

Houston County Commissioners Meeting
July 19, 2016
Warner Robins, Georgia

The Houston County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 19, 2016 at the Houston County Annex Building in Warner Robins, Georgia with Chairman Stalaker presiding and Commissioners Walker, McMichael, Robinson and Thomson present. Also present were Director of Administration Barry Holland, County Attorney Tom Hall, Director of Operations Robbie Dunbar, Personnel Director Ken Carter, Fire/HEMA Chief Jimmy Williams, Director of Purchasing Mark Baker, Chief Building Inspector Tim Andrews, Centerville Mayor John Harley, Jim Taylor, GA State Representative Bubber Epps, GA State Representative Shaw Blackmon, and Walton and Becky Wood.

Commissioner Thomson led the audience in the Invocation.

MSGt. Mark Kloberdanz, USMC led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and detailed his 30-year military career. Entering the service in the summer of 1986, he went into the avionics field working on the F/A-18 Hornet. Later he changed his Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) to computer programmer and eventually recruiter. He currently serves as a Family Readiness Officer at Robins where he has been stationed for three years. Although he is preparing for retirement, MSGt. Kloberdanz and his family intend to stay in Houston County where he has recently started up his own business. His wife and two of his children accompanied him to the meeting. His oldest son is a new Marine on his way to his first duty assignment in Hawaii. One of his best memories from his service is when he came home from Desert Storm and was received at the town of Beaufort, SC along with his fellow returning servicemen to a full-blown parade. He commented that the Middle Georgia community was very supportive and welcoming to all military personnel.

Chairman Stalaker recognized Elaine Pritchard, member of the Miss Houston County High School Scholarship Board, who in turn introduced Kelsey Hollis, the reigning Miss Houston County High and recently crowned Miss Georgia Outstanding Teen. Commissioner Robinson read and presented a resolution recognizing Miss Hollis for her accomplishments. Kelsey will leave for Orlando at the end of this month to participate in the Miss America's Outstanding Teen Pageant set for August 2nd through the 4th. She is a rising senior at Houston County High and hopes to go on to college after graduation and major in sports broadcasting. She described her platform, TAABS, which is Teach Autism Awareness by Siblings and introduced her mother and her older brother who is autistic. Ms. Pritchard also introduced Pageant Executive Director Rodney Johnson and several other board members who were present.

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Chairman Stalnaker recognized the various local, state and federal law enforcement agencies to let it be known that the Board of Commissioners support and thank each and every officer serving our community, state and nation, and that each officer should be treated with due respect, appreciation and gratitude for their work and sacrifice. With the room packed with numerous officers of all rank, he called on the heads of each agency to each speak to the assembly: Houston County Sheriff Cullen Talton, Warner Robins Chief of Police Brett Evans, Centerville Chief of Police Ronald Rodgers, representing Perry Chief of Police Steve Lynn was Capt. James Buck, GA National Fairgrounds & Agricenter Public Safety Director Elbert Slappy, Georgia Department of Public Safety Perry Post Commander SFC Crystal Zion, Georgia Bureau of Investigation Special Agent in Charge J.T. Ricketson, and Office of Special Investigations Major Pete Swinson. Houston County Gang Task Force Chairman Jerome Stephens and Union Grove Missionary Baptist Church Pastor David Clarke also spoke to the assembly which was followed by a prayer from Pastor Clarke. Representative Bubber Epps and Representative Shaw Blackmon both spoke in support of the law enforcement agencies.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to approve the minutes for the July 5, 2016 meeting.

Mr. McMichael presented an annexation request from the City of Warner Robins for property located at 310 Brady Drive totaling 2.4 acres. The applicant, Mr. Juan Carlos Colindres, originally requested a proposed zoning and land use for this tract upon annexation as Warner Robins C-1 Neighborhood Commercial District for a church. The County raised an objection to the requested C-1 zoning upon annexation since all of the surrounding property is zoned either R-MH or R-1 and to go to C-1 would be spot-zoning. We requested that the City contact the applicant to reconsider, leaving the property as R-1, and to seek a special exception from the City for a church on the property. The City agreed and the applicant has since complied with that change. Staff now recommends concurrence with the request.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to concur with a City of Warner Robins annexation request for property located at 310 Brady Drive (Houston County Tax Parcel #000740 061000) totaling 2.4 acres with the zoning remaining R-1.

Mr. Walker presented a request from the City of Perry for annexation of 80 acres located at 401 Airport Road. The property designated as Tract B, is currently zoned County M-2 and the proposed zoning upon annexation is Perry M-2 Industrial District for manufacturing development.

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Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to concur with a City of Perry annexation request for property located at 401 Airport Road, Perry (HC016-025) 80.0 acres described as all that tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in Land Lot 5 of the 9th Land District; Land Lots 12 and 13 of the 10th Land District, Houston County, Georgia and being known and designated as Tract "B" comprising 80 acres and having such shapes metes, bounds, courses and distances as are shown on a plat of survey prepared by Marty A. McLeod, Georgia Registered Land Surveyor No. 2991, dated March 31, 2016 and recorded in Plat Book 78, Page 45, Clerk's Office, Houston Superior Court.

Proposed zoning for this property within the City of Perry is M-2, Industrial District. The land use proposed is for manufacturing development.

Chairman Stalaker commented that this property is adjacent to the new Sandler AG site in Perry and will allow them to expand their manufacturing facility.

