

September 12, 2023

The Walton County Board of Commissioners held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Historic Walton County Courthouse. Those participating in the meeting included Chairman David Thompson, Commissioners Bo Warren, Mark Banks, Timmy Shelnett, Lee Bradford, Jeremy Adams and Kirklyn Dixon, County Clerk Rhonda Hawk, Planning Director Charna Parker, Finance Director Milton Cronheim, County Manager John Ward and County Attorney Chip Ferguson. A list of employees and citizens in attendance at the meeting is on file in the auxiliary file under this meeting date.

MEETING OPENING

Chairman Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Shelnett gave the invocation.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

***Motion:** Commissioner Warren made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Banks to adopt the Agenda. All voted in favor.*

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

Planning Director Charna Parker presented the Planning Commission recommendations.

Approval with conditions LU23060022 and Z23060021 - Land Use Change from Village Center to Highway Corridor and Rezone 2.79 acres from B2 to B3 for major auto repair and Variance to allow facility to be adjacent to a residential district - Applicant: Mitchell Construction Inc. Owner: Robert & Katherine Von Itter - Property located at 3837 Malachi Way & Hwy. 81 & Youth Jersey Rd. - Map/Parcel N051D002 - District 3

Chairman Thompson opened the public hearing on the matter. Attorney Andrea Gray spoke in favor on behalf of Mitchell Construction. She stated that the site plan had changed because they were unable to get approval from DOT for an entrance from Hwy. 81. The entrance has been relocated on the site plan to Youth Jersey Road and the applicant is willing to abide by all other conditions from the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission conditions were as follows: 1) provide a 50 ft. heavily wooded buffer, a 6 ft. wooden privacy fence and another 50 ft. of grassed area between the fence and paved areas along with a 200 ft. buffer along Malachi Way, 2) the entrance to be off Hwy. 81, 3) all automotive repair work to be conducted inside of the building, 4) all cars being repaired to be inside the building when the business is closed, 5) electric tools to be used instead of air tools to the greatest extent possible and 6) hours of operation to be limited to 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. John Sauers spoke in opposition with concerns of the entrance being next to their subdivision and that the property could be subdivided once the zoning was changed. Chairman Thompson closed the public hearing.

***Motion:** Commissioner Shelnett made a motion to approve as stipulated by the Planning*

Commission but to allow the entrance off of Youth Jersey Road. Commissioner Warren seconded the motion. After some discussion with the County Attorney, Commissioner Shelnuttt amended his motion to include that the rezone be for this use only and that the property may not be subdivided. Commissioner Warren seconded the amended motion. Commissioners Shelnuttt, Warren, Bradford, Adams and Dixon voted in favor with Commissioner Banks opposing the motion. Chairman Thompson abstained. The motion carried.

Approval of LU23060026 and Z23060025 - Land Use Change from Village Center to Highway Corridor and Rezone 0.23 of each driveway on Parcels C0080008 & 9 to B2 to allow access to Parcel C0080008A00 - Applicant: Kingdom Storage GA, LLC - Owner: Linda Linkous - Property located at 5348 & 5358 Hwy. 20 - Map/Parcel C0080008 & 9 - District 2

Chairman Thompson opened the public hearing on the matter. Brian Linkous spoke in favor of the land use change and rezone. There was no one to speak in opposition. Chairman Thompson closed the public hearing.

Motion: *Commissioner Banks made a motion seconded by Commissioner Shelnuttt to approve the land use change and the rezone. All voted in favor.*

ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of August 1, 2023 Meeting Minutes
2. Contracts & Budgeted Purchases of \$25000 or Greater
3. Declaration of Surplus
4. Proposed 2024 Holiday Schedule
5. Acceptance of Grant - ACCG Health Promotion & Wellbeing
6. Keep Walton Beautiful - Application for GEPD Funding - Scrap Tire Amnesty

Motion: *Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve the Administrative Consent Agenda. Commissioner Dixon seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.*

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution - Project Length Budget and FY24 Budget Amendment - Resurfacing Projects - SPLOST

Motion: *Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Adams to adopt the Project Length Budget and FY24 Budget Amendment for Resurfacing/SPLOST. All voted in favor.*

Resolution - FY24 Budget Amendments

Motion: *Commissioner Adams made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Warren, to adopt the FY24 Budget Amendments. All voted in favor.*

ACCEPTANCE OF BIDS/PROPOSALS

Rejection of Bid - Center Hill Church Rd Line Replacement (over budget)

Chairman Thompson recommended that the Board reject the bid due to it being over budget and only receiving one bid.

Motion: *Chairman Thompson made a motion to reject the bid and rebid once we are able to qualify more bidders in January. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion and all voted in favor.*

HUMAN RESOURCES

Reinstatement of Vacation Buy-back

Motion: *Chairman Thompson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Adams to reinstate the vacation buy-back program. All voted in favor.*

APPOINTMENTS

Appointments - Walton County Hospital Authority

Motion: *Chairman Thompson made a motion to re-appoint Angela Yarman and Alan Duval and to appoint Dr. Richard Jacob as a replacement to Dr. Stephen Baynham who no longer resides in Walton County. They will serve 5-year terms expiring on 9/30/28. Commissioner Dixon seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.*

DISCUSSION

County Manager's Report/Update

County Manager John Ward gave an update and report on county matters to the Board. In addition, he recognized Jennifer Wall for being promoted to Assistant Finance Director and Walton County Public Works for winning the Project of the Year Award at the American Public Works Conference.

EMS Ambulance Surplus - Donation Agreement - F.I.S.H

County Manager John Ward recommended approval of the EMS Ambulance Surplus and Donation Agreement with F.I.S.H.

Motion: *Commissioner Warren made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Shelnett. All voted in favor.*

Subdivisions Needing Final Asphalt Topping

County Manager John Ward presented a list of subdivisions and streets that were in need of having a final topping of asphalt and recommended approval to add the final topping. The estimated cost is \$933,786.00.

***Motion:** Chairman Thompson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Adams to approve the recommendation. All voted in favor.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Thompson announced that he had requested Public Works to move the deep patching of Camp Lane Road to the top of the schedule.

ADJOURNMENT

***Motion:** Commissioner Adams made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bradford, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.*

All documents of record for this meeting are on file in either the addendum book or auxiliary file under this meeting date.

DAVID G. THOMPSON, CHAIRMAN

RHONDA HAWK, COUNTY CLERK