REGULAR MEETING FLOYD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS May 26, 2015 6:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Chairman Larry Maxey, Vice-Chairman Garry Fricks, Commissioners Irwin Bagwell, Scotty Hancock and Rhonda Wallace.

OTHERS

PRESENT: County Manager Jamie McCord, County Attorney Wade Hoyt, and Interim County Clerk Jaime Armstrong.

CALL TO

ORDER: Chairman Maxey called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION: Commissioner Wallace led the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF

ALLEGIANCE: Commissioner Bagwell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC

PARTICIPATION:

Mr. Ghee Wilson, Armuchee, came to speak today on behalf of all the under paid officers. Mr. Wilson is the President of the local Fraternal Order of Police in Rome. He believes law enforcement officers in Floyd County are underpaid compared to surrounding counties. The officers are currently grossing \$37,000 a year. A study was performed on pay scale for the last 10 years with other agencies comparable to Floyd County's size. Results from the study indicated even with a higher pay scale for new employees, other workers were leaving to go to neighboring counties for better pay and better benefits.

Officer Maddux, former C.H.A.M.P.S. speaker, spoke on the importance of keeping the C.H.A.M.P.S program in public schools. He stated that it is very beneficial to the students as well as the police departments. It has helped solve cases and kept many children safe.

Crystal Maddux, Morrison Camp Ground Rd, voiced her opinion on the removal of the C.H.A.M.P.S program from schools. Ms. Maddux stated that the program allows students to interact with police on a personal level. The Program provides drug education, nurturing from cops, and provides mentors to the children. She also added that officers should receive more pay for risking their lives.

Christy Davis, Cave Spring, stated she is a 7th grade teacher at Pepperell Middle School. She works with the C.H.A.M.P.S program every year at her school. Ms. Davis thinks that the person who stated the program was nonessential has not witnessed the program in a classroom. C.H.A.M.P.S teaches safety at home and school. This program is all over Georgia. Her students look at Deputy Maddux as a safe person to turn to for problems in their lives outside of school. She presented a few questions for the commissioners. How important is it for kids to see police officers as someone to trust? In Baltimore, did they view the police as good guys? Did they ever have a police officer interact with them? She added that the program is not about just talking to the children about drugs, it is more about showing you care. There are two kinds of people in the world; people who fight about our kids and people who fight for our kids. We need more people who will fight for our kids.

Amanda Waites-Howard, Cave Spring, stated that her father was killed in line of duty working for the police department in December 1994. She grew up with her father in the police department, and he had to take several jobs for supplemental income. She is sure many of the officers here have to do that to support their families. Ms. Howard asked the Board to consider a pay raise for the officers. She expressed how important of a role the C.H.A.M.P.S. program plays, not only in the schools, but in the community as well.

Mike Jenkins, Armuchee, stated he supports the officers who would take a bullet for us everyday. They need and deserve a pay increase. He added that the C.H.A.M.P.S. program teaches children safe ways to live.

Buddy Childers stated that he worked with ACCG & GMA. Mr. Childers wanted to know if local option sales tax could be changed. He thinks that the Commissioners should get with the County Commissioners Association of Georgia and the Georgia Municipal Association asking them to bring a constitutional amendment back to allow people to vote to bring money to pay officers. He stated this is a problem throughout the state. They could push legislation to get it through, and it would solve some of the financial problems. He does not believe that Chairman Maxey meant his comment about the C.H.A.M.P.S. program not being an essential program. However, he does feel that Chairman Maxey owes the Sherriff and the people of Floyd County an apology. Mr. Childers stated he thought that the money for this program comes from private donations so he does not understand why it would be cut. He hopes that the Board takes everything addressed and brought before them into consideration.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Chairman Maxey asked County Attorney Wade Hoyt if the minutes were in order. Mr. Hoyt stated the minutes had been reviewed and were in order. Commissioner Bagwell made a MOTION to adopt the minutes of the Caucus and Regular Meeting of May 12, 2015. SECOND by Commissioner Fricks. VOTING:

YES NO

Commissioner Wallace

- ' Fricks
- " Bagwell
- " Hancock

Chairman Maxey

Motion Carried

PUBLIC HEARINGS (FIRST READINGS HELD MAY 12, 2015)

Chairman Maxey reviewed the procedures for Public Hearings.

REQUESTS FOR REZONING & SPECIAL USE PERMITS

1. FILE #51-2015Z. REQUESTS REZONING FROM AGRICULTURAL RESIDENTIAL (A-R) AND COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL (C-C) TO AGRICULTURAL RESIDENTIAL (A-R) TO CONSOLIDATE FOR RESIDENTIAL/AGRICULTURAL USE ON PROPERTY ON REECEBURG ROAD. TAX MAP J18, PARCEL 021. (PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION: APPROVE. [VOTE: 7-0].)

Chairman Maxey asked Mr. David Thompson, Rome-Floyd County Planning Department Associate Planner, to review the rezoning request. Mr. Thompson stated the subject property is both agricultural residential and community commercial. At one point, there was a retail business on the property, which explains why the property was shown as community commercial with the adoption of the Unified Land Development Code (ULDC) and zoning maps in 2001. The subject property includes an undeveloped wooded land, pasture and single-family dwelling. He stated the future land use map shows the property as agricultural use. The property has been divided and recently sold, though a plat cannot be recorded due to the property being zoned both community commercial and agricultural residential. He stated the current owners intend to use the property as agricultural and residential, as well as the southeast corner that they purchased. The surrounding properties are agricultural, low density, residential units and undeveloped land. He concluded that the zoning change is not likely to result in adverse impacts on those uses.

Chairman Maxey declared the Public Hearing open, and asked if there is anyone to speak in support or opposition of the request. Seeing none, he declared the Public Hearing closed, and asked if there is any discussion.

Chairman Maxey called for a Motion. Commissioner Fricks made a MOTION to adopt an Ordinance to Approve the Request for Rezoning from Agricultural (A-R) and Community Commercial (C-C) to Agricultural Residential (A-R) to consolidate for residential/agricultural use on property on Reeceburg Road. SECOND by Commissioner Wallace. VOTING:

YES NO

Commissioner Wallace

- Fricks
- ' Bagwell
- " Hancock

Chairman Maxey

Motion Carried

2. FILE #53-2015Z. REQUESTS REZONING FROM SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL (S-R) TO AGRICULTURAL RESIDENTIAL (A-R) FOR AGRICULTURAL OPERATION ON PROPERTY ON AUTRY ROAD. TAX MAP 009, PARCEL 025 (PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION: (PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION: APPROVE. [VOTE: 7-0].)

Chairman Maxey asked Mr. David Thompson, Rome-Floyd County Planning Department Associate Planner, to review the rezoning request. Mr. Thompson stated that the subject property is currently zoned suburban residential. The property is undeveloped with all timber removed. He stated the owner and applicant plans to use the property for a farming operation. Suburban residential zoning districts allow for crop production, but require a special use permit for any livestock production. He stated the agricultural residential zoning would allow livestock and crop production although raising hogs would require a special use permit. The surrounding uses are zoned suburban residential. The predominant land uses are rural, low density residential with some agricultural and undeveloped land. He added that farming operations and keeping of livestock does have some potential for adverse impacts though the use would be compatible with the use of adjacent properties.

Chairman Maxey declared the Public Hearing open, and asked if there is anyone to speak in support or opposition of the request.

Luke Baker, **applicant/owner**, stated that he grew up in Armuchee. He bought the property with the intentions of farming it, and learning a little along the way. He stated he realized that the property needed to be rezoned from the current suburban residential zoning when he went to buy a permit to build a barn. He was not allowed to obtain the permit because of the way the property was zoned. His grandparents are the former owners of the farm. He stated that he grew up there, and spent a lot of time on the land. He is just trying to get back to his roots, and at some point pass something on to the next generation that was passed on to him. He stated he appreciates the Board's time, and he hopes that they consider approving the rezoning request.