Mr. Thompson presented the following list of bad debt that needs to be written-off for FY2016:

	<u>Bad Debt</u>	<u>Total Revenue</u>
Water System	\$18,219.32	\$6.2 million
Waste Collection (Sanitation)	\$ 8,888.10	\$2.5 million
Solid Waste Disposal (Landfill)	\$ 0.00	\$3.3 million

Efforts to collect these bad debts will continue.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to approve the FY2016 Water Fund debt write-off of \$18,219.32; the Waste Collection (Sanitation) debt write-off totaling \$8,888.10 (\$7,765.99 for routes 10 thru 80 and \$1,122.11 for route 90); and Solid Waste Disposal (Landfill) has zero debt to write-off.

Mr. Thomson presented a contract between Houston County and Traylor Business Services, Inc. (TBS) who will provide personal property verification reviews for business taxpayers during FY17 when requested by the Chief Tax Appraiser. The County will pay a set fee amount pursuant to the fee schedule outlined in the contract.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to authorize Chairman Stalaker to sign an agreement (#1036) with Traylor Business Services, Inc. (TBS) for personal property audits in FY2017. Audits will only be performed when requested specifically by the Chief Tax Appraiser.

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Mr. Thomson commented that in the normal course of the year very few audits are typically required.

Mr. McMichael presented a request to reappoint G.L. Crocker to another term on the Adjustment & Appeals Board.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to approve the appointment of Mr. G.L. Crocker to another three-year term on the Adjustments & Appeals Board beginning July 7, 2016 and ending July 6, 2019.

Mr. Walker presented a request from the Sheriff's Office for the immediate purchase of two of the vehicles that were approved in the FY17 SPLOST budget due to the inoperable condition of two of the current vehicles. In addition, the Sheriff has requested two more vehicles for use in the Reserve Unit that were not originally in the approved FY17 budget, but has offered to pay for one of these two vehicles with Drug Funds and the other with Reserve Unit funds. Butler Chrysler-Dodge-Jeep in Beaufort, SC has suitable vehicles in stock and is actually the South Carolina statewide contract holder with the price nearly identical to the Georgia statewide contract holder. The Georgia dealer does not have stock and it would be at least 2 ½ to 3 months for delivery.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve the purchase of four new 2016 Dodge Chargers (Police Package) from Butler Chrysler-Dodge-Jeep of Beaufort, SC for use in the Patrol Division, Traffic Division and the Reserve Unit. Funding for two vehicles at a unit cost of \$23,602 from the 2012 SPLOST; one vehicle at a unit cost of \$23,602 to be reimbursed from the Reserve Unit funds; and one vehicle at a unit cost of \$23,422 to be reimbursed by the Sheriff's Drug fund. Total cost for all vehicles is \$94,228. The Comptroller is authorized to make the necessary budget adjustment in the amount of \$47,024 for the Reserve Unit vehicles.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to approve the payment of the bills totaling \$1,349,187.29.

Chairman Stalaker announced that the Commissioners will hold a called meeting at 12:00 p.m. on Monday, July 25, 2016 in the Commissioners Board Room of the County Annex Building in Warner Robins, Georgia to set the 2016 tax levy, make year-end budget adjustments, and approve a road construction bid. He explained that the digest does show very little growth as was predicted during the budget process, but that he hoped there would be a possible rebound in the digest in the next couple of years.

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Before moving into the public Comments section of the meeting, Chairman Stalnakker explained that an executive session would be held after the comments section and that it would likely be a lengthy session.

Chairman Stalnakker opened the meeting for Public Comments.

Walton Wood, 426 Sandefur Road, Kathleen updated the Board on past military speaker Mike Reed's recent visit back to Houston County commenting that Mike appreciated everything that was done for him during his service here at Robins AFB and the community.

Chairman Stalnakker remarked that it simply highlights the type of relationships that the County and community in general strive to form with our military service members.

Jim Taylor, 117 Echo Lane, Warner Robins, who is the Business Development and Marketing Manager for Warner Robins Building Supply, told the Board about a recent POW/MIA 'chair of honor' and flag raising ceremony held in conjunction with the Rolling Thunder Georgia Chapter. He introduced Buster Hickam, President of the local Rolling Thunder Chapter 3, who explained that currently there are over 82,000 individuals who are identified as prisoners of war or missing in action. His organization works to promote the recognition and awareness of those POW/MIA service members. Mr. Hickam asked the Board to consider flying the POW/MIA flag or to display a POW/MIA Chair of Honor.

Chairman Stalnakker indicated that the County would like to fly the flag for the cause.

There being no further comments the meeting continued.

Chairman Stalnakker then asked for any comments from the Commissioners.

Mr. McMichael remarked that it was a great meeting where the Board could recognize so many deserving people for both their accomplishments and their 'service before self' attitudes.

Mr. Thomson thanked Mr. Hickam for bringing the POW/MIA cause to the community's attention.

Ms. Robinson remarked that it was certainly good timing to recognize each law enforcement agency and its members for their service to our community.

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Mr. Walker thanked Chairman Stalnaker for putting together the recognition of the various local law enforcement agencies.

Chairman Stalnaker then asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss several personnel matters.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to enter in Executive Session for Personnel Matters per O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(2).

Upon returning Chairman Stalnaker reconvened the regular meeting announcing that no action would be taken concerning the personnel matters discussed in Executive Session.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all.

Barry Holland
Director of Administration

Chairman

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner