

**REGULAR SESSION  
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2020 (6:00 PM)**

The scheduled Regular Session of the Tift County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Grady Thompson on Monday, June 8, 2020 at 6:00 pm in the Commission Meeting Room of the Charles Kent Administration Building. Members of the Commission present in addition to Chairman Thompson were Commissioners Greg Wood, Donnie Hester, Stan Stalnaker and Melissa Hughes. Commissioner Fred "Buck" Rigdon was present via teleconference.

Due to social distancing recommendations during the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting was also available via teleconference. Notice of this meeting was given to the Tifton Gazette (legal organ), WALB News, Fun Channel, Grapevine, posted on the County's Website and Facebook page and posted at the Charles Kent Administration Building. The notice contained direction and opportunity for any citizens desiring to attend the meeting by phone.

Commissioner Donnie Hester offered an invocation and Chairman Grady Thompson led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no comments to report.

**APPOINTMENTS**

There were none to report.

**ITEMS TO BE ADDED TO THE AGENDA**

- A. Commissioner Greg Wood made a motion to add Item "H" under New Business to consider a Notice of Award and Construction Agreement for the FY20 LMIG project. Motion seconded by Commissioner Donnie Hester. Motion carried 6-0 with the Chairman voting.

**MINUTES**

Commissioner Donnie Hester made a motion to approve the following minutes: (1) Workshop Session – May 5, 2020; (2) Executive Session – May 5, 2020, (3) Regular Session – May 11, 2020; (4) Executive Session – May 11, 2020; (5) Called Session – May 20, 2020; and (6) Executive Session – May 20, 2020. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Greg Wood. Motion carried 6-0 with the Chairman voting.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

- A. **TC-ZA-20-01:** Application is being made by owner Brett Ray for rezoning of 2.39 acres of property located on the northwest corner of Tifton Eldorado Road and Oak Ridge Church Road – Tax Map 0073 Parcel 020A. The current zoning of this property is AG (Agriculture Use) and WLI (Wholesale Light Industrial) and the requested zoning is R8M (Medium to High Residential) which would allow for HUD approved manufactured housing

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Development Services Director Chris Davis stated, after considering the zoning criteria, both the staff and Planning Commission recommend approval.

County Attorney Anthony Rowell asked the Board of Commissioners if any of them, personally, a family member or business relationship has any interest in the property to be considered for rezoning that needs to be declared so there will not be any conflict of interest. Mr. Rowell asked that the record reflect there were no affirmative responses.

County Attorney Anthony Rowell opened the public hearing.

Brett Ray, applicant, spoke in favor of the application.

There being no further comments, County Attorney Anthony Rowell closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Melissa Hughes made a motion to approve TC-ZA-20-01 application for rezoning. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Stan Stalnaker. Motion carried 6-0 with the Chairman voting.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- A. Motion to Approve Emergency Repairs to replace two (2) air conditioners at the Jail and Sheriff's Office in the Amount of \$21,775 to be paid from General Fund
- B. Motion to Approve the Purchase of Three (3) Vehicles for the Sheriff's Department from Brannen Motor Company in the Amount of \$103,200 to be paid from General Fund
- C. Motion to Approve the Microsoft Licensing Agreement which is a Three (3) Year Agreement at a Cost of \$40,768.24 per year to be paid from General Fund
- D. Motion to Approve Lease Agreement with South Georgia Community Service Board for 334 Tifton Eldorado Road
- F. Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2020-09, Surplus Vehicles

Commissioner Donnie Hester made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as read by the County Manager. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Greg Wood. Motion carried 6-0 with Chairman voting.

**REGULAR AGENDA:**

- E. **Alcohol Beverage License Application Submitted by Kavish Patel for a Retail Malt Beverage License for Evans 522, LLC located at 104 Chula Brookfield Road, Chula:** County Manager Jim Carter stated that staff asked that the Commission table this application because staff is unsure what the applicant's intentions are for the property. Commissioner Stan Stalnaker made a

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motion to table consideration of this application. Motion seconded by Commissioner Greg Wood. Motion carried 6-0 with the Chairman voting.

- G. **Appointments to the Athletic Advisory Committee:** Recreation Director Craig Sowell stated that the Athletic Advisory Committee recommends the reappointment of Steve Hyman, Dickie Robinson, Tim McRae and Montoya Crockett.

Chairman Grady Thompson opened the floor for nominations. Commissioner Melissa Hughes nominated Steve Hyman. There being no further names brought forward, Chairman Thompson closed the nominations.

