

Baldwin County Commissioners
Regular Meeting
February 20, 2018
6:00 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Baldwin County Commissioners was held Tuesday, February 20, 2018, at 6:00 p.m., Baldwin County Courthouse, Suite 319, 121 North Wilkinson Street, Milledgeville, Georgia with Chair Tommy French presiding.

Members Present: Tommy French
John Westmoreland
Emily C. Davis
Sammy Hall
Henry Craig

Also Present: David McRee
Dawn Hudson
Cindy Cunningham
Carlos Tobar

Call to Order

Chair Tommy French called the February 20, 2018 Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Amendment to Agenda

Chair French stated the first Agenda item is a report from Mr. Bill Camp of Raymond James regarding the SPLOST Bond Resolution. However, Mr. Camp is traveling from Atlanta and will be arriving late. Chair French requested that this item be addressed once Mr. Camp arrives.

Vice Chair John Westmoreland made a motion to amend the order of the Agenda regarding Agenda item #1 as recommended by Chair French. Commissioner Henry Craig seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Henry Craig made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 6, 2018 Regular Meeting as submitted. Commissioner Sammy Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Resolution for Adoption of Joint Comprehensive Plan

Ms. Sara Dusenberry of the Middle Georgia Regional Commission reported the 1989 Georgia Planning Act requires that all local governments submit an update of their comprehensive plan. The Joint Comprehensive Plan Update for Baldwin County and the City of Milledgeville was completed, submitted to the Department of Community Affairs for the review and comment, and recommended revisions have been made.

Ms. Dusenberry presented a Resolution for the Board's consideration to adopt the Joint Comprehensive Plan Update for Baldwin County and the City of Milledgeville.

Commissioner Henry Craig made a motion to approve the Resolution as presented to adopt the Comprehensive Plan. Vice Chair John Westmoreland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A copy of the Resolution is herewith attached and made an official part of the minutes at pages _____ and _____.

Social Media Policy

County Manager Carlos Tobar stated discussion was held at a previous meeting regarding the creation of a Facebook page to better communicate with citizens regarding County activities, projects and polices. A policy has been developed outlining the guidelines for the County's Social Media site. The policy will apply to all Baldwin County employees and volunteers. Mr. Tobar presented a Social Media Policy for the Board's consideration.

Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion to approve the Social Media Policy as presented. Commissioner Emily C. Davis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A copy of the Social Media Policy is herewith attached and made an official part of the minutes at pages _____ and _____.

Amendment to Social Networking Policy

County Manager Tobar recommended a change to the County's Social Networking Policy by adding the word "volunteers" to the current Statement of Policy of the Social Networking Policy. The policy will state "Employees and volunteers of Baldwin County...."

Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion to approve the amendment to the Social Networking Policy as presented. Vice Chair John Westmoreland seconded the motion.

Commissioner Henry Craig recommended that the word "should" be changed to "will". He made a motion to amend the original motion by Commissioner Hall with the amendment to also change the word "should" to "will". Commissioner Hall accepted the amendment to his motion.

The motion to amend the Social Networking Policy by adding the word "volunteers" and changing the word "should" to "will" was seconded by Vice Chair Westmoreland and passed unanimously.

A copy of the Social Networking Policy is herewith attached and made an official part of the minutes at pages _____ and _____.

Tax Assessors' Board Per Diem

County Manager Tobar stated the Tax Assessor Board members currently receive a per diem of \$75 for meetings and training days. On January 8, 2018, the Board of Assessors voted to recommend to Commissioners that the per diem be increased from \$75 per day to \$150 per day. Mr. Tobar stated State law requires a minimum of \$20 per diem. Staff also checked with other counties and determined that \$75 is what other counties pay; however, the amount is on the lower end of the scale. County Manager Tobar recommended the per diem amount be increased to \$100.

Commissioner Emily C. Davis made a motion to approve the recommended per diem increase to \$100 for Tax Assessor Board members. The motion died for lack of a second.

Commissioner Henry Craig recommended an amendment to the motion for the per diem increase to \$100 become effective with the next budget cycle. Vice Chair Westmoreland seconded the motion for the purpose of discussion. Commissioner Davis stated she would abstain from voting on the motion because she felt the raise should be granted. The motion failed by the following vote:

Aye: Craig

Abstention: Davis

Nay: French, Hall, Westmoreland

SPLOST Bond Resolution

Mr. Bill Camp with Raymond James presented a Bond Resolution authorizing the issuance by Baldwin County of \$26,000 in principal amount of its general obligation bond, Series 2018; adopting a form for the bond, authorizing the execution of the bond; establishing the date and rate of interest for the bond; levying an annual ad valorem tax on taxable property within Baldwin County, Georgia, sufficient to pay the principal and interest on the bond as the same become due; authorizing the sale of the bond to JP Morgan Chase Bank, NA and for other related purposes.

Mr. Camp presented a proposal detailing the bonds stating the interest rate will be 2.78% with the anticipated closing date of March 6th. He stated sales tax revenue is project to be enough to pay the principal and interest on the bond.

Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion that the Resolution and proposal be approved as presented. Commissioner Henry Craig seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A copy of the Resolution and proposal are herewith attached and made an official part of the minutes at pages _____ and _____.

Old Business

Vice Chair Westmoreland requested an update on the pool. Commissioner Craig stated a meeting of the Aquatic Committee was held, and he felt it was a very productive meeting. He stated the Committee is working on developing a mission statement.

Vice Chair Westmoreland requested that the County revisit the Noise Ordinance and Nuisance Ordinance. He stated there are some event venues throughout the County that he feels necessitate a review and possible revision to those ordinances.

Commissioner Craig stated he felt this is more of a "Land Use" issue rather than a "noise" issue and feels the Land Use Code must be amended.

Chair French asked Commissioner Craig and Vice Chair Westmoreland to meet with the County Attorney to look at these ordinances and report back to the Board at a later meeting.

Chair French stated Commissioners and staff have reviewed the proposed International Property Maintenance Codes (IPMC). He recommended the County make available the revised International Property Maintenance Code for the public's review and comment. He asked that this document be placed on the County's website, and that a copy be available at the Commissioners' office. He recommended that a public hearing be scheduled on the IPMC. Commissioners set a public hearing for 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 3, 2018.

County Manager's Report

County Manager Carlos Tobar presented the following report on his activities: toured the Fire Station Headquarters and EMA office; reviewed the five year plan for the Fire Department; toured CDBG target area with consultants and engineers; toured old jail with GDC Director of Construction / Community Services; sent letters to legislative delegation requesting assistance from DOC in renovating portion of old jail facility for n for Animal Control; new software being utilized at Animal Control; attended gym court pre-bid meeting; new gym items needed prior to floor installation were ordered; requested Recreation Department update forms; continued to study Land Use Code; will be interviewing applicants for Road Department openings on Thursday; and discussed Courthouse clock tower options.

Public Comment for Non-Agenda Items

There were no comments.

Adjournment

Commissioner Henry Craig made a motion to adjourn the February 20, 2018 Regular Meeting at 6:45 p.m. Commissioner Emily Davis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Tommy L. French
Chair

Cynthia K. Cunningham
County Clerk
