

PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



117 Putnam Drive, Suite A ♦ Eatonton, GA 31024

Minutes

Tuesday, February 15, 2022 ♦ 6:30 PM

Putnam County Administration Building – Room 203

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, February 15, 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 6:31 p.m. He introduced Councilmember Janie Reid to recognize members of Eatonton Youth Leadership who were attending the meeting. Junior Mayor Trenton Lewis spoke for the group saying they were thankful to be here and hoped to learn something. Chairman Webster welcomed them all. (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 McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Wooten

3. Invocation - Rev. Dr. Craig Williamson

Rev. Dr. Craig Williamson, Senior Pastor of Eatonton First Baptist Church, gave the invocation.

4. Pledge of Allegiance (JW)

Commissioner Jeff Wooten led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Zoning Public Hearing

5. Request by Rick McAllister, agent for Shaifer Oconee, LLC, to rezone 3.096 acres on Scott Road from C-PUD to C-2 [Map 102, Part of Parcel 002, District 3] (staff-P&D)

Mr. Rick McAllister spoke in support of this request. No one signed in to speak against this item.

Planning and Development staff recommendation was for approval to rezone 3.096 acres on Scott Road from C-PUD to C-2 [Map 102, Part of Parcel 002, District 3].

Motion to approve request by Rick McAllister, agent for Shaifer Oconee, LLC to rezone 3.096 acres on Scott Road from C-PUD to C-2 [Map 102, Part of Parcel 002].

Motion made by Commissioner Brown, Seconded by Commissioner McElhenney.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Wooten

6. Request by Matt Fleming, agent for Carolyn Walton c/o Carol W. Williams, to rezone 32.11 acres on Loch Way from AG to R-1 [Map 095A, Parcel 011, District 2] (staff-CC)

Ms. Carol Williams requested to withdraw this item without prejudice.

Planning and Development staff recommendation was for approval to withdraw without prejudice on Loch Way [Map 095A, Part of Parcel 011, District 3].

Motion to approval the withdrawal without prejudice of the request by Matt Fleming, agent for Carolyn Walton c/o Carol W. Williams, to rezone 32.11 acres on Loch Way from AG to R-1 [Map 096A, Parcel 011].

Motion made by Commissioner Brown, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Wooten

7. Request by Jay V. Dell, agent for 5 Star Pinestraw, LLC, to rezone 1.00 acre on Lakeman Road from C-1 to C-2 [Map 097, Parcel 066001, District 3] (staff-P&D)

Mr. Jay Dell spoke in support of this request. No one signed in to speak against this item.

Planning and Development staff recommendation was for approval to rezone 1.00 acres from C-1 to C-2 on Lakeman Road [Map 097, Parcel 066001, District 3] with the following condition:

Motion to approve the request by Jay V. Dell, agent for 5 Star Pinestraw, LLC, to rezone 1.00 acre on Lakeman Road from C-1 to C-2 [Map 097, Parcel 066001] with the following condition: 1) the developer shall develop and maintain a 50-foot buffer or berm along the property lines that abut Map 097, Parcel 036 as stated in Section 66-107(g) of the Putnam County Code of Ordinances.

Motion made by Commissioner Wooten, Seconded by Commissioner McElhenney.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Wooten

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8. Request by Jay V. Dell, agent for 5 Star Pinestraw, LLC, to rezone 1.00 acre on Lakeman Road from C-1 to C-2 [Map 097, Parcel 066002, District 3] (staff-P&D)

Mr. Jay Dell spoke in support of this request. No one signed in to speak against this item.

Planning and Development staff recommendation was for approval to rezone 1.00 acres from C-1 to C-2 on Lakeman Road [Map 097, Parcel 066001, District 3] with the following condition:

Motion to approve the request by Jay V. Dell, agent for 5 Star Pinestraw, LLC, to rezone 1.00 acre on Lakeman Road from C-1 to C-2 [Map 097, Parcel 066002] with the following condition: 1) the developer shall develop and maintain a 50-foot buffer or berm along the property lines that abut Map 097, Parcel 036 and Map 097, Parcel 033 as stated in Section 66-107(g) of the Putnam County Code of Ordinances.

Motion made by Commissioner Brown, Seconded by Commissioner McElhenney.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Wooten

Regular Business Meeting

9. Public Comments

None

10. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of Minutes - February 4, 2022 Regular Meeting (staff-CC)

b. Approval of 2022 Alcohol Licenses (staff-CC)

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Wooten

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

11. Authorization for Chairman to sign Subdivision Final Plat for Cuscowilla on Lake Oconee - Section H - Spirit Run (staff-P&D)

Mr. Rick McAllister spoke in support of this request. No one signed in to speak against this item.

Motion to authorize the Chairman to sign the Subdivision Final Plat for Cuscowilla on Lake Oconee - Section H - Spirit Run.

Motion made by Commissioner Wooten, Seconded by Commissioner McElhenney.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Wooten

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

12. Authorization for Chairman to sign Revised Final Plat for Plantation Pines Business Park Phase 2 (staff-P&D)

Mr. James Jenkins spoke in support of this request. No one signed in to speak against this item.

Motion to authorize the Chairman to sign the Revised Final Plat for Plantation Pines Business Park Phase 2.

Motion made by Commissioner Wooten, Seconded by Commissioner McElhenney.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Wooten

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

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13. Discussion and possible action to advertise for bids a new Fire/EMS/Coroner Public Safety Building (staff-CM-Fire)

County Manager Van Haute explained that a new Fire Station has been in the planning stages for a long time, and now with ARPA funding available, it will help mitigate some of the costs. Another benefit will be that the Sheriff would like the current EMS building on South Oak Street. The Fire Chief has come up with plans to house Fire/EMS/Coroner and last for a long time.

Fire Chief McClain talked about the current space and what it lacks and explains that the new station will meet the needs today and last into future years. He advised that EMS Director Murphey and Coroner Harrison were consulted and included in the planning. The new station will provide room to park vehicles inside where they can be secure, living quarters, a training room, drive thru bays, and a day room for cooking, living, etc. He has some floor plans drawn by an architect and requested to put this project out for bid.

Motion to authorize the staff to advertise for bids for a new Fire/EMS/Coroner Public Safety building per plans by the Fire Chief.

Motion made by Commissioner Brown, Seconded by Commissioner McElhenney.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Wooten

Reports/Announcements

14. County Manager Report

County Manager Van Haute reported the following:

- Anticipating the Splash Pad to be awarded no later than March 15 and should have the final plans within the next four weeks
- Sent an email to the City Administrator regarding a mediator for LOST negotiations and hopes to hear back from him by the end of the week
- Working on pulling power to the Scott Road intersection for the new traffic signal
- Reviewed the Pea Ridge Road repaving project and expects costs to be around \$200K per mile or a total around \$1.7M
- Barker Communications is closing and they do the radio system for Fire and EMS; working with another company out of Toccoa and will work with the Sheriff to decide the next course of action for this daunting challenge

15. County Attorney Report

No report.

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16. Commissioner Announcements

Commissioner McElhenney: suggested the county check out Tift County's radio system

Commissioner Brown: suggested the county check with the school system to see what they use for a radio system and congratulated the members of the Eatonton Youth Council for getting involved and learning to be good leaders

Commissioner Wooten: advised that his brother has a cell tower and some towers save space for law enforcement, EMS, etc.

Chairman Webster: advised that a similar radio system problem came up about 10 years ago and costs were estimated around \$4M; no telling what it will cost now

Closing

17. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Wooten

Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:24 p.m.

ATTEST:

Lynn Butterworth
County Clerk

Billy Webster
Chairman

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