

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
WORK SESSION
Monday, April 11, 2016

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Chairman Bill Slaughter
Vice Chairman Clay Griner
Commissioner Joyce E. Evans
Commissioner Scott Orenstein
Commissioner Mark Wisenbaker

Commissioner Demarcus Marshall was not present.

Chairman Slaughter called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

MINUTES

The minutes were presented for the work session of March 21, 2016, and the regular session of March 22, 2016. No changes to the minutes were requested.

APPOINTMENTS

Valdosta Lowndes Metropolitan Planning Organization Board (VLMPO), County Manager, Joe Pritchard, presented the appointment. Mr. Pritchard stated Mr. Robert Wilbers had expressed a desire to fill the remaining vacancy.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

REZ-2016-07 The Meadows, Bemiss Rd, R-A to P-D, County Water and Sewer, ~7 acres, County Planner, Jason Davenport, presented the item. Mr. Davenport stated the developer hoped to build eighty multi-family apartment units. Mr. Davenport further stated both the TRC and Planning Commission recommended approval of the request.

REZ-2016-08 Coventry, Mulligan Rd, R-A to P-D, County Water and Sewer, ~9 acres, County Planner, Jason Davenport, presented the item. Mr. Davenport stated the request represented thirty-six residential units. Mr. Davenport further stated staff looked at one concern related to setbacks due to comments from the fire department, adding the Planning Commission voted to table the request. Chairman Slaughter asked if the concerns related to fire safety had been addressed, to which Mr. Davenport replied yes.

REZ-2016-09 Jack Schroephfer, New Statenville Hwy, CON to E-A, Well and Septic, ~2 acres, County Planner, Jason Davenport, presented the item. Mr. Davenport stated the property owner would like to rezone approximately two acres out of conservation to

build a home. Mr. Davenport stated the area being considered is outside of the flood plain and any wetland area.

FOR CONSIDERATION

Quit Claim Deed for Drainage Easement on Guest Road, County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, presented the deed. Mr. Fletcher stated the county had been asked to release the easement since the property is now in the city and in the process of being developed.

Professional Surveying and Engineering Services for Improvements to Old US 41N Phase II, County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, presented a proposal from Lovell Engineering, in the amount of \$135,000.00. Mr. Fletcher stated the project would address engineering services for Phase II of the widening of Old US 41 North, from Dasher Grove Road to North Valdosta Road. Mr. Fletcher further stated the county had received \$750,000.00, from the Georgia Department of Transportation to assist with the improvement.

Lowndes County Judicial Complex X-Ray Machine Emergency Repairs & Annual Maintenance Agreement, Project Manager, Chad McLeod, presented the item in the amount of \$16,515.76. Mr. McLeod stated the county's system needed immediate repairs in order to maintain security standards at the Judicial Complex. Mr. McLeod further stated Point Security had been called since the company had performed maintenance on the system in the past, adding the current repair also included an annual maintenance agreement.

Southern Region Traffic Enforcement Network (SRTEN), Chairman Slaughter stated no additional discussion was needed on the item due to the absence of a representative to present the item.

Agreement for Information Technology Products and Services- Clerk of Court, County Manager, Joe Pritchard, presented an agreement between the county and ACS Enterprise Solutions, in the amount of \$14,840.00. ITS Director, Aaron Kostyu, stated the software will assist the Clerk of Court with managing land records in an automated format that may be accessed online.

Declaration of Surplus Equipment and Authorization of Sale, Finance Director, Stephanie Black, presented a list of solid waste vehicles and equipment, valued at \$100,000.00. Ms. Black stated the City of Bainbridge had agreed to purchase the items once they were declared surplus.

Declaration of Vehicles as Surplus and Authorization of Sale, Finance Director, Stephanie Black, presented a list of vehicles to be declared surplus. Ms. Black stated the vehicles are no longer needed and would be placed on govdeals.com for disposal.

BIDS

Bid for Surveying Equipment, Finance Director, Stephanie Black, presented the bid in the amount of \$25,988.00, from Georgia Surveyors Exchange Company, for surveying equipment to be used by the Public Works Department.

Bid for Right of Way Mowing, Finance Director, Stephanie Black, presented the item with Kilgore Land Management submitting the low bid, in the amount of \$115,116.00, to address mowing 181 miles of county right of way.

