

**REGULAR MEETING
FLOYD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
July 24, 2018 6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Commissioners Rhonda Wallace, Scotty Hancock, Wright Bagby,
Allison Watters, Larry Maxey.

OTHERS

PRESENT: County Manager Jamie McCord, Assistant Manager Gary Burkhalter,
County Clerk Erin Elrod, County Attorney Wade Hoyt III

CALL TO

ORDER: Chair Wallace called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION: Commissioner Maxey led the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF

ALLEGIANCE: Commissioner Maxey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Wallace called for motion to approve the July 24, 2018 Agenda with the deferment of item number two on the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Maxey made a MOTION to approve. SECOND by Commissioner Watters. VOTING:

	YES	NO
Commissioner Bagby		
" Watters		
" Maxey		
Vice-Chair Hancock		
Chair Wallace		

Motion Carried

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Janet Gabler Bearoff, 5561 New Calhoun Highway, Rome Georgia, stated she was the sole operator of JDream LLC, dba The Frisky Biscuit Couples Boutique. She stated that she was there to request a special event permit that will be held onsite behind her business. She stated the event

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would not be in anyway similar to the events held by her predecessor, it was just simply a party, and there would be no undesirable activity. She stated she has hired a well-known bar tending service and would have security onsite for the event. In addition to food and beverages they would be having party games, and the DJ for the event would stop the music when the party ends at midnight. She thanked the Commission for their time and allowing her to speak.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Chair Wallace asked County Attorney Wade Hoyt if the minutes were in order. County Attorney Hoyt stated the minutes have been reviewed and are in order. MOTION made by Commissioner Maxey to adopt the minutes of the Caucus, and Regular Meeting, of July 10, 2018. SECOND by Commissioner Vice-Chair Hancock. VOTING:

	YES	NO
Commissioner Bagby		
" Watters		
" Maxey		
Vice-Chair Hancock		
Chair Wallace		

Motion Carried

PROCLAMATIONS

1. Recognize the Chubb Family History

Commissioner Watters presented the proclamation to the Chubb family.

Mr. Chubb stated that he was thankful for the honor to stand before the Commission and that the Chubb family was recognized.

Commissioner Bagby added that the Chubb family has been an inspiration to generations to not just the people of Rome, but all over the country. He thanked the family present.

2. Recognize Dewayne Comer

Commissioner Bagby presented the proclamation to Mr. Dewayne Comer.

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Mr. Comer stated he appreciated it, and he hopes to continue to work with Rome and Floyd County in the future.

**SECOND READING
(FIRST READING HELD ON JULY 10, 2018 AT 6PM)**

- 1. FILE #Z18-07-02 REQUESTING REZONING FROM AGRICULTURAL RESIDENTIAL (A-R) TO LIGHT INDUSTRIAL (L-I) AT FLOYD COUNTY PROPERTY ADJACENT TO JONES MILL ROAD, ROME, GEORGIA; A PORTION OF FLOYD COUNTY TAX PARCEL J10W001 AND A PORTION OF FLOYD COUNTY TAX PARCEL J10W003. (PLANNING STAFF RECOMMENDED APPROVAL; 7-0 RECOMMENDATION FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION)**

Chair Wallace asked Mr. Brice Wood, Rome-Floyd Assistant Planner for insight. Mr. Wood stated this request was submitted by Mr. Bruce Ivey, Special Project Manager, and was for a SPLOST project to extend the airport runway.

Chair Wallace explained the procedures for the public hearing. Each person recognized to speak shall come to the podium and state his or her name and home address. No less than 10 minutes shall be provided for all those speaking in support. No less than 10 minutes shall be provided for all those speaking in opposition.

Chair Wallace opened the public hearing and asked if there was anyone there to speak in favor of the request or opposition, seeing none she closed the public hearing and asked if there was any discussion.