Commissioner Melissa Hughes made a motion to reappoint Steve Hyman to the Athletic Advisory Board with a term ending May 2023. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stan Stalaker. Motion carried 6-0 with the Chairman voting.

Chairman Grady Thompson opened the floor for nominations. Commissioner Melissa Hughes nominated Dickie Robinson. There being no further names brought forward, Chairman Thompson closed the nominations.

Commissioner Melissa Hughes made a motion to reappoint Dickie Robinson to the Athletic Advisory Board with a term ending May 2023. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stan Stalaker. Motion carried 6-0 with the Chairman voting.

Chairman Grady Thompson opened the floor for nominations. Commissioner Melissa Hughes nominated Tim McRae. There being no further names brought forward, Chairman Thompson closed the nominations.

Commissioner Melissa Hughes made a motion to reappoint Tim McRae to the Athletic Advisory Board with a term ending May 2023. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stan Stalaker. Motion carried 6-0 with the Chairman voting.

Chairman Grady Thompson opened the floor for nominations. Commissioner Melissa Hughes nominated Montoya Crockett. There being no further names brought forward, Chairman Thompson closed the nominations.

Commissioner Melissa Hughes made a motion to reappoint Montoya Crockett to the Athletic Advisory Board with a term ending May 2023. Motion seconded by Commissioner Donnie Hester. Motion carried 6-0 with the Chairman voting.

- H. **Notice of Award for LMIG Project and Approval of Construction Contract:** County Manager Jim Carter stated that bids were received for the LMIG resurfacing project. The low bidder was East Coast Asphalt, LLC in the amount of \$1,649,767. The LMIG contribution is \$774,568.87 and the County contribution (construction and engineering) will be \$908,193.47 for a total project cost of \$1,682,762.34. This will be paid from SPLOST VI. If the project costs should go over by 15% of what is approved, then a change order will be issued. Commissioner Greg Wood made a motion

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to issue the Notice of Award for this project and authorize the Chairman to executive the construction agreement. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Stan Stalnaker. Motion carried 6-0 with the Chairman voting.

**COUNTY MANAGER'S COMMENTS:**

County Manager Jim Carter stated that he would like for the Commission to consider options for reopening recreation facilities and activities. Mr. Carter distributed a breakdown of recommendations from staff. He asked that the Commission read over the recommendations and that he would contact them via email to get their input.

**COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Melissa Hughes asked the Chairman not to make her feel bad regarding her decisions about protection from the COVID-19 virus.

Commissioner Donnie Hester asked staff to address the use of golf carts on county roads. County Manager Jim Carter to have Sheriff Scarborough or Colonel Merritt to attend the July Commission Meeting to discuss.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Commissioner Donnie Hester made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session for pending litigation. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Melissa Hughes. Motion carried 6-0 with the Chairman voting.

There being no further discussion, Commissioner Greg Wood made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Stan Stalnaker. Motion carried 5-0 with the Chairman voting.

- I. Commissioner Greg Wood made a motion to authorize the Chairman to execute a letter to Mayor Julie Smith with dates of termination for county services. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Melissa Hughes. Motion carried 5-1. Voting for were Commissioners Greg Wood, Donnie Hester, Stan Stalnaker and Melissa Hughes and Chairman Grady Thompson. Voting against was Commissioner Fred "Buck" Rigdon.


**ADJOURN:** There being no further discussion, Commissioner Donnie Hester made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Melissa Hughes. Motion carried 6-0 with the Chairman voting.

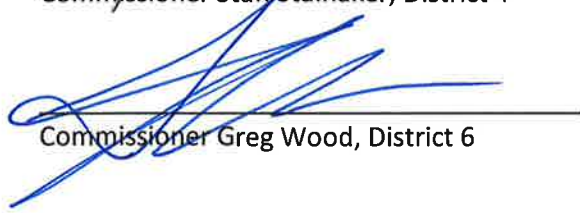
**[Signatures to follow on the next page.]**

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Chairman Grady Thompson, District 7


  
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Vice Chairperson Donnie Hester, District 1

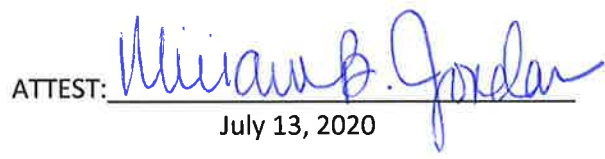
  
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Commissioner Stan Stalmaker, District 4

  
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Commissioner Greg Wood, District 6

*Absent*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner Paul Webb, District 3

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner Melissa Hughes, District 2

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner Fred "Buck" Rigdon, District 5

ATTEST:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
July 13, 2020