

DOUGHERTY COUNTY COMMISSION

DRAFT

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

January 22, 2024

The Dougherty County Commission met in Room 100 of the Albany-Dougherty Government Center on January 22, 2024. Chairman Lorenzo Heard presided and called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Present were Commissioners Victor Edwards, Gloria Gaines, Russell Gray, Clinton Johnson, Anthony Jones and Ed Newsome. Also present were Assistant County Administrator Barry Brooks, County Attorney Alex Shalishali, 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.

The Chairman recognized Eric Schwalls, GBI Special Agent in Charge, to provide the annual report for 2023. The Southwestern Regional Drug Enforcement Office (SWRDEO) has the responsibility of covering 42 counties in Southwest Georgia. In the calendar year 2023, there were 264 cases opened, 153 total arrests and the total contraband seized was \$4,343,020.31. Questions and concerns of the Board were addressed. Upon the request of Commissioner Jones, Mr. Schwalls shared that he would facilitate a conversation with local law enforcement pertaining to youth access to guns.

The Chairman called for consideration to accept the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant for the 2024 calendar year in the amount of \$248,000. The grant is provided by the Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council for the operation of the Southwestern Regional Drug Enforcement Office. The grant acceptance is required annually. Assistant County Administrator Barry Brooks and GBI Special Agent in Charge Eric Schwalls addressed.

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

The Chairman recognized citizen James Leroy to share his concerns about his daughter's arrest by the City of Albany. Commissioner Edwards elaborated on the concern and the Chairman asked Deputy Chief Terron Hayes to assist the citizen.

The Chairman opened the public hearing for Lanier Engineering, applicant, Woodall Holdings, LLLP & Southwood Development, owner (23-081) request to rezone 20 acres from AG (Agricultural District) to R-E (Estate District). The rezoning would allow for the subdivision of an existing parcel less than 40 acres. The property is at 2416 Tarva Rd. The Planning Commission recommended approval. Angel Gray, Deputy Planning Director addressed. Two individuals signed up to speak and applicant Tod Lanier was present to address concerns and there were none. Citizen Henry Dunn no longer had

concerns and did not need to address the Board. There being no additional comments regarding the proposed matter, the Chairman closed the public hearing.

The Chairman opened the public hearing for Glen J. Gosa, owner and applicant (23-088) request to rezone a .55 acre lot from C-1 (Neighborhood Mixed-Use Business District) to C-3 (Commercial District). The rezoning would allow for commercial use as a storage building sales lot. The property is 3401 Sylvester Hwy. The Planning Commission recommended approval with the condition of using opaque fencing (buffering). Angel Gray, Deputy Planning Director addressed. There being no one present desiring to speak in opposition or favor regarding the proposed matter, the Chairman closed the public hearing.

The Chairman opened the public hearing for Glen J. Gosa, owner and applicant (23-089) request to rezone a .68 acre lot from C-1 (Neighborhood Mixed-Use Business District) to C-3 (Commercial District). The rezoning would allow for commercial use as a storage building sales lot. The property is 3403 Sylvester Hwy. The Planning Commission recommended approval. Angel Gray, Deputy Planning Director addressed. There being no one present desiring to speak in opposition or favor regarding the proposed matter, the Chairman closed the public hearing.

The Chairman opened the public hearing for Larry & Alma Blakely, owner and applicant (23-090) request to rezone 3.0 acres from R-2 (Single-Family Residential District) to C-7 (Mixed-Use Planned Development District). The rezoning would allow for residential and commercial use as a travel agency for touring buses. The property is at 3228 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. The Planning Commission recommended approval with the following conditions: (1) The travel agency is limited to two travel buses parked onsite; (2) customer loading and offloading are prohibited; and (3) the use of the property is restricted to single-family residential use, the proposed travel agency office, and parking of two tour buses. Angel Gray, Deputy Planning Director addressed. The County Ordinance Section 2-17-5 Truck Routes- Applicability does allow vehicles designed to carry passengers. The rezoning will allow conformity of the use since 2007. The use should not adversely affect the existing use of surrounding parcels. Staff performed a historical review of the property dating back to 2007 and found no complaints on business operations until November 2023. The business operations have not increased. Citizen Nathaniel Dickerson was against the request due to no large vehicle signage. Commissioner Gray restated the exception of the ordinance. Mr. and Mrs. Lewis spoke in opposition due to consistency based on a previous denial of a zoning consideration that did not receive approval. Citizens Mr. and Mrs. Larry and Alma Blakely were in favor of the request. They shared that they have been operating their business for 15 years and found out they were not zoned properly. Once they found out they were not in compliance, they applied for the correct zoning to operate properly. They have resided at the property for over 30 years. Citizen Yvonne Reese spoke in favor of the request. She owns property adjacent to the zoning consideration and she and her family request approval due to the economic impact with no concerns. Commissioner Edwards mentioned that citizen Ethel Powell, whose property was the closest to the zoning consideration was in favor of the request. There being no additional comments regarding the proposed matter, the Chairman closed the public hearing.

