

Houston County Commissioners Meeting
March 21, 2017
Warner Robins, Georgia

The Houston County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday March 21, 2017 at the Houston County Annex in Warner Robins, Georgia with Chairman Stalnaker presiding and Commissioners Walker, Robinson, McMichael and Thomson present. Also present were County Attorney Tom Hall, Director of Administration Barry Holland, Director of Personnel Ken Carter, Director of Purchasing Mark Baker, HEMA/Fire Chief Jimmy Williams, Director of Operations Robbie Dunbar, Warner Robins Mayor Randy Toms, Paul Shealy, Flint Energies Senior VP Jimmy Autry, Houston County Family Connection Coordinator Tian Foss, Houston County School District General Counsel Billy Jerles, James Erdmanczyk, Jim Taylor, Walton and Becky Wood and Ansel Peck.

Commissioner Robinson led the audience in the Invocation.

SrA Quinton Wilson, USAF led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and detailed his 6-year military career. SrA Wilson currently serves with J-Stars working in the aircraft safety field and has been at Robins AFB for six years. Recently promoted to Staff Sergeant, he will soon be an instructor in his field. He stated that he intends to make service in the Air Force a 20-year career and that he aspires to reach the rank of Chief Master Sergeant one day. He commented that he has been very warmly received by the local community.

Chairman Stalnaker recognized Ms. Kelsey Anastasia Norris, a 13-year old sixth grader from Bonaire Middle School, who has been recognized as one of the two top youth volunteers in Georgia through the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program. Commissioner Robinson read and then presented a framed resolution to Kelsey and commended her on her achievements. She will travel to Washington D.C. in May to meet government leaders and elected officials to learn about more ways that she can continue service to her community.

Chairman Stalnaker presented a resolution to Lions Club member Mr. J.C. Coefield, representing the Houston County Lions Club, declaring April 2017 to be "Lions White Cane Month." The Chairman encouraged the citizens of Houston County to give generously to White Cane Month and to work with the Houston County Lions Club in their efforts to save the sight of the needy in our community. Mr. Coefield remarked that the club's new slogan was "Every Day in Georgia is White Cane Day".

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve the minutes from the meeting of March 7, 2017.

Mr. Walker presented the request to auction off surplus property. The property located at 3008 Moody Road, Warner Robins, Georgia was acquired by the County as part of the Moody Road Improvement Project Phase 2. The project being completed, the remainder of this property is not needed for any public purpose and should be auctioned off to the highest bidder by sealed bids.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to approve the Purchasing Department soliciting sealed bids for the purchase of the remainder of the property at 3008 Moody Road, Warner Robins, Georgia. The property will be sold to the highest responsible bidder. The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids. The property is more particularly described as follows:

All that tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in Land Lots 252 and 229, Tenth Land District, Houston County, Georgia being known and designated as Parcel 4 and Parcel 3 as shown on a certain plat of survey of the property of Steve Foster dated May 2, 1985, prepared by Scarborough Land Surveys, and appearing of record in Plat Book 28, Page 54, Clerk's Office, Houston Superior court. Said plat and the recorded copy thereof are hereby made a part of this description by reference thereto for all purposes.

LESS AND EXCEPT: There is excepted from this conveyance a 15 foot by 151.02 foot, more or less, strip of land described as follows: Beginning at a point on the southwesterly corner of Parcel 1 as shown on said survey (McEntee 18,870.7 square feet) where the southerly line of said parcel intersects the westerly line of Land Lot 252, thence south 0 degrees 49 minutes East for a distance of 15.0 feet to a point; thence south 86 degrees 41 minutes 30 seconds East for a distance of 151.00 feet to a point; thence North 0 degrees 52 minutes East for a distance of 15 feet to a point; thence North 86 degrees 41 minutes 30 seconds West for a distance of 151.02 feet, more or less, to the Point of Beginning. This exception includes all of the 15 foot by 151.02-foot strip of land shown on said survey located between the southerly property line of Parcel 1 and the line designated on said survey as "original property line".

Also, excepted from this conveyance is any portion of Parcel 2 as shown on the plat of survey appearing of record in Plat Book 28, Page 71 which is included in Parcel 3 as shown on the plat of survey appearing of record in Plat Book 28, Page 54, Clerk's Office, Houston Superior Court.

LESS AND EXCEPT: That portion of the above described property included in the new right-of-way for Moody Road.

