

MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL CALLED MEETING OF THE WHITFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2010, AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING #2, 214 W. KING STREET

WORK SESSION

1. THE WORK SESSION WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN
2. Line Item Budget Presentations:
 - a. Presentation given by Trammell Suddeth for the Tax Assessor's Office
 - b. Presentation given by Tim Miller for the IT Department
 - c. Presentation given by Ron Hale for the Finance and Transit Departments
 - d. Presentation given by Major Gibson for the Sheriff's Department
3. Adjourn

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

The Chairman called the meeting to order.
Pledge of allegiance to the Flag
Roll call to determine quorum

The following members were present:

Mike Babb, Chairman
Harold Brooker, Vice Chairman
Greg Jones, Member
Randy Waskul, Member
Mike Cowan, Member

Others Present:

Citizens
Robert McLeod, County Administrator
Robert Smalley, County Attorney
Dept Heads
Press

A Motion to approve the agenda was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Cowan. Approval of the agenda was unanimous.

CONSENT AGENDA #1:

1. **Varnell Sewer Extension Intergovernmental Agreement:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement with Dalton Utilities for the Varnell Sewer Extension. The agreement with Dalton Utilities is for the work to extend the sanitary sewer force main north of Highway 2 on Cleveland Highway to Upper Varnell Road. It was established that the project cost will be paid for by the Whitfield County Board of Commissioners in the estimated amount of \$145,000.00. However, the agreement also stipulated that the numbers included for the total cost of the project and the capacity cost per equivalent residential lot were provided as an example only and the final numbers will be entered once the final total construction cost of the new infrastructure is known. In discussion, County Attorney, Robert Smalley mentioned that this was a follow-up on action taken by the Board in August to bid out the project. Mr. Smalley further stipulated that this agreement simply guaranteed that Whitfield County will pay Dalton Utilities for the actual cost of the project. Mr. Smalley said that the work had been estimated to be substantially lower than the estimated amount of \$145,000.00. Chairman Babb then mentioned that discussions had been back and forth between Dalton Utilities concerning this project and this agreement was Dalton Utilities response to the Board's request for bid submissions in August. Chairman Babb also pointed out that the anticipated cost of the project will be much lower than \$145,000.00, although the County is guaranteeing to pay Dalton Utilities the actual cost. Commissioner Waskul suggested that if the Board knows that the bid will be substantially lower, it may be prudent to put a bid out. Chairman Babb responded that was the original intent of the Board in August and that Dalton Utilities response was that their submission was the way that they

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handled each contract and that they did not want to set a precedent of changing their contract negotiations. Commissioner Waskul brought up that not having a good bid estimate may have made the Board end up paying more for the Tunnel Hill sewer work than they were originally expecting. Commissioner Brooker replied that the additional amount paid was supplement and not a contract per say. Commissioner Brooker also mentioned that the Board voted unanimously to pay \$150,000.00 for the sewer work in August and Commissioner Waskul responded that vote was before the Board had a complete bid quote and was based off of an engineering estimate. Commissioner Waskul then asked who would be monitoring the project and Mr. McLeod said that there wasn't an established procedure as of yet for the Varnell Sewer. Mr. Smalley mentioned that the agreement stipulates that Dalton Utilities will track the progress of the project. The idea of rebidding the project was brought up and Commissioner Waskul said that was unnecessary, he just wanted to make sure that the Commissioners saw all project invoices prior to payment. He mentioned that he would just like to know the total project costs. Chairman Babb asked Mr. Smalley if he had any concerns with the agreement and Mr. Smalley said that while it was true that the Board was taking some risk, he believed that risk to be slight. The motion was approved 3-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Cowan, and Jones in agreement and Commissioner Waskul abstaining from voting. **(SEE EXHIBIT "A")**

2. **Disposal of Assets:** Motion was made by Commissioner Waskul and seconded by Commissioner Cowan to declare 27 vehicles and 2 copiers in the Sheriff's Department to be excess and authorize their disposal. The Sheriff's office had 27 vehicles that had been wrecked over a period of time. They were stored until all usable parts were removed to repair active vehicles and were then at the point that they could only be crushed or scrapped. The vehicles did not contain any parts worth listing on GovDeals for sale. In addition, the Sheriff's Department also had two very old copiers that no longer worked, that were listed as assets and needed to be carted away. It was mentioned that the Sheriff's Department had tried to sell some of these items on GovDeals in the past and never received a single bid. For the copiers, their asset numbers were 2264 and 1474 and they were fully depreciated. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Cowan, Jones and Waskul in agreement.
3. **Commerce Park II Wetlands Delineation & Ecology Report:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Waskul to accept a proposal by Moreland Altobelli Associates for an Ecology Field Survey Report and Wetlands mapping for an amount not to exceed \$23,960.00 for the Commerce Park II. It was mentioned that in order for the design of the Commerce Park II property to proceed, a wetlands assessment and ecology report had to be performed. Moreland Altobelli Associates provided a quote for the professional services. For the Commerce Park II Wetlands Delineation & Ecology Report the total fees were set not to exceed \$23,960.00. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Cowan, Jones and Waskul in agreement. **(SEE EXHIBIT "B")**

PUBLIC COMMENT: During the public comment opening, Commissioner Waskul requested a review of the Hamilton EMS services over the past year and Commissioner Brooker asked for an update on the Airport and Hurricane Road projects.

ADJOURN: Unanimous

MIKE BABB, CHAIRMAN

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SAMANTHA BEARDEN, COUNTY CLERK

DATE: / /