



McDuffie County Board of Commissioners held a Work Session
Monday Evening, January 30, 2023, 6:00 PM
Government Center Training Room

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Charlie Newton, Chairman
Sammie Wilson, Vice Chairman
Gloria Thompson, Commissioner
Wm. "Bill" M. Jopling, Commissioner

COUNTY REPRESENTATION:

David Crawley, County Manager
Pam Workman, Finance Director
Nikki Milburn, County Clerk
Jason Smith, Community Development
Stephen Sewell, Chief Fire/EMS

Media: McDuffie Progress

Other: 19

Public Hearing

1. Wrightsboro Road Sewer Extension-Project Reduction Request.

Chairman Newton began by going over the history of this project and the process of where the project stands as of today. Chairman Newton advised that due to the increased cost of this project and the time limit from grant funding from DCA, there is a need in order to move forward with this project to reduce the project to phases. This would allow phase I of the project to begin moving forward. While work begins on phase I, staff can have time to begin working on funding for phase II of project. Phase II would be Ridgeview, Daggett and Hamilton. Waldo Massey addressed the board and asked about the homes on Wrightsboro Road that would be included in the first phase. Chairman Newton advised that Mr. Massey's home and the ones across from him would be included. Floyd Demons asked the board what the timeline would be for Phase II to begin. Chairman Newton advised that staff would be seeking funding sources for Phase II as soon as Phase I began and hopefully be able to secure funding so that work on Phase II would begin right after the other phase was complete. Henry Blount asked Chairman to explain the importance of this project and that Phase II neighborhoods would not be left out just because the project is being reduced at this time. Chairman Newton advised that this has been a long process but the Board and staff will continue working hard for this project and getting a permanent solution for everyone.

Chairman Newton asked if there were any questions or comments, hearing none this item was closed.

COMMISSIONERS' WORK SESSION

All agenda items are for discussion only. No action was taken during the meeting.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Discussion Concerning Reserve Funds.

Pam presented the board with information regarding the past and current status of the reserve funds. She asked the board for permission to transfer 1.5 million to the reserve fund at this time since interest has been doing well with that account. The board agreed this would be a good option since the money can be easily moved if needed and the interest rates with the accounts at the state are doing well.

2. Discussion Concerning Interest Rates.

Pam discussed with the board regarding the current interest rate options for accounts. She advised that she is able to get better rate options with the state account verses the banks, currently the state money

market accounts are at 1 ½ % interest. Commissioner Thompson advised that she would feel better about putting the money in the money market accounts for the better interest rates and also the security of the money. Commissioner Jopling asked Pam to look into the US Treasury accounts. Commissioner Thompson expressed concerns of using that type of account due to the regulations of not being able to access the funds like that of the money market accounts. The Board agreed to allow Pam and David to move as much money as they see necessary to the state account.

3. Discussion Concerning Equipment Purchase.

David advised that the road department needs 2 dump trucks. The cost for a tandem dump truck with a 2-way gate is \$171,363. The plan will be to trade in 2 of the current dump trucks once the new ones are delivered in order to help with cost. The total of this purchase is \$342,726 with a turnaround of 8 months, funding coming from SPLOST VI and VII.

This item will be added to the new meeting agenda.

4. Discussion Concerning Chairs for Meeting Room.

David advised that staff has reached out to a different vendor for the meeting room chairs. With the new vendor the county is given 2 options for the chairs, the first is reupholstering the existing chairs with the new fabric at a cost of \$23,330 for 100 chairs or the second option is to replace all 100 chairs at a cost of \$27,433.73. The board agreed that reupholstering the existing would be the best option due to cost and then also the issue of having 100 extra chairs that will need to be moved and stored. Staff was instructed to find out if it would be possible to reupholster the chairs in 2 batching so the meeting room will still have seating.

This item will be added to the next meeting agenda.

5. Discussion Concerning Proposal for Consulting Services.

David advised that the building has some major issues with leaks when it rains and it has caused a lot of damage with sheetrock and tiles. It has been recommended that the county have a consulting service come in to evaluate all of the problems in order to hopefully address all of the problems at one time. PM&A was recommended and the cost for this service is \$7,410. The Board agreed this is going to be necessary to move forward with addressing the issues.

This item will be added to the next meeting agenda.

6. Discussion Concerning Road Resurfacing.

David presented the board with the list of proposed roads for LMIG funding. David advised that the roads highlighted in yellow will most likely be moved to next year's list due to the sewer project and waiting for that work to be completed. The roads highlighted in green are the priority roads for this year. Vice Chairman Wilson asked about McCommons Street, David advised that it would be completed this year since it was a holdover from last year.

This item will be added to the next meeting agenda.

7. Discussion Concerning Travel Policy.

David advised that staff is requesting to amend the current travel policy to reflect that those employees that are receiving the monthly travel allowance be reimbursed for travel exceeding 100 miles to match the lodging policy. Vice Chairman Wilson asked that it be moved back to 90 miles since 2 of the major places of travel for conferences and meetings is Athens and Macon which don't meet the 100 miles. David and Pam agreed that the change to 90 miles can be reflected for the lodging and travel so they will match.

This item will be added to the next meeting agenda.

8. Discussion Concerning Appointment for Board of Assessor's

David advised that Butch Stadler is up for reappointment and has expressed interest in continue serving on the board.

This item will be added to the next meeting agenda.

9. Old Washington Road.

Chairman Newton expressed concern over the new speed bumps on Old Washington Road. He advised that no one informed the county staff before these were installed and they were installed on portions of the road that belong to the county and not jointly. Chairman Newton advised that he does not like the idea of the speed bumps and the issues this could cause on a connector road. He would like to discuss with the county attorney of deeding the whole road to the City of Thomson and allowing them to maintain the road and take liability of it. The Board agreed that a discussion with the county attorney is the next step.

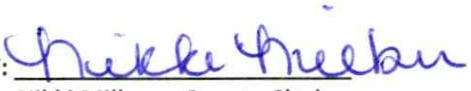
ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 7:04pm.

MCDUFFIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Charles G. Newton, IV, Chairman

ATTEST: 

Nikki Milburn, County Clerk