



FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING – MINUTES

DATE: April 1, 2024

TIME: 6:00 PM

LOCATION: Franklin County Justice Center

Present: Chairman, Jeff Jacques
District 1 Commissioner - Robert Franklin
District 2 Commissioner - Kyle Foster
District 3 Commissioner - Elizabeth Busby
District 4 Commissioner - Josh Smith

Media: Shane Scoggins, Franklin County Citizen Leader
MJ Kneiser, WLHR Radio – via Zoom

Staff: Terry Harris, County Manager
Kandy Bond, County Clerk
Bubba Samuels, County Attorney
Robert Ogburn, Planning & Zoning Director/Assistant County Manager
Alexandria Gunter, Planner – Planning & Zoning
Kelsey Cook, Dual Admin/Safety Coordinator

Item 1. Call to Order

Chairman Jacques called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.

Item 2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag: led by Commissioner Foster

Item 3. Approval of the Agenda

Chairman Jacques asked the board for a motion to amend the agenda to include Item 6M

Executive Session to the agenda for the discussing of potential litigation.

Motion to Approve – Commissioner Foster made the motion to amended and approve the agenda

Motion Seconded – Commissioner Franklin

Discussion: None

All in favor vote: motion carried 5-0 (agenda approved)

Item 4. Approval of Minutes

- A. BOC Public Hearing Minutes – March 4, 2024
- B. Regular Meeting Minutes – March 4, 2024
- C. BOC Work Session Meeting Minutes – March 26, 2024

Chairman Jacques asked the board for a motion to approve the minutes.

Motion to Approve - Commissioner Busby

Motion Seconded – Commissioner Foster

Discussion: None

All in favor vote: motion carried 5-0 (approved)

Item 5. Public Comment

Amy Hanley– spoke regarding she had reviewed the IBA minutes from February and noticed that Commissioner Smith had asked questions at the meeting. Hanley stated she had asked questions: To what end are we spending money to change a record that is four years old? How much citizens money is being spent? She asked Commissioner Smith if he received answers to his questions. Commissioner Smith said he hasn't received answers to the questions. Ms. Hanley then asked Commissioner Foster if he could answer the questions. Foster said he hasn't received an update since the meeting. Hanley asked who oversees the IBA and are they under the umbrella of the BOC? Chairman Jacques said the only thing the BOC does is negotiates any SPLOST allocations and the annual millage rate allocation to their budget is approved which historically has been a quarter of a mill. We are well aware of the issues between the IBA and the constitutional officer and have offered to mediate/arbitrate a solution between both entities to bring about the most expeditious resolution possible. Hanley asked is there any oversight fiscally to the IBA? Chairman Jacques said there is annualized audit done independently by an auditor.

Item 6. Items for Discussion

- A. RZ-2024-002 Rezone:** Matthew Anderson, applicant and Property Owner has filed an application for Rezone from Institutional (INST) to Agricultural General (AG) for a +/- 13.74 -acre tract located at 155 Whipoorwill Ln Carnesville, GA 30521 (Map/Parcel 011/025). Proposed use: Residential and Agricultural

Planning Commission recommends approval 5-0

Chairman Jacques asked the board for a motion to approve, deny, and/or table.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Smith

Motion Seconded: Commissioner Franklin

Discussion: None

All in favor vote: motion carried 5-0 (approved)

- B. RZ-2024-003 Rezone:** Seth Cape, applicant and Melissa Lape, Property Owner have filed an application for Rezone from Agricultural General (AG) to Highway Business (HB) for a +/- 5.90 -acre tract located on Gumlog Rd Lavonia, GA 30553 (Map/Parcel 062/036 H). Proposed use: Storage units and commercial building

Planning Commission recommends approval 5-0

Chairman Jacques asked the board for a motion to approve, deny, and/or table.

Commissioner Foster recused himself from this item.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Busby

Motion Seconded: Commissioner Smith

Discussion: None

All in favor vote: motion carried 4-0 (approved)

- C. RZ-2024-004 Rezone:** Amanda Powell, applicant and Christopher and Amanda Powell, Property Owners have filed an application for Rezone from Agricultural General (AG) to Rural Residential (RR) for a +/- 0.36 - acre tract located on Watson Rd Martin, GA 30557 (Map/Parcel 033/111 F). Proposed use: Residential

Planning Commission recommends approval 5-0

Chairman Jacques asked the board for a motion to approve, deny, and/or table.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Smith

Motion Seconded: Commissioner Franklin
Discussion: None
All in favor vote: motion carried 5-0 (approved)

- D. RZ-2024-005 Rezone:** Wesley Thurmond, applicant and Property Owner has filed an application for Rezone from Agricultural General (AG) to Rural Residential (RR) for a +/- 7.0 -acre tract located at 1950 Toms Creek Rd Martin, GA 30557 (Map/Parcel 033/029). Proposed use: Residential
Planning Commission recommends approval 5-0

Chairman Jacques asked the board for a motion to approve, deny, and/or table.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Foster

Motion Seconded: Commissioner Busby

Discussion: None

All in favor vote: motion carried 5-0 (approved)

