

DOUGHERTY COUNTY COMMISSION

DRAFT

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

February 21, 2022

The Dougherty County Commission met in Room 100 of the Albany-Dougherty Government Center on February 21, 2022. Chairman Christopher Cohilas presided and called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. Present [in the Chamber] were Commissioners Victor Edwards, Gloria Gaines, Russell Gray, Clinton Johnson, Anthony Jones and Ed Newsome. County Administrator Michael McCoy participated via the audio-conferencing feature. Also present were Assistant County Administrator Scott Addison, County Attorney Spencer Lee, County Clerk Jawahn Ware and other staff. The public and representatives of the media participated in person and via live streaming of the meeting on the County's Facebook page and the government public access channel.

After the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, the Chairman called for approval of the minutes for January 24th Regular Meeting, January 25th Special Called Meeting, January 31st Work Session and January 31st Special Called Meeting.

Commissioner Jones moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Newsome, the minutes were unanimously approved.

The Chairman recognized Dr. Anthony Parker, President of Albany Technical College to update the Commission on zip code recruiting. Dr. Parker asked that the Dougherty County Commission finds ways to engage with them. During the discussion with the Commission, Dr. Parker shared how adults can obtain an education for free. The Board was invited to participate in Albany Technical College's upcoming strategic event. Upon Commissioner Edwards' suggestion, Dr. Parker agreed to meet with Mr. McCoy for the opportunity with the County. Commissioner Gaines accepted the request to be the County's representative at the strategic meeting.

The Chairman recognized Paul Forgey, Planning and Development Director and Marshal Nathaniel Norman, Code Enforcement Director to update the Commission on Code Enforcement Violations. Mr. Forgey shared the upcoming plan of notification to businesses for compliance especially as it pertains to the screening of property. Commissioners Johnson and Jones shared additional concerns. Marshal Norman shared the process that will occur in two to four months and the Board will need to decide on how to proceed. Commissioner Gaines asked the gentlemen to consider a noise ordinance in the County. Anonymity of the complaint process was shared and a lengthy discussion ensued.

The Chairman opened the public hearing for Freedom Church of Albany, Inc. (22-001), (Christopher G. Pollock) applicant; Brenton Rigsby & Jennifer A. Phelps owners, request for Special Approval to allow the special use of a Church (Religious Institution) in a C-R (Community Residential Multiple-Dwelling District). The property is located at 429 Dunbar Lane. The Planning Commission recommended approval. Angel Gray, Planning Manager, addressed. Under discussion, Commissioner Jones requested signs be picked up promptly [after action is rendered by the Board] and made other suggestions. There being no additional comments, or anyone present to speak regarding the proposed matter, the Chairman closed the public hearing.

The Chairman called for the zoning consideration of the special approval request of Freedom Church of Albany, Inc. (22-001), (Christopher G. Pollock) applicant; Brenton Rigsby & Jennifer A. Phelps owners, to allow the special use of a Church (Religious Institution) in a C-R (Community Residential Multiple-Dwelling District). The property is located at 429 Dunbar Lane (00137/00001/02D). The Planning Commission recommended approval.

Commissioner Jones moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Gray, the motion for approval passed unanimously. The zoning resolution is as follows:

A RESOLUTION
ENTITLED
A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE ZONING REGULATIONS
AND MAP OF THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OF
DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA (RESOLUTION NO. 212,
AS AMENDED) SO AS TO CHANGE THE STATUS OF THE
PROPERTY HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Dougherty County, Georgia, and
IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by authority of same:

SECTION I: That from and after the passage of this Resolution, the official Zoning Regulations and Map of the unincorporated area of Dougherty County, adopted December 1, 1969, as amended, be, and the same are hereinafter described as follows:

ZONING DISTRICT:	C-R (Community Residential Multiple-Dwelling District)
SPECIAL APPROVAL:	To allow the special use of a church in a C-R,

OWNER/APPLICANT:

Brenton Rigsby/Freedom Church of Albany

LOCATION:

429 Dunbar Lane

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Dougherty County, Georgia, and being located in Land Lot 329 in the 1st Land District of said county, and being more particularly described as follows:

Starting at a point where the east right of way line of State Highway No 3. intersects with the north line of Land Lot No. 329, the same being the Dougherty-Lee County Line; thence North 87 degrees 30 minutes East along the said line 901 feet to a point; and with this as the POINT OF BEGINNING, thence along the same line a distance of 610 feet to an iron pin; thence South 08 degrees 00 minutes East 402.4 feet to the north side of said graded road a distance of 610 feet to a point; thence North 08 degrees 00 minutes West a distance of 445.9 feet to the Point of Beginning.

SECTION II: That all resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith be and the same hereby are repealed.

CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

CLERK

APPROVED: February 21, 2022

The Chairman called for consideration of the recommendation from the board members to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel and then to adjourn.

Commissioner Jones moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Edwards, the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Edwards asked that the Albany Rescue Mission Director make a presentation to the Board and that funding be made available in Phase I instead of Phase II. Chairman Cohilas shared that the request will be reviewed in a work session and clarified that the director presented a request for a roof on the building. The Chairman directed Mr. McCoy and Mr. Addison to meet with the director to provide a staff recommendation for wording on the agenda. Commissioner Edwards recognized the work of the county clerk to ensure the board looks good. Commissioner Gaines said that the Government Affairs Committee will meet after next Monday's Work Session and Chairman Cohilas announced the upcoming Albany/Dougherty Day.

There being no further discussion, the Board entered into Executive Session at 11:20 a.m.

CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

COUNTY CLERK