



Talbot County Board of Commissioners
35 West Madison Street, P.O. Box 155
Talbotton, Georgia 31827

September 12, 2022

The Talbot County Board of Commissioners held a Public Hearing on Monday, September 12, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., at the Talbot County Board of Commissioners Office, located at 35 West Madison Street, Talbotton, GA.

Chair Sher'Londa Walker, Vice Chair, Franklin Holmes, Commissioner Ken Chapman, and Commissioner Larry Sparks were in attendance. Also attending were Edward Davis, County Attorney, Carol Ison, County Manager, Ronnie Hendricks, Assistant County Manager, and Jona Gibson, County Clerk.

Chair Walker called the Public Hearing to order at 6:00 p.m. and informed everyone that the purpose for the hearing was to discuss the proposed rezoning of 255 acres to expand the area of mining for the Junction City Mining Company.

Mr. Gary Byrd, Esq., representing Highpoint Resources, LLC and Heathland Enterprises, LLC, property owners of the land leased by Junction City Mining Company, gave a presentation showing the requested rezoning of the 255 acres. After a brief discussion, Chair Walker asked if anyone was present in support or opposition of the rezoning request. No one was present. At this time, Chair Walker closed the Public Hearing at 6:20 p.m.

Chair Walker then called the regularly scheduled meeting to order and led everyone in a moment of silence and the recitation of the "Pledge of Allegiance."

Commissioner Chapman made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Vice Chair Franklin Holmes seconded the motion. The vote passed 4-0-0.

Vice Chair Holmes made a motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting and Executive session held on August 1, 2022, the minutes from the two Public Hearings on August 15, 2022, and minutes from the Public Hearing and Called Meeting on August 22, 2022. Commissioner Chapman seconded the motion. The vote passed 4-0-0.

Vice Chair Holmes made a motion to accept the zoning request to extend the adjacent zoning district for Junction City Mining Company. Commissioner Chapman seconded. The vote passed

3-1-0 with Commissioner Sparks recusing himself due to employment with another mining company in the area.

Vice Chair Holmes made a motion to approve a 3-month extension for the Water Department Budget for FY2022. The extension is necessary due to the new Fiscal Year FY2023 beginning October 1, 2022. The budget amount for the 3-month extension is \$367,543.08. Commissioner Sparks second the motion for the extension. The vote passed 4-0-0.

Carol Ison, County Manager informed the Board that she and Assistant County Manager, Ronnie Hendricks, have been working on our new permitting system, GEOPermits, and have had issues with permitting fees as they are now structured. She would like to request the Permit Fee Schedule be tabled until adjustments to the software can be made.

County Manager, Carol Ison, informed the Board that the Lease Agreement is up on the 2017 12M3 Motor Grader Caterpillar N9F00737. The options are to renew the lease at an interest rate of 6.38% or payoff the loan at a cost of \$148,587.00. After a brief discussion of the pros and cons of renewing the lease or purchasing out right, it was decided that the best option was to purchase the motor grader including a 5-year extended warranty. Vice Chair Holmes made a motion to purchase the equipment with extended warranty. Chair Walker seconded. The vote passed 4-0-0.

Marcus Thomas, (ME Thomas Water Treatment Services) submitted a proposal for contracted services with the Water Department. Contract prices were listed at \$2000.00 per month or \$20,000 yearly. Also, included in the proposal was an hourly rate of \$35.00 per hour for after business hours and holidays. After discussion, it was decided that the Board of Commissioners would contract with Mr. Thomas on a needed basis at the monthly quoted price. Commissioner Sparks made a motion to accept monthly contract as needed. Chair Walker seconded. The vote passed 4-0-0.

A Resolution authorizing the filing of the FY24 Grant Application for Section 5311 Program for Rural Transit was presented to the Board to renew the Transit Grant. Vice Chair Holmes made a motion to approve the Resolution. Commissioner Sparks seconded. The vote passed 4-0-0.

A property sale request from Winston Jackson to purchase four lots in Oak Mountain Estates, owned by Talbot County, was presented to the Commissioners. This request was tabled until information could be obtained on other dormant properties that could also be placed out for bids.

Road Superintendent, Peter Nolan, came before the Board requesting an update on whether the county would continue to sale soil to residents. This was tabled until more information could be obtained. Attorney Davis will research and send information regarding this issue to the Commissioners and Road Superintendent Nolan so that a decision can be made.

Road Superintendent Nolan also submitted a request to purchase a pickup truck for the Road Department. The last truck purchased is being used by Jay Flynn who is a floating employee between the Road Department and Maintenance Department. Superintendent Nolan is requesting that a used 4-wheel drive vehicle be purchased due to the conditions of some dirt roads in the county when it rains. There is limited availability on both new and used vehicles and it was requested that Mr. Nolan be given a set amount to make a purchase when a vehicle is located because they sale quickly. The Commissioners set the limit for purchase not to exceed \$35,000.00. Also, needed after the purchase of the truck is a ¾ ton trailer. Vice Chair Holmes made a motion to allow Road Superintendent Nolan to purchase a truck not exceeding \$35,000.00. Commissioner Chapman seconded. The vote passed 4-0-0.

Road conditions that have been on a list in need of repair were discussed. Several roads that had not been previously discussed were added to the list. The Commissioners instructed the Road Superintendent to have the Talbot County Road Engineer, Rick Saunders, put together formal bid packets for roads costing over \$20,000.00 per road for repair. After preparation of packets, it was noted that request for bids must be advertised for a period of 30 days. Vice Chair Holmes made a motion for the Engineer to prepare formal bid packets. Commissioner Chapman seconded. The vote passed 4-0-0.

Assistant County Manager, Ronnie Hendricks, requested that the decision on the courthouse air conditioning system be tabled.

Assistant County Manager, Ronnie Hendricks, informed the Board that the Tax Assessors will be moving to their new location the last week in September

There were no updates from County Attorney Davis. County Manager Ison informed Board members that the mowing contract will expire December 31, 2022. Mrs. Ison also informed the Board of the Public Hearing on September 14, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. regarding adoption of the FY23 Budget and a called meeting on September 22, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. to adopt the FY23 Budget. Also, the Commissioners need to be prepared to attend the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Community Building in Talbotton, GA. The ceremony will take place directly after the Public Hearing on Wednesday, September 14, 2022.

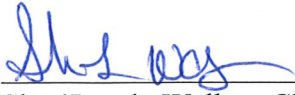
Vice Chair Holmes made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:15 p.m. Commissioner Sparks seconded. The vote passed 4-0-0.

Personnel matters were discussed in Executive Session. No decisions were made.

Chair Walker called the meeting back to order at 8:02 p.m.

There being no further business, Vice Chair Holmes made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Sparks seconded. The vote passed 4-0-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m..



Sheri Londa Walker, Chairman



Carol Ison, County Manager



Date