

**NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
December 4, 2007**

MINUTES

Present: Chairman Aaron Varner, Commissioners Mort Ewing, Earnest Simmons, Ester Fleming, Jr., J.C. Henderson, and Monty Laster, Administrative Officer John Middleton, Attorney Tommy Craig, and County Clerk Jackie Smith

Newspaper: Covington News – Rachel Osborn
Newton Citizen – Crystal Tatum
Small group of citizens

Chairman Varner called the meeting to order, extended a welcome and read the thought for the day. Chairman Varner gave the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to our great Flag.

APPROVAL OF BOC MINUTES DATED NOVEMBER 20, 2007

Motion: To approve the Minutes dated November 20, 2007 with corrections duly noted and corrected by clerk.

Proposed by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Second by: Commissioner J.C. Henderson, District Four

Motion Carried

RECREATION COMMISSION GRANT APPLICATION

Recreation Director Tommy Hailey addressed the board regarding grant application and noted the following:

- Approached by Representative Doug Holt who offered to try and secure dollars for a bus.
- Recreation is lacking in area of transportation
- Asking for approval to apply for grant

Commissioner Ewing

- Expressed appreciation to Mr. Hailey and Representative Holt for working on this issue.
- Voiced concern about safety of children on bus.
- Proposed bus would be associated with transportation of adults.
- Questioned if another type of bus had been considered for transporting children, and if not, would like to see that explored.

Director Hailey

- Safety is number one concern and said they would look into Commissioner Ewing's concern.

Motion: To approve the grant application as outlined in our agenda packet with the understanding that Mr. Hailey will talk with Representative Doug Holt regarding safety concerns in transporting children in a bus designed for adults.

Proposed by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Second by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Motion Carried

DENNY DOBBS PARK @ OAK HILL

Recreation Director Tommy Hailey addressed the board regarding moving forward with park and noted the following:

- Discussed at earlier work session
- Working on this park for about 7 or 8 years
- Asking to begin Phase I with firm JB+a
- Excited about building a park in the second district.

Motion: To approve moving forward with Phase I of the Denny Dobbs Park @ Oak Hill as presented by Director Tommy Hailey and Architectural Firm JB+a at our earlier work session and outlined on pages 26-32 in our agenda packet.

Proposed by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Second by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Motion Carried

CORNISH CREEK WATER PLANT CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT METHOD

After a brief discussion the board decided to request a meeting to be held between chair of Walton and Newton Counties with engineer and county attorney. After said meeting, come back to this board with a recommendation.

Motion: To table request until a meeting can be held with Chairman Varner, Chairman Little (Walton County), Attorney Tommy Craig and Engineer Jim Mathis, and then bring back to board with a recommendation.

Proposed by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Second by: Commissioner Ester Fleming, Jr., District Three

Motion Carried with Commissioner Simmons voting in opposition to motion.

RFP #08-05 DISTRICT FOUR COMMUNITY CENTER

Purchasing Director Tina Malone made a presentation in an earlier work session. (copy made part of these minutes).

Commissioner Henderson

- Expressed his excitement about project.
- Expressed appreciation to board for their support.
- Expressed appreciation to Special Projects Coordinator Cheryl Delk and Purchasing Director Tina Malone for their hard work on the project.

Motion: To approve RFP08-05 District Four Community Center and award RFP to Design/Build Consortium for a not to exceed cost of \$345,000.00.

Proposed by: Commissioner J.C. Henderson, District Four

Second by: Commissioner Earnest Simmons, District Two

Motion Carried

BID#08-09 ROLL-OFF TRUCK - LANDFILL

Purchasing Director Tina Malone appeared before the board and presented this request for approval.

- Low bidder did not meet required specifications.
- Can take delivery of 2007 Mack CTP713B in 21 days from Nextran Truck
- \$1500 rebate from MACK Trucks that county will apply for
- Funding: Landfill Budget

Commissioner Ewing

- Wanted to make sure this truck will remedy the situation of scattering trash up and down the road.

