

NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
August 3, 2021
1124 CLARK STREET
COVINGTON, GEORGIA 30014

7:00 P.M.

In attendance, Chairman Banes, Commissioners: Cowan, Henderson, Sanders, Mason, Edwards, County Attorney Megan Martin, County Manager Lloyd Kerr, Deputy Clerk Susan Nolley

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Banes

2. **Invocation:** Commissioner Henderson

3. **Pledge**

4. **Approval of Agenda:** Chairman Banes amended agenda items 9(g), 10(b), 10(c), and called for a motion to approve. Commissioner Mason motioned to approve agenda as amended, seconded by Commissioner Cowan and passed unanimously.

5. **Citizen Comments:** None

6. **Reports from Chairman Banes**

Special recognition to Ms. Keelyn Harper for outstanding citizenship. An award was presented. The Bicentennial #200 Awards Committee was introduced; LaTonja Hamp, Scheree Howard, Beth Edwards and Bethany Lemonds.

7. **Reports from County Manager, Lloyd Kerr**

Presentation on Exemplary Service Awards to Cynthia Wieman and Katelyn Bigley.

8. **Unfinished Business:**

9. **Consent Agenda:** A motion was made by Commissioner Mason, seconded by Commissioner Edwards and was approved unanimously to approve the items on the consent agenda as listed below.

Approval of the Minutes: July 20, 2021.

9(a) **Juvenile Court:** Legal Services Agreement for indigent defense contractor for Newton County Juvenile Court.

Cost: \$41,250.00

Funding Source: Juvenile Court Budget

9(b) **Superior Court:** Resource Court Treatment Provider Contracts with Southeastern Psychological Associates, View Point Health and Advantage Behavioral Health Systems to provide treatment services for Resource Court Participants.

Funding Source: FY 2022 Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) Budget for Alcovy Resource Court

9(c)Newton County Sheriff's Office: Amendment #4 for Barnsley Construction Law Enforcement Expansion. Change Order, 24, 25, 26, 27 at guaranteed max price.

Cost: \$19,572.26 for Change Order - Total contract price-\$3,409,109.26

Funding Source: SPLOST & Capital Fund

9(d)Bagwell Fence: Guardrail Replacement Project. Guardrail replacements at Henderson Mill Road Bridge, Mt. Tabor Road Bridge, Hazelbrand Road Bridge, Crowell Road, and Jack Neely Road.

Cost: \$132,533.00

Funding Source: 2017 SPLOST

9(e)Sunbelt Builders Inc.: Contract for Design Build Services (design phase) for renovations @ Washington Street Community Center and Cousins Center.

Cost: \$39,150.00 WSCC / \$9,600.00 Cousins Center

Funding Source: SPLOST-WSCC/Capital Fund-Cousins Center

9(f)Lose Design: Contract for Design Services related to the expansion of the Yellow River Trail System.

Cost: \$29,500.00

Funding Source: SPLOST

Budgeted: Yes

Match: No

Board Discussion/Consideration

10. Public Works-approval to purchase ROW and easements @ Snapping Shoals Creek Bridge Replacement Project @ Brown Bridge Road.

Cost: \$19,600.00

Funding Source: FHWA & 2017 SPLOST

Commissioner Edwards made motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Henderson and passed unanimously.

10. (b) GIS-Scott Sirotkin presented a PowerPoint with illustrations of the Upper Oconee Watershed Risk Map Project. FEMA is proposing revisions to its Flood Insurance Rate Maps in Newton County.

No action required of the Board.

10. (c) Reinstatement of Mask Order: Resolution #R090120- A Resolution of the Newton County Board of Commissioners Approving a Mandatory Mask Policy for County Facilities in Incorporated Areas.

End date 12-31-2021. Commissioner Sanders made motion to approve reinstatement of Resolution #R090120, seconded by Commissioner Mason. Passed 4-1. Commissioner Edwards opposed.

11. Tax Assessors Office: approval to refund for erroneous Street Light Fees paid by LeeAnn Makowski in the amount of \$172.88 per tax year of 2018, 2019 and 2020.