Chair Wallace called for motion. Commissioner Vice-Chair Hancock made a MOTION to approve file #Z18-07-02 requesting rezoning from Agricultural Residential (A-R) to Light Industrial (L-I) at Floyd County Property adjacent to Jones Mill Road, Rome, Georgia; a portion of Floyd County Tax Parcel J10W001 and a portion of Floyd County Tax Parcel J10W003. SECOND by Commissioner **Bagby**. VOTING:

YES

NO

Commissioner Bagby
" Watters

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"	Maxey
Vice-Chair	Hancock
Chair	Wallace

Motion Carried

- 2. FILE #Z18-07-04, REQUESTING REZONING FROM SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL (S-R) TO COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL (C-C) AT 3556 MARTHA BERRY HIGHWAY, ROME, GEORGIA; FLOYD COUNTY TAX PARCELS J11Y004A, J11Y001, AND J11Y002. (PLANNING STAFF RECOMMENDED APPROVAL; 7-0 RECOMMENDATION FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION)**

Chair Wallace asked Mr. Brice Wood, Rome-Floyd Assistant Planner for insight. Mr. Wood stated because the land was legal non-conforming so the applicant would require a special use permit.

Chair Wallace opened the public hearing and asked if there was anyone there to speak in favor of the request.

FAVOR: Daniel Mulchy, 251 Center Road, Silver Creek, Georgia, stated he was there on behalf of Reinhart Equipment Company, the owner wanted to be present but was not able to make it. He stated he has been working at Reinhart for three (3) years, and has seen all aspects of the company's operations. Over the few years they have experienced a lot of success and that has led to inventory growth, which means they need more space for the increased amount of inventory coming in. They are also looking to build another service department because of need and to separate rental equipment from their service and inventory areas for safety reasons. He thanked them for their time.

Chair Wallace asked if there was anyone else there to speak in favor of the request, or opposition.

OPPOSE: Jennifer Peppers, 71 Beard Drive, Rome, Georgia, stated her property butts up against Reinhart Equipment Company's property where their shop is. She spoke with Mr. Mulchy before the meeting, even though a fence is being placed and there is a buffer of trees she would still request that privacy slats be placed for privacy.

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Chair Wallace asked if there was anyone else to speak in opposition of the request.

FAVOR: Danny Mulchy, 251 Center Road, Silver Creek, Georgia, stated that he managed the properties for Rinehart and spoke with Ms. Peppers, he just wanted the Commission to know they would be doing what she requested.

Chair Wallace asked if there was anyone else to speak in opposition, seeing none, she closed the public hearing and asked if there was any discussion.

Chair Wallace called for motion. Commissioner Maxey made a MOTION to approve file #Z18-07-04, requesting rezoning from Suburban Residential (S-R) to Community Commercial (C-C) at 3556 Martha Berry Highway, Rome, Georgia; Floyd County Tax Parcels J11Y004A, J11Y001, and J11Y002. SECOND by Commissioner Bagby. VOTING:

	YES	NO
Commissioner Bagby		
" Watters		
" Maxey		
Vice-Chair Hancock		
Chair Wallace		

Motion Carried

3. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TAX LEVY FOR FLOYD COUNTY FOR 2018

Chair Wallace asked County Manager McCord for insight.

County Manager McCord stated they have been talking about this for several weeks. He stated some things in 2017 that he felt needed to be mentioned, they have a strong position with a clean audit with an \$18.2M general fund balance, with \$5M of that being restricted it puts them at \$13.2M which puts them at a thirty-six percent (36%) rate of fund balance. He stated sales tax has been a continual struggle, and they have a lot of capital needs that they have had to delay indefinitely through the recession. SPLOST votes have really improved the county's position on capital and have made things much better. Most departments have decreased expenditures, with a few exceptions. They continue to fund public safety at or above the same levels as ten (10) years ago where most other departments have decreased throughout that time. He stated CPI has grown

