

**WORKSHOP SESSION
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, MAY 3, 2022**

The scheduled Workshop Session of the Tift County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Tony McBrayer on Tuesday, May 3, 2022 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 McBrayer were Commissioners Paul Webb, Greg Wood, Donnie Hester, Fred "Buck" Rigdon, Stan Stalnaker, and Melissa Hughes.

Chairman Tony McBrayer led in Prayer.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were none to report.

APPOINTMENTS:

- 3.1 Patricia Temper, Renata Elad and Kyle Grist from the Tiftarea Greenway Association (TAGA) were present to solicit support of a proposed walking trail.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- 4.1 Transmittal Hearing for Comprehensive Plan Amendment for the Addition of a Broadband Element

County Manager Jim Carter stated that a representative from the Southern Georgia Regional Commission will be here for the public hearing to speak on this amendment. This hearing is a required step for DCA to review the change in the comprehensive plan.

- 4.1 **TC-ZA-22-02:** Petition to being made by JMG Family Properties, owner, and Jonathan P. Garvey, agent, for rezoning of 18.5 acres of property located at the corner of Lower Brookfield Road and Tucker Loop – Tax Map 0084 Parcel 092. The current zoning is AG (Agriculture) and the requested zoning is RR1 (Rural Single Family) for the purpose of dividing into lots and building homes.

Development Support Services Director Chris Davis stated that this would be a minor subdivision which will not require any infrastructure improvements as all lots will face a county public road. The Greater Tift County Planning and Zoning Commission heard this request on April 7, 2022 and recommends approval. No one was in attendance to speak in opposition nor has anyone called or visited the office in reference to the application.

- 4.2 **TC-ZA-22-03:** Petition is being made by Algernon Parson, owner, for rezoning of a 1.1-acre tract of property located at 2907 US Hwy 41 South – Tax Map T060 Parcel 043. The current zoning is R-8 (Medium to High Density Residential) to GB (General Business) for the purpose of allowing a business to utilize the property.

Development Support Services Director Chris Davis stated that there is a steel building on the property and has been used as a church in the past. However, the church is no longer using the

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building. The applicant would like to rezone the property so that he may market his property as commercial to allow for other businesses to access his building. The property is contiguous to GB zoning. The Greater Tift County Planning and Zoning Commission heard this request on April 7, 2022 and recommends approval. No one was in attendance to speak in opposition nor has anyone called or visited the office in reference to the application.

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED AT REGULAR SESSION, MAY 9, 2022 MEETING:

- 5.1 **Ordinance No. 2022-02, Transporting Solid Waste and Litter:** Development Support Services Director Chris Davis stated that staff is requesting a change to the text of the solid waste ordinance. This change would help enforce litter being on the side of county roads. Johnny Lindsey, 121 Mitchell Store Road, spoke regarding his daily trash issues. The Board indicated its desire to place this item on the Consent Agenda.
- 5.2 **Appointment to the Planning Commission:** Development Support Services Director Chris Davis stated that he would like the Board to consider appointing Gene Tompkins to the Planning Commission. Mr. Tompkins will retire from the Development Support Services Department on June 30, 2022. He would fill the vacancy now and refrain from any zoning matters at his current job until his retirement. The Board indicated its desire to place this item on the Regular Agenda.
- 5.3 **Purchase of Network Switches:** IT Director Al Stephenson stated that Tift County's LAN (Local Area Network) provides employee workstation access to county application servers, email and internet. The network consists of 36 Cisco switches. Many of the switches were installed in 2010 and have reached end of life support from Cisco. These switches need to be replaced to provide additional network security, management, faster bandwidth and to insure hardware support from Cisco is readily available. Staff is asking to purchase 38 switches so that there are always extra on hand for emergencies. The total cost is \$266,933.44 and would be paid through SPLOST VI. The Board indicated its desire to place this item on the Consent Agenda.
- 5.4 **Purchase of Sprayer for Use by the Recreation Department:** Assistant Recreation Director Tim Petrea stated that in an effort to enhance the current turf management plan, staff is requesting to purchase an off lease used Progator with a HD 200 sprayer. Funds would come from an insurance settlement for a claim of stolen property at EB Hamilton. The Board indicated its desire to place this item on the Consent Agenda.
- 5.5 **Purchase of Power Load for Ambulance:** EMS Director Allen Owens stated that Tift County EMS has one (1) front-line ambulance that does not have a power loader. This piece of equipment aids EMS personnel in loading stretchers onto the ambulance. Cost of the power load is \$22,800.98 and would be funded by General Fund. The Board indicated its desire to place this item on the Consent Agenda.
- 5.6 **Purchase of Ford Explorer for EMS:** EMS Director Allen Owens stated that EMS had a Dodge Charger that was totaled in an accident on March 14, 2022. Mr. Owens asked the Board to consider replacing this vehicle with a Ford Explorer. This vehicle is used by the battalion chiefs and a larger vehicle would allow for more equipment and larger equipment to be transported.