Commissioner Mason made motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Edwards and passed unanimously.

12. Intergovernmental Agreement between Newton County, Georgia and the City of Covington for maintenance, improvements and operation of Sandy's Dog Park within Chimney Park. County Manager requested for this item to be tabled until September 7, 2021. Chairman called for a motion to table, Commissioner Henderson made the motion to table as requested, Commissioner Edwards seconded. Passed unanimously.

13. Resolution #060121-A Resolution by the Board of Commissioners of Newton County to abandon Public Right of Way in a portion of FFA Camp Road. Commissioner Edwards made a motion to deny, Commissioner Cowan seconded. County Manager, Lloyd Kerr explained the reason for the abandonment, stating the road is currently closed to public access and it will no longer be a public road. Commissioner Henderson made a substitute motion to approve Resolution #060121, seconded by Commissioner Sanders. Passed unanimously.

14. Resolution #R080321- A Resolution in opposition to the imposition of an additional \$1.00 FEE by the Newton County Tax Commissioner for Tax Collection Services performed on behalf of Municipalities in Newton County, Georgia. Commissioner Edwards motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Cowan. Passed 3-2. Opposed Commissioners: Henderson, Sanders.

15. Resolution #R080321A- A Resolution regarding the Newton County Board of Commissioners interaction with County Officers and employees who are subject to the direction and supervision of the County Manager. Commissioner Mason motioned to table until September 7, 2021, seconded by Commissioner Henderson. Passed unanimously.

16. Resolution #R080321B-A Resolution of the Newton County Board of Commissioners authorizing hunting and trapping of coyotes on certain County properties. Commissioner Mason motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Henderson. Passed unanimously.

17. Resolution #R080321C-A Resolution of the Newton County Board of Commissioners Approving FY 2022 Appropriations to Entities Conferring Substantial Benefits to Citizens of Newton County. Commissioner Mason motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Cowan. Passed unanimously.

18. Resolution #R080321D-A Resolution of the Newton County Board of Commissioners to Adopt An Annual Budget for FY 2022. Beginning July 1 2021 Ending June 30, 2022.
9:36 P.M. Chairman called for five (5) minute recess. Resumed 9:42 P.M.
Chairman called for a motion, Commissioner Edwards motioned to approve Resolution #R080321 Resolution to Adopt An Annual Budget for FY 2022 Beginning July 1, 2021 Ending June 30, 2022, seconded by Commissioner Mason. Passed 3-1. Commissioner Sanders opposed. Commissioner Henderson abstained.

19. Alcohol License 1st Reading 1814 Quick Stop LLC, Owner: Narsing Rao

20. Citizen Comments

Olinda Richard-Hodge
Rosie Crawford
Rodney J. Williams
Regail Stovall

21. Board of Commissioners Comments

Commissioner Edwards-thanked Brittany White, Finance Director and County Manager Lloyd Kerr and staff for all their hard work and effort in putting the FY 2022 Budget in place.

Commissioner Mason-commended Brittany White, Finance Director and Lloyd Kerr, County Mgr. on the FY 2022 Budget. Recap on activities and upcoming events @ Denny Dobbs Park, (Splash Pad and Skate Park) and expressed the need for volunteers for the Countywide Cleanup.

Commissioner Sanders-Workout series update, August 14th Body Jump Fitness, and Ladies Retreat August 21st.

Commissioner Henderson-expressed concerns for local evictions and homelessness.

Commissioner Cowan-thanked Lloyd Kerr, County Manager and Brittany White, Finance Director for the FY 2022.

Chairman Banes-Expressed gratitude thanking Lloyd and Brittany for all of their hard work and effort in finalizing the FY 2022 budget. Announced a Book Bag and Laptop giveaway @ 1182 Washington Street, Saturday, August 7th @ 2:00 P.M..

Adjourn
10:08 P.M.

Susan Nolley, Chairman

Marcello Banes, Chairman