

January 19, 2010
Statesboro, GA

Workshop

The Board of Commissioners reconvened for a Workshop at 10:05 a.m. following the regularly scheduled meeting.

Commissioners present: Chairman Nevil, Commissioner Tankersley, Commissioner Simmons, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Thompson, and Commissioner Gibson.

Staff present: County Manager Thomas Couch, Clerk of the Board Maggie Fitzgerald, Staff Attorney Jeff Akins, Planning and Zoning Development Director Andy Welch, Elections Supervisor Pat Lanier Jones, Transportation Director Eddie Smith, and County Engineer Kirk Tatum.

Chairman Nevil called the Workshop to order and yielded the floor to Elections Supervisor Pat Lanier Jones. Mrs. Jones discussed the need for a second site for early and advanced voting. Mrs. Jones explained that the forty five (45) days of early voting causes parking problems around the courthouse, overly crowded hallways within the courthouse that could create potential security problems, and cramped working conditions for employees. Mrs. Lanier Jones stated that the increase from 21 ballot styles in 2008, to 38 ballot styles in 2010 would also create a need for more space. Mrs. Jones stated that in accordance with OCGA 21-2-382, an additional site has to be in a county government building that is generally accessible to the public, the room must be secure, and the room could not be used for any other purpose for at least fifty (50) days. County Manager Thomas Couch stated that the Agribusiness Center maybe one option for a second site, but that Staff would work on researching some appropriate options for the space.

Next, Chairman Nevil yielded the floor to County Manager Thomas Couch for his presentation regarding the Statesboro-Bulloch County Transportation Plan and Southeast Quadrant Study. Mr. Couch stated that the Long Range Transportation Plan (FY 2035 LRTP) was a joint project between the City of Statesboro and Bulloch County, leveraged by GDOT funding, and prepared by HNTB. Mr. Couch stated that the document is a lengthy detailed analysis of surface and bike-pedestrian transportation issues for the City

and County, and that the Plan's primary recommendations involve menu-like approaches to addressing transportation issues as opposed to providing a scheduled program of implementation. Mr. Couch discussed the LRTP recommendations for the following improvements to roads, bridges, and rail crossings: (1) Southeast Quadrant's emerging congestion; (2) workforce traffic comes from Screven, Jenkins, Candler, and Bryan Counties; (3) illustrates the need to complete the North By-Pass and expand SR 67 and local east to west county routes to relieve congestion; (4) severe need for new bike-pedestrian projects in and around Statesboro; and (5) Master Greenway Plan needs updating. Mr. Couch stated that the Sub-Area Study included in the LRTP was for the Southeast Quadrant and describes problem intersections and where they should be applied in the SEQ and the proposed concepts that link corridor management and development exactions to future land use and expected growth. Mr. Couch also discussed development review considerations and access management in regards to the Sub-Area Study for the SEQ. Mr. Couch described the phases of the Bulloch County Transportation Improvement Plan (FY 2010- FY2015), how potential funds from the State Transportation Infrastructure Bank and the Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant could accelerate paving, resurfacing, and intersection projects. After further discussion, Commissioner Thompson offered a motion to adopt the resolution for the recommendations of the Statesboro-Bulloch County Long Range Transportation Plan and the Sub Study for the Southeast Quadrant Study as a policy guide (see Exhibit #2010-16). Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

For the third presentation, Mr. Couch discussed the Capital Improvements Program (CIP FY 2015), and stated that he corrected a mathematical error in the Public Safety budget. Mr. Couch explained the need to include a new roof for the Bulloch County Correctional Institute as an annual update to the CIP. Mr. Couch stated that the approval would reinforce the application of the projects approved in the General Appropriations Budget for FY 2010, and that out-year proposals would be updated and authorized or adjusted each year during the budget annual process, except where amendments were needed as required by the financial policies. After further discussion, Commissioner Thompson offered a motion to approve a resolution adopting the 2015 Capital Improvement Program as a policy guide (see Exhibit #2010-17). Commissioner

Gibson seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. Mr. Couch also asked the Board to authorize the Chairman to sign a resolution approving the commitment of 3.1 to 3.3 million dollars of future SPLOST funds for the State Infrastructure Bank Loan. Mr. Couch stated that once the final dollar amount has been determined, Chairman Nevil could sign the resolution. Commissioner Rushing offered a motion to authorize the Chairman to sign a resolution approving the commitment of 3.1 to 3.3 million dollars of future SPLOST funds for the State Infrastructure Bank Loan (see Exhibit #2010- 18). Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

For the final item of business for the Workshop, Mr. Couch discussed the results of the “Commissioner’s Issues Survey.” Mr. Couch stated that in regards to Workshops, clusters of issues can continue to be discussed after the morning meeting, and that an interim meeting could be held on the second Tuesday of the month if necessary. Mr. Couch stated that the following issues seemed most important to the Board: (1) Buildings and Facilities, (2) Roads, (3) Luetta Moore Park, (4) Economic Development, and (5) FY 2011 Budget.

Chairman Nevil asked if there were any further comments or discussion from the Board or Staff. Hearing none and with no further business for the Workshop, Chairman Nevil called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Gibson offered a motion to adjourn the Workshop. Commissioner Rushing seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

The Board adjourned the Workshop at 11:35 A.M.

J. Garrett Nevil, Chairman

Attest: Maggie Fitzgerald, Clerk of the Board