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fifteen percent (15%) since 2008, and actual expenditures in general fund have decreased by about \$700,000.00 in that same period. He stated the county has done some good things like; Freeport Tax Exemption, Energy Excise, a Public Safety Pay Plan, lowered Parks and Recreation fees, multiple improvements to the jail, and will end up with over \$10M invested in the jail with SPLOST at the end of the next SPLOST period with jail medical. He stated they have a lot of uncertainty with Georgia Power Plant Hammond. They are paving an average of seventeen (17) miles annually and would take them forty-five plus (45+) years to complete a cycle of paving and that is not acceptable, they need to at least be in the twenty-five (25) years, forty plus (40+) miles would be a minimum of what they need to do. There is a \$6.9M in capital request and \$2.2M recommended. He stated that they have done a lot of good things to see some minor digest growth and he thinks from his recommendation and discussion over the past two (2) weeks and he recommends 9.48% for the M&O Millage Rate, and is a minor decrease of .007. If they collect at the average rate of ninety-three to ninety-four percent (93-94%) over the next collection cycle would be a \$20,000.00 decrease in what the current rate would be. Theoretically it is a tax increase but would be less taxes. What this means is that if an assessment stays the same less taxes will be paid, if an assessment goes up depending upon the percentage it could be more. He stated this is a one percent (1%) decrease over the current Millage Rate. He also recommended that they leave the other rates the same, the county schools 18.3 Mils, which was submitted to the Board by the County School Board, 1.650 for the fire rate, solid waste rate at 0.656, and again the general tax levy for M&O would be 9.480, for an overall reduction of .007.

Chair Wallace opened the public hearing and asked if there was anyone there to speak in favor or opposition and asked if there is any discussion.

Chair Wallace called for motion. Commissioner Bagby made a MOTION to adopt the Tax Levy for Floyd County for 2018 for the following rates; County schools 18.3, fire protection 1.650, solid waste of 0.656, and the M&O at a reduced rate of 9.480. SECOND by Vice-Chair Hancock. VOTING:

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YES

NO

Commissioner Bagby
" Watters
" Maxey
Vice-Chair Hancock
Chair Wallace

Motion Carried

RESOLUTIONS

- 1. ADOPT A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A TAX LEVY FOR FLOYD COUNTY FOR 2018.**

Adopted under public hearing.

- 2. ADOPT RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING THE AUTHORITY FROM THE STATE OF GEORGIA AND THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE OFFICE OF THE INSURANCE AND SAFETY FIRE COMMISSIONER TO FLOYD COUNTY PURSUANT TO O.C.G.A. CODE SECTION 25-2-12 SUBSECTION (B).**

Chair Wallace asked County Manager McCord for insight.

County Manager McCord stated this is something that they have been doing in the past and would be transferring to the county officially by the state. In adopting this resolution, it will allow the county to continue to be deputized and do the Title 25 Subsection of the O.C.G.A. for particular structures that are within the Title 25 section. This would cover multistory and other large commercial buildings. Per the Fire Chief; they have not been collecting fees for this, but would be going forward. He stated whether or not the Fire Department does the inspection or if the state does the inspection, either way they would be paying new fees. He recommended adopting the resolution. He added that part two would be the approval of the agreement if they chose to do so. Since it is a joint service, both county and city would have to approve.

Chair Wallace called for motion. Commissioner Maxey made a motion to approve the resolution based on it being state mandated to transfer authority from the State of Georgia and the responsibility of the Office of the Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner to Floyd County

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pursuant to O.C.G.A. Code Section 25-2-12 subsection (b). SECOND by Commissioner Watters.
VOTING:

	YES	NO
Commissioner Bagby		
" Watters		
" Maxey		
Vice-Chair Hancock		
Chair Wallace		

Motion Carried

CHAIR'S REPORT

1. Approve rescheduling of October 09, 2018 meeting of the Floyd County Board of Commissioners due to ACCG Legislative Conference.

Chair Wallace made a MOTION to approve rescheduling the October 09, 2018 meeting of the Floyd County Board of Commissioners due to ACCG Legislative Conference. Caucus will be held at 8:00AM instead of 4:00PM and the Meeting will be held at 9:00AM instead of 6:00PM
SECOND by Commissioner Maxey. VOTING:

	YES	NO
Commissioner Bagby		
" Watters		
" Maxey		
Vice-Chair Hancock		
Chair Wallace		

Motion Carried

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

1. Everett Springs Water Project

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County Manager McCord stated that they would be having a meeting on Thursday to get an update on Everett Springs. He stated they were progressing well on the project and will have a full update later in the week.

MANAGER’S REPORT

1. Scott Weaver Recognition

County Manager McCord stated that Mr. Weaver was awarded Investigator of the Year from the Prosecuting Attorney’s Council of Georgia at their annual conference. He stated that they would like to get him into the next meeting so they could recognize him for all his hard work.

