

April 2, 2024

The Walton County Board of Commissioners held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 2, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the Historic Walton County Courthouse. Those participating in the meeting included Chairman David Thompson, Commissioners Bo Warren, Timmy Shelnut, Lee Bradford, Jeremy Adams and Kirklyn Dixon, County Clerk Rhonda Hawk, County Manager John Ward, Planning Director Charna Parker, Facilities Director Hank Shirley, Public Works Director John Allman 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 6:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Shelnut gave the invocation.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

***Motion:** Commissioner Adams made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon to adopt the agenda. All voted in favor.*

PROCLAMATIONS

Child Abuse Prevention Month

Chairman Thompson presented Lauren Gregory of “A Child’s Voice Advocacy Center” with a proclamation, proclaiming April 2024 as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

Denial of CU24010022 - Conditional Use for place of worship - Applicant: Princess Arias/Owner: Karla Arias-Property located at 4965 Donald Dr./Map/Parcel C0040002 - District 2

Chairman Thompson opened the public hearing on the matter. Applicant Princess Arias spoke in favor of the conditional use. She stated their purpose was not to disturb the community but to bring the community together. Jose Laya and other members also spoke in favor. Christopher Diaz, Steve Golden, Sherry Richards, Terry Cothran and Walter Keith Massey spoke in opposition. They expressed their concerns over traffic, noise and the church being inside a residential neighborhood. Chairman Thompson closed the public hearing on the matter.

***Motion:** Commissioner Shelnut made a motion to deny the conditional use. He stated that it was a hard decision because he himself is a Christian, but he felt that the church did not belong in a subdivision. Commissioner Warren seconded the motion and all voted in favor.*

Approval With Conditions - CU24010025 - Conditional Use for outside storage and Variance to

reduce transitional buffer from 50' to 10' - Applicant: Mullins and Kellis LLC/Owner: LK EQ LCC - Property located on L & P Pkwy./Map/Parcel C1370032A00 - District 5

Recommended Condition - Reduce Transitional Buffer to 20' as is or 15' and plant trees per direction of Walton Co. Planning & Development.

Chairman Thompson opened the public hearing on the matter. Applicant Wayne Kellis spoke in favor of the conditional use and stated that he would abide by the Planning Commission recommendations. There was no opposition present. Chairman Thompson closed the public hearing on the matter.

Motion: *Commissioner Adams made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon to approve the conditional use per the Planning Commission recommendations. All voted in favor.*

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Planning Director Charna Parker presented the following resolutions:

Capital Improvements Element Annual Update and Transmittal Resolution (Public Hearing)

Chairman Thompson opened the public hearing on the matter. Planning Director Charna Parker presented the Capital Improvements Annual Update and Transmittal Resolution. There was no one present to speak. Chairman Thompson closed the public hearing.

Motion: *Commissioner Adams made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon to approve the annual update and adopt the resolution; voted and carried unanimously.*

Resolution - Consenting to Deannexation of Certain Real Property from the City of Monroe (Hwy. 78)

Motion: *Chairman Thompson made a motion to adopt the resolution. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion and all voted in favor.*

CONTRACTS

Shane Short, Director of the Walton County Development Authority presented renewals of the service contract and lease agreement with the Walton County Development Authority.

Service Contract Renewal - Walton County Development Authority

Motion: *Commissioner Shelnutt made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Warren to approve the service contract effective today, April 2, 2024. All voted in favor.*

Lease Agreement - Walton County Development Authority

Motion: *Commissioner Shelnutt made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Warren to approve the lease agreement in the amount of \$1.00 per year. All voted in favor.*

ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of March 5, 2024 Meeting Minutes
2. Contracts & Budgeted Purchases of \$25000 or Greater
3. Declaration of Surplus Property
4. Ratification of Actions taken by WCWSA on March 21, 2024
5. Agreement - Florida Legal Collections, P.A. - Collection Services - Probate Court
6. Ga. Southern University/Ga. Dept. of Public Health - MOU - Covid Mitigation Grant
7. Agreement - Matrix Engineering Group - Walnut Grove Park Materials Testing and Special Inspections (updated)
8. Ratification of Acquisition - .430 acres identified as tax parcel M0230013 for \$43,000 for the access road to the Public Safety Complex

***Motion:** Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Adams, to approve the Administrative Consent Agenda. All voted in favor.*

ACCEPTANCE OF BIDS/PROPOSALS

Auditing Services

Finance Director Milton Cronheim presented proposals required every 6 years for auditing services.

***Motion:** Commissioner Adams made a motion to accept the proposal from Mauldin and Jenkins. Years one and two to be \$97,000.00 per year, year three to be \$102,000.00, year four to be \$107,000.00, year 5 to be \$112,000 and year 6 to be \$117,000.00. Commissioner Dixon seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.*

2024 Milling and Deep Patching

Public Works Director John Allman presented bids for the milling and deep patching for the 2024 paving season.

***Motion:** Commissioner Dixon made a motion to accept the bid from Pittman Construction in the amount of \$204.15 per ton for a total of \$612,450.00. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion and all voted in favor.*

Surveillance System - Felker Park

Facilities Director Hank Shirley presented proposals for a surveillance system at Felker Park.

***Motion:** Commissioner Shelnut made a motion to accept the proposal from Harcom Data Services in the amount of \$57,196.00. Chairman Thompson 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 and informed the Board that the County would be scheduling a public hearing and partnering with Ga. DOT to produce a solution for the intersection at Youth Monroe at Hwy. 78. He also stated that other issues such as junk vehicles and detention ponds would be addressed in the near future.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Thompson announced a groundbreaking ceremony for The Grove Park on Friday, April 19th at 11:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

***Motion:** Commissioner Adams made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Shelnett, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:42 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