

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES  
WORK SESSION,  
Monday, August 10, 2020

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT**

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

**MINUTES**

The minutes were presented for the work session of July 27, 2020 and the regular session of July 28, 2020. No changes to the minutes were requested.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**REZ-2020-07 The Scruggs Company, 4621 Old US 41 N. R-1 To M-1, Well and Septic, 5.9 Acres**

Planning and Zoning Director, J.D. Dillard, presented the item, to rezone portions of the subject properties from Low Density Residential (R-1) to Light Manufacturing (M-1). The general motivation in this case is primarily to include the previously conveyed easement portion of map & parcel 0053 106. Mr. Dillard stated staff finds the request inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan, but staff believes the continued operation of the Scruggs Company at this location and its impact on future growth in the area satisfy goal five of the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Dillard further stated the Planning Commission recommended approval of the request and the TRC had no objectionable comments. Chairman Slaughter asked if the existing residential house located on the property would remain, Mr. Dillard responded yes. Commissioner Wisenbaker asked if the Scruggs Company owned the house, Mr. Dillard responded yes.

**REZ-2020-08 Copeland Property Tucker Road and Johnson Road South E-A To R-A, County Water and Septic, ~6.07 Acres**

Planning and Zoning Director, J.D. Dillard, presented the item, to rezone in order to subdivide approximately 6.07 acres and deed a portion to a family member. Mr. Dillard stated the Planning Commission recommended approval of the request and the TRC had no objectionable comments. Commissioner Wisenbaker asked if this property backed up to Packaging Corporation of America (PCA), Mr. Dillard responded yes.

**REZ-2020-09 Richard Hill, Old Clayville Rd. E-A To R-A, Well and Septic, ~24.46 Acres**

Planning and Zoning Director, J.D. Dillard, presented the item, to subdivide the property into seven lots for single-family dwellings, varying in size from 2.75 acres to 4.5 acres, with road frontage. Mr. Dillard further stated the Planning Commission recommended approval of the request and the TRC had no objectionable comments.

**TWR-2020-01 Verizon Wireless, Old State Road 0258-003, E-A, New ~165' Monopole**

Planning and Zoning Director, J.D. Dillard, stated this sight has been selected to install a new 165 ft. monopole, non-lighted tower, which will fill a gap in the existing coverage area north of Naylor and south of Lakeland. This monopole will help with 911 calls and additional carriers may use it to fill gaps in their service. Mr. Dillard stated the Planning Commission recommended approval of the request and the TRC had no objectionable comments.

**FOR CONSIDERATION**

**Adoption of Millage Rate**

Finance Director, Stephanie Black, presented the item. Ms. Black stated the millage rate is scheduled to be set at 10.851 mills with the County receiving 8.601 mills, the Industrial Authority receiving 1.00 mill and the Parks and Recreation Authority receiving 1.25 mills. Ms. Black stated this represents a reduction of 0.087 mills. The required public hearing is scheduled for 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 11, 2020. Commissioner Wisenbaker asked if the commission had to roll back, to which Ms. Black responded that a change would require that the commission re-advertise and hold three public hearings, delaying the setting of the millage, which would include three public hearings. Chairman Slaughter stated a decision would need to be made by tomorrow's meeting.

**BID**

**Ridgecrest, Woodland and Glenview Paving & Drainage Project**

County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, stated bids were solicited for Ridgecrest Street, Woodland Drive and Glenview Drive grading, drainage, base and paving. Ridgecrest Street and Woodland Drive will consist of grading, drainage, base and paving and the installation of a box culvert under Glenview Drive. Mr. Fletcher stated three bids were received with Reames and Son Construction submitting the low bid, in the amount of \$899,744.40.

**REPORTS - County Manager**

County Manager, Paige Dukes, reminded the commission of the Millage Public Hearing tomorrow, August 11th at 5:00 p.m. in the commission chambers.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Vice Chairman Marshall second. Chairman Slaughter adjourned the work session at 8:40 a.m.

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES  
REGULAR SESSION  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2020

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT**

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

**INVOCATION**

Commissioner Griner

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

Commissioner Griner

City of Valdosta Mayor, Scott James, was in attendance and recognized by Chairman Slaughter.

**MINUTES**

The minutes were presented for the work session of July 27, 2020 and the regular session of July 28, 2020. Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Commissioners Evans and Griner second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**REZ-2020-07 The Scruggs Company, 4621 Old US 41 N. R-1 To M-1, Well and Septic, 5.9 Acres**

Planning and Zoning Director, J.D. Dillard, presented the item, to rezone portions of the subject properties from Low Density Residential (R-1) to Light Manufacturing (M-1). The general motivation in this case is primarily to include the previously conveyed easement portion of map & parcel 0053 106. Mr. Dillard stated staff finds the request inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan, but staff believes the continued operation of the Scruggs Company at this location and its impact on future growth in the area satisfy goal five of the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Dillard further stated the Planning Commission recommended approval of the request and the TRC had no objectionable comments.

