

**Public Hearing  
Elbert County Board of Commissioners  
Monday, August 10, 2015**

A public hearing was held to consider rezoning the property at 1013 Joru Drive from R-1 (Residential) to GB (General Business).

**Minutes  
Elbert County Board of Commissioners  
Monday, August 10, 2015**

**Chairman Tommy Lyon called the meeting to order.** Present for the meeting were Chairman Lyon, Commissioner Lee Vaughn, Commissioner Chris Alexander, Commissioner Kenneth Ashworth, Commissioner Freddie Jones, County Administrator Bob Thomas, County Attorney Bill Daughtry, County Clerk Tamara Butler, CFO Phil Pitts. Vice- Chairman Horace Harper was not present.

After the pledge to the United States Flag, the innovation was given by County Attorney Bill Daughtry.

**Adoption of Agenda.** Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Vaughn seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-0. Chairman Lyon then requested to amend the agenda by adding 13A)- Modification to Chapter 62 of the Code of Ordinances. Commissioner Vaughn made a motion to amend the agenda. Commissioner Ashworth seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-0.

**Adoption of minutes for July 13, 2015.** Commissioner Alexander made a motion to adopt the minutes as read. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-0.

**Review and approval of a beer/wine license for Jax Quickstop, 2379 Calhoun Falls Hwy.** Jimmy Webb as attorney for Joshua McGuire, appeared before the board stating that Mr. McGuire is in the process of purchasing the property on a rent to own basis. Mr. Thomas advised the board that all requirements had been met including the payment of back taxes owed on the property. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to approve the beer/wine license. Commissioner Vaughn seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-0.

**Discussion and approval of a Resolution accepting the dedication of property from the Georgia DOT and approving the recording of a quitclaim deed.** This property was originally part of the Overhead Bridge project. This reading is merely a formality before being accepted and recorded. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion approve and accept the resolution. Commissioner Vaughn seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-0.

**Notification by the City of Elberton annexing the property located at 1705 Creekview Drive.** The residents of this property asked to be annexed into the city and this is for notification only by the city, therefore no objections made and no vote.

**Request from District Attorney Parks White for \$4,000 to purchase and implement a Laserfiche case management system which will allow for electronic paperless access and long storage of files.** Total cost of the system is \$67,000. The estimated annual cost to maintain the system will be \$8,000. Mr. Thomas contacted the other counties and stated that Hart County tabled it; Oglethorpe approved it, Madison has not acted and he hasn't heard from Franklin County. Therefore, the request was tabled until more information is gathered. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to table the request until the next meeting. Commissioner Alexander seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-0.

**Discussion and approval of a rezoning request from Imogene Ruff to rezone property at 1013 Joru Drive from Residential to General Business.** There was a public hearing held before the regular meeting and no comments were made. Mrs. Ruff made a request to rezone the property to general business as she will be running an insurance office out of her home. The land around this property is zoned for commercial use. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to approve the rezoning request. Commissioner Vaughn seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-0.

**Discussion and approval of the following recommendations of the Elbert County Planning Commission.**

Combining A-ag parcel #029-50 (172.82 acres) with R-1 parcel # 029-49A (4.27 acres)  
Combining A-ag parcel #062-001 (214.96 acres) with RR parcel # 062-001F ( 5 acres)  
Combining RR Parcel #006-087 (10.61 acres) with R-1 parcel #006-086 ( 5 acres)

All 3 parcels are adjoined and owned by 1 person. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to approve the combining of properties. Commissioner Alexander seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Ashworth then made a motion to add all the parcels into 1 parcel. Commissioner Alexander seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-0.

**Discussion from residents on Buck Trail and Doe Run Roads for acceptance into the county maintenance program.** Mr. Thomas stated that most of the petitioners of this request are renters and not owners of the properties mentioned. County Attorney Bill Daughtry also stated that County Ordinance 3651-3659 prohibits construction of new roads. The request was tabled until further review by a vote of 4-0.

**Discussion and approval of the following citizens to the Elbert County Planning Commission for 2 year terms:** Charles Cecchini, Cosby "Butch" Smith, Judy Vaughn. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to approve the recommendations. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-0.

**Discussion on advertising for public hearings on the 2015 millage rate.** There will be 3 public hearings before the vote on whether to add 1 mill for 3 years to go to the hospital. Commissioner Ashworth spoke against an increase for the hospital and asked why not let AnMed take over. Chairman Lyon stated his concerns about the loss of jobs and the effect closing the hospital would have on the nursing homes, not the mention the rise in the cost of workers comp insurance for the Elberton Granite Association. He stated these are all things to think about before the vote.

**Update on Bobby Brown Park.** Mr. Thomas started by saying this is the first full month of operations and gave a summary of how many campers there were and from what areas and the

revenues brought in. The expenses did exceed revenues for the month due to startup cost but expects that to level off. The months ahead look promising as many campers have stated they will be returning and anglers are getting ready for the fall fishing season.

**13A) Amendment to the Agenda.** To amend Elbert County Code of Ordinances Chapter 62- Solid Waste, more particularly described as follows: to consider an amendment to Section 62-53 of said Chapter to modify the criteria to be considered by the Board of Commissioners of Elbert County in evaluating requests for special use permits. This item is considered as a first reading and no vote is necessary. The second reading is scheduled for the September meeting and requires a public hearing and vote.

**Financial Report.** CFO Phil Pitts stated that July is the first month of the FY, therefore it is hard to look at one month to see how things are going; but SPLOST for the month was showing an upward trend.

**Public Comments.** John Clark came before the board concerning the hospital and the number of people at poverty level who need the hospital. He's also concerned about the loss of jobs. He said to keep people in mind when voting.

**Executive Session.** Commissioner Jones made a motion to enter into Executive Session for litigation. Commissioner Vaughn seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-0.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Commission Vaughn seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-0.

Chairman Lyon stated that no action was taken during Executive Session.

**Adjournment.** Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Alexander seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-0.