

August 16, 2016
Statesboro GA

Regular Meeting

The Board of Commissioners met at 8:30am in the Community Room of the North Main Annex. Chairman Nevil welcomed guests and called the meeting to order. Commissioner Rushing gave the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Olympia Gaines, Clerk of the Board, performed the roll call of the commissioners and staff. The following commissioners were present: Chairman Nevil, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons, and Commissioner Ethridge. The following staff was present: County Manager Tom Couch, County Attorney Jeff Akins, Assistant County Manager Andy Welch, Chief Financial Officer Whitney Richland, Assistant Chief Financial Officer Kristie King, County Engineer Kirk Tatum, Solid Waste Director Fred White, Transportation Director Dink Butler, Management Analyst Cindy Steinmann, Correctional Institute Nurse Meredith Brown, Warden Chris Hill, Deputy Warden Wayne Smith, Administrative Assistant Janet Driggers, Statesboro-Bulloch Parks and Recreation Director Mike Rollins, Purchasing Manager Faye Bragg, Tax Assessor John Scott and Tax Commissioner James Deal.

Chairman Nevil stated the first item of business was a public hearing for the proposed property tax increase. He called on Mr. Couch to initiate discussion on the matter. Mr. Couch stated as required by the Taxpayer Bill of Rights adopted by the General Assembly in 1999, the County is required to hold a public hearing if the Commissioners choose not to roll back the millage rate to account for any inflationary increase in the value of the tax digest. He reviewed briefly the Board's decision in 2015 to increase the millage rate from 10.44 mills to 12.34 mills. Mr. Couch stated that this year the Board would need to roll back the millage rate from 12.34 mills to 12.286 mills in order to avoid it being deemed a tax increase under the Taxpayer Bill of Rights. Mr. Couch stated in order to meet the on-going challenges for balancing competing and increasing demands for services and to maintain the County's financial position, he is recommending that the current millage rate of 12.34 mills be maintained.

Chairman Nevil called for a motion to open the floor to the public for questions and/or comments regarding the proposed property tax increase. Commissioner Gibson offered a motion to open the floor to the public for questions and/or comments regarding the proposed property

tax increase. Commissioner Ethridge seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons, and Commissioner Ethridge all voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil asked for public comments and/or questions from the audience at large. Hearing none, he called for a motion to close the public hearing regarding the proposed property tax increase. Commissioner Mosley offered a motion to close the public hearing. Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons, and Commissioner Ethridge all voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil asked for changes or modifications to the General Agenda. Mr. Couch requested the General Agenda be modified by adding the following items under New Business: (1) a resolution authorizing reimbursement of original expenditures with proceeds of financing; and (2) a resolution authorizing conveyance of a 0.060-acre right-of-way parcel to the Georgia Department of Transportation. Without further discussion, Commissioner Ethridge offered a motion to approve the General Agenda with the modifications requested by Mr. Couch. Commissioner Mosley seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons, and Commissioner Ethridge all voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil called for public comments from the audience at large or in writing. Hearing none, he stated the next item on the agenda was to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: (1) to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting and Executive Session held on August 2, 2016; (2) to approve a Special Event Permit submitted by Phyllis Thompson on behalf of the Statesboro-Bulloch Chamber of Commerce for October 22, 2016 (See Exhibit #2016-123); (3) to adopt a resolution authorizing Property Schedule No. 4 to Master Tax-Exempt Lease Purchase Agreement with US Bancorp (See Exhibit #2016-124); and (4) to authorize the County Manager to sign a one year contract for inmate medications to be purchased from Southern Pharmacy(See Exhibit #2016-125).

Without further discussion, Commissioner Gibson offered a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Mosley seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing,

Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons, and Commissioner Ethridge all voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil stated the first item under New Business was for discussion and/or action to approve a Construction Manager at Risk for the Ag Arena. Chairman Nevil called on Mr. Couch to initiate discussion on the matter. Mr. Couch stated an interview team was comprised for the Ag Arena to evaluate qualifications for a Construction Manager At-Risk. The interview team received eleven RFQ's which was then shortlisted to five firms based on the evaluation criteria set out in the solicited RFQ.

Mr. Couch stated that based on evaluation outcomes, the team is recommending Pope Construction. He stated that Pope's project management plan provides the best opportunity to negotiate the lowest guaranteed maximum price that would likely offset the difference in the CMAR fees. Without further discussion, Commissioner Ethridge offered a motion to approve Pope Construction as the Construction Manager At-Risk for the Agriculture Center (See Exhibit #2016-126). Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons, and Commissioner Ethridge all voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil stated the second item under New Business was for discussion and/or action to adopt a resolution authorizing reimbursement of Original Expenditures with proceeds of financing. He called on Mr. Couch to initiate discussion on the matter. Mr. Couch stated the attached resolution authorizes reimbursement of previous expenditures with the proceeds of the financing of Property Schedule No. 4 to the Master Tax-Exempt Lease Purchase Agreement with U.S. Bancorp. The resolution is necessary to comply with Treasury Regulation 1.150-2 to preserve the tax-exempt status of the financing transaction. Without further discussion, Commissioner Mosley offered a motion to adopt the resolution as presented (See Exhibit #2016-127). Commissioner Gibson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons, and Commissioner Ethridge all voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil stated the third item under New Business was for discussion and/or action to adopt a resolution authorizing conveyance of 0.060-acre right-of-way parcel to the Georgia Department of Transportation. He called on Mr. Couch to initiate discussion on the matter. Mr. Couch stated the Georgia Department of Transportation needs to acquire a 0.060-

acre right-of-way parcel from the County for the Highway 67 widening project. GDOT will pay the County \$11,000 as fair and just compensation for this right-of-way parcel. Without further discussion, Commissioner Simmons offered a motion to adopt the resolution as presented (See Exhibit #2016-128). Commissioner Rushing seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons, and Commissioner Ethridge all voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil stated the next item on the agenda was a presentation by Ms. Cindy Steinmann. Ms. Steinmann reviewed some of the implementations that have been put in place to provide for better communication and consistency among various departments concerning capital projects. She stated that she has also implemented monthly meetings held on the third Thursday of each month at 2pm to provide consistent updates and discuss any prevailing issues with various departments. Ms. Steinmann provided a brief overview of current, ongoing and completed capital projects. Commissioner Thompson asked about the process for the ISO rating for the Pulaski Highway Substation. Mr. Couch stated that he will confer with Chief Ivey and Public Safety Director Ted Wynn for more specifics concerning this process.

Chairman Nevil thanked Ms. Steinmann for her presentation and capital project updates. He called for general comments from the commissioners and staff. The Commissioners thanked the staff for their hard work, thanked Ms. Steinmann for her presentation, and thanked both Mr. Scott and Mr. Deal for their continued efforts and the work they do. Mr. Couch also expressed appreciation for both Mr. Scott and Mr. Deal; he also provided a reminder of the Public Hearing scheduled for 6pm today.

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 Gibson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons, and Commissioner Ethridge all voting in favor of the motion.

J. Garrett Nevil, Chairman

Attest: _____
Olympia Gaines, Clerk