

PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



117 Putnam Drive, Suite A ♦ Eatonton, GA 31024

Minutes

Tuesday, June 21, 2022 ♦ 6:30 PM

Putnam County Administration Building – Room 203

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, June 21, 2022 at approximately 6:30 PM in the Putnam County Administration Building, 117 Putnam Drive, Room 203, Eatonton, Georgia.

PRESENT

Chairman Billy Webster
Commissioner Gary McElhenney
Commissioner Daniel Brown
Commissioner Bill Sharp
Commissioner Jeff Wooten

STAFF PRESENT

County Attorney Adam Nelson
County Manager Paul Van Haute
County Clerk Lynn Butterworth

Opening

1. Welcome - Call to Order

Chairman Webster called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 p.m.
(Copy of agenda made a part of the minutes on minute book page _____.)

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the Agenda.

Motion made by Commissioner Sharp, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.

**Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Sharp,
Commissioner Wooten**

3. Invocation

County Attorney Adam Nelson gave the invocation.

4. Pledge of Allegiance (DB)

Commissioner Brown led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Zoning Public Hearing

5. Request by Roger Reaves to rezone 13.51 acres on Edward Reaves Road from AG to R-1 [Map 061, Part of Parcel 023, District 2] (staff-P&D)

Mr. Dyrrol Reaves spoke in support of this request. No one signed in to speak against this item. Staff recommendation was for approval to rezone 13.51 acres on Edwards Reaves Road from AG to R-1 [Map 061, Part of Parcel 023] with the following condition:

- 1. This rezoning approval shall be conditioned upon the resurveying and recordation in the Superior Court of Putnam County of an accurate plat within 60 days of approval by the board of commissioners. A copy of the recorded plat shall be filed with the planning and development department director. Failure to file a plat pursuant to this subsection shall have the effect of invalidating the rezoning action as stated in Section 66-165(e)(3) of the Putnam County Code of Ordinances.

Motion to approve the request by Roger Reaves to rezone 13.51 acres on Edward Reaves Road from AG to R-1 [Map 061, part of Parcel 023] with the following condition:

- 1. **This rezoning approval shall be conditioned upon the resurveying and recordation in the Superior Court of Putnam County of an accurate plat within 60 days of approval by the board of commissioners. A copy of the recorded plat shall be filed with the planning and development department director. Failure to file a plat pursuant to this subsection shall have the effect of invalidating the rezoning action as stated in Section 66-165(e)(3) of the Putnam County Code of Ordinances.**

Motion made by Commissioner Brown, Seconded by Commissioner McElhenney.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Sharp, Commissioner Wooten

6. Request by Jeremy Crosby, agent for William B. Jones, to rezone 0.94 acres at 114 Briarpatch Road from R-2 to C-1 [Map 096B, Part of Parcel 063, District 1] (staff-P&D)

Applicant is requesting to withdraw without prejudice.

Mr. Jeremy Crosby requested to withdraw the rezoning request without prejudice. Mr. Steve Hersey spoke against the rezoning of the property saying it encroaches on established residential areas.

Motion to approve the request to withdraw without prejudice the request by Jeremy Crosby, agent for William B. Jones, to rezone 0.94 acres at 114 Briarpatch Road from R-2 to C-1 [Map 096B, Part of Parcel 063, District 1].

Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Sharp, Commissioner Wooten

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7. Request by Brandon Burgess, agent for Molfin Investments, LLC, for conditional use at 170 Scott Road [Map 102, Parcel 001002, District 3] (staff-P&D)

Mr. Brandon Burgess spoke in support of the request. No one signed in to speak against this item.

Staff recommendation was for approval of the proposed conditional use located at 170 Scott Road [Map 102, Parcel 001002, District 3] with the following conditions:

- 1) All storage and display of boats shall be wholly within the existing building, and no outside display or storage shall be allowed as stated in Section 66-102 of the Putnam County Code of Ordinances.
- 2) This use shall not expand beyond the established showroom area of the previous owner of 14,000 sq. ft.
- 3) The uses allowed under the conditional use shall be limited to those that conform to boat sales only and any other use or accessory use allowed within C-1.

Motion to approve the request by Brandon Burgess, agent for Molfin Investments, LLC, for conditional use to allow interior boat sales at 170 Scott Road [Map 102, Parcel 001002] with the following conditions:

- 1) All storage and display of boats shall be wholly within the existing building, and no outside display or storage shall be allowed as stated in Section 66-102 of the Putnam County Code of Ordinances.
- 2) This use shall not expand beyond the established showroom area of the previous owner of 14,000 square feet.
- 3) The uses allowed under the conditional use shall be limited to those that conform to boat sales only and any other use or accessory use allowed within C-1.

Motion made by Commissioner Sharp, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Sharp, Commissioner Wooten

Regular Business Meeting

8. Public Comments

Mr. Steve Hersey commented on senior tax relief by means of an increase in homestead exemption.

9. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of Minutes - June 3, 2022 Regular Meeting (staff-CC)
- b. Approval of Minutes - June 3, 2022 Executive Session (staff-CC)
- c. Authorization for Chairman to sign ACCG-GHBP Health Promotion & Wellbeing Grant Application (staff-HR)

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Sharp.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Sharp, Commissioner Wooten

(Copy of grant application made a part of the minutes on minute book page _____.)

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10. Authorization for Chairman to sign Resolution for revision to the Putnam County Financial Policy effective July 1, 2022 (staff-Fin)

Motion to authorize the Chairman to sign the Resolution for revision to the Putnam County Financial Policy effective July 1, 2022.

Motion made by Commissioner Sharp, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Sharp, Commissioner Wooten

(Copy of resolution made a part of the minutes on minute book pages _____ to _____.)

11. Authorization for staff to schedule a Public Hearing for proposed changes to the Putnam County Code of Ordinances - Chapter 28 (Development Regulations and Chapter 32 (Fire Protection and Prevention) (staff-CM & Fire)

County Manager Van Haute explained the proposed changes.

Motion to authorize staff to schedule a Public Hearing for proposed changes to the Putnam County Code of Ordinances - Chapter 28 (Development Regulations) and Chapter 32 (Fire Protection and Prevention).

Motion made by Commissioner Sharp, Seconded by Commissioner McElhenney.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Sharp, Commissioner Wooten

(Copy of proposed changes made a part of the minutes on minute book pages _____ to _____.)

12. Request to begin the Road Abandonment process for Dennis Station Lane and a portion of McDade Road and Battlesmith Road (JW & staff-PW)

Commissioner Wooten advised that he had received numerous complaints about Dennis Station Lane being used as a trash dump. He also explained that a portion of McDade Road is continually being washed away and is only used by one person who will have means on ingress and egress from the other end of the road. Commissioner Wooten also mentioned that Battlesmith Road, while not in his district, is another road with only one resident that requires constant maintenance.

Mr. Mark Smith spoke against the abandonment of Battlesmith Road as his sister lives on that road and would not be able to maintain it herself.

Motion to begin the abandonment process of Dennis Station Lane and a portion of McDade Road.

Motion made by Commissioner Wooten, Seconded by Commissioner McElhenney.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Sharp, Commissioner Wooten

Motion to table the request to abandon Battlesmith Road until the July 19, 2022 meeting.

Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Sharp.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Sharp, Commissioner Wooten

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13. Authorization for Chairman to sign Resolution to Return Jimmy Davis Park to the City of Eatonton (staff-CM)

County Manager Van Haute briefly explained some of the history of Jimmy Davis Park and that it was purchased by the City of Eatonton in the 1960s with a grant from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and therefore it must be maintained by the City in perpetuity.

County Attorney Nelson advised that the City and County are in violation of the original grant and this action will remedy the ownership issue.

Mr. Richard Garrett commented on the treatment of Jimmy Davis Park and that this transfer is not good for the people. He asked for the issue to be tabled and to seek public input. Mrs. Karen Henry-Garrett commented that the community needs the park.

Motion to authorize the Chairman to sign the Resolution to Return Jimmy Davis Park to the City of Eatonton.

Motion made by Commissioner Brown, Seconded by Commissioner McElhenney.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Sharp, Commissioner Wooten

(Copy of resolution and deed made a part of the minutes on minute book pages _____ to _____.)

14. Authorization for Chairman to sign Certificate of Distribution for Local Option Sales Tax (BW)

Chairman Webster briefly reviewed the negotiations to date.

Motion to authorize the chairman to sign a Certificate of Distribution for the Local Option Sales Tax starting at 29% to the City in the first year, 28% to the City in second year, 27% to the City in the third year, 26% to the City in the fourth year, and 25% to the City in the remaining years and to be signed by the City within 30 days.

Motion by Commissioner Wooten, Seconded by Commissioner McElhenney.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Sharp, Commissioner Wooten

(Copy of certificate made a part of the minutes on minute book pages _____ to _____.)

15. Authorization for Chairman to sign Board of Education Tax Levy Resolution (BW)

Motion to authorize the Chairman to sign the Board of Education Tax Levy Resolution.

Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Wooten

Voting Nay: Commissioner Sharp

(Copy of resolution made a part of the minutes on minute book pages _____ to _____.)

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Reports/Announcements

16. County Manager Report

County Manager Van Haute reported the following:

- Recognized and thanked the Public Works employees for their hard work this past weekend cleaning up after storms.
- Budget estimates are coming in higher than usual.

17. County Attorney Report

No report.

18. Commissioner Announcements

Commissioner McElhenney: none

Commissioner Brown: none

Commissioner Sharp: thanked public safety employees for helping a Crooked Creek resident in need from the recent storm

Commissioner Wooten: echoed Commissioner Sharp's comments and also thanked Tri County EMC workers for their quick response restoring power to customers. He led a standing ovation for all these hard workers.

Chairman Webster: advised that Mr. Hanson will be arrested soon.

Closing

19. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Sharp.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Sharp, Commissioner Wooten

Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:52 p.m.

ATTEST:

Lynn Butterworth
County Clerk

Billy Webster
Chairman

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