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Fitzgerald Ford offered the lowest pricing at \$32,930. This would be funded with insurance proceeds and General Fund. The Board indicated its desire to place this item on the Consent Agenda.

- 5.7 **Property Use & Access Agreement with Tift Regional Health System, Inc.:** County Manager Jim Carter stated that Tift Regional would like to park their mobile health clinic on property owned by the County on Magnolia Industrial Blvd. County Attorney Anthony Rowell is working with the hospital attorney on the agreement. Agreement should be ready for the Regular Session. The Board indicated its desire to place this item on the Regular Agenda.
- 5.8 **Alcohol Beverage License Application submitted by Jeffrey Dale Thorne for Retail Malt Beverage Package, Retail Malt Beverage Consumption, Retail Wine Package and Retail Wine Consumption Licenses for Volume Powersports, LLC located at 3620 Hwy 82 W – TABLED 04.11.22:** County Clerk Miriam Jordan stated that since the Board tabled this application, notification to the applicant was required. In that notification, it invited the applicant to the next regular session to speak on the request. The Board indicated its desire to place this item on the Regular Agenda.
- 5.9 **Appointment to the Southern Georgia Regional Commission’s Aging Advisory Council:** Chairman Tony McBrayer asked the Board to consider appointing Gary McCurdy to the Aging Advisory Council. The Board indicated its desire to place this item on the Regular Agenda.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION ONLY:

- 6.1 Formation of an Opioid Task Force to Discuss Practical Methods to Combat the Ongoing Opioid Abuse Epidemic in Tift County

Commissioner Stan Stalnaker asked the Board to consider creating a task force to bring opioid abuse awareness, education, prevention and harm reduction strategies to our community. Commissioner Stalnaker has already had discussions with representatives of the judicial circuit, the school board and the hospital. State Court Judge Hebert Benson also spoke in favor of the task force. County Clerk to add an action item to the Regular Agenda for the creation of this task force.

COUNTY MANAGER’S COMMENTS:

County Manager Jim Carter congratulated Commissioner Melissa Hughes for her installation as President of ACCG.

COUNTY ATTORNEY’S COMMENTS:

There were none to report.

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COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS:

Commissioner Paul Webb stated that Ruth's Cottage held its Champion of Hope fundraiser over the weekend and said it was very successful. Representatives from Ruth's Cottage stated it was their best ever fundraiser.

Commissioner Melissa Hughes stated the following: (1) thanks for all the support during her installation as president of ACCG; (2) Arts in Black is May 6-7, 2022 at Fulwood Park; (3) Tourism – Tift County needs to be marketed more; (4) wants to pursue grant funding for murals; and (5) wants to continue to work on code enforcement court.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There was none to report.

ADJOURN:

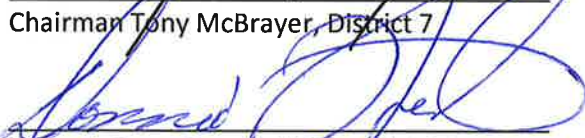
There being no further discussion, the Work Session was adjourned.



Chairman Tony McBrayer, District 7



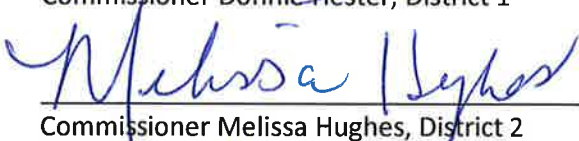
Commissioner Stan Stalnaker, District 4



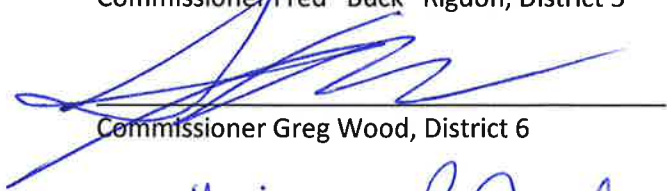
Commissioner Donnie Hester, District 1



Commissioner Fred "Buck" Rigdon, District 5




Commissioner Melissa Hughes, District 2



Commissioner Greg Wood, District 6



Vice Chairman Paul Webb, District 3

ATTEST: 
June 13, 2022