Chairman Maxey asked if there is anyone else to speak in support or opposition of the request. Seeing none, he declared the Public Hearing closed, and asked if there is any discussion.

Chairman Maxey called for a Motion. Commissioner Bagwell made a MOTION to Adopt an Ordinance to Approve the Request for Rezoning from Suburban Residential (S-R) to Agricultural Residential (A-R) for agricultural operation on property on Autry Road. SECOND by Commissioner Wallace. VOTING:

YES NO

Commissioner Wallace

- Fricks
- Bagwell
- " Hancock

Chairman Maxey

"

Motion Carried

ULDC TEXT AMENDMENTS

1. REVISE OR DELETE ARTICLE 3.4 TABLE 3.2, ARTICLE 4.1.31, AND ARTICLE 8 CONCERNING MOBILE FOOD VENDOR PARKS. (PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION: APPROVE. [VOTE: 6-0].)

Chairman Maxey asked Mr. David Thompson, Rome-Floyd County Planning Department Associate Planner, to review the text amendment. Mr. Thompson stated this text amendment would solely focus on mobile food vehicle parks. He concluded that the amendment only addressed what would constitute as a mobile food park.

Chairman Maxey declared the Public Hearing open, and asked if there is anyone to speak in support or opposition of the text amendment. Seeing none, he declared the Public Hearing closed, and asked if there is any discussion.

Chairman Maxey called for a Motion. Commissioner Wallace made a MOTION to Adopt the Resolution to Amend Article 3.4 Table 3.2, Article 4.1.31, and Article 8 concerning Mobile Food Vendor Parks. SECOND by Commissioner Hancock. VOTING:

YES NO

Commissioner Wallace

- ' Fricks
- Bagwell
- " Hancock

Chairman Maxey

Motion Carried

2. REVISE OR DELETE ARTICLE 3.4 TABLE 3-1 AND TABLE 3-2; AND ARTICLE 4.1.16 CONCERNING SPECIAL EVENTS/SPECIAL EVENTS VENUES IN THE COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL (C-C), OFFICE INSTITUTIONAL (O-I), AGRICULTURAL RESIDENTIAL (A-R) AND SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL (S-R) ZONING DISTRICTS. (2015-004ULDC) (PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION: APPROVE. [VOTE: 9-0]).

Commissioner Hancock made a MOTION to Refer Article 3.4 Table 3-1 and 3-2; and Article 4.1.16 concerning Special Events/Special Events Venues in the Community Commercial (C-C), Office Institutional (O-I), Agricultural Residential (A-R) and Suburban Residential (S-R) Zoning Districts back to the Planning Commission. SECOND by Commissioner Wallace. VOTING:

YES NO

Commissioner Wallace

- Fricks
- " Bagwell
- " Hancock

Chairman Maxey

Motion Carried

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

- 1. Administrative/Finance Committee Commissioner Bagwell, Chairman
 - a. Adopt Resolution to Approve and Authorize Award of Bid for Three (3) Pursuit Vehicles for Floyd County Sheriff's Office, Three (3) Pursuit Vehicles for Floyd County Police Department, and One (1) Administrative Vehicle for Juvenile Court.

Commissioner Bagwell made a MOTION to Adopt the Resolution to Approve and Authorize Award of Bid for Three (3) Pursuit Vehicles for Floyd County Sheriff's Office, Three (3) Pursuit Vehicles for Floyd County Police Department, and One (1) Administrative Vehicle for Juvenile Court. SECOND by Commissioner Wallace. VOTING:

YES NO

Commissioner Wallace

- Fricks
- Bagwell
- ' Hancock

Chairman Maxey

Motion Carried

- 2. Public Safety Committee Commissioner Maxey, Chairman
 - a. Approve Proposed Compensation for SWAT, Bomb and CBRNE Employees Effective June 01, 2015.

Commissioner Maxey made a MOTION to Approve the Proposed Compensation for 20 positions at \$1,000.00 each annually with a cap not to exceed \$20,000.00 for SWAT, Bomb and CBRNE Employees effective June 01, 2015. SECOND by Commissioner Hancock.

