

The Agenda Setting Meeting of the Oconee County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, April 30, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the Commission Meeting Chambers at the Oconee County Courthouse.

Members Present: Chairman John Daniell
Commissioner Mark Thomas
Commissioner Chuck Horton
Commissioner William E. "Bubber" Wilkes
Commissioner Mark Saxon

Staff Present: Justin Kirouac, County Administrator
Daniel Haygood, County Attorney
Kathy Hayes, County Clerk
Tracye Bailey, Deputy Clerk
Wes Geddings, Finance Director
Diane Baggett, Communications Manager
Merry Howard, Senior Center Director
Jody Woodall, Public Works Director
Sherry Seila, Acting Human Resources Director
Lisa Davol, Parks & Recreation Director

Chairman John Daniell began the Board Meeting at 6:00 p.m. with a moment of silence, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Chuck Horton.

Approval of Agenda:

Chairman John Daniell asked that the agenda be amended to include "Schedule Public Hearing for Text Amendments of the Unified Development Code Article 2 and Article 3." The amended item will be added to the end of the agenda.

On motion by Commissioner Horton and second by Commissioner Thomas, the Agenda was unanimously approved as amended.

Statements and Remarks from Citizens:

None.

Statements and Remarks from Commissioners:

Chairman John Daniell thanked the Oconee County Government Relay for Life Team for their efforts the past weeks and congratulated the team on winning "Best Use of Theme."

Parks & Recreation/Senior Center Annual Custodial Services:

Parks & Recreation Director Lisa Davol presented a recommendation for Annual Custodial Services for Parks & Recreation and the Senior Center. Four contractors responded to the Request for Proposal (RFP) and an RFP Review Committee reviewed the proposals based on the RFP requirements. The Committee's recommendation is Intercontinental Commercial Services, Inc. for Parks & Recreation at \$76,080.00 and the Senior Center at \$28,200.00, which is within the current budget with no increase for the FY20 budget. The contract will begin July 1, 2019 with up to four renewal terms.

Chairman Daniell asked for Public Comment and there was none.

By consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda of the May 7, 2019 Regular Meeting.

Parks & Recreation Concessionaire Services:

Parks & Recreation Director Lisa Davol presented Concessionaire Services Agreements with Oconee County Little League, Inc. (\$5,000.00) and Oconee Futbol Club, Inc. (\$2,000.00) to begin August 1, 2019 and expire June 30, 2020. Oconee County Little League will provide services at Oconee Veterans Park Baseball/Softball Facility and Multi-use Field, Bogart Sports Complex and Herman C. Michael Facility (limited basis). Oconee Futbol Club will provide services at Oconee Veterans Park Soccer Facility.

Chairman Daniell asked for Public Comment and there was none.

By consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda of the May 7, 2019 Regular Meeting.

Bishop Farms Parkway Design Services:

County Administrator Justin Kirouac presented the Project Agreement with Williams & Associates Land Planners for the Bishop Farms Parkway Extension. As agreed in an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Oconee County, the University of North Georgia will contribute \$200,000.00 to the project.

Chairman Daniell opened the Public Comment period.

Cindy Mitchell-McGarvey, member of the Friends of Calls Creek, asked that if the parkway will adversely affect Calls Creek and the wetlands. She stated that wetlands provide opportunities for recreation, fishing, hunting and photography and hopes that the County will protect the creek, as it is a valuable resource.

Vickie Soutar, Chair of Upper Oconee Watershed Network, asked that the best routes with the least impact to the wetlands be considered and to go beyond basic requirements for protecting wetlands. (Ms. Soutar presented each Board Member with a packet of information.) She has contacted the Forestry Commission for suggestions regarding the wetlands and disturbance to Harris Shoals Park.

Chairman Daniell closed the Public Comment period.

By consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda of the May 7, 2019 Regular Meeting.

Peck Circle Partial Abandonment:

County Attorney Daniel Haygood stated that a request to abandon the prescriptive easement for a portion of Peck Circle was approved by the Board on October 2, 2018 after receiving a request from Gregory A. Peck. Mr. Peck asked that a portion of the road, where he owns both sides, be abandoned to allow him to fence the property. Mr. Peck agreed to donate property for an emergency turnaround for the remaining portion of Peck Circle. Surveying is complete and the prescriptive easement may now transfer by a Quit Claim Deed from Oconee County to Gregory A. Peck for the abandoned portion of the prescriptive easement. Conveyance for the right-of-way in the turnaround may now transfer by Quit Claim Deed from Gregory A. Peck to Oconee County.

Chairman Daniell opened the Public Comment period.

Dr. Sarah Bell asked why this had been done. County Attorney Haygood explained that Mr. Peck asked for the partial abandonment, and the Board approved his request in October 2018. Ownership transfer of the abandoned right-of-way and acceptance of the turnaround/cul-de-sac will complete the transaction.

Chairman Daniell closed the Public Comment period.

By consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda of the May 7, 2019 Regular Meeting.

Malcom Bridge Road Improvement Project:

Public Works Director Jody Woodall updated the Board regarding the Malcom Bridge Road Improvement Project for a roundabout at the school bus entrance. The Board of Education has approved the necessary right-of-way and temporary construction easements.

Chairman Daniell gave a brief timeline leading up to the roundabout recommendation with a projected completion date of August 1, 2019, for school openings. Discussions were held with the Board of Education beginning September 4, 2018 through today regarding traffic “stacking” in turn lanes to access school property; County safety concerns for parents, school staff and deputies directing traffic; and future traffic increase for school zone areas. Suggestions from the County to the Board of Education have included additional parking/drive through areas on school property and the installation of roundabouts. The current design allows for “stacking” of the right turn lane. With the installation of a roundabout, traffic “storage” on school property will be needed in order to keep the traffic flowing through the roundabout.

Further discussion from Board members included traffic concerns (vehicles “stacking”) in the turn lanes during the time when parents are picking up students; the parking availability for vehicles to advance onto school property; construction on Malcom Bridge Road; providing public information during school open houses; and public notifications through the County’s Communications Manager.

Chairman Daniell asked for the item to go to the Consent Agenda at the Board’s Regular Meeting on May 7, 2019. Commissioner Saxon asked that the Board take action in consideration of the time needed to install the roundabout.

Chairman Daniell asked for Public Comment and there was none.

On motion by Commissioner Saxon and second by Commissioner Wilkes, the Board unanimously approved the timeline for the bus entrance roundabout and working with the Board of Education to construct the roundabout.

Public Hearing - Unified Development Code Article 2 and 3 Amendments:

County Attorney Daniel Haygood stated that the Unified Development Code requires that a Public Hearing be scheduled at an Agenda Setting Meeting. On motion by Commissioner Thomas and second by Commissioner Horton, the Board unanimously approved a Public Hearing for Unified Development Code Articles 2 and 3 at the Agenda Setting Meeting of the Board on May 7, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers of the Oconee County Courthouse.

Executive Session:

On motion by Commissioner Thomas and second by Commissioner Horton, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn into Executive Session at 6:32 p.m. to discuss personnel matters.

No action was taken in Executive Session.

On motion by Commissioner Saxon and second by Commissioner Horton, the Board adjourned Executive Session at 6:42 p.m.

On motion by Commissioner Saxon and second by Commissioner Horton, the Board adjourned back into Regular Session.

There being no further business, on motion by Commissioner Wilkes and second by Commissioner Thomas, the meeting was adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Chairman John Daniell

Kathy Hayes, County Clerk

Date: _____