desire to place item "I" on the Consent Agenda.
- J. **Appointments to Greater Tift Area Planning and Zoning Board:** Development Support Services Director Carl Fortson stated that there are two (2) vacancies on the Planning and Zoning Board. Three (3) applications have been received for consideration – James Reed Laycock II, Mark J. Brown, Sr. and Shawn Utley. The Board indicated its desire to place item "J" on the Regular Agenda.
- K. **Appointments to Athletic Advisory Board:** Recreation Director Craig Sowell stated that the Athletic Advisory Committee reappoint the following to the Committee – Buck Rigdon, Phil Salter and Jeff Robbins. Terms would expire May 2021. The Board indicated its desire to place item "K" on the Regular Agenda.

**COUNTY CLERK'S COMMENTS:**

There were none to report.

**COUNTY ATTORNEY'S COMMENTS:**

County Attorney Anthony Rowell updated the Board on DEFACS. Mr. Rowell stated that he has had multiple conversations with DEFACS. They have agreed on the amount of outstanding monies owed and have sent a check for approximately \$120,000. However, this did not cover the entire amount due. The County has agreed to apply what they have paid for rent in FY18 towards the outstanding balance. Therefore, if those monies are applied to the outstanding balance, then no rent has been applied towards FY18. State properties wants to evaluate the use of space since they are only using about 50% of the building. It was agreed that it would be prudent to negotiate a one-year lease so they have time to evaluate the use of the space and so the County can agree upon the amount of money over a long term lease. ABM has identified that every ac unit in the building is running at potential failure. DEFACS has also asked that all the carpeting be replaced and some upgrades be done. These costs have to be considered in the formation of a long-term lease. Mr. Rowell stated that he hoped to have a final proposal before the Board by Monday's meeting.

ABM contract not ready now but should be ready shortly. There are still some outstanding issues regarding the financial aspects of the agreement and some issues with the construction management delivery aspects. Mr. Rowell and Mr. Carter are meeting with ABM to discuss these issues tomorrow.

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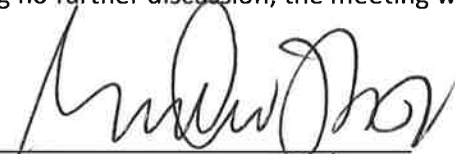
**COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS:**

Chairman Grady Thompson asked that County Manager Jim Carter read a letter received May 2, 2018. A copy of the letter is attached as part of the record.

Donnie Hester thanked everyone for coming.

**ADJOURN:**

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned.



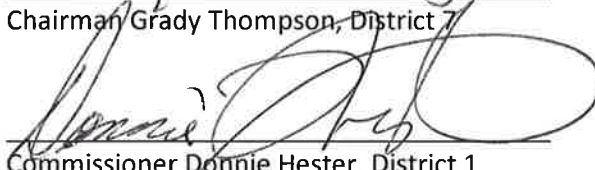
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Chairman Grady Thompson, District 7



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Vice Chairman Stan Stalnaker, District 4



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Commissioner Donnie Hester, District 1



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Commissioner Melissa Hughes, District 2



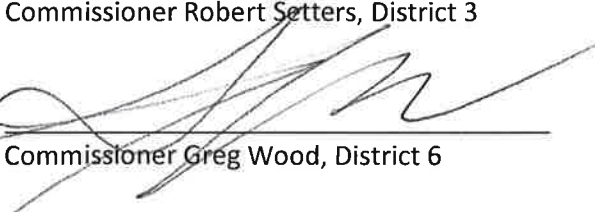
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Commissioner Robert Setters, District 3

Absent

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Commissioner Fred "Buck" Rigdon, District 5



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Commissioner Greg Wood, District 6

ATTEST:   
June 11, 2018