Bid for Interstate Exit Mowing, Finance Director, Stephanie Black, presented the item with Southern Lawn and Landscape submitting the low bid, in the amount of \$15,100.00. Ms. Black stated the project would address the mowing of exits on I-75 in unincorporated Lowndes County. Commissioner Orenstein asked if the county had used the low bidder before, to which Public Works Director, Robin Cumbus, replied no.

REPORTS

County Manager, Joe Pritchard, informed the Commission that Carter Way, a private road, had collapsed during recent rains. Mr. Pritchard stated staff had inspected the damage and that with the Commission's approval would seek an easement to allow the county to make the repair. Chairman Slaughter stated the county typically cannot provide relief related to private road maintenance; however, Carter Way cannot be accessed due to the damage and residents, to include a special needs child, are having to walk around the washout to get to their vehicles. Commissioner Orenstein asked if the easement would allow for a one-time repair, after which the road would return to the property owner, to which Mr. Pritchard replied yes. Chairman Slaughter stated that if there was no objection from the Commission, the agenda would be amended to address the item at the regular meeting.

Vice Chairman Griner made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Orenstein second. Chairman Slaughter adjourned the work session at 8:52 a.m.

Bill Slaughter, Chairman

K. Paige Dukes, County Clerk

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
REGULAR SESSION
Tuesday, April 12, 2016

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Chairman Bill Slaughter
Vice Chairman Clay Griner
Commissioner Joyce E. Evans
Commissioner Scott Orenstein
Commissioner Mark Wisenbaker
Commissioner Demarcus Marshall

Chairman Slaughter called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Chairman Slaughter recognized members of Leadership Lowndes' Youth Leadership League and thanked them for their commitment to the program.

MINUTES

The minutes were presented for the work session of March 21, 2016, and the regular session of March 22, 2016. Commissioner Evans made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Commissioner Orenstein second. All voted in favor, on one opposed. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS

Valdosta Lowndes Metropolitan Planning Organization Board (VLMPO), County Manager, Joe Pritchard, presented the appointment, stating Mr. Robert Wilbers had expressed a desire to fill the remaining seat. Chairman Slaughter asked if there were any other nominations other than Mr. Wilbers. There being none, Mr. Robert Wilbers was appointed by acclamation.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

REZ-2016-07 The Meadows, Bemiss Rd, R-A to P-D, County Water and Sewer, ~7 acres, County Planner, Jason Davenport, presented the item. Mr. Davenport stated that if approved, the development would provide multi-family housing units through low income, housing tax credits. No one spoke against the request. Ms. Ruthie Lee Cameron, 3939 Guest Road, spoke in favor of the request, as the land owner. Mr. Houston Brown, 2212 Bridlewood, spoke in favor of the request as the developer, adding he was available to answer any questions. Commissioner Marshall made a motion to approve the request, Commissioner Orenstein second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

REZ-2016-08 Coventry, Mulligan Rd, R-A to P-D, County Water and Sewer, ~9 acres, County Planner, Jason Davenport, presented the item. Mr. Davenport stated the applicant desires to move forward, despite the Planning Commission's tabling of the request. Commissioner Marshall questioned the proposed condition related to fire protection. Mr. Davenport stated it relates to distance between the houses and fencing. Commissioner Orenstein questioned the approval of a variance related to the development. Mr. Davenport stated it had been approved. Commissioner Wisenbaker asked if the request was unusual in any other ways, to which Mr. Davenport replied no. No one spoke against the request. Mr. Billy Nijem, 209 East Charlton Avenue, spoke in favor of the request on behalf of the applicant. Mr. Nijem stated the development will be similar to other housing in the area and will be managed by a homeowner's association. Commissioner Orenstein asked if the covenants would be similar to Glen Laurel, to which Mr. Nijem replied very similar. Vice Chairman Griner made a motion to approve the request with the condition that when the dwellings are within twenty (20) feet of each other fences are not allowed to be constructed in the side yards between them. When the dwellings are within twenty (20) feet of each other fences may begin at the rear corner of the house and extend into the rear yard, Commissioner Orenstein second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

