

**REGULAR SESSION
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2019 (6:00 PM)**

The scheduled Regular Session of the Tift County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Grady Thompson on Monday, December 9, 2019 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 Vice Chairman Greg Wood and Commissioners Tony McBrayer, Donnie Hester, Fred "Buck" Rigdon, Stan Stalnaker and Melissa Hughes.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none to report.

ITEMS TO BE ADDED TO THE AGENDA

- A. Commissioner Donnie Hester made a motion to add item "N" to the Regular Agenda to consider the reimbursement program agreement amendment for the Tire Amnesty Event. Motion seconded by Commissioner Greg Wood. Motion carried 6-0.
- B. Commissioner Donnie Hester made a motion to add item "O" to the Regular Agenda to consider the lease of a copier for Development Support Services. Motion seconded by Commissioner Greg Wood. Motion carried 6-0.

MINUTES

Commissioner Donnie Hester made a motion to approve the following minutes: (1) Called Session – November 1, 2019; (2) Executive Session – November 1, 2019; (3) Workshop Session – November 5, 2019; (4) Regular Session – November 11, 2019; and (5) Executive Session – November 11, 2019. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Greg Wood. Motion carried 6-0.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. TC-ZA-19-05: Application is being made by Bruce and Ester Payne, owners, for Tax Map 0032 Parcel 040. The current zoning classification is R-1 (Medium Density Residential). This 12.33 acre tract of land is located on Rutland Road. The applicants are requesting approval to rezone property from R-1 (Medium Density Residential) to R-21 (Medium Density Residential) which allows for a ½ acre lot with a 100 foot minimum lot width at setback line with smaller minimum lot width and size than R-1.

Development Support Services Director Chris Davis stated that the Planning Commission has considered this application and recommends approval.

County Attorney Anthony Rowell asked the Board if there are any conflicts with the Board regarding this application. No conflicts were noted.

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County Attorney Anthony Rowell opened the Public Hearing for comments.

Ester Payne, 3006 Orchard Circle, spoke in favor of the application.

Sherry Harper, 314 Allison Way, spoke in favor of the application.

Jill Moretz, 4004 Medford Lane, spoke in favor of the application.

No one spoke in opposition of the application.

There being no further comments, the public hearing was closed.

Commissioner Greg Wood made a motion to approve application TC-ZA-19-05 to rezone from R-1 to R-21. Motion seconded by Commissioner Donnie Hester. Motion carried 6-0.

APPOINTMENTS

There were none to report.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Motion to Approve the Statewide Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement with GEMA/HS
- B. Motion to Approve the LMIG Application for 2019-2020
- C. Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2019-10, Authorizing the Chairman to Sign an Agreement with GDOT for TIA Projects
- D. Motion to Approve Agreement with City of Tifton for the Use of the Fire Training Center
- E. Motion to Approve the Upgrade of the Security Electronic Lock Control System at the Jail to be Paid from the Jail Construction Fund
- F. Motion to Approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Board of Regents for the Provision of Cooperative Extension Services and Personnel
- I. Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2019-12, Supporting Locally-Established Building Design Standards for Residential Dwellings
- J. Motion to Approve Master Plan Study for Courthouse Annex for a Cost of \$8,500 to be Paid from SPLOST VI
- K. Motion to Approve Alcohol Beverage License Renewals for 2020 as presented by the County Clerk

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- L. Motion to Appoint Anthony Rowell as County Attorney
- M. Motion to Appoint Miriam Jordan as County Clerk

Commissioner Donnie Hester made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as read by the County Manager. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Fred "Buck" Rigdon. Motion carried 6-0.

REGULAR AGENDA:

- G. **Request by Charlie Hand to Reduce Property Taxes at Casey's Court:** County Attorney Anthony Rowell stated that the issue presented to the Board by Mr. Hand in the Work Session dealt with the effort to try to challenge or contest the methodology that was used to value property that is in the process of being constructed. The law sets out that when the issue relates to valuation or the methodology utilized, an appeal must be filed. There was no appeal filed. Therefore, in the absence of following that process, there are no steps that this Board can take to provide the relief requested by Mr. Hand.

Commissioner Fred "Buck" Rigdon made a motion to deny the request made by Charlie Hand for the reduction of property taxes for Casey's Court. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Stan Stalnaker. Motion carried 6-0.

- H. **Resolution No. 2019-13, Hotel/Motel Tax Increase:** County Manager Jim Carter stated that the resolution before the Board requests that the Georgia Legislature increase the local hotel/motel tax collected in Tift County from 5% to 7%. With this increase, approximately 14% will be dedicated to recreation. If approved by this Board, the resolution will be forwarded to our local delegation for legislation to be developed in Atlanta.

Commissioner Tony McBrayer made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-13. Motion seconded by Commissioner Fred "Buck" Rigdon. Motion carried 6-0.

- N. **Reimbursement Program Agreement Amendment for the Tire Amnesty Event:** County Clerk Miriam Jordan stated that because of the success of the Tire Amnesty Event the cost were higher than anticipated. EPD has agreed to reimburse the County for the additional costs. Therefore, an amendment to the original agreement is necessary.

Commissioner Donnie Hester made a motion to approve the reimbursement program agreement amendment for the tire amnesty event. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stan Stalnaker. Motion carried 6-0.

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- O. **Lease of Copier for Development Support Services:** IT Director Al Stephenson stated that the lease for the Ricoh machine currently used by Development Support Services has expired. The cost for the Ricoh machine is \$3,756 per year. A proposal has been received for a Canon device for \$1,855.92 per year. The proposed Canon device offers identical functionality and quicker response times for technical support.

Commissioner Stan Stalnaker made a motion to lease a Canon copier for the annual cost of \$1,855.92. Motion seconded by Commissioner Melissa Hughes. Motion carried 6-0.

COUNTY MANAGER'S COMMENTS:

There were none to report.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:

Commissioner Melissa Hughes wished everyone a Merry Christmas. She also commented on how awesome the Christmas parade was.

Commissioner Stan Stalnaker recognized two (2) students in attendance – Shiloh and Sierra Wyatt. They were attending for their American Government class.

Commissioner Donnie Hester wished everyone a Merry Christmas and safe holiday. He also stated that he enjoyed the Christmas Luncheon. Additionally, he thanked the County Attorney and County Clerk for the work they do.

Commissioner Greg Wood wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Commissioner Tony McBrayer wished everyone a Merry Christmas and also thanked Department Heads for the work that they do.

Lynn Burnett expressed her concerns regarding tourism promotion for Tift County.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There was none to report.

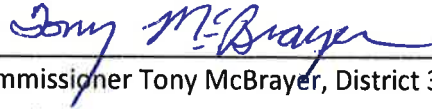
ADJOURN: There being no further discussion, Commissioner Fred "Buck" Rigdon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Greg Wood. Motion carried 6-0.

[Signatures to following on the next page.]

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Chairman Grady Thompson, District 7



Commissioner Tony McBrayer, District 3

Absent

Commissioner Donnie Hester, District 1



Commissioner Melissa Hughes, District 2



Commissioner Stan Stalnaker, District 4



Commissioner Fred "Buck" Rigdon, District 5

ATTEST: 

January 13, 2020



Vice Chairperson Greg Wood, District 6