

DOUGHERTY COUNTY COMMISSION

DRAFT

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

March 18, 2024

The Dougherty County Commission met in Room 100 of the Albany-Dougherty Government Center on March 18, 2024. Chairman Lorenzo Heard presided and called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. Present were Commissioners Gloria Gaines, 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. Commissioners Victor Edwards and Russell Gray were absent.

After the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance by the Chairman, he called for approval of the minutes of the February 19th Regular Meeting and February 26th Work Session.

Commissioner Johnson moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Gaines, the minutes were unanimously approved.

The Chairman opened the public hearing for Andrew Dismuke, applicant and Moree Motors #2, LLC, owner, (24-006) request to rezone 6.76 acres from C-R (Community Residential Multiple-Dwelling District) to R-MHP (Mobile Home Park District). The rezoning would allow the current expired manufactured home park to be rehabilitated/reconstructed to meet the regulations per Dougherty County Ordinance. The property is at 3325 Sylvester Hwy. The Planning Commission recommended approval. Angel Gray, Deputy Planning Director addressed. Mrs. Gray shared that manufactured homes are now the acceptable term for mobile homes. It was noted when a mobile home park was vacant for a period of time, the original zoning classification, which in this case was C-R should be used and the process to change would apply. Upon the request of Commissioner Gaines, Mrs. Gray will provide a map of the area. Citizen Lynette Harper and her son Grey Harper opposed the request because of the drainage concerns. They reside on Bennett Drive which is not in the flood zone but had flood concerns. Commissioner Johnson asked that DOT or County Public Works look at the flow of water; and Commissioner Jones echoed the same sentiments to prevent/reduce flooding. Mr. Brooks has been directed to determine the best way to address in regard to the Harper's request for a fence. Mrs. Gray shared that it was not required but the Commission has an opportunity to add. There being no additional comments regarding the proposed matter, the Chairman closed the public hearing.

The Chairman called for consideration of the recommendation from the Dougherty County Jail to accept the quote to upgrade the video surveillance system with the current vendor, Synology, in the amount of \$34,659. Funding is available in SPLOST VI.

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

The Chairman called for consideration of the recommendation from Dougherty County Sheriff's Office to purchase one 2023 Ford F150 XLT 4X4 in the amount of \$52,060 and one 2023 Ford F150 Responder in the amount of \$50,365 from Wade Ford (Smyrna, Ga) for a total expenditure of \$102,425. State contract pricing has been provided and the vehicles are currently on-site. Funding is available in SPLOST VIII.

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

The Chairman called for consideration of the recommendation to purchase two Zoll Medical X Series Monitor/Defibrillators for the EMS Department from sole source vendor Zoll Medical Corporation (Chelmsford, MA) in the amount of \$64,642.56. Funding is budgeted in SPLOST VIII. Assistant County Administrator Barry Brooks addressed. EMS Director Sam Allen was present.

Commissioner Gaines moved for approval. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. Under discussion, Mr. Brooks clarified for Commissioner Johnson that this use was for ambulances. There being no further discussion, the motion for approval passed unanimously.

The Chairman called for consideration of the recommendation from Public Works to approve the expenditure in the amount of \$114,664 for a new fuel truck. The expenditure includes the purchase of a 2025 International MV607 Cab and Chassis from State Contract #99999-SPD-SPD00000151-0001, Rush Truck Center (Valdosta, GA) in the amount of \$108,414 and the anticipated labor cost of \$6,250 for Park Built Body Company (Sylvester, GA) to transfer the body. Funding is budgeted in SPLOST VII. Assistant County Administrator Barry Brooks and Public Works Director Chuck Mathis were present.

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

The Chairman called for consideration of the resolution providing for the acceptance and execution of the MOU between the Marine Corps Logistics Base (MCLB) and DCP Animal Control Unit to secure the benefits of animal control support aboard MCLB for the surrender and disposition of stray dogs to the Albany Humane Society.

Commissioner Gaines moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Johnson, the motion for approval passed unanimously. Resolution 24-009 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION
ENTITLED
A RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL, ACCEPTANCE AND
EXECUTION OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN MARINE CORPS LOGISTICS BASE AND
DOUGHERTY COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT ANIMAL
CONTROL UNIT; REPEALING RESOLUTIONS OR PARTS OF
RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT HEREWITH;
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The Chairman called for the zoning consideration for Andrew Dismuke, applicant and Moree Motors #2, LLC, owner, (24-006) request to rezone 6.76 acres from C-R (Community Residential Multiple-Dwelling District) to R-MHP (Mobile Home Park District). The rezoning would allow the current expired manufactured home park to be rehabilitated/reconstructed to meet the regulations per Dougherty County Ordinance. The property is at 3325 Sylvester Hwy. The Planning Commission recommended approval.

Commissioner Jones motioned to table the zoning request until additional drainage information was provided. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. Under discussion, Mrs. Gray clarified that there was no timeframe for the owner to respond and she explained the proper process for the Board to add conditions to the motion. There being no further discussion, the motion to table passed unanimously.

Mr. Brooks said that March 28th was the planned kickoff date with Mauldin and Jenkins for the financial audit. He would like to bring to the Board the consideration of the tennis center if there were no concerns. It was announced that the Tax Office will be closed (on the day of the meeting) from 10 am - 1 pm to honor the life of former employee Angela Butler. Commissioner Jones asked for a moment of silence for Ms. Butler. There were kudos provided to the DCP and the PIO on the recent activities from the weekend. Commissioner Gaines asked for the logistics of the tour for Albany Technical College and Mrs. Ware addressed.

The Chairman called for consideration of the recommendation from the County Attorney to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing pending litigation and then to adjourn.

Commissioner Johnson moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Gaines, the motion for approval passed unanimously via roll call.

There being no further discussion, the Board entered into Executive Session at 10:39 a.m.

CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

COUNTY CLERK