



The McDuffie County Board of Commissioners held a Regular Commission Meeting
Tuesday Evening, February 15, 2022, 6:30 pm
Government Center Meeting Room

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Charles Newton, IV, Chairman
Sammie Wilson, Vice Chairman
Bill Jopling, Commissioner
Frederick Favors, Commissioner
Gloria Thompson, Commissioner

COUNTY REPRESENTATION:

David Crawley, County Manager
Nikki Milburn, County Clerk
Pam Workman, Finance Director
Chase Beggs, Planning and Zoning
Stephen Sewell, Fire/EMS

MEDIA: Erin Burditt, McDuffie Progress

Others: 10

Public Hearing

1. **Request for Rezoning and Variance Request: R-2 to C-2 for 138 Westwood Dr., 1152 Earle Street and Earle Street, Thomson.**

Chase presented the Board with a request to rezone from R-2 to C-2 and a variance request for 138 Westwood Dr and 1152 Earle Street. This location is proposed for an extended stay hotel and multi-retail development. The planning board recommended the approval of this request with the conditions that the development includes a lighting site plan to mitigate glare for the residents, landscape buffer along property line and privacy fence on residential side. Chairman Newton asked if there were any questions or comments.

Chairman Newton asked if there were any questions or concerns regarding the requests, hearing no response the public hearing portion of the meeting was closed.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Newton called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm, acknowledged a quorum of commissioners present and welcomed everyone in attendance.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Chairman Wilson offered the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC INPUT

Arlene Brooks- She asked to address the board regarding her concerns at the housing authority.

Chairman Newton advised her that unfortunately the board doesn't have any say at the housing authority and she would be better served speaking to the city council regarding the matter. She was given the date to the next city council meeting.

Paul Daly- He congratulated the board on the awarded broadband grant. Mr. Daly wanted to know why his comment regarding the fire fee and Dearing's participation was not including in the last set of minutes. He also expressed concerns over the public relations position that was approved for advertisement and doesn't see why a small community would need to hire for such position.

APPROVALS

Agenda (Current)

Chairman Newton asked if there were any corrections to the current agenda or minutes.

Vice Chairman Wilson made the motion to approve the current agenda as writing and was seconded by Commissioner Jopling and passed unanimously.

Minutes

Work Session- January 31, 2022

Regular Meeting- February 2, 2022

Executive Session- February 2, 2022

Commissioner Jopling made the motion to approve minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Wilson and passes unanimously.

INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. 50th Annual Chamber Gala: Friday, March 4th at Bordeaux Event Center, 5:00pm-10pm.
2. McDuffie Mixer: Thursday, March 24th, 5:30-7:30 at McDuffie Museum.
3. ACCG Annual Conference: April 28-May 1, Savannah. (Registration opens February 23rd, please see Nikki)

APPOINTMENT/REAPPOINTMENTS

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Consideration to Accept Planning Board Recommendation for Rezoning and Variance Request for 138 Westwood Drive and 1152 Earle Street.**

Chairman Newton asked if there was any further discussion for this request.

Commissioner Thompson made the motion to uphold the planning board recommendation with conditions. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jopling and passed unanimously.

2. **Consideration to Approve Audit Engagement Letter.**

Chairman Newton advised that Baird Audit Group has the audit engagement letter for the year. David advised that there is an increase of \$2,000 for the single audit that will be required due to federal funds received.

Commissioner Jopling made the motion to approve the audit engagement letter with Baird. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Wilson and passed unanimously.

3. **Consideration to Approve Change Order for West Bypass Project.**

David advised that he spoke with Augusta Tech regarding the addition of conduit so fiber can be run for the school campus. They have agreed to pay half of the cost of \$17,775.00 to have this completed.

Vice Chairman Wilson made the motion to approve the change order. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jopling and passed unanimously.

4. **Consideration to Approve Proposal for Engineering Services with IES for Landfill.**

David advised that this proposal is for engineering service with Innovative Engineering Strategies, LLC., they have been providing the service in previous years and continue to do a good job. This service is funded by the landfill surcharge fund.

Commissioner Thompson made the motion to approve the engineering service agreement with IES. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jopling and passed unanimously.

5. Consideration to Approve Equipment Purchase.

David advised that he has 2 price quotes from Yancey for a dozer that would be used at the road department and solid waste if needed. The price for the certified used is \$195,406 and the new is quoted at \$405,500.00. Chairman Newton advised that he would prefer to purchase the used but asked David to inquire about Yancey waiving any service fees.

Commissioner Jopling made the motion to approve the purchase of the used dozer pending Yancey waiving any services fees for the equipment. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Thompson and passed unanimously.

6. Consideration to Approve Purchase for Fire Department.

David advised that the fire and EMS department is requesting the purchase of a breathing air compressor. The cost for this purchase is \$39,233.00 and funding source is SPLOST VI.

Vice Chairman Wilson made the motion to approve the purchase of equipment. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Thompson and passed unanimously.

7. Monthly Budget Report

David presented the monthly budget report.

8. Monthly Financial Report

Pam presented the monthly financial report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Property Acquisition

2. Personnel


Enter: Vice Chairman Wilson made the motion to enter executive session at 6:58 pm. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jopling and passed unanimously.

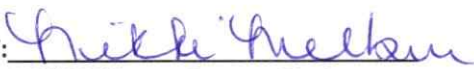
Exit: Commissioner Jopling made the motion to exit executive session and return to regular meeting at 7:37 pm. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Thompson and passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Wilson to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:38 pm, seconded by Commissioner Thompson and passed unanimously.

MCDUFFIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


Charles G. Newton, IV, Chairman

ATTEST: 
Nikki Milburn, County Clerk