- E. South Franklin Elem. School Sewer System – Bid Recommendation**

Terry Harris stated bids were received on March 7, 2024, the low bid was from Dale Construction Company in the amount of \$250,377.00. The county purchased a lift station in the amount of \$85K which makes the total project \$335,377.00. There is an IGA with the Franklin County Board of Education and they are paying these costs; the county is looking after the project for them. John Phillips, County Engineer recommends the low bid from Dale Construction Company in the amount of \$250,377.00

Chairman Jacques asked the board for a motion to approve, deny, and/or table.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Busby

Motion Seconded: Commissioner Foster

Discussion: None

All in favor vote: motion carried 5-0 (approved)

- F. FC Family & Children Services Board – Two Appointments**

Terry Harris recommended to appoint Peggy Berryman and Angela Whidby.

Chairman Jacques asked the board for a motion to approve, deny, and/or table.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Foster

Motion Seconded: Commissioner Busby

Discussion: None

All in favor vote: motion carried 5-0 (approved)

- G. FC Joint Development Authority – One Appointment**

Terry Harris recommended to appoint Elizabeth “Beth” Thomas.

Chairman Jacques asked the board for a motion to approve, deny, and/or table.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Smith

Motion Seconded: Commissioner Foster

Discussion: None

All in favor vote: motion carried 5-0 (approved)

H. Oliver Road – Abandonment Recommendation

Terry Harris recommended to begin the process to abandon Oliver Road (which is a one-tenth of a mile dirt road) and turn it over to the City of Franklin Springs to maintain.

Chairman Jacques asked the board for a motion to approve, deny, and/or table.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Smith

Motion Seconded: Commissioner Foster

Discussion: None

All in favor vote: motion carried 5-0 (approved)

I. Legacy Link – Addendum No. 1 to Agreement – Recommendation

Chairman Jacques said the addendum will enhance their ability as a grant oversite entity. They will be increasing the number of nutritional services to elderly citizens in the county and home delivered nutrition services to the elderly. This is an addendum to the original contract from July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024.

Chairman Jacques asked the board for a motion to approve and to sign the addendum.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Busby

Motion Seconded: Commissioner Smith

Discussion: None

All in favor vote: motion carried 5-0 (approved)

J. Radio System – Recommendation

Terry Harris – It has been a long process in coming to the decision to replace the radio system in Franklin County. After much discussion and research our recommendation is to go with CI-Communications International for the P25 Public Safety Radio System at a cost of \$7,633,881.42. This is an 18-month process and CI has agreed to come in at no cost to upgrade the old system to keep it functional until the upgrade is complete.

Chairman Jacques asked the board for a motion to approve, deny, and/or table.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Smith

Motion Seconded: Commissioner Foster

Discussion: None

All in favor vote: motion carried 5-0 (approved)

K. Josh Blakely – Board of Ethics-Quarterly Report

Josh Blakely stated the Board of Ethics met on February 1, 2024. Due to so many new members, they met to review the ethics ordinance, the complaint process, and made minimal changes to the form. Commissioners were given the First Quarter Report for 2024.

L. County Manager

Chairman Jacques stated: Since the resignation of Mr. Turner our former county manager, Mr. Harris has been serving as Interim County Manager. It is now time for the board to move forward with finalization of the county manager position.

Chairman Jacques asked the board for a motion to approve, deny, and/or table.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the contract and appoint Terry Harris as County Manager.

Motion Seconded: Commissioner Busby

Discussion: None

All in favor vote: motion carried 5-0 (approved)

M. Executive Session - Litigation

Chairman Jacques asked the board for a motion to exit the regular meeting and enter into executive session to discuss potential litigation.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Busby

Motion Seconded: Commissioner Foster

Discussion: None

All in favor vote: motion carried 5-0 (approved) Time: 6:43 PM

Chairman Jacques asked the board for a motion to exit executive session and go back into the regular meeting and to allow Vice Chair Josh Smith to sign the closed meeting affidavit in which potential litigation was discussed.

Chairman Jacques recused himself during the executive session.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Busby

Motion Seconded: Commissioner Foster

Discussion: None

All in favor vote: motion carried 5-0 (approved) Time: 7:02 PM

Item 7. Announcements

Commissioner Busby asked if we've heard anything regarding the survey for the comprehensive plan. Terry Harris - No

Item 8. Adjourn

Chairman Jacques asked the board for a motion to adjourn.

Motion to Adjourn: Commissioner Busby

Motion Seconded: Commissioner Foster

Discussion: None

All in favor vote: 5-0 (approved to adjourn)

Upcoming Meetings

April 30, 2024 – BOC Work Session @ 6:00 PM

May 6, 2024 – BOC Public Hearing @ 5:30 PM

May 6, 2024 – BOC Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM

Signed on the _____ day of _____ 2024

Jeff Jacques, Chairman

Robert L. Franklin, District 1 Commissioner

Terry Harris, County Manger

Kyle Foster, District 2 Commissioner

Kandy Bond, County Clerk

Elizabeth Busby, District 3 Commissioner

Josh Smith, District 4 Commissioner