Mr. Middleton

- Spoke with Landfill Superintendent James Peters who has looked at this truck and feels it is the best on the market at this time.

Motion: To approve Bid#08-09 Roll-Off Truck for the Landfill and award bid to Nextran Truck Center-Atlanta for \$112,500.00; and with the understanding that an application for \$1500.00 rebate will be submitted by county with the final cost being \$111,000.00.

Proposed by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Second by: Commissioner J.C. Henderson, District Four

Motion Carried

TRACK TYPE TRACTOR – LANDFILL

Purchasing Director Tina Malone appeared before the board and presented this request for approval.

- Received two quotes (Yancey Brothers & Metrac)
- Landfill demoed both pieces of equipment
- Yancey Brothers is low bidder @\$115,522.00
- Funding: Landfill Budget

Motion: To approve the purchase of a Caterpillar D5G-00, Track Type Tractor, with extended warranty from Yancey Brothers for a not to exceed cost of \$115,522.00.

Proposed by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Second by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Motion Carried

ADP PAYROLL SYSTEM

Administrative Officer John Middleton presented this for approval and noted the following:

- Discussed at earlier work session
- Human Resource Director Becky Heisten and Finance Director Marcia Allen have reviewed and approved.
- Summary of presentation attached to minutes
- Mr. Middleton went over the cost and noted that \$50,000 has been budgeted under Professional Services
- Total Cost at this point is \$30,732.00
- First Phase will be the Payroll Package
- Second Phase will be Human Resource Package

Commissioner Fleming

- Commended Mr. Middleton, Ms. Heisten and Ms. Allen for bringing this to the board for action as this has been needed for a long time.
- Wants to make sure that the portion regarding Human Resources will give the employee a picture of their annual benefits package, not only gross income, but all benefits, what county pays and what employee pays.
- Feels this will be an encouragement to employee to see actual benefits broken down.

Mr. Middleton

- Both packages will be able to provide this information.
- Attorney Scott Cole has reviewed contact and indicated it is one of the best he has looked at.

Commissioner Ewing

- We depend on employees everyday to run this county and I want to make sure that at least one time per year each employee will receive a personal breakdown that will show their salary and their benefits. Mr. Middleton assured the commissioners this will be done.

Commissioner Henderson

- Expressed appreciation to Ms. Heisten on her zeal for the job and for her efforts in trying to find better ways to help the employees.

Motion: To approve the ADP System as it relates to Payroll and Human Resources for a total cost of \$58,465.00.

Proposed by: Commissioner Ester Fleming, Jr., District Three

Second by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Motion Carried

MODIFICATION MOD07-010

Planning Director Marian Eisenberg sounded the modification request to relocate the parking lot.

Representative: John Dearing for YMCA

- Approved in March with site plan
- Discovered soil would not perk
- Displayed drawing of YMCA Outdoor Center
- Need to move parking lot
- Moved entrance a little

No opposition

Commissioner Laster

- Expressed appreciation to Mr. Dearing, YMCA staff and Sunbelt Builders for their work on this important project. Everyone has worked hard to make this happen and very excited about project.
- Requested that Director Eisenberg read the conditions aloud for record.

Motion: To approve Modification MO307-010 with the following conditions as read by Director Marian Eisenberg:

1. To the owner's agreement to restrict the use of the subject property as follows:
 - a. A 13,000 square-foot day care center and a 9,600 square-foot professional office/commercial building, at an aggregate density of 7,106.92 gross square feet per acre zoned or a total of 22,600 square feet, whichever is less.
2. To the owner's agreement to abide by the following:
 - a. To the revised site plan received by the Department of Planning and Development on September 7, 2007 and to the legal description received by the Department of Planning and Development on September 2, 2005. Said site plan is conceptual only and must meet or exceed the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance and these conditions prior to the approval of a Land Disturbance Permit. Unless otherwise noted herein, compliance with all conditions shall be in place prior to the issuance of the first Certificate of Occupancy.