The Chairman opened the public hearing for Mary Alice Thomas, owner and applicant (23-093) request to rezone .49 acres from R-2 (Single-Family Residential District) to RMHS (Mobile Home Single-Family District). The rezoning would allow for the installation of a manufactured home for single-family residency. The property is at 505 Engram Court. The Planning Commission recommended approval. Angel Gray, Deputy Planning Director addressed. There being no one present to speak in opposition or favor regarding the proposed matter, the Chairman closed the public hearing.

The Chairman called for consideration of the recommendations regarding Dougherty County's Public Information Officer (PIO) role and proposed contracted public information and marketing services options.

Option 1: Provide support for the full-time in-house PIO and supplement the role with a dedicated contract for services from The Levee, the current vendor. The annual cost for a managed marketing services package is \$63,000 and they will support the significant overhaul of the County's web and social media presence, and provide video and photography services in addition to other public relations support activities.

Option 2: Continue with a contract for full PIO services and support (as listed above) from The Levee, the current vendor. The annual cost for the public information services and a managed marketing services package is \$132,000.

Commissioner Gray motioned to accept Option 2. Commissioner Newsome seconded the motion. Under discussion, Mr. Brooks elaborated on the options. It was proposed that the contract with the Levee would be for a year and the salary of the PIO was about \$70,000 with benefits. After the year, the Board could decide if they would want to continue task by task. Mr. Brooks suggested due to the major tasks requested, it would be best to have a contract. He shared why we would need to change the website due to the last contractor no longer wanting to support us. Both options could work based on the will of the Commission.

Commissioner Johnson made a substitute motion for Option 1. There was still discussion and Commissioners Newsome and Gray shared Option 2 is about \$30,000 cheaper. They both added that the PIO position should be filled by the County Administrator once hired. Commissioner Gray said that Option 2 was most prudent for the County now. Commissioner Gaines clarified that she seconded the substitute motion. Commissioner Edwards shared that there was no input by the Board on the previous hire and his district needed help now. After a lengthy discussion, the substitute motion for Option 1 was called. There being no further discussion, the substitute motion passed with four ayes by Commissioners Edwards, Johnson, Gaines, and Chairman Heard and three nays by Commissioners Newsome, Gray and Jones.

The Chairman called for consideration of the recommendation from the Public Works Department to apply for a Georgia Transportation Infrastructure (GTIB) Grant through the coordination of the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission in the amount of \$1,418,153.50. This is a 60/40% grant requiring a local match. There is a cash match from

the County of 14% (\$198,541.49) and will be funded from TSPLOST. Forty-six percent (46%) of the funding \$652,350.61 will be provided by a GTIB loan. The application would include the construction of the five road projects and the design of the two bridges on Gravel Hill. The application deadline is January 25, 2024. If approved, the grant will save the County approximately \$560,000.

Commissioner Jones moved for approval. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. Under discussion, Attorney Shalishali did confirm that TSPLOST funds can be dedicated to financing projects. Commissioner Johnson thanked Mr. Brooks for his consideration. Commissioner Jones suggested that individuals continue to come to the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission meetings. There being no further discussion, the motion for approval passed unanimously.

The Chairman called for consideration to accept the list of roads to be resurfaced with the FY 2024 Local Maintenance & Improvements Grant (LMIG) funds (\$450,934.89), SPLOST VII Resurfacing (\$413,546.44), and TSPLOST II Resurfacing (\$2,200,000). The total cost estimate for 17.84 miles is \$3,064,481.33. Assistant County Administrator Barry Brooks addressed. Public Works Director Chuck Mathis and Engineering Manager Jeremy Brown were present.

