

April 9, 2014
Statesboro, GA

Workshop

The Board of Commissioners met at Noon in the Community Room of the North Main Annex. Chairman Nevil welcomed guests and called the meeting to order. County Manager Tom Couch gave the invocation and the pledge of allegiance.

The following commissioners were present: Chairman Nevil, Commissioner Ethridge, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Thompson, and Commissioner Gibson (came in at 1:15 P.M.). The following staff were present: County Manager Tom Couch, County Attorney Jeff Akins, Developmental Services Director Andy Welch, Chief Financial Officer Harry Starling, Transportation Director Dink Butler, County Engineer Kirk Tatum, Public Safety Director Ted Wynn, Fire Chief Christopher Ivey, and Chief Accountant Whitney Richland.

After Roll Call, Chairman Nevil asked for amendments or modifications of the General Agenda. Hearing none, Commissioner Ethridge offered a motion to approve the General Agenda as presented. Commissioner Rushing seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons and Commissioner Ethridge voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil stated the first item on the Workshop was for Discussion/Action on the New Annex Building. He called on County Manager Tom Couch to initiate discussion on the matter. Mr. Couch stated they had met with John Lavender, Warren Holland, and Kevin Palmer and called on Mr. John Lavender with Lavender & Associates to give an update concerning the New Annex. Mr. Lavender stated the proposal for the New Annex is based on a 90% amended set of documents that were dated February 19, 2014 prepared by Palmer Architects. He stated the subcontractor and supplier have been received and reviewed and that they are prepared to go forward with a GMP (Guaranteed Maximum Price) Estimated of \$2,469,864.00 based on the plans and qualifications as stated on the memo he passed out (See Exhibit # 2014-054). Mr. Lavender stated he would just need permission from the Board to move forward. County Attorney Jeff Akins stated a contract has been approved they will just have to approve the amendment. County Manager Tom Couch stated if they could get it submitted they could have it approved at next Tuesday, April 15, 2014 meeting. He went over some of the different cost they may come up such as Alarms, Landscape, furniture, etc.

Commissioner Ethridge thanked Mr. Palmer, Mr. Holland and Mr. Lavender for going back and reevaluating the cost. After some discussion on time and finances, Commissioner Thompson offered a motion for Lavender and Associates to precede with the Guaranteed Maximum Price contracts to be approved at the April 15, 2014 meeting. Commissioner Ethridge seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons and Commissioner Ethridge voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil stated the second item on the agenda was for Discussion/Action on the roads in the County. He called on County Manager Tom Couch to initiate discussion on the matter. Mr. Couch went over the memo of a road program review he passed out (See Exhibit # 2014-055) which includes a six-year road improvement plan; a master progress chart of current projects; a list of candidate dirt roads; a resurfacing projects progress report; a six year intersection plan; and a six year striping plan. Chairman Nevil stated there are some roads that are not showing that are in poor condition, He stated Olliff Road has not had a petition filed but it is in poor condition due to it is a heavily traveled road. Mr. Couch suggested that everyone review the material he presented and bring it back at a future meeting for more discussion. Commissioner Ethridge stated she had received an email concerning Jones Mill Road and metal flying up and damaging vehicles. Chairman Nevil stated when the road was resurfaced several of years ago he assumes the metal was not crushed up well and he has received several complaints himself concerning the issue. He also suggested compiling a prioritized list of roads that need to be paved so when citizens ask about their petitions they can give them a more approximate answer.

After a five minute recess, Chairman Nevil stated the third item on the agenda was for Discussion/Action on Public Safety and called on Ted Wynn to initiate discussion on the matter. Mr. Wynn gave a power point presentation (See Exhibit # 2014-056) and reviewed ongoing projects, equipment, and EMS Billing. He stated with the Brooklet EMS/Fire Station it will lower some of that area's ISO ratings. He stated they had opened that station last week and the Deputy Fire Chief was working out of that station so no additional staff had to be hired. Fire Chief Christopher Ivey stated two (2) new fire trucks had been purchased in the amount of \$480,000 and they come with basic ISO equipment. He stated there are some funds left and they are going to look into purchasing some apparatus for the trucks. Chairman Nevil asked what would happen to the fire trucks that these are replacing. Mr. Ivey stated they still meet basic ISO guidelines and they will look at putting them at other stations. Mr.

Wynn stated the they are in the process of getting a program where EKG's can be sent to the hospital or doctors office from the ambulance. He stated if they could get an EMS/Fire substation in Portal this should completion of placing substations in the County. Mr. Wynn stated the EMS billing department has meetings once a month and so the monthly collections have increased significantly. Commissioner Thompson stated without the volunteer firefighters the fire department could be a costly. He encouraged everyone when they meet or see a volunteer to thank them. Chairman Nevil thanked Mr. Wynn and Mr. Ivey for the presentation.

Chairman Nevil asked for any general comments or statements from the Commissioners or Staff. Commissioner Rushing gave an update on the Highway 301/I-16 project and stated the concrete was complete and next step would be the pole erected. County Manager tom Couch gave an update on the meeting with the DOT concerning the grant but not sure how much they may get but it should be anywhere from two (2) to three (3) million. Clerk of the Board Christy Strickland reminded the Commissioners and staff the April 15, 2014 meeting will be a Brooklet City Hall with a the EMS/Fire Station immediately following. Hearing no further comments from the Commissioners or Staff, Chairman Nevil asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Gibson offered a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Rushing seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Ethridge, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Thompson and Commissioner Gibson voting in favor of the motion.

J. Garrett Nevil, Chairman

Attest: Christy Strickland, Clerk of the Board