

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES  
Work Session  
Monday, March 22, 2021

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Chairman Bill Slaughter  
Vice Chairman Clay Griner  
Commissioner Joyce Evans  
Commissioner Scott Orenstein  
Commissioner Mark Wisenbaker  
Commissioner Demarcus Marshall

Chairman Slaughter called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

**MINUTES**

The minutes were presented for the work session of March 8, 2021 and the regular session of March 9, 2021. No changes to the minutes were requested.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**REZ-2021-03 Johnston Subdivision, School House Pond Road (0195 053) R-1 to R-10, County Water & Sewer, —21 acres**, Planning and Zoning Director, J.D. Dillard, presented the item. Mr. Dillard stated this request represents a zoning change on approximately twenty-one (21 ) acres from R-1 zoning to R-10 zoning, with a condition requiring a minimum of 15,000 square feet per lot, per the applicant's request. Mr. Dillard mentioned there was a petition signed by over 200 neighboring residents in opposition of the development. Further, Mr. Dillard stated the Planning Commission recommended approval of the request to rezone the property to R-10 with the applicants condition of a minimum lot size of 15,000 square feet and the TRC had no objectionable comments. Commissioner Wisenbaker asked if this is the concept plan which was reviewed at the Planning Commission meeting, Mr. Dillard responded yes. Mr. Dillard stated the zoning condition is being approved, not the site plan. Commissioner Orenstein commented regarding the size of the driveways. Commissioner Wisenbaker asked if concept plan # 2 is what the developer chose, Mr. Dillard responded yes. County Attorney, Walter Elliott, stated if rezoning R-10 with a condition of 15,000 square feet, that doesn't tie the applicant to this site plan.

**FOR CONSIDERATION**

**Adopt Resolution Accepting Infrastructure for Quarterman Estates Subdivision Phase III**, County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, presented the item. Mr. Fletcher stated the County is being asked to accept all infrastructure related to Phase III, adding the work is substantially complete.

**Approve Condemning Right of Way and Drainage Easement for Hightower Road - Cooper Road TSPLOST Paving Project**, County Engineer, Mike Fletcher presented a request in the amount of \$339.00, related to the condemnation of 3156 +1- acres of right of way and 1500.17 +1- acres for a drainage easement for the project.

**Advanced Disposal Services Residential Solid Waste Franchise Renewal**, Human Resources Director, Kevin Beals, presented the item. Mr. Beals stated the franchise is set to expire March 31, 2021, adding Advanced Disposal has applied to renew their existing franchise agreement. Mr. Beals stated some required information has been submitted, but additional items are needed, before approval. Further, Mr. Beals stated Advanced Disposal Services Middle Georgia, LLC merged with Waste Management, Inc. last year.

**Deep South Sanitation, LLC. Residential Solid Waste Franchise Renewal**, Human Resources Director, Kevin Beals, presented the item. Mr. Beals stated this franchise is set to expire March 31, 2021, adding Deep South Sanitation, LLC has submitted the required documents for renewal. Mr. Beals mentioned there was a request made by the applicant to eliminate the performance bond request of \$250,000, per year. Chairman Slaughter stated in his opinion, it would not be a good idea to waive this bond.

**FY 2020 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant Application**, EMA Director, Ashley Tye, presented the item. Mr. Tye stated the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has a Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant Program which provides funding for the hiring of additional firefighters. Lowndes County Fire Rescue is requesting to apply for a SAFER Grant which would fund the hiring of twelve (12) additional full time firefighters and fully fund their salary for three (3) years. This grant requires no matching funds, however, it provides funding for salaries and benefits. Commissioner Orenstein asked after the three year period would there be a chance to renew the grant, Mr. Tye responded the grant is for a three year period. County Manager, Paige Dukes, stated that additional CARES Act funding as well as assistance to firefighter grants may be available and staff is exploring other options, with the possibility of applying again.

## **BID**

**Bid for Breathing Air Machine for the Fire Department**, Finance Director, Stephanie Black, presented the item stating bids were received for a new breathing air machine to replace an aging unit. Ms. Black stated the existing unit will remain in service until end of use and the new unit will be located at the station in Clyattville. Additionally, Ms. Black stated four responsive bids were received.

## **REPORTS - County Manager**

County Manager, Paige Dukes, requested an executive session for the purpose of privileged attorney-client communication regarding potential or pending litigation. Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to enter into executive session at 8:53 a.m., Commissioner Marshall second. The executive session called to order at 8:55 a.m. and adjourned with a motion from Vice Chairman Griner at 9:21 a.m., Commissioner Marshall second. Chairman Slaughter adjourned the executive session.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:23 a.m. Chairman Slaughter reconvened the work session. There was no further discussion. Commissioner Marshall made a motion to adjourn the work session, Commissioner Orenstein and Vice Chairman Griner second. Chairman Slaughter adjourned the work session meeting at 9:24 a.m.