Mr. Walker presented a request to auction off surplus property. The property located on Bloodworth Road a/k/a Holt Road, being Houston County Tax Parcel No. 000900 008000, containing 1.03 acres, more or less, is not needed for any public purpose and should be auctioned off to the highest bidder by sealed bids.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to approve the Purchasing Department soliciting sealed bids for the purchase of the property located on Bloodworth Road a/k/a Holt Road, being Houston County Tax Parcel No. 000900 008000, containing 1.03 acres, more or less. The property will be sold to the highest responsible bidder. The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids. The property is more particularly described as follows:

That certain 1.03 acres being Houston County Tax Parcel No. 000900 008000 and being a portion of the east one-half of land lot 92 of the Thirteenth Land District of Houston County, Georgia.

Mr. Walker presented a request from Public Works to enter into a professional agreement. The EPD has published new rules for safe dams requiring owners of Category 1 dams to develop an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) by July 1st in the case of a breach. Preparation of an inundation map showing areas downstream that may be impacted by a dam breach is required as part of this plan.

Public Works has requested for Triple Point Engineering to prepare this required inundation map for County-owned Houston Lake Dam. The remainder of the EAP will be prepared by Public Works staff.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to approve Chairman Stalnaker signing a professional services agreement with Triple Point Engineering of Macon to prepare an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) inundation map for the Houston Lake Dam in the amount of \$2,850.

Mr. Thomson presented a change order for GHC Mechanical Services. At the November 1, 2016 meeting the Board approved a bid for replacement of the boilers at the Detention Center to GHC Mechanical Services in the amount of \$79,716.11. The attached change order increases that original contract price by \$2,040 to a total of \$81,756.11.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to authorize Chairman Stalnaker signing Change Order #1 on the Detention Center Boiler Replacement project with GHC Mechanical Services. The original contract price of \$79,716.11 will increase \$2,040 to an amended total of \$81,756.11.

Mr. McMichael remarked that the work covered by this change order was not in the original scope of work for this project.

Director of Operations Robbie Dunbar explained that the heating boiler replacement was completed and that this change order was for the domestic boiler that provides hot water to the Detention Center kitchen and laundry. The work covered by the change order will complete the project.

Mr. Thomson presented a request for the approval of a bid for the joint LMIG road projects. This is the fifth year that Houston County had bid out the joint LMIG road projects. Houston County, Warner Robins, Centerville, Perry, Byron, Hawkinsville, Pulaski County and Dooly County consolidate the Local Maintenance and Improvements Grant road projects for each entity in order to secure the best pricing.

Those bids have been received and the low bidder for all joint projects is Georgia Asphalt at \$3,843,162.83 of which Houston County's portion is \$1,069,528.20. Of the \$1,069,528.20 our match after expending GDOT funds of \$767,424.82 is \$302,103.38. The County matching funds will be paid from SPLOST funds.

This project includes resurfacing of a combined 14.82 miles on 31 Houston County roads.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to approve a bid award for the joint 2017 LMIG road resurfacing and repair projects to Georgia Asphalt of Juliette, GA in the total amount of \$3,843,162.83 of which Houston County's portion is \$1,069,528.20. The cities of Warner Robins, Centerville, Perry Byron, Hawkinsville and Pulaski County and Dooly County will be responsible for the balance of \$2,773,634.63.

Chairman Stalnaker clarified that each government would be responsible for payment of their share directly to the contractor.

Mr. Thomson presented a request for approval of a bid. Proposals were solicited for the Phase 4 GCCS Expansion project at the Landfill with three contractors responding. Our landfill consulting engineers Atlantic Coast Consulting have completed their review and evaluation of the proposals and recommend award to Sterns, Conrad and Schmidt Consulting Engineers in the amount of \$611,189.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to approve the award of the Phase 4 GCCS Expansion project at the Landfill to Sterns, Conrad and Schmidt Consulting Engineers (d/b/a SCS Field Services) in the amount of \$611,189. This project is funded by Solid Waste Capital funds.

Mr. McMichael presented a request for approval of a bid. Bids were solicited for one new boom mower for use in the Roads Department with four vendors responding. Purchasing recommends award to low bidder Atlantic & Southern Equipment Company for a 2017 Challenger tractor with a boom mower attachment. This equipment is an approved item in the FY17 budget.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve the award of one new 2017 Challenger MT525E 4WD cab tractor with a 50" Diamond boom mower attachment for use in the Roads Department to Atlantic & Southern Equipment Company of Lake City, GA in the amount of \$150,412. This equipment is funded by the 2012 SPLOST.

