

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
REGULAR SESSION
Tuesday, January 12, 2021

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

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

Commissioner Mark Wisenbaker was not present.

Chairman Slaughter called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

INVOCATION

Commissioner Marshall

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Commissioner Marshall

MINUTES

The minutes were presented for the work session of December 7, 2020 and the regular session of December 8, 2020. No changes to the minutes were requested. Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Commissioner Evans second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

REZ-2020-20 Ballyntyne 6712 Clyattstone Road (0071 008) R-1 to R-10, Water & Sewer, ~40.3 acres, Planning and Zoning Director, J.D. Dillard, presented the item. Mr. Dillard stated this item was tabled at the December 8, 2020 meeting. Mr. Dillard stated the developer has presented a mixed density, mixed use facility in line with a Planned Development. Mr. Dillard stated staff has been working with the developer on a R-10 and planned development version. Lastly, Mr. Dillard mentioned the developer would like to meet with the neighbors to review the revised plans. Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to table this request to the January 26, 2021 commission meeting, Vice Chairman Griner second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

FOR CONSIDERATION

Approval of Hightower Road and Cooper Road NE, Right of Way Purchases, County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, presented a request in the amount of \$28,000.75, for the purchase of right of way. Mr.

Fletcher stated Lowndes County has negotiated purchase of right of way related to the proposed paving projects for property numbers 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 26QCD, 27, 29, 30, 31A, 31B, 32A, and 32B. Mr. Fletcher further stated the Commission is required to approve each of the acquisitions in a public vote. Vice Chairman Griner made a motion to approve the purchases as presented, Commissioners Evans and Orenstein second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Approval of Railroad Agreement for Hightower Road Project, County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, stated as part of the Hightower Road Paving Project, the Lowndes County Engineering Department will be installing railroad arms and safety signals at the railroad crossing on Hightower Road. Mr. Fletcher further stated there will be no cost to the county since this expense was budgeted and paid with TSPLOST funding in the amount of \$315,557.58. Commissioner Marshall made a motion to approve the agreement, Commissioner Orenstein second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Low Pressure Sewer Force Main Upgrade on Old Bemiss and Bemiss Knights Academy Road, Utilities Director, Steve Stalvey, stated the low pressure sewer force main on Old Bemiss and Bemiss Knights Academy Road is at capacity and needs to be upgraded. Bids were received from four contractors with RPI, Inc. submitting the low bid for \$96,556.75. Commissioner Marshall made a motion to approve the item as presented, Commissioner Orenstein second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Moody Water Treatment Plant Emergency Repair, Utilities Director, Steve Stalvey presented an emergency repair needed at the Moody Water Treatment Plant. Mr. Stalvey stated since the repair had been completed during the week of December 28, 2020, the 'not to exceed' cost estimate of \$25,000.00, was actually \$20,700.00. Commissioner Marshall made a motion to approve the item as presented, Vice Chairman Griner second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

BID

Bid for a Pumper for the Fire Department, Fire Chief, Lloyd Green, presented the item for a new model year pumper with Ten-8 Fire & Safety presenting the low bid for \$351,115.00. Chief Green stated the company has also offered a payment upon order discount at a rate of \$343,277.00. Chairman Slaughter asked the expected delivery date, Chief Green responded approximately eighteen months. Chairman Slaughter asked County Manager, Paige Dukes, if the county is prepared to pay upon order, Mrs. Dukes responded yes. Vice Chairman Griner stated he would rather receive the discount and pay upon ordering. Vice Chairman Griner made a motion to purchase the new model year pumper through Ten-8 Fire & Safety, with payment upon order in the amount of \$343,277.00, Commissioners Orenstein and Marshall second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

REPORTS - County Manager

County Manager, Paige Dukes, stated the Lowndes County Bird Supper is being cancelled due to COVID19. Lowndes County and the City of Valdosta will send gift bags for the General Assembly and this event is on the calendar for 2022. Mrs. Dukes stated Public Works will be clearing the Griner

property next week. Mrs. Dukes mentioned the Planning Commission meeting has been cancelled for January. Also, Mrs. Dukes stated the budget packages went out last week. Lastly, Mrs. Dukes informed the board a public information officer has been hired, Mrs. Meghan Barwick, and she will begin in February.

CITIZENS WISHING TO BE HEARD

There were no citizens wishing to be heard.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Evans second. Chairman Slaughter adjourned the regular session at 5:45 p.m.