

CHARLTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
COUNTY AUDITORIUM
68 KINGSLAND DRIVE, SUITE B
FOLKSTON, GA 31537
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH, 2024
6:00 PM

9/5/2024 - Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 5:59 PM.

Present was Chairman Jesse Crews, Vice Chairman Alphya Benefield, Commissioner James Everett, Commissioner Drew Jones, Commissioner Luke Gowen, County Administrator Hampton Raulerson, County Attorney John Adams, HR/Finance Coordinator Rebecca Harden, and County Clerk Madeline Nettles.

All guests are recorded hereafter.

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Commissioner Benefield led the invocation.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Everett made a motion to amend the agenda, with the amendment falling behind item #13. Commissioner Gowen seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Benefield made a motion to accept the amended agenda. Commissioner Gowen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Commissioner Gowen made a motion to approve both sets of minutes. Commissioner Everett seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

5. HEAR FROM MERRILL VARN AND COASTAL RESOURCES DIVISION ABOUT COASTAL INCENTIVE GRANT

Jan MacKinnon spoke to the Board of Commissioners about possible funding opportunities through the Coastal Incentive Grant.

Merrill Varn spoke to the board about a potential grant proposal regarding flooding vulnerability and stormwater infrastructure assessment in the county.

6. CONSIDER LAND CLEARING BID

Commissioner Gowen motioned to award the bid to CoreCon Solutions LLC for the amount of \$42,239.00. Commissioner Benefield seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Cost of land clearing would come from LATCF fund.

7. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CULVERT PIPE PURCHASE

Commissioner Benefield made a motion to approve pipe purchase through Consolidated Pipe and Supply Company Inc. for the amount of \$10,260.00. Commissioner Everett seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Cost of purchase would come from TSPLOST funds.

Commissioner Jones confirmed with Road Superintendent Ronnie Pollock that there would be no issues working with the vendor to complete the project.

8. CONSIDER PURCHASE OF TABLETS FOR EMS

Commissioner Benefield made a motion to approve purchase of tablets through GovConnection Inc. for the amount of \$9,472.48. Commissioner Gowen seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Everett asked about grants available for funding purchase. EMS Director Bruce Young stated that EMS is given an annual sum, but it is not enough to replace the tablets as the funds have been used to repair the current tablets each year.

9. CONSIDER AC REPLACEMENT

Commissioner Benefield made a motion to approve purchase through HendrixAir Heating and Cooling for the amount of \$59,184.00. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Cost of replacement would come from ARPA.

10. CONSIDER CHANGE ORDER REQUEST FOR THE FOLKSTON FIRESTATION

Commissioner Benefield made a motion to approve change order request with Tyco Construction and Industrial Services, Inc. in the amount of \$6,000.00. Commissioner Everett seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Cost for fire station improvements would come from ARPA fund.

11. CONSIDER RESOLUTION TO AMEND SECTION 110-182 AND REPEAL 110-184 OF CODE OF ORDINANCES

Commissioner Everett made a motion to adopt the ordinance as proposed. Commissioner Benefield seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

12. CONSIDER TIMBER HARVESTING ORDINANCE

Commissioner Jones made a motion to adopt the ordinance as proposed. Commissioner Gowen seconded the motion.

Commissioner Jones asked who would reconcile the ledger and ensure the reporting forms and notification system matches. County Administrator Raulerson stated that it would be the tax assessor's office. Gary Tippins of the Board of Assessors provided clarification.

Motion carried unanimously.

13. DISCUSS NUISANCE ORDINANCE PROPOSAL

Chairman Crews recommended there not be a second reading of the proposed ordinance and the proposal be dropped. The board agreed.

No second reading took place. No action was taken.

AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA: CONSIDER CHANGING DEMOLITION PERMIT FEE

Commissioner Gowen made a motion to remove demolition permit fee. Commissioner Benefield seconded the motion.

Chairman Crews clarified that the permit is still required but the fee associated with the permit would no longer exist. Gary Tippins of the Board of Assessors clarified that the permit for demolition would allow for a paper trail to remove structures from property owners' taxes.

Motion carried unanimously.

14. ACKNOWLEDGE MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT

HR Coordinator Harden said the report was just for the commissioners' information. No action was taken.

15. PUBLIC COMMENTS: (PLEASE LIMIT TO 3 MINUTES)

Robert Mahoney discussed new RV park being constructed on Country Club Drive and stated that he has concerns about permanent residents and how RV parks operate within the county currently. County Administrator Raulerson clarified that there are no ordinances currently in place regulating the amount of time someone can reside in an RV, except for the county owned RV park at Traders Hill. The only regulation on RVs currently is that they must pass building inspection.

16. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Chairman Crews, Commissioner Jones, Commissioner Benefield, and Commissioner Gowen thanked the audience for their attendance and participation in meetings and public hearings.

Commissioner Benefield reminded the audience to be mindful of the new COVID strain.

All of the commissioners shared sentiments and thanked County Administrator Raulerson for his work with the county.

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF REQUIRED)

Commissioner Gowen made a motion to enter executive session to discuss personnel. Commissioner Benefield seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioners entered executive session at 6:38 PM.

Commissioners exited executive session at 6:43 PM. No action was taken during executive session.

18. NEXT MEETING:

Next meeting is September 19th, 2024 at 6:00 PM in the St. George Community Room.

19. ADJOURN

Commissioner Gowen made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Jones seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:44 PM.

Jesse A. Crews, Chairman

Madeline Nettles, County Clerk