ATTORNEY’S REPORT

No Report

CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Wallace asked County Clerk Elrod if the Consent Agenda is in order.

County Clerk Elrod stated yes, it was.

Chair Wallace called for a Motion. MOTION made by Commissioner Watters to approve and authorize execution of items submitted under the Consent Agenda as presented. SECOND by Vice-Chair Hancock. VOTING:

	YES	NO
Commissioner Bagby		
" Watters		
" Maxey		
Vice-Chair Hancock		
Chair Wallace		

Motion Carried

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1. **Approve request from Police Department to reclassify Brandon Robinson non-exempt from his current exempt status.**
2. ~~**Accept recommendation from Human Resources and approve the creation of an IT Support Specialist at pay grade 115 to be assigned to the Floyd County Jail.**~~
Deferred
3. **Approve Removal of \$1,954.84 in unpaid taxes from the Tax Commissioner's Roll.**
4. **Approve administrative pay adjustments in the police department.**
5. **Approve GE access to Little Dry Creek, Floyd County Tax Parcel I13W-207.**
6. **Approve additional K-9 vehicle at the Floyd County Prison.**
7. **Approve temporary Permit Application for Beer & Wine to Sabrina Dowdy with Across the Bar for a special event at the Frisky Biscuit, 5561 New Calhoun Highway, Rome, Georgia.**

NEW BUSINESS

1. APPROVE MINIMUM FIRE SAFETY STANDARD AGREEMENT BETWEEN FLOYD COUNTY AND THE GEORGIA STATE FIRE MARSHAL.

County Manager McCord stated this was the agreement that explains how they would perform and conduct the fire investigations and inspections. He recommended approval per the Fire Chief and based on Commissioner Maxey's condition that this would be state mandated. Step two would be approval by the City of Rome Commission.

Chair Wallace called for a Motion. MOTION made by Commissioner Maxey to approve minimum fire safety standard agreement between Floyd County and the Georgia State Fire Marshall. SECOND by Vice-Chair Hancock VOTING:

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YES

NO

Commissioner Bagby
" Watters
" Maxey
Vice-Chair Hancock
Chair Wallace

Motion Carried

2. APPROVE REQUEST OF \$150,000.00 IN FUNDS FOR ADDITIONAL PAVING ON EVERETT SPRINGS ROAD.

County Manager McCord stated they have set aside some funding in the northern part of Everett Springs, about 2.6 miles under the State LMIG program. He stated they'd like to shift it south of Floyd Springs Road and do that section this year. He stated it was a simple request to GDOT as long as it stays on the same road. He recommended moving the LMIG funds and taking the \$150,000.00 from water funds unless the SPLOST project comes in under budget and then they would transfer it back to the water fund.

Chair Wallace called for a Motion. MOTION made by Commissioner Bagby to request of \$150,000.00 for additional paving on Everett Springs, initially from the water fund or potentially from SPLOST funds in the future. SECOND by Vice-Chair Hancock.

VOTING:

Commissioner Bagby
" Watters
" Maxey
Vice-Chair Hancock
Chair Wallace

Motion Carried

OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Wallace stated they went into Executive Session to discuss personnel and possible litigation.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, a MOTION was made by Commissioner Maxey. SECOND by Vice-Chair Hancock that the meeting be adjourned.

VOTING:

YES

NO

Commissioner Bagby

" Watters

" Maxey

Vice-Chair Hancock

Chair Wallace

Motion Carried

ATTEST:

ERIN ELROD, FLOYD COUNTY CLERK

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**FLOYD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CAUCUS
July 24, 2018 4:00 PM**

Present: Commissioners Wright Bagby, Larry Maxey, Rhonda Wallace, Scotty Hancock, Allison Watters and, Assistant County Manager Gary Burkhalter, County Clerk Erin Elrod, and County Attorney Wade Hoyt III.

Others Present: Sergeant Carrie Edge, Floyd County Sheriff's Office, Bonnie Moore, NAMI Chapter President.

Sergeant Edge and Ms. Moore presented information on NAMI Rome.

Commission and staff reviewed and discussed items on the agenda for the meeting of July 24, 2018.

ATTEST:

ERIN ELROD, FLOYD COUNTY CLERK