

DOUGHERTY COUNTY COMMISSION
WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES

DRAFT

July 11, 2022

The Dougherty County Commission met in Room 100 of the Albany-Dougherty Government Center on July 11, 2022. Chairman Christopher Cohilas presided and called the meeting to order immediately after the Regular Meeting. Present were Commissioners Gloria Gaines, Russell Gray, Clinton Johnson, Anthony Jones and Ed Newsome. County Administrator Michael McCoy, Assistant County Administrator Scott Addison, County Clerk Jawahn Ware and other staff were also present. The public and representatives of the media participated in person via live streaming of the meeting on the County's Facebook page and the government public access channel. Commissioner Victor Edwards and County Attorney Spencer Lee were absent.

The Chairman asked the Commission to review the minutes of the June 27th Regular Meeting.

The Chairman recognized Mark D. Pressley, GDOT D4A5 Area Manager to update the Commission on the proposed plan for State Route 133 from North of County Road 459/County Line Road to North of County Road 540/Holly Drive. Mr. Pressley stated that this corridor will link Valdosta and Albany and the four-lane highway will make it more convenient for travelers.

The Chairman recognized Harriet Y. Hollis, Program Manager, Disaster Recovery and Grants to provide an update on the CDBG-DR Homeowner Reconstruction and Rehabilitation (HHRP) program. Ms. Hollis mentioned that the budget increased to \$1.5 million and an additional increase is forecasted. Questions of the Board were answered. She will provide a list of contractors and a listing of homes without personally identifiable information. She clarified that per DCA (the Department of Community Affairs) the grant is non-reimbursable and the funding is for 2017. She also added that DCA is solely handling 2018.

The Chairman recognized William Wright, the representative for AFRAM Tech, Inc. to continue his update to the Commission. Mr. Wright's primary focus was on the distribution of SPLOST VII, the proposed SPLOST VIII listing and the lack of representation of awards to black contractors. He stressed the need for a SPLOST oversight committee and posed that those budgets are still the same, but the area has a population decrease. Commissioner Johnson thanked AFRAM Tech Inc. for the information that was presented and for the assistance given to the Commission in the past. Chairman Cohilas asked that Mr. Wright no longer have vague items listed on the agenda or no longer speak on topics with scheduled public hearings.

The Chairman called for a discussion of the zoning application for Ronnie Gay & Charlotte A. Gay; owner and applicant (22-037) request to rezone 4.195 acres from R-2 (Single Family Residential District) to C-8 (Commercial Recreation District). The proposed use is for Recreational Vehicle Park. The property is located at 3420 Sylvester Road. The Planning Commission recommended approval. Angel Gray, Planning Manager addressed. The Public Hearing and Action are scheduled for July 18, 2022.

The Chairman called for the presentation of the financial impact of the implementation of the three pay plan study options. Finance Director Martha Hendley addressed. Mrs. Hendley said that the three funds (The General, Special Services District and Solid Waste) would be impacted for salaries, wages, and benefits. She said that one mil equals \$2,040,616 and provided the different options as follows:

- If Option A is selected, it would be 1.30 mils from the General Fund and 0.39 in the Special Services District.
- If Option B is selected, it would be 1.71 mils from the General Fund and 0.53 mils from the Special Services District.
- If Option C is selected, it would be 2.74 mils from the General Fund and 0.85 mils from the Special Services District.

The respective increases are \$2,952,450 (Option A), \$3,866,930 (Option B), \$6,210,834 (Option C). The costs for implementation for July 1, 2022 vs. January 1, 2023 were provided. Dr. Long addressed questions of the Board regarding competitiveness. Commissioners Jones and Johnson shared their concerns about Dr. Long not being physically present.

The Chairman called for a discussion to accept one of the three proposed compensation and classification study plans. County Administrator Michael McCoy, HR Director Dominique Hall and President of Management Advisory Group International Inc. Dr. Donald Long addressed.

Commissioner Gray left at 12:52 p.m.

The Chairman called for a discussion to accept the amendment of Dougherty County's contract with Dougherty County Police Chief Kenneth Johnson. County Administrator Michael McCoy addressed. Mr. McCoy said that the decision on the Chief's adjusted pay would be based on the pay study decision made by the Board. Commissioner Johnson confirmed if the County Clerk and Coroner were included in the pay study. Mr. McCoy shared that the Clerk was but not the Coroner because he was an elected official. Mr. McCoy said his position was not included but would accept an increase if it is the will of the Board.

There being no further business to discuss the Commission the meeting adjourned at 1:13 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

COUNTY CLERK