

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
WORK SESSION
Monday, February 21, 2022

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

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

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

PRESENTATIONS

GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation Award, County Manager, Paige Dukes, stated a picture would be taken and a presentation would be given tomorrow night, at the regular commission meeting.

Auditor's Report on FY2021 Financial Reports, Mr. Mark S. Rogers, CPA with Henderson and Godbee, LLC gave the Commission an update regarding the audit.

MINUTES

Work Session - February 7, 2022 & Regular Session - February 8, 2022

The minutes were presented for the work session of February 7, 2022 and the regular session of February 8, 2022. No changes to the minutes were requested.

APPOINTMENTS

Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD), County Manager, Paige Dukes, presented the item. Mrs. Dukes stated the term of Ms. Kelley Saxon is due to expire on March 8, 2022 and Ms. Saxon has expressed a desire to continue to serve as well as Mr. Carlton Richard who would like to serve. Chairman Slaughter asked if there were two appointments, Mrs. Dukes responded yes.

PUBLIC HEARING

Addition to Basic Decorative Street Lighting District: Cypress Lakes Subdivision, Phase IV (26 lots) and Plantation Point Subdivision (87 Lots), Planning and Zoning Director, J.D. Dillard, presented the request stating a petition was received and verified to add twenty-six (26) lots of Cypress Lakes Subdivision, Phase IV and eighty-seven (87) lots of Plantation Point Subdivision into the

County's basic decorative street lighting district. Mr. Dillard stated the current charge for the basic decorative street lighting is \$61.50 per lot, per year.

FOR CONSIDERATION

Beer and Wine License - Nehaben Patel of Hari Krupa 3663, LLC., DBA JP Foods 2 - 3663 New Statenville Hwy., Valdosta, GA, Finance Accounts Receivable Technician, Lorraine Taylor, presented a request for the sale of beer and wine for consumption off the premises. Mrs. Taylor stated the request is due to a change in ownership and all requirements for the license have been met.

Beer and Wine License - Manishkumar Patel of Busy Stop, LLC., DBA Misha Food Mart - 5139 Madison Hwy., Valdosta, GA, Finance Accounts Receivable Technician, Lorraine Taylor, presented a request for the sale of beer and wine for consumption off the premises. Mrs. Taylor stated the request is due to a change in ownership and all requirements for the license have been met.

Language Access Plan and Resolution for Federally Funded Grants and Programs, Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated the Language Access Plan (LAP) addresses the County's responsibilities as a recipient of Federal financial assistance as it relates to the needs of individuals with limited English language skills. Additionally, Mr. McLeod informed the Commission that Lowndes County adopted the Language Access Plan in May of 2020.

Reports - County Manager

County Manager, Paige Dukes, introduced Jeff Palmer and James Rosenbaum with the Lowndes County Utilities Department. Mrs. Dukes stated they participated in the Pine Grove Middle School STEM Career Day and students had an opportunity to learn where our local water comes from, and how the Lowndes County Utilities Department maintains water mains, fire hydrants and sewer mains. Mr. Palmer and Mr. Rosenbaum displayed the model, which was used at the school, for the Commission to view. Chairman Slaughter and the Commissioners thanked Mr. Palmer and Mr. Rosenbaum for making the model and for participating in this event.

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Presentation/Update

Chairman Slaughter excused himself and asked Vice Chairman Evans to run the remaining meeting. County Manager, Paige Dukes, asked Planning and Zoning Director, J.D. Dillard to introduce Corey Hull, the Transportation and Environmental Director, with the Southern Regional Commission Office. Mr. Hull introduced Ms. Whitney Shepherd, Project Manager with Transport Studio, to give an update regarding the Valdosta-Lowndes MPO Land Use and Transportation Planning. Ms. Shepherd presented a presentation to the Commission. Commissioner Marshall asked for recommendations related to transportation and how to increase the growth in south Lowndes County, Ms. Shepherd stated there are types of transportation provided to include walkable community developments for millennials and looking at the ULDC related to bike paths and sidewalks, as well as reviewing the Comp Plan adopted and reviewing zoning. Commissioner Marshall asked if the presentation she presented was available to commissioners, Ms. Shepherd responded yes. Mrs. Dukes asked Mr. Hull to recognize staff attending with him, to include Elizabeth Backe, Planning Director, Amy Martin, Senior Planner and Cameron Chaverria, Transportation Planner. Vice Chairman Evans and Mrs. Dukes thanked Mr. Hull and Ms. Shepherd for the information presented.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Marshall second. Vice Chairman Evans adjourned the meeting at 9:22 a.m.