

**WORKSHOP SESSION
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2019**

The scheduled Workshop Session of the Tift County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Grady Thompson on Tuesday, December 3, 2019 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 Commissioners Tony McBrayer, Greg Wood, Donnie Hester, Stan Stalnaker, Fred "Buck" Rigdon and Melissa Hughes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were none to report.

APPOINTMENTS:

- A. Al Potts with the Georgia Forestry Commission gave an update of their FY20 activities.
- B. Lynn Lovett gave an update regarding the completion and move in of Ruth's Cottage. She also gave an update of the funding of the project.

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 the 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 similar minimum lot width and size than R-1.

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

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED AT REGULAR SESSION, DECEMBER 9, 2019 MEETING:

- A. **Statewide Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement with GEMA/HS:** Emergency Management Director Vickie Hickman stated that this agreement will allow Tift County to request resources through GEMA and will allow GEMA to request resources from Tift County if available. The current agreement expires March 1, 2020. This agreement will be valid until March 1, 2024. The Board indicated its desire to place item "A" on the Consent Agenda.
- B. **GDOT Local Maintenance Improvement Grant Application (LMIG):** Public Works Director Jason Jordan recommended the resurfacing of a portion of the following roads: Rutland Road, Upper TyTy Road, Cottle Road, Southside Drive, Sunnybrook Avenue, Shady Lane and Taylor Ridge Drive. This is approximately 8.04 miles of roadway and is estimated to cost \$1.5M. The grant will pay for \$774,568.87 and the County would be responsible for the remainder. County funds would be paid from SPLOST VI and TSPLOST. The Board indicated its desire to place item "B" on the Consent Agenda.

WORKSHOP SESSION
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2019

- C. **Resolution No. 2019-10, GDOT Agreement for TIA Projects:** Public Works Director Jason Jordan stated that with this agreement the County will have the responsibility of preliminary engineering, right of way acquisition, utilities and construction for these projects. This agreement delineates those responsibilities. The Board indicated its desire to place item "C" on the Consent Agenda.
- D. **Agreement with City of Tifton for Use of Fire Training Center:** County Manager Jim Carter stated that this agreement is for the use of the City of Tifton's Fire Training Center. The cost is \$6,000 per year and is a budgeted item. The Board indicated its desire to place item "D" on the Consent Agenda.
- E. **Upgrade of Security Electronic Lock Control System at the Jail:** Jail Administrator Major Danny Torres stated that the current locking system at the jail has been in operation since 2003. Multiple instances of failure have occurred and the system is unable to interface with security cameras. Three companies bid on the project and the low bidder was ICOTECH, Inc. in the amount of \$74,456. Staff recommends the approval of a three (3) year contract in the amount of \$24,819 per year to be paid from the Jail Construction Fund. The Board indicated its desire to place item "E" on the Consent Agenda.
- F. **Memorandum of Understanding with Board of Regents for the Provision of Cooperative Extension Services and Personnel:** County Manager Jim Carter stated that extension services in Tift County are provided by the Board of Regents of the University of Georgia and the Tift County Board of Commissioners via a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Per the MOU, the County provides office space as well as providing funding for office supplies, office equipment, telephone service, utilities, data communication networking, postage, demonstration materials, janitorial services and a local portion of extension personnel salaries. The Board indicated its desire to place item "F" on the Consent Agenda.
- G. **Request by Charlie Hand to Reduce Property Taxes at Casey's Court:** County Manager Jim Carter stated that at the last Commission meeting the Board had asked Mr. Hand to supply some additional information. However, those documents have not been received. Therefore, reviewing the documents the County does have, it appears no error was made by staff. County Attorney Anthony Rowell stated that according to law if you have a problem related to valuation of your property your only course of action is to appeal. Mr. Hand did not appeal stating he did not receive his notice of appeal. The notice of appeal was sent to the address provided by Mr. Hand. The Tax Assessors office has followed the same methodology for valuating property for the past 17 years for both commercial and residential properties. This methodology is recognized by the State Department of Revenue and is a proper assessment. Staff recommends denial of the request. The Board indicated its desire to place item "G" on the Regular Agenda.
- H. **Resolution No. 2019-13, Hotel/Motel Tax Increase:** County Manager Jim Carter stated that the Tifton Tourism Association has requested that the County increase the amount of hotel/motel tax collected from 5% to 7%. A percentage of the increase would be dedicated to recreation. The Board indicated its desire to place item "H" on the Regular Agenda.
- I. **Resolution No. 2019-12, Building Design Standards:** County Manager Jim Carter stated that ACCG is requesting the Board pass a resolution supporting locally established building design standards for residential dwellings. The Board indicated its desire to place item "I" on the Consent Agenda.

