

NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
May 1, 2007
MINUTES

Newton County Historic Courthouse
1124 Clark Street
Covington, Georgia
Chairman Aaron Varner, Presiding

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

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

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

APPROVAL OF BOC MINUTES DATED APRIL 17, 2007

Motion: To approve the Minutes of April 17, 2007 as written.

Proposed by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Second by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Motion Carried Unanimously

R050107 – TO CORRECT WAL-MART CONDITIONS FOR REZONING

Attorney Jenny Carter addressed the board and stated this condition was inadvertently left off of the zoning conditions from BOC meeting held on January 16, 2007. She said she had spoken with Wal-Mart representatives and they agree and are aware of the resolution.

Motion: To approve resolution R050107 to correct Wal-Mart Conditions for Rezoning REZ06-028 heard on January 16, 2007.

Proposed by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Second by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Motion Carried Unanimously

Note: The original resolution is contained in file number R050107, incorporated herein by reference and expressly made a part of these minutes.

PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT – WAL-MART STORES EAST

Motion: To approve the Private Development Agreement with Wal-Mart Stores East as presented and outlined in our agenda packet on pages 53-57.

Proposed by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

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

Motion Carried Unanimously

R050107A – TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF THE NEWTON COUNTY HOSPITAL AUTHORITY REVENUE REFUNDING CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007

Chairman Varner recognized Jim Weadick and members of the hospital authority who were present at the meeting. Mr. Weadick expressed the board appreciation for their support over the years and noted these new certificates would save the hospital more than \$2 million dollars if approved.

Board members expressed their appreciation of Newton Medical Center and the Authority for their efforts over the years to provide health care for the citizens of Newton County.

Motion: To approve resolution R050107a To Authorize the Issuance of the Newton County Hospital Authority Revenue Refunding Certificates, Series 2007 as presented and outlined on pages 58-69 in agenda packet.

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

Second by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Motion Carried Unanimously

Note: The original resolution is contained in file number R040604, incorporated herein by reference and expressly made a part of these minutes.

R050107B – AUTHORIZING, APPROVING AND PROVIDING FOR A CONTRACT, DATED AS OF MAY 1, 2007, WITH THE NEWTON COUNTY HOSPITAL AUTHORITY; PROVIDING FOR THE EXECUTION OF SAID CONTRACT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

County Attorney Tommy Craig noted this is a housekeeping procedure regarding the execution of the contract.

Motion: To approve resolution R050107b Authorizing, Approving and Providing for a Contract, dated as of May 1, 2007, with the Newton County Hospital Authority; Providing for the Executive of said Contract; and for other purposes as presented and outlined on pages 70-75 of our agenda packet.

Proposed by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

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

Motion Carried Unanimously

Note: The original resolution is contained in file number R040604, incorporated herein by reference and expressly made a part of these minutes.

R050107C – TO PURSUE ABANDONMENT PROCEEDINGS FOR A PORTION OF EAST COUNTY LINE ROAD, & A PORTION OF STANTON ROAD

Attorney James Griffin appeared before the board and presented the request to pursue abandonment of a portion of East County Line Road and a portion of Stanton Road.

Commissioner Ewing noted this has been the desire of the Joint Four-County Development Authority for sometime now. It will enhance Stanton Springs Park for marketing purposes.

Motion: To approve resolution R050107c to pursue abandonment proceedings for a portion of East County Line Road, and a portion of Stanton Road as presented by Attorney James Griffin and outlined on pages 76-78 in our agenda packet.

Proposed by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Second by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Motion Carried with Commissioner Simmons voting in opposition to the motion.

Note: The original resolution is contained in file number R040604, incorporated herein by reference and expressly made a part of these minutes.

APPOINTMENT TO PLANNING COMMISSION – DISTRICT FOUR

Motion: To appoint Mr. Kenneth Hardeman to serve on the Newton County Planning Commissioner. Mr. Hardeman's term will expire April 30, 2009.

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

Second by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Motion Carried Unanimously

EQUIPMENT FOR TWO (2) NEW FIRE PUMPERS

Chief Satterfield was on hand to present this request to the board.

- Fireline sole source for this equipment
- Total Cost: \$50,081.00
- Funding: Fire Fund

Motion: To approve the purchase of two new fire pumpers from Fireline, Inc., for a not to exceed cost of \$50,081.00 as presented.

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

Second by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Motion Carried Unanimously

ALCOHOL LICENSE:

First Reading

Wilson's Grocery Store

2299 Hwy. 212

Covington, Georgia 30016

Owner: Benjamin Arthur Weathersby (100%)

District One

COUNTY CHECKS:

Motion: To approve the county checks as read by the chairman.

Proposed by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Second by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Motion Carried Unanimously

ADJOURN

Time: 7:25 p.m.

Motion: To adjourn the meeting.

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

Second by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Motion Carried Unanimously

Respectfully Submitted,

Jackie B. Smith, County Clerk