Commissioner Wallace stated she would like to clarify that the \$1,000.00 is not a bonus; it is an actual pay increase. County Manager McCord stated that is correct. It would be an increase of almost \$39 per pay period. It will actually be broken down to the hourly rate for the period of time that the employees serve on any of these units. He concluded that the increase would go away if an employee left the unit they were on, and added for any employee joining a unit. The employee would receive the increase in pay as long as they were active.

Commissioner Wallace stated this increase gets them in line with what the city currently pays their officers for participating in this program as well. County Manager McCord stated that is correct. This equals what the City of Rome is doing. The increase is more than some of the surrounding agencies, and also less than some of the surrounding agencies. Commissioner Bagwell stated he would like to clarify that officers employed by the Floyd County Police Department and the Floyd County Sheriff's Office do receive a take home vehicle. County Manager McCord stated that is not necessarily the case, it is somewhat hit and miss.

Commissioner Hancock stated he would like to apologize to the officers on the SWAT Team up to this point that the Board has not been able to move forward on this increase until now. He added that this is probably the best, most well deserved money spent in Floyd County in a while. VOTING:

YES NO

Commissioner Wallace

- Fricks
- ' Bagwell
- ' Hancock

Chairman Maxey

Motion Carried

3. Public Works Committee - Commissioner Wallace, Chairman

No Report.

4. Water Committee - Commissioner Fricks, Chairman

No Report.

5. Judicial Services Committee (CJIS) – Commissioner Fricks

No Report.

6. Floyd County Library Board - Commissioner Hancock

County Manager McCord mentioned that there was some discussion following the Floyd County Library Board meeting last week, and he would like to just clear up a little bit of the misunderstanding. It was reported that there was a \$45,000.00 cut into the state allocation for materials. He stated that is correct; however, they recently made a change in their funding formula, which did eliminate all funding for state purchased materials. There are still local purchased materials that come from surrounding municipalities and counties that participate in the Sara Hightower Regional Program. There was an increase actually put into system services so the impact on that is closer to \$20,000.00 rather than the \$45,000.00 that was discussed. He thinks that the library board did a good job putting the budget together. He stated they also made some operational changes mid-year last year that have made a positive impact. The library board does need additional funding for materials, but they are going to rely on some outside sources and private donations for that. The cut in funding is not something that has happened to Floyd County only; this happened statewide and affected all public library systems. He needed to make that clarification, and added that the county funds are allocated per capita throughout the whole library system, which includes Rome, Rockmart, Cedartown and Cave Spring.

7. Special Committee Reports

a. Fire Overview Committee - Commissioners Bagwell & Fricks

No Report.

- b. Joint Services Committee Commissioners Maxey & Bagwell
 - 1) Approval of 2016 Shakespeare Festival Performances, Placement of Peace Pole, and Erection of Sculpture at Town Green.

County Manager McCord stated that the Rome Shakespeare Festival is being planned and coordinated for late May to early June of 2016. They feel that this is a good opportunity for an arts performance in the Town Green area. Town Green will remain open for this event. A lot of planning will go on in the next year for that event in 2016. He stated both Rome City and Floyd County local schools, private schools, colleges and universities are involved with this event, which will be open to the public. He noted that there are some fundraisers underway to help sponsor the event. He stated the second item would be the placement of the PeacePole that has been coordinated through the Joint Services Committee. This four-by-four pole would read "May Peace Prevail on Earth" in four languages. The four languages are Spanish, English, Cherokee Indian and Hindi. The pole would be an unobstructed object that could be moved, and they feel that it is an appropriate placement based on the request presented. He stated the third item would be the placement of an Ellen Axson Wilson bronze sculpture. The sculpture would be placed at the exit of the pedestrian bridge in the Town Green area coming into town away from the river. He added that fundraising has also been in progress for that memorial to be placed. He stated the Joint Services Committee approved all three of these items.

c. Joint Development Oversight Committee - Commissioners Bagwell & Wallace

No Report.

d. Joint Solid Waste Oversight Committee - Commissioners Bagwell & Wallace

No Report.