Commissioner Jones moved for approval. Commissioner Gray seconded the motion. Under discussion, Commissioner Johnson gave an update that additional funding will be provided by the state. There being no further discussion, the motion for approval passed unanimously.

The Chairman called for consideration to accept the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) VOCA Grant #C23-8-101 for FY 2023-2024 in the amount of \$123,995. The local matching funds amount of \$30,999 was waived for all offices. The grant acceptance is required annually. County Clerk Jawahn Ware was present to speak on behalf of Donna Garcia, Victim Witness Assistance Director.

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

The Chairman called for the zoning consideration of Lanier Engineering, applicant, Woodall Holdings, LLLP & Southwood Development, owner (23-081) request to rezone 20 acres from AG (Agricultural District) to R-E (Estate District). The rezoning would allow for the subdivision of an existing parcel less than 40 acres. The property is at 2416 Tarva Rd. The Planning Commission recommended approval.

Commissioner Gaines moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Jones, the motion for approval passed unanimously. The zoning resolution reads 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:

CHANGE FROM:	AG (Agricultural District)
TO:	R-E (Estate District)
OWNER/APPLICANT:	Woodall Holdings, LLP & Southwood Development (Owner) Lanier Engineering (Applicant)
LOCATION:	2416 Tarva Road

ALL THAT CERTAIN TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE LYING AND BEING  
PART OF LAND LOTS 290 AND 291 OF THE SECOND LAND DISTRICT,  
DOUGHERTY COUNTY GEORGIA AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY  
DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCE AT THE MITERED INTERSECTION OF THE EAST RIGHT-OF-WAY  
OF TARVA ROAD (80' R/W) AND THE NORTH LINE OF LAND LOT 291 AND GO  
SOUTH 09 DEGREES 15 MINUTES 38 SECONDS WEST ALONG THE EAST RIGHT-  
OF-WAY OF TARVA ROAD A DISTANCE OF 641.01 FEET; GO THENCE  
SOUTHERLY ALONG THE EAST RIGHT-OF-WAY TARVA ROAD 797.53 FEET  
ALONG THE ARC OF A CURVE CONCAVE TO THE WEST, HAVING A RADIUS OF  
4,148.05 FEET, A CHORD BEARING OF SOUTH 14 DEGREES 46 MINUTES 07  
SECONDS WEST AND A CHORD DISTANCE OF 796.31 FEET; GO THENCE SOUTH  
20 DEGREES 16 MINUTES 36 SECONDS WEST ALONG THE EAST RIGHT-OF-WAY  
OF TARVA ROAD A DISTANCE OF 846.23 FEET; GO THENCE SOUTHERLY  
ALONG THE EAST RIGHT-OF-WAY OF TARVA ROAD 118.70 FEET ALONG THE  
ARC OF A CURVE CONCAVE TO THE WEST, HAVING A RADIUS OF 3,065.92  
FEET, A CHORD BEARING OF SOUTH 21 DEGREES 23 MINUTES 09 SECONDS  
WEST AND A CHORD DISTANCE OF 118.69 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.  
FROM THIS POINT GO SOUTH 71 DEGREES 58 MINUTES 54 SECONDS EAST A  
DISTANCE OF 63.50 FEET; GO THENCE NORTH 85 DEGREES 22 MINUTES 23  
SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 731.40 FEET; GO THENCE NORTH 17 DEGREES  
48 MINUTES 42 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 377.51 FEET; GO THENCE