REZ-2016-09 Jack Schroephfer, New Statenville Hwy, CON to E-A, Well and Septic, ~2 acres, County Planner, Jason Davenport, presented the request. Mr. Davenport stated the applicant hoped to rezone approximately two acres out of conservation for the purpose of building a house. No one spoke against the request. Jack Prine, 1725 Poplar Street, spoke in favor of the request as the applicant. Commissioner Marshall made a motion to approve the request, Commissioner Evans second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

FOR CONSIDERATION

Quit Claim Deed for Drainage Easement on Guest Road, County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, presented the deed. Mr. Fletcher stated the property was now in the City of Valdosta and in the process of being developed, adding the right of way was of no use to the county. Vice Chairman Griner made a motion to approve the deed, Commissioner Wisenbaker second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Professional Surveying and Engineering Services for Improvements to Old US 41N Phase II, County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, presented the proposal from Lovell, in the amount of \$135,000.00. Mr. Fletcher stated the project would address engineering services needed for Phase II of the widening of Old US 41 North, adding the county had received \$750,000.00, in assistance from the Georgia Department of Transportation to complete the project. Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to accept the proposal as presented, Commissioner Wisenbaker second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Lowndes County Judicial Complex X-Ray Machine Emergency Repairs & Annual Maintenance Agreement, County Manager, Joe Pritchard, presented the repair and

maintenance agreement in the amount of \$16,515.76. Commissioner Marshall made a motion to approve the repair and agreement as presented, Vice Chairman Griner second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Southern Region Traffic Enforcement Network (SRTEN), Chairman Slaughter stated the Sheriff's Office made a request to have the item removed from the agenda. No additional discussion took place.

Agreement for Information Technology Products and Services- Clerk of Court, County Manager, Joe Pritchard, presented the agreement in the amount of 14,840.00, between Lowndes County and ACS Enterprise Solutions. Commissioner Wisenbaker made a motion to approve the purchase, Commissioner Orenstein second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Declaration of Surplus Equipment and Authorization of Sale, Finance Director, Stephanie Black, presented a list of surplus equipment from the county's former solid waste management service, valued at \$100,000.00. Ms. Black stated that if declared, the City of Bainbridge had agreed to purchase the equipment as valued. Commissioner Marshall made a motion to declare the items surplus, Commissioner Evans second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Declaration of Vehicles as Surplus and Authorization of Sale, Finance Director, Stephanie Black, presented a list of vehicles to be declared surplus, stating they were of no use to the county. Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to declare the vehicles surplus, Vice Chairman Griner second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Carter Way Culverts, County Manager, Joe Pritchard, presented an agreement between Lowndes County and Cowart and Sons Development Co., to install culverts on Carter Way to repair a significant washout created by recent rains. Mr. Pritchard stated Rountree Construction had also submitted a proposal to make the repair, in the amount of \$67,822.00. Commissioner Marshall made a motion indicating the repair will substantially benefit the County and the public, approve the letter agreement with Cowart and Sons Development Co., and accept Rountree Construction's proposal in the amount of \$67,822.00, Commissioner Wisenbaker second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

BIDS

Bid for Surveying Equipment, Finance Director, Stephanie Black, presented the item with Georgia Surveyors Exchange Company, submitting the low bid in the amount of \$25,988.00. Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to approve the bid as presented, Vice Chairman Griner second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Bid for Right of Way Mowing, Finance Director, Stephanie Black, presented the item with Kilgore Land Management submitting the low bid, in the amount of \$115,116.00. Commissioner Wisenbaker made a motion to approve the bid as presented, Commissioner Marshall second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Bid for Interstate Exit Mowing, Finance Director, Stephanie Black, presented the item with Southern Lawn and Landscape submitting the low bid, in the amount of \$15,100.00. Commissioner Marshall made a motion to approve the bid as presented, Commissioner Evans second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

REPORTS – no additional information was reported.

CITIZENS WISHING TO BE HEARD

Judy Havercamp, 3822 Island Creek Road, thanked the Commission for their work on the new Animal Services Ordinance.

John Quarterman, 6565 Quarterman Road, addressed the Commission regarding a recent sewer pipe break and information related to the Sabal Trail pipeline project.

Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Vice Chairman Griner second. Chairman Slaughter adjourned the regular session at 6:06 p.m.

Bill Slaughter, Chairman

K. Paige Dukes, County Clerk