e. SPLOST Project Overview Committee - Commissioner Maxey & Bagwell

No Report.

f. RFPRA Task Force Committee - Commissioners Maxey & Fricks

County Manager McCord stated the posting for the Parks and Recreation Director Position closes on May 29, 2015. They have received ninety-three applications so far. He will be reviewing the applications with City Manager Sammy Rich this week to begin the hiring process as soon as possible. He stated that they are looking for forward to getting a new director hired and in place for the Parks and Recreation Department. They have received a lot of cooperation from Interim Director Wendy Reid, Todd Wofford, and the Parks and Recreation team during this transition. He expressed appreciation for everyone's patience as they adjust to the department being brought under county management.

CLERK'S REPORT:

Consent Agenda

Interim County Clerk Jaime Armstrong stated there are two items on the Clerk's Consent Agenda, which have been reviewed, and are submitted for approval.

Chairman Maxey called for a Motion. Commissioner Bagwell made a MOTION to Approve and Authorize Execution of items submitted under the Clerk's Consent, as presented by the Interim County Clerk. SECOND by Commissioner Fricks. VOTING:

YES NO

Commissioner Wallace

- ' Fricks
 - Bagwell
- ' Hancock

Chairman Maxey

Motion Carried

- 1. Application for Alcoholic Beverage License, Baldevbhai I. Patel, 2015 Krish, LLC dba Valero Food Mart, 3110 Maple Road SE. (Ownership Change. Beer & Wine)
- 2. Application for Self-Service Fuel Dispensing Stations, Baldevbhai I. Patel, 2015 Krish, LLC dba Valero Food Mart, 3110 Maple Road SE. (Ownership Change)

MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. ADOPT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE AWARD OF BID FOR FOUR (4) COMMERCIAL ZERO TURN MOWERS FOR THE ROME-FLOYD PARKS AND RECREATION AUTHORITY.

County Manager McCord stated twelve bids were received for four zero turn mowers for the Parks and Recreation Department. The bids were opened on May 14, 2015. The lowest bid was received from Joe Hills Lawnmower Shop in the amount of \$6,600.00 each for a total of \$26,400.00 for four Snapper Mowers, which was within the budgeted amount of \$30,000.00. He recommended awarding the bid for four zero turn mowers for the Parks and Recreation Department to Joe Hills Lawnmower Shop for a total amount of \$26,400.00.

Chairman Maxey called for a Motion. Commissioner Bagwell made a MOTION to Adopt a Resolution to Approve and Authorize Award of Bid for Four (4) Commercial Zero Turn Mowers for the Rome-Floyd Parks and Recreation Authority to Joe Hills Lawnmower Shop in the amount of \$6,600.00 each for a total amount of \$26,400.00. SECOND by Commissioner Wallace. VOTING:

YES

Commissioner Wallace

- " Fricks
- " Bagwell
- " Hancock

Chairman Maxey

Motion Carried

2. ADOPT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE AWARD OF BID FOR 12" US TYTON JOINT DUCTILE PIPE AND FIELD LOK GASKETS FOR THE WATER DEPARTMENT.

County Manager McCord stated seven sealed bids were opened on May 07, 2015 for six thousand feet of 12" ductile iron pipe and gaskets for the Water Department. The lowest, most responsive bidder was HD Supply Waterworks for a revised total amount of \$180,833.75. He added that the pipe and gaskets are for the Highway 53 interconnection project. He recommended awarding the bid for ductile iron pipe and field LOK gaskets to HD Supply Waterworks as presented.