NORTH 43 DEGREES 58 MINUTES 33 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 245.10 FEET; GO THENCE NORTH 78 DEGREES 45 MINUTES 08 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 256.74 FEET; GO THENCE SOUTH 84 DEGREES 11 MINUTES 34 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 262.66 FEET; GO THENCE SOUTH 54 DEGREES 15 MINUTES 58 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 192.57 FEET; GO THENCE SOUTH 14 DEGREES 30 MINUTES 24 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 258.91 FEET; GO THENCE SOUTH 18 DEGREES 32 MINUTES 04 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 202. 72 FEET; GO THENCE SOUTH 29 DEGREES 13 MINUTES 51 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 279.73 FEET; GO THENCE SOUTH 67 DEGREES 13 MINUTES 35 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 241.94 FEET; GO THENCE NORTH 87 DEGREES 13 MINUTES 20 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 730.41 FEET; GO THENCE NORTH 33 DEGREES 50 MINUTES 33 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 176.80 FEET; GO THENCE NORTH 88 DEGREES 21 MINUTES 50 SECONDS WEST DISTANCE OF 598.75 FEET TO THE EAST RIGHT-OF-WAY OF TARVA ROAD; GO THENCE NORTHEASTERLY ALONG THE EAST RIGHT-OF-WAY OF TARVA ROAD 103 .67 FEET ALONG THE ARC OF A CURVE CONCAVE TO THE NORTHWEST, HAVING A RADIUS OF 3,065.92 FEET, A CHORD BEARING OF NORTH 23 DEGREES 27 MINUTES 49 SECONDS EAST AND A CHORD DISTANCE OF 103 .66 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.  
SAID TRACT OR PARCEL CONTAINS 20.000 ACRES.

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

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CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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CLERK

APPROVED: January 22, 2024

The Chairman called for the zoning consideration of Glen J. Gosa, owner and applicant (23-088) request to rezone .55 acre lot from C-1 (Neighborhood Mixed-Use Business District) to C-3 (Commercial District). The rezoning would allow for commercial use as a storage building sales lot. The property is 3401 Sylvester Hwy. The Planning Commission recommended approval with the condition of using opaque fencing (buffering).

Commissioner Jones moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Johnson, the motion for approval passed unanimously. The zoning resolution reads 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:

CHANGE FROM: C-1 (Neighborhood Mixed-Use Business  
District)

TO: C-3 (Commercial District) with the  
following conditions:

of using opaque fencing (buffering)

OWNER/APPLICANT: Glen Gosa (Owner & Applicant)

LOCATION: 3401 Sylvester Highway

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING. AND BEING IN THE  
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY AND STATE OF GEORGIA AND BEING PART  
OF LAND LOT NO. 86 OF THE FIRST LAND DISTRICT OF SAID STATE AND  
COUNTY AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:  
A STRIP OF LAND 20 FEET IN WIDTH AND 300 FEET IN DEPTH ACROSS  
ALL OF THE WEST SIDE OF LOT NO. 23 OF THE C.C. BRANCH  
SUBDIVISION, ACCORDING TO A MAP OR PLAT OF SAID SUBDIVISION,  
ACCORDING TO A MAP OR PLAT OF SAID SUBDIVISION AS RECORDED  
IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 290, IN THE OFFICE OF CLERK OF SUPERIOR  
COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA.

SAID STRIP OF LAND LIES IMMEDIATELY EAST OF PARALLEL AND  
ADJACENT TO THE WEST LINE OF SAID LOT NO. 23, AND IS MORE  
PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED ACCORDING TO THE PLAT ATTACHED TO  
THIS PETITION AND MADE A PART HEREOF.

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

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CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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CLERK

APPROVED: January 22, 2024

The Chairman called for the zoning consideration of Glen J. Gosa, owner and applicant (23-089) request to rezone .68 acre lot from C-1 (Neighborhood Mixed-Use Business District) to C-3 (Commercial District). The rezoning would allow for commercial use as a storage building sales lot. The property is 3403 Sylvester Hwy. The Planning Commission recommended approval.

Commissioner Jones moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Johnson, the motion for approval passed unanimously. The zoning resolution reads 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:

CHANGE FROM:	C-1 (Neighborhood Mixed-Use Business District)
TO:	C-3 (Commercial District)
OWNER/APPLICANT:	Glen Gosa (Owner & Applicant)
LOCATION:	3403 Sylvester Highway



ALL OF LOT NUMBER 23 OF THE PROPERTY OF C.C. BRANCH, ACCORDING TO A MAP OR PLAT OF SAID PROPERTY AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 290, IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA.

