

## PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing was held on Monday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012, 5:00 p.m. for the purpose of discussing zoning cases that have been brought before the Elbert County Planning Commission for requested changes. Anyone present has the opportunity to express concerns on any of the proposed changes. The hearing was held in the Commission Meeting Room of the County Government Complex.

### MINUTES ELBERT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MONDAY, DECEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2012

Chairman Lyon called the meeting to order. Present were Chairman Tommy Lyon, Vice-Chair Horace Harper, Commissioner Harold Reynolds, Commissioner Frank Eaves, Commissioner Freddie Jones, County Attorney Bill Daughtry, County Clerk Judy Vaughn, County CFO Phil Pitts and County Administrator Bob Thomas. Absent due to sickness was Commissioner Kenneth Ashworth.

After the Pledge to the United States Flag, the invocation was given by Bob Thomas.

**Adoption of agenda.** Commissioner Eaves made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-0.

**Adoption of minutes for Monthly Meeting November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012.** Commissioner Reynolds made a motion to adopt the minutes as read. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-0.

**Adoption of minutes for Executive Session November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012.** Commissioner Eaves made a motion to adopt the minutes. Commissioner Reynolds seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-0.

Before continuing with the meeting, Chairman Lyon chose this time to recognize out-going Commissioner Frank Eaves. Chairman Lyon presented Commissioner Eaves with a plaque acknowledging his four years of service to Elbert County. Commissioner Eaves chose not to run again for this position, and beginning January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013, District 3 will be represented by Chris Alexander.

**Chip Rousey, representing the Northside Neighborhood Watch, came before the Board to discuss the Stevens School building and property.** The Northside Neighborhood Watch's main wish is that the property not fall into a state of disrepair. The City of Elberton already has a playground on a portion of the property. He would like to see the County and the City make a joint effort to salvage the building. They could share the cost. There are companies that will come in and do this work. Being in a residential neighborhood, he asks that the Board be conscious of that when making a decision on how to dispose of the building and property.

**Dan Walker, auditor with Walker and Associates, to present the 2012 Fiscal Year Audit.** Due to not having all the information needed on a grant, Mr. Walker was not prepared for his presentation today. We will schedule a meeting next week when he is ready.

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**Discussion on Stevens School property at 230 Tate Street. (Tabled from November meeting.)** County Administrator Bob Thomas checked into the price to put a fence around the property, and the cost will be somewhere around \$7200. His and the Board's concern is for the safety of children that are going onto the property and into the building. The cost to remove asbestos from the old school will be around \$30,000. Our Road Department can tear the building down, and perhaps there are some things that can be salvaged. Mr. Thomas stated that we can tear down the building, clean the lot and hold onto it for the time being. Mr. Thomas was asked to contact the City of Elberton to see if they are interested in taking the building or helping tear it down.

**Review and approve RFQ proposals for an Energy Services Contract on Government Complex, Detention Center and Courthouse.** There is going to be a GEFA conference in January regarding energy funds. Phil Pitts, our CFO, will be attending that conference. He will find out if there will be any funds available for this project. Mr. Thomas asked that we postpone a decision on this contract until February, 2013. Chairman Lyon called for a motion to table. Commissioner Harper made a motion to table this Energy Services Contract decision until the February meeting in 2013. Commissioner Reynolds seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-0.

**Review and approve bids for an ambulance purchase.** Chuck Almond, EMS Director, informed the Board that he had sent out five requests for bids. He received only one back, and that was from Emergency Vehicle Sales. He stated that if we accept this bid, delivery will be in April, 2013. EVS is the same model that we currently have, and it will work with the equipment we are using. If we order in December, we will save about \$8,000. The cost of the ambulance is \$122,347, and the funds to pay for it will come from SPLOST. Commissioner Harper made a motion to accept the bid of \$122,347 from EVS. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-0.