Proposed by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Second by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Motion Carried

TO #7 STREETSMARTS – MARBLE DRIVE & COOK ROAD

County Engineer Kevin Walter appeared before the board with this request and noted the following:

- Safety concern
- Heavy industrial traffic
- Residential traffic
- Evaluate whether traffic signal is warranted

Commissioner Ewing

- Questioned if there was need to move forward with this request until the lawsuit has been settled?

Chairman Varner

- Intersection is becoming increasingly congested
- No reason not to move forward unless County Attorney advises otherwise.

Commissioner Ewing

- Not in opposition...just felt like question should be asked.

Commissioner Fleming

- Drives that area every day and noted how dangerous the area is.

Commissioner Henderson

- Received several phone calls regarding the dangerous intersection and would like to see board act favorably on this request.

Motion: To approve Task Order #7 for StreetSmarts regarding Marble Drive & Cook Road for a not to exceed cost of \$9,600.00

Proposed by: Commissioner J.C. Henderson, District Four

Second by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Motion Carried

EMERGENCY CULVERT REPAIRS TO FOUR CRITICAL ROADS

County Engineer Kevin Walter appeared before the board and presented this request for approval.

- GDOT has used this company on some of their projects and very pleased with their work.
- Engineering staff inspected the performance of the work conducted for GDOT earlier this year by Ultraliner, Inc.
- This work is to prevent metal culverts under roadway from failure and collapse.
- Repairs to corrugated metal pipes by inserting a PVY liner permanently inside the pipe without excavation.
- The four roads are: Mills Chase, Ram Drive, Oak Hill Road and Village Drive.

Motion: To approve the Emergency Culvert Repairs to Mills Chase, Ram Drive, Oak Hill Road and Village Drive by Ultraliner, Inc., for a not to exceed cost of \$52,601.00.

Proposed by: Commissioner Ester Fleming, Jr., District Three

Second by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Motion Carried

EXTENSION P.O.#0007598 – EARTHTECH – SALEM ROAD

County Engineer Kevin Walter appeared before the board and presented this request for approval.

- Requesting extension of purchase order #0007598 to EarthTech for finalization of preliminary engineering for widening of Salem Road.
- Newton County does not hold the contract for this project. Rockdale County holds contract.
- Joint project with Rockdale County for over 3 years
- Newton County's portion of this task has been reimbursed by GDOT under a local government agreement (LGA) since this is a state and federal funded transportation improvement project.
- We will be reimbursed for this expense.

No questions

Motion: To approve the Extension of Purchas Order #0007598 for EarthTech/Salem Road Project as presented by County Engineer Kevin Walter.

Proposed by: Commissioner Ester Fleming, Jr., District Three

Second by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Motion Carried

ALCOHOL LICENSE:

Renewals- See attached list

Motion: To approve the alcohol license renewals as read by the chairman and attached and made part of these minutes.

Proposed by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Second by: Commissioner Ester Fleming, Jr., District Three

Motion Carried

First Reading

Pure Food Mart

50 Morningside Drive

Covington, GA 30016

Owner: Jehanara Aslam (100%)

District Five

North Fork Chevron

3078 Hwy. 81

Oxford, GA 30054

Owner: Anahita H. Ramodiya (100%)

District Five

Salem Shell
3633 Salem Road
Covington, Georgia 30016
Owner: Gisele Farrell (92%) and Andrew Farrell (8%)
District Three

COUNTY CHECKS:

Motion: To approve the county checks as printed in agenda packet and read by the chairman.

Proposed by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Second by: Commissioner J.C. Henderson, District Four

Motion Carried

ADJOURN

Time: 8:30 p.m.

Motion: To adjourn the meeting.

Proposed by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Second by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Motion Carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Jackie B. Smith, County Clerk