**WORKSHOP SESSION
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2019**

- J. **Master Plan Study for Tift County Courthouse Annex:** County Manager Jim Carter stated that the last SPLOST referendum included an addition to the courthouse. As we move forward in that process, we have to look at the viability of not only how we expand the courtroom facility and add that space but available parking via a space study. This study will include the Midstep Building, County Courthouse, County Administration Building, County Elections Building, County Solicitor's Office, Juvenile Court and Code Enforcement Building. The Board indicated its desire to place item "J" on the Consent Agenda.
- K. **Alcohol Beverage License Renewals for 2020:** County Clerk Miriam Jordan presented the Board with a list of applicants who have applied for their alcohol beverage license renewal. The Sheriff has performed the required criminal history on each applicant. The Board indicated its desire to place item "K" on the Consent Agenda.
- L. **Appointment of County Attorney:** The Board indicated its desire to place item "L" on the Consent Agenda.
- M. **Appointment of County Clerk:** The Board indicated its desire to place item "M" on the Consent Agenda.

COUNTY MANAGER'S COMMENTS:

County Manager Jim Carter stated that the Annual Employee Christmas Luncheon will be held on Thursday, December 5, 2019 from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm at the Tift County Recreation Department.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S COMMENTS:

There were no comments to report.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS:

Commissioner Melissa Hughes announced the coat drive going on. She asked for the donation of gently used and new children's coats. Commissioner Hughes also stated that the Gnat Drop will be held on December 31, 2019 at 7 pm.

Commissioner Greg Wood asked that staff contact Georgia Power to get an updated pricing for street lights at Sleepy Hollow.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There was none to report.

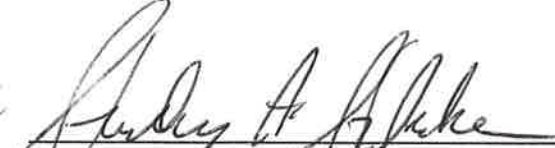
ADJOURN:

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

**WORKSHOP SESSION
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2019**



Chairman Grady Thompson, District 7



Commissioner Stan Stalnaker, District 4

Absent

Commissioner Donnie Hester, District 1



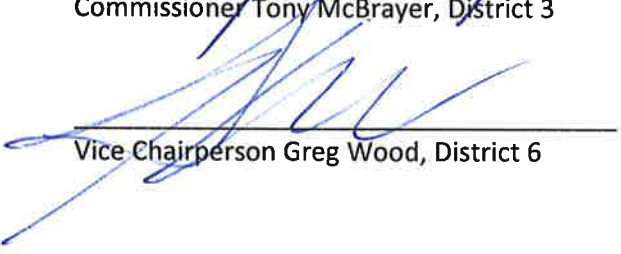
Commissioner Melissa Hughes, District 2



Commissioner Tony McBrayer, District 3

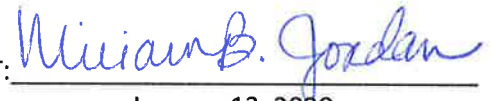


Commissioner Fred "Buck" Rigdon, District 5



Vice Chairperson Greg Wood, District 6

ATTEST:



January 13, 2020