Chairman Maxey called for a Motion. Commissioner Hancock made a MOTION to Adopt a Resolution to Approve and Authorize Award of Bid for 12" US Tyton Joint Ductile Pipe and Field LOK Gaskets for the Water Department to HD Supply Waterworks for a total amount of \$180,833.75. SECOND by Commissioner Bagwell. VOTING:

YES NO

Commissioner Wallace

- Fricks
- " Bagwell
- Hancock

Chairman Maxey

Motion Carried

3. ADOPT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN FLOYD COUNTY AND GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR PHASE I – LAND AND EASEMENT ACQUISITION SERVICES AT RICHARD B. RUSSELL REGIONAL AIRPORT. (PROJECT NUMBER AP015-9026-36(115) FLOYD, PID – T005387)

County Manager McCord stated this relates to an issue discussed at the last Airport Commission Meeting. The agreement is for Phase I – Land and Easement Acquisition Services. The total amount of this Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) grant is \$148,849.00. He added that ninety-five percent of the grant would be federally funded with the remaining five percent being equally split between state and local funding. The amount of the local funding would be \$7,835.10. He noted that the project is capped not to exceed \$156,684.10. This would be Phase I of a three-phase project where obstructions can be identified around the airport on private property. Again, this beginning phase would be to map out those obstructions that would have to be remediated in order to go through the process of the survey and an estimate for that work. He concluded that Phase II and III would come at a later date, and those phases would include the actual purchase of the easements as well as the remediation and removal of any obstructions that may exist. He stated this comes to them as a recommendation from the Airport Commission to approve execution of the agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation for Phase I – Land and Easement Acquisition Services.

Chairman Maxey called for a MOTION. Commissioner Fricks made a MOTION to Adopt a Resolution to Approve and Authorize Execution of an Agreement between Floyd County and the Georgia Department of Transportation for Phase I – Land and Easement Acquisition Services at Richard B. Russell Regional Airport (Project Number AP015-9026-36(115) Floyd, PID – T005387) as presented by the County Manager. SECOND by Commissioner Wallace. VOTING:

YES NO

Commissioner Wallace

- Fricks
- " Bagwell
- " Hancock

Chairman Maxey

Motion Carried

4. ADOPT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE CREATION OF SEASONAL TEMPORARY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR I POSITION FOR PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT. POSITION NUMBER 456-804, \$10.28 HOURLY PAY RATE.

County Manager McCord stated he feels that they have a good strategy in place, and would like to get those Public Works positions filled as quickly as possible. The proposed position would be a seasonal temporary position (Position Number 456-804) at \$10.28 hourly pay rate. He recommended approving the creation of a Seasonal Temporary Equipment Operator I Position for the Public Works Department as outlined.

Chairman Maxey called for a Motion. Commissioner Wallace made a MOTION to Adopt a Resolution to Approve and Authorize Creation of a Seasonal Temporary Equipment Operator I Position (Position Number 456-804, \$10.28 Hourly Pay Rate) for the Public Works Department. SECOND by Commissioner Bagwell. VOTING:

YES NO

Commissioner Wallace

- ' Fricks
- Bagwell
 - Hancock

Chairman Maxey

Motion Carried

ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

1. ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR DISCUSSING PENDING OR POTENTIAL LITIGATION.

Executive Session was held prior to the Commission Meeting. The Executive Session was called to order at 5:58 p.m. and ended at 6:08 p.m. No official action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, MOTION was made by Commissioner Wallace, SECOND by Commissioner Hancock, that the meeting be adjourned. VOTING:

YES NO

Commissioner Wallace

- Fricks
- Bagwell
- Hancock

Chairman Maxey

Motion Carried

FLOYD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
LARRY N. MAXEY, CHAIRMAN

FLOYD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CAUCUS May 26, 2015 6:00 PM

Present: Commissioners Irwin Bagwell, Garry Fricks, Larry Maxey, Scotty Hancock, and Rhonda Wallace, County Manager Jamie McCord, County Attorney Wade Hoyt, Interim County Clerk Jaime Armstrong, and Comptroller/Finance Director Gary Burkhalter.

County Manager McCord and Assistant MIS Director Kevin Brown provided an update on the launch of the new website. Judge John Niedrach was present to discuss Mental Health Court grant. Rome Shakespeare Festival Artistic Director Gail Deschamps was present to provide details regarding the Shakespeare Festival 2016 performances on Town Green.

Commissioners and staff reviewed items on the agenda for the meeting of May 26, 2015.

FLOYD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
LARRY N. MAXEY, CHAIRMAN