

ELBERT COUNTY
Board of Commissioners

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PHIL PITTS, Finance Director
TAMARA BUTLER, Co. Clerk
BILL DAUGHTRY, Co. Attorney

Public Hearing
Elbert County Board of Commissioners
November 14, 2016

A Public Hearing was held to hear rezoning changes as follows: Request from Hulet Smith to rezone property at 1353 Athens Highway from R-1 (Residential) to GB (General Business) for an inbound call center. The Planning Commissioner voted to approve the request.

There were no public comments concerning this rezoning change.

Minutes
Elbert County Board of Commissioners
November 14, 2016

Chairman Tommy Lyon called the meeting to order. Present were Chairman Lyon, Vice Chairman Horace Harper, 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.

After the pledge to the United States flag, the invocation was given by Commissioner Ashworth.

Adoption of Agenda. Commissioner Jones made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Vaughn seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Adoption of the minutes of the Regular Meeting on October 10, 2016 and the Called Meeting on October 21, 2016. Commissioner Harper made a motion to adopt the minutes as read. Commissioner Ashworth seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and approval of a resolution to declare November 15, 2016 as Foster and Adoptive Parents Appreciation Day. After Mr. Thomas read the Resolution; Christy Daniels, Director, came before the Board thanking them and also to say there is a real need in the county for foster and adoptive parents. Commissioner Harper made a motion to approve the Resolution. Commissioner Ashworth seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion of a request from the American Legion Post 14 to lease or purchase the old 4-H building adjacent to the fairgrounds. Mr. Thomas stated Mr. Wilbert Williams had contacted him looking for a post home in Elbert County to assist veterans. He noticed the 4-H building was not in use; but Mr. Thomas stated that 4-H was still using the building for their BB and archery teams practice. Mr.

Williams said that they could work around the schedule if their request was approved. Mr. Daughtry stated the county could not sell the building outright without giving others the opportunity to bid. Chairman Lyon said to get more information together for future discussion.

Discussion and approval of a rezoning request from Hulet Smith to rezone property at 1353 Athens Highway from R-1 (Residential) to GB (General Business) for an inbound call center. Mr. Thomas stated this is an inbound call center for wholesale medical supplies. There is no selling of merchandise from this location. The Planning Commission recommended approving the request. Commissioner Vaughn made a motion to approve the rezoning request. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion regarding a request to conduct a self-funding energy audit for upgrades to county buildings to determine cost savings on monthly utility operations. This would include lighting, heating/air conditioning and insulation. The audit would determine the cost of replacement and construction which would be paid by utility savings over the life of the contract. Mr. Jason Anderson with ABM had come before the board at the work session to discuss details of this self-funding audit. ABM is currently in a contract with the Board of Education. It is called a self-funded audit because they guarantee that the payback is enough to cover the cost of them coming in to do the work. Another company has also been in contact with us; so before we move forward, we need to advertise for a "Request for Qualifications" in case there are any additional interested companies. No vote is required.

Discussion and approval to sell one (1) radio tower declared as surplus. Mr. Thomas stated this is a 200 ft. radio tower that was basically given to us. Because we knew we were moving forward with the communications project; we found out that if we use this tower we would have to do an engineering study to erect the tower. The Communications Project is an all-inclusive project, therefore if we declare this tower as surplus to sell; we could use the funds to offset the expense of the project. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to approve the tower as surplus. Commissioner Vaughn seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and approval of a Shared Use Agreement with Hart EMC to allow Elbert County to place an antenna on one of their towers to enhance our mobile communications project. Mr. Daughtry stated Emergency Services has been in contact with Hart EMC about using their existing tower on Brewers Mill Road. Hart EMC has proposed to lease space to them for \$1,200 per year with 3% increases each year thereafter. They would provide emergency power; the main power source is our responsibility. Any engineering cost incurred would also be our responsibility. Mr. Chuck Almond, EMS Director thinks this is a good idea and recommends that it be approved. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to approve the agreement. Commissioner Alexander seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and approval of a GADOT Grant Application for the Elbert County Senior Center. Mr. Thomas stated this is an annual grant for the transit program in the amount of \$279,945.00. He went on to say how important this program is to Elbert County citizens and is an asset to the community. Commissioner Harper made a motion to approve the grant application. Commissioner Alexander seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Finance Report. Mr. Pitts stated the General Fund is 0.06% over budget. Eighteen departments are over budget but most is simply a timing issue and will balance out by the end of the year. Revenues

so far this year are \$354,413 less than last year; primarily due to less taxes being collected. As of October 31, there is \$3801.23 in the Hotel/Motel fund to be spent on local programs. Phone fees are higher thru October than last year. Prepaid wireless received is \$4,449 more than last year. Due to moving the convenience centers from the Solid Waste fund , the program is showing a profit of \$48,126 thru 4 months.

Public Comments. There were no public comments.

Executive Session. Chairman Lyon asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of litigation and real estate. Commissioner Harper made the motion. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Lyon asked for a motion to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Harper made the motion. Commissioner Ashworth seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Lyon stated no action was taken during Executive Session.

Adjournment. Commissioner Harper made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Alexander seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.