County Attorney Tom Hall and Mr. McMichael presented a request for Board of Education bond issue approval. On March 21, 2016, Houston County voters approved the continuation of the E-SPLOST for a maximum of \$135 million from April 1, 2017 thru March 31, 2022 to provide funds for school improvement for safety and security, facilities, technology, and transportation. In order to acquire, construct, and equip these capital outlay projects as soon as possible, the E-SPLOST referendum included the issuance of General Obligation (Sales Tax) Bonds – Series 2017 in the amount of \$30 million.

The Board of Commissioners must pass a resolution providing for the levy and collection of the E-SPLOST to provide the funds for the payment of the principal and interest on the bonds.

Mr. Billy Jerles, General Counsel for the school district, was on-hand to answer any questions.

Continued from page 1260

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to authorize Chairman Stalnaker signing a resolution providing for the levy and collection of an annual tax to provide funds for the payment of the principal and interest on \$30,000,000 in aggregate principal amount of Houston County School District (Georgia) General Obligation (Sales Tax) Bonds, Series 2017. This approval of the bond issue will not constitute an indebtedness or obligation of the County in any way.

Chairman Stalnaker explained that the Board of Education was granted the authority for the bond issue as a part of the referendum approved by the voters under the E-SPLOST.

Mr. McMichael remarked that the bonds were being sold at a premium.

Ms. Robinson presented a request for approval of a bid. Bids were solicited for one new short-bed regular cab pick-up for use in the Water Department with six vendors responding. Purchasing recommends award to low bidder Brannen Motors.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to approve the award of one new 2017 Ford F-150 regular cab short-bed truck for use in the Water Department to Brannen Motor Co. of Unadilla, GA, in the amount of \$20,246.56. This vehicle is an approved item in the FY17 budget and will be funded by Water capital funds.

Ms. Robinson presented a request for approval of a bid. Bids were solicited for two new long-bed regular cab pick-up trucks for use in the Water Department with six vendors responding. Purchasing recommends award to low bidder Brannen motors.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to approve the award of two new 2017 Ford F-150 regular cab long-bed trucks for use in the Water Department to Brannen Motor Co. of Unadilla, GA, at a unit cost of \$20,511.56 for a total amount of \$41,023.12. These vehicles are approved items in the FY17 budget and will be funded by Water capital funds.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to approve the payment of the bills totaling \$1,153,976.51.

Chairman Stalnaker opened the meeting for Public Comments.

Tian Foss, Houston County Family Connection Coordinator, briefed the Board on their upcoming Teen Maze open house event to be held on Thursday, April 6th from 6:pm to 8:pm at the Central Georgia Technical College Warner Robins campus in Building G. She explained that the Teen Maze gives youth from 8th to 12th grade the opportunity to experience life consequences of risky behaviors in a

Continued on page 1262

safe and controlled environment. It is intended to provide youth a place to step back, experience, and think before they find themselves in a dangerous situation and are forced to make a split-second decision that could change their life forever.

Maurice Clark, 1616 S. Houston Lake Road, Kathleen conveyed his concern of excessive speeding on Houston Lake Road specifically between Cohen Walker Drive and the Houston Lake Country Club. He asked for help in either lowering the speed limit or perhaps increasing patrols to enhance enforcement.

Chairman Stalnaker explained that the posted 45 MPH speed limit along that stretch was already relatively low for that type of roadway and thought that increased enforcement and the placement of radar speed display signs would be a better answer to slow drivers down. He indicated that he would speak with Sheriff Talton about possibly utilizing those measures.

There being no further comments the meeting continued.

Chairman Stalnaker opened the meeting for Commissioners comments.

Mr. Walker thanked everyone for coming and remarked that we were very fortunate to live in Houston County.

Chairman Stalnaker acknowledged Mayor Toms and asked him if he agreed that speeding on our local roadways was an issue.

Mayor Toms agreed that it was a problem.

Mr. Thomson thanked everyone who came out to vote on the SPLOST referendum.

Mr. McMichael apologized for missing the last Board meeting and explained that it was due to a medical issue.

Motion to Adjourn by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all.

Barry Holland
Director of Administration

Chairman

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