**Review and approve bids for vehicle for Tax Assessor's office.** The Tax Assessor's office received three bids for a 2013 Grand Cherokee Laredo. The lowest bid was from Ed Murdock in the amount of \$27,988. County Administrator Bob Thomas recommends accepting the low bid from Ed Murdock. This vehicle will also be paid for with SPLOST funds, and delivery will be January, 2013. Commissioner Jones made a motion to accept the low bid from Ed Murdock in the amount of \$27,988. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-0.

**Discussion and approval of road projects for 2013 LMIG State Program.** LMIG is a type of grant program. We are now allocated an amount of money based on road miles. The cost of repairs for our list of roads is \$1.7 million. We have gone over the list and reduced the amount some by leaving only the worst or most needed repairs. We got the amount down to \$855,000; however, we only have about \$590,000 to work with. Mr. Thomas suggests that we submit this list to the State to go ahead and get it in the system; since the deadline is approaching. Then we can determine what we can actually do. Commissioner Reynolds made a motion to submit this list to the State. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-0.

**Approval of 2013 Beer and Wine License for New Junction, LLC.** This business has met all the requirements need to renew their license. Commissioner Harper made a motion to approve the Beer and Wine License. Commissioner Reynolds seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-0.

**Discussion and approval of a \$70,090 grant from the Accountability Court Funding Committee to the Superior Court Drug Court, including Service Agreement and Resolution.** Superior Court Judge John



Bailey addressed the Board on this item. He explained that there is a nationwide movement to go from punishment to treatment for drug offenders. He wants to go forward and set up his court the way he thinks will be best. He has talked with Mrs. Carol Moon, who has agreed to be the Program Co-coordinator for this project. Those that will be involved have already attended training, and there will be more ahead. Judge Bailey assured the Board that this will not cost the County any money, but we will have to administer it. He feels strongly that this program will work for drug offenders. He thinks it will also be more cost effective to treat them and get them working and back on their feet. Our county attorney has prepared a resolution for this program, a Service Agreement with Carol Moon and a Service Agreement with Advantage Behavioral. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to approve the acceptance of this grant, the resolution, and the two service agreements. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-0.

**Approval of a resolution for Elbert County's Local Emergency Operations Plan.** It is mandatory that we have this plan in place. Commissioner Harper made a motion to approve the plan. Commissioner Reynolds seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-0.

**Review and approval of the Elbert County Planning Commission's recommendations for the following requests:**

- 1) Planning Commission requests a six month grace period for zoning requests.
- 2) Robert Sides – 1884 Stinchcomb Rd. from Mixed Use to Industrial (map change)
- 3) Kenneth Ashworth-1756 Lloyd Rousey from Residential 1 to Agricultural (map change)
- 4) Granite Shed -2325 Hartwell Hwy. from Mixed Use to Industrial. (map change)
- 5) Michael Bernardin-1204 Thirteen Fords from Residential to Rural Residential.
- 6) James Eutsler – 1447 Tobe Wells Rd from Rural Residential to GB.

The Planning Commission feels that they should establish a six months grace period for changes before we start charging for the requests. This will allow them time to make necessary changes to the zoning map. Commissioner Harper made a motion to approve the six months grace period. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-0.

On Items 2 thru 6, Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve these requested changes. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-0.

**Finance report given by CFO Phil Pitts.** Mr. Pitts updated the Board on our SPLOST situation. He informed them that SPLOST comes in at the end of each month. He first takes out the amounts going to the City of Bowman, City of Elberton and Elbert Memorial Hospital. He then takes \$40,000 to pay back our General Fund. The remainder is what we have left for our projects. We will not make any purchases unless we have the SPLOST funds on hand. We are still struggling to make money at Solid Waste. General Fund continues to subsidize SW if they don't make enough. You will note that Registrar and Elections has a negative balance due to the elections in 2012. Since the elections are over, the balance should stay positive for the rest of this year.

**Public comments on agenda items.** There were no public comments.

**Adjourn.** Commissioner Harper made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-0.