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

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CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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CLERK

APPROVED: January 22, 2024

The Chairman called for the zoning consideration of Larry & Alma Blakely, owner and applicant (23-090) request to rezone 3.0 acres from R-2 (Single-Family Residential District) to C-7 (Mixed-Use Planned Development District). The rezoning would allow for the residential and commercial use as a travel agency for touring buses. The property is at 3228 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. The Planning Commission recommended approval with the following conditions: (1) The travel agency is limited to two travel buses parked onsite; (2) customer loading and offloading are prohibited and (3) the use of the property is restricted to single-family residential use, the proposed travel agency office, and parking of two tour buses.

Commissioner Jones moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Edwards, the motion for approval passed five ayes and one nay by Commissioner Gray. The zoning resolution reads 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:

CHANGE FROM: R-2 (Single- Family Residential District)

TO: C-7 (Mixed- Use Planned-  
Development District) with following  
conditions:

(1) The travel agency is limited to two travel buses parked onsite. (2) Customer loading and offloading are prohibited. (3) The use of the property is restricted to single-family residential use, the proposed travel agency office, and parking of two tour buses.

OWNER/APPLICANT: Larry & Alma Blakely (Owner &  
Applicant)

LOCATION: 3228 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive

ALL THAT OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 340 OF THE FIRST LAND DISTRICT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS TRACT 2 CONSISTING OF 3.000 ACRES ON THAT CERTAIN PLAT ENTITLED PROPERTY OF REHUNDUBA, LLC AND LARRY BLAKELY DATED JULY 17, 2023 AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 9, PAGE 46 IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA.

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

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CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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CLERK

APPROVED: January 22, 2024

The Chairman called for the zoning consideration of Mary Alice Thomas, owner and applicant (23-093) request to rezone .49 acres from R-2 (Single-Family Residential District) to RMHS (Mobile Home Single-Family District). The rezoning would allow for the installation of a manufactured home for single-family residency. The property is at 505 Engram Court. The Planning Commission recommended approval.

Commissioner Jones moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Johnson, the motion for approval passed unanimously. The zoning resolution reads 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:

CHANGE FROM:	R-2 (Single-Family Residential)
TO:	R-MHS (Mobile Home Single-Family)
OWNER/APPLICANT:	Mary Alice Thomas (Owner & Applicant)
LOCATION:	505 Engram Court

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 116 IN THE FIRST 1<sup>st</sup> LAND DISTRICT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA AND BEING FURTHER IDENTIFIED AS LOT II OF ENGRAM'S SUBDIVISION.

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

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CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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CLERK

APPROVED: January 22, 2024

Mr. Brooks reminded the Board that Commissioner Victor Edwards will be holding a Townhall Meeting for citizens to review the County's Code on the Vegetation Ordinance. The meeting will be held in Room 120 at 1 p.m. He added that this meeting will fit well with the presentation by the Government Affairs Committee for the ordinance review. He also shared that the Flint River Trail: ASU to Downtown Extension Ribbon Cutting will be held today at 2:30 pm. He provided an update on the State Tax Commissioner- 2022 Tax Digest Review stating that we are under conditional approval for the 2022 Tax Digest. It was mentioned that we are 32% and the acceptable level is 40%. There was no impact for Dougherty County at this time because we will be doing a complete revaluation. Tax Director Shonna Josey and Interim Chief Appraiser Larry Thomas were present and addressed concerns. The Board of Tax Assessors does plan to appeal and can work with the County Administrator to ensure that a proper response is provided within 30 days.

Attorney Shalishali provided an update that the law firm Jarrad and Jarrad LLP, will be approximately \$20,000 with no upfront retainer and will be invoiced monthly. They are flexible with starting the project due to funding and he shared the Civic Plus cost is about \$12,500. There is contingency available and awaiting the Board's direction on how to proceed. He provided an update on the concern presented regarding a citizen citation with Red Speed and the law pertaining to how payments and citations are reported. Mr. Brooks asked a representative from the City of Albany to come and provide an update. Commissioner Gray reminded the Board of his concern that there is no contractual agreement with the vendor that could negatively impact citizens through loopholes in the system. Ms. Josey was asked to address the department's experience. The Chairman asked the County Attorney to research the best way to remedy the situation. Commissioner Gaines asked about the status of crimes and Commissioner Johnson shared that the City of Albany Police Chief will resend the information. Chairman Heard shared that Chief Hayes was able to assist Mr. Leroy.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

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CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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COUNTY CLERK