

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
WORK SESSION
Monday, April 25, 2022

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Vice Chairman Scott Orenstein
Commissioner Joyce Evans
Commissioner Mark Wisenbaker
Commissioner Demarcus Marshall

Chairman Slaughter and Commissioner Clay Griner were not in attendance.

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

MINUTES

The minutes were presented for the work session of April 11, 2022 and the regular session of April 12, 2022. No changes to the minutes were requested.

APPOINTMENT

Lowndes County Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS) Board, County Manager, Paige Dukes, presented the appointment. Mrs. Dukes stated Mrs. Pat Iverson and Mrs. Rebecca Powell have both resigned from the Lowndes County Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS) Board, leaving two vacant seats. Mrs. Dukes stated Mrs. Iverson's seat will expire June 30, 2022 and Mrs. Powell's seat will expire June 30, 2025. Lastly, Mrs. Dukes stated the remaining board members have requested Mrs. Sandra Wilcher to fill Mrs. Iverson's seat and Mrs. Lynn Orenstein to be considered for Mrs. Powell's seat.

PUBLIC HEARING

REZ-2022-07 Hayden Park, Camelot Crossing & Val Del Rd, ~149 acres, from R-1 to C-G, P-D, and R-10, Planning and Zoning Director, J. D. Dillard, presented the item. Mr. Dillard stated this item was tabled to allow the opposition to present concerns to the Commission. Mr. Dillard stated staff contacted the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) with concerns and a traffic impact analysis would be required for this case. Commissioner Wisenbaker asked if there was any additional information to be discussed, Mr. Dillard responded no. Commissioner Marshall asked the timeline of the Georgia Department of Transportation study as far as any impact with approval or denial of this request, Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, answered there is not, if the Commission approves, then the Georgia Department of Transportation would start the process and once the traffic analysis is done that study will tell if a light is required at that intersection. Commissioner Marshall asked who would be paying, Mr. McLeod answered the developer. Vice Chairman Orenstein stated the developer is aware and prepared to use the recommendations of the Georgia

Department of Transportation. Commissioner Marshall asked if anyone met with the opposition, Vice Chairman Orenstein, answered no to his knowledge all of the questions were submitted in writing and answered.

FOR CONSIDERATION

One Valdosta-Lowndes Community-Wide Initiative, County Manager, Paige Dukes, presented the item. Mrs. Dukes stated county leadership has worked with One Valdosta-Lowndes Steering Committee over the past several years to develop a community wide initiative that will address local challenges with a focus on workforce development. Mrs. Dukes stated this is a five-year initiative. Vice Chairman Orenstein stated the commission has had the opportunity to speak with leadership regarding this initiative. Mrs. Dukes stated Dr. Carvajal and Mr. Purvis should be in attendance at the regular session meeting.

Exit 22 Permanent Utility Easement, Utilities Director, Steve Stalvey, presented the item. Mr. Stalvey stated this permanent easement is required for the water main extension at Exit 22. Mr. Stalvey stated this extension will provide much needed redundancy and looping for the area.

Exit 22 Temporary Construction Easement, Utilities Director, Steve Stalvey, presented the item. Mr. Stalvey stated this temporary ten-foot easement is needed during the construction period to provide sufficient space to complete the water main extension. Mr. Stalvey stated this temporary construction easement will expire one year after the completion of the project.

Acceptance of FY2022 Delinquency Prevention Grant, County Manager, Paige Dukes, presented the item. Mrs. Dukes stated the Commission approved and authorized staff to submit an application for funding for the FY2022 Delinquency Prevention Grant. Mrs. Dukes stated the request was for \$41,500.00 in funding through the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) for implementation of the Strengthening Families Program. Mrs. Dukes stated she, as well as Commissioner Evans, met with Judge Council last week at his budget meeting and he spoke of the positive impact this program is having in Juvenile Court. Additionally, Mrs. Dukes stated there is a six month award period that will allow for startup and a single cohort and in years two-five, Lowndes County will be eligible for up to \$50,000.00, in continuation funding each year, which will allow for two cohorts of 10-14 youths each. Mrs. Dukes stated in order to officially accept funding, the Chairman will need to be authorized to sign the award documents and service agreement with EBA.

FY2023 Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant, County Manager, Paige Dukes, presented a grant application request in the amount of \$195,372.00, in Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) grant funds. Mrs. Dukes stated since 2014, Lowndes County has been awarded funding through the CJCC to allow the Juvenile Court to implement services for diversion of youth offenders instead of incarceration. Mrs. Dukes stated Functional Family Therapy (FFT) has been the primary program implemented and Juvenile Court has requested funding be applied for in the amount of \$195,372.00. Commissioner Marshall asked if there are any reports available to review the outcomes, Mrs. Dukes answered yes, Judge Council will be compiling that information for the commission.

Beer License - Rakesh Parmar of Jiya 08 Investment, LLC, DBA Eagle Food Mart - 4952 Bemiss Rd., Valdosta, GA, Finance Accounts Receivable Technician, Lorraine Taylor, presented a request for the sale of beer for consumption off the premises. Mrs. Taylor stated this request is due to a change in ownership and all requirements for the license have been met.

Agreement with TEqBID for Surplus Sales of Heavy Equipment, Finance Director, Stephanie Black, presented the item. Ms. Black stated TEqBID is an online auction site specializing in heavy equipment sales. Ms. Black stated staff is requesting approval to list heavy equipment items that have been declared surplus on this site as an alternative means of disposal. Further, Ms. Black stated other surplus items will continue to be listed on GovDeals.com. Commissioner Marshall asked if there was a cost for this request, County Manager, Paige Dukes, responded there is no cost to the county.

Adopt Resolution Accepting Infrastructure for Val Del Estates Subdivision Phase III, Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated engineering staff has completed the final inspection of the construction of Phase III.

Historic Lowndes County Courthouse Rehabilitation Project GMP (Guaranteed Maximum Price), Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated staff, the architect (Gladwin Vaughn Architecture) and the construction manager (Allstate Construction and Cauthan Construction Joint Venture, LLC) have been working on a Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) since demolition was completed. Mr. McLeod stated the construction manager started receiving bids in March 2022 and the final GMP is \$9,855,808.85. Mr. McLeod stated this includes all construction costs including the demolition construction cost approved last September. Vice Chairman Orenstein asked for an update on the project, Mr. McLeod stated there is a certain amount of demo to be completed, walls have been taken down, ceilings removed, HVAC, mechanical and plumbing removed, temporary flooring removed, the basement is bare except for structural walls. Vice Chairman Orenstein stated this had to be done in order for the architect to get the final plans drawn, Mr. McLeod stated they are ready to move forward with actual construction. Commissioner Marshall asked the amount spent for the architect, Mr. McLeod answered he will verify that information. Vice Chairman Orenstein stated that amount was included in the original estimates. Commissioner Wisenbaker asked to verify if everything is included in the total amount, Mr. McLeod responded the amount does not include the architect. Commissioner Marshall thanked Public Works Director, Robin Cumbus and her staff for working with the Farm Days vendors. Mrs. Dukes stated a fence will go up around the perimeter of the project due to the site belonging to the contractor until the project is completed.

REPORTS - County Manager

No additional information was reported.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Wisenbaker made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Marshall second. Vice Chairman Orenstein adjourned the meeting at 8:50 a.m.