

asked if the underground water system would interfere with a big building such as the Administrative and Judicial Complex. Mr. McLeod replied no, the effort was made to design the system to place it on the very north of the property and run it parallel with Webster Street so everything could be built to the south of that area to take all the runoff in to the City's system. Commissioner Orenstein asked why there was only one bid, Mr. McLeod stated the market allows the contractors to be selective in the jobs they take because there is so much work currently available. Due to the amount of work, the other contractors that were at the pre-bid meeting could not take on an additional job. Commissioner Wisenbaker asked if this was a time sensitive project, Mr. McLeod stated the contract is for 270 calendar days. Commissioner Wisenbaker asked if the job could be finished after that time and if this was a top priority project, Chairman Slaughter responded that in his opinion, the County does need to move forward and complete the project. Commissioner Wisenbaker stated he thought this money could be better spent on paving and maintaining roads.

### **REPORTS – County Manager**

County Manager, Paige Dukes, introduced Chief Ranger Mike Williford, with the Georgia Forestry Commission. Chief Ranger Williford gave an overall activity report from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. Commissioner Marshall asked what "congo grass" was and how it could be identified. Chief Ranger Williford explained this is an invasive grass that Georgia Forestry would like to try to eradicate. Commissioner Wisenbaker asked regarding the rules for burning in the unincorporated area. Chief Ranger Williford explained that the pile must be 25' from the wood line, 50' from a house, have a water hose on sight, be present the entire time of the burn, and burning is only allowed in daylight hours. Chief Ranger Williford also stated that the County's requirements for burning are stricter than Forestry's. Commissioner Wisenbaker asked Chief Green what the rules were, and Chief Green confirmed a hand pile burn must be 100' from any structure or fence line, and burns are allowed on the first and third Saturday in residential zonings. Calling in for a permit is no longer required for a hand pile. Commissioner Marshall asked regarding the fees for suppression. Chief Ranger Williford stated suppression fees are \$190 for first hour, \$130 per hour after that.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Wisenbaker made a motion to adjourn the work session meeting, Commissioner Marshall second. Chairman Slaughter adjourned the meeting at 8:54 am.