No one spoke for or against the request. Vice Chairman Marshall made a motion to approve the request as presented, Commissioners Orenstein and Griner second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

**REZ-2020-08 Copeland Property Tucker Road and Johnson Road South E-A To R-A, County Water and Septic, ~6.07 Acres**

Planning and Zoning Director, J.D. Dillard, presented the item, to rezone in order to subdivide approximately 6.07 acres and deed a portion to a family member. Mr. Dillard stated the Planning Commission recommended approval of the request and the TRC had no objectionable comments. No one spoke for or against the request. Commissioner Griner made a motion to approve the request as presented, Commissioner Orenstein second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

**REZ-2020-09 Richard Hill, Old Clyattville Rd. E-A To R-A, Well and Septic, ~24.46 Acres**

Planning and Zoning Director, J.D. Dillard, presented the item, to subdivide the property into seven lots for single-family dwellings, varying in size from 2.75 acres to 4.5 acres, with road frontage. Mr. Dillard further stated the Planning Commission recommended approval of the request and the TRC had no objectionable comments. No one spoke for or against the request. Commissioner Wisenbaker made a motion to approve the request as presented, Vice Chairman Marshall second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

**TWR-2020-01 Verizon Wireless, Old State Road 0258-003, E-A, New ~165' Monopole**

Planning and Zoning Director, J.D. Dillard, stated this sight has been selected to install a new 165 ft. monopole, with no additional clearances, which will fill a gap in the existing coverage area north of Naylor and south of Lakeland. This monopole will help with 911 calls and additional carriers may use it to fill gaps in their service. Mr. Dillard stated the Planning Commission recommended approval of the request and the TRC had no objectionable comments. No one spoke for or against the request. Vice Chairman Marshall made a motion to approve the request as presented, Commissioners Evans and Orenstein second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

**FOR CONSIDERATION**

**Adoption of Millage Rate**

Finance Director, Stephanie Black, presented the item. Ms. Black stated the millage rate is scheduled to be set at 10.851 mills with the County receiving 8.601 mills, the Industrial Authority receiving 1.00 mill and the Parks and Recreation Authority receiving 1.25 mills. Ms. Black stated this represents a reduction of 0.087 mills. Commissioner Griner made a motion to approve the millage rates as presented, Vice Chairman Marshall and Commissioner Orenstein second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

## **BID**

### **Ridgecrest, Woodland and Glenview Paving & Drainage Project**

County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, stated bids were solicited for Ridgecrest Street, Woodland Drive and Glenview Drive grading, drainage, base and paving. Ridgecrest and Woodland will consist of grading, drainage, base and paving and the installation of a box culvert under Glenview Drive. Mr. Fletcher stated three bids were received with Reames and Son Construction submitting the low bid, in the amount of \$899,744.40. Vice Chairman Marshall asked what is the timeline of this project, Mr. Fletcher responded 270 days, with the start date being the first of September. Commissioner Wisenbaker made a motion to approve the request, Commissioners Orenstein and Griner second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

## **REPORTS - County Manager**

County Manager, Paige Dukes, thanked Stephanie Black, Finance Director, and her staff regarding the efficient job with the millage presentation. Mrs. Dukes stated this upcoming Friday, the Lowndes County Public Works and Engineering Department have a meeting regarding litter control, storm water permits and recycling scheduled with the City of Valdosta as to how we can collaborate together with these issues.

Mrs. Dukes also stated there is a River Clean Up scheduled for October 10<sup>th</sup> with WWALS also included in this effort.

Additionally, Mrs. Dukes stated Commissioner Evans and Vice Chairman Marshall have asked about a youth council in Lowndes County and possibly to partner with the City of Valdosta to serve more children. One or two commissioners need to be on this board.

Commissioner Evans met with Judge Council regarding the CASA program and Judge Council has secured funding for an evening program for youth. The Valdosta Evening Reporting Center Ribbon Cutting will be held Thursday, August 13<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. The location is 118 West Hill Avenue.

Furthermore, Mrs. Dukes stated that the Lowndes County Fire Rescue Department has inspected county schools (public and private).

## **CITIZENS WISHING TO BE HEARD - None**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Wisenbaker second. Chairman Slaughter adjourned the regular session at 5:47 p.m.