

The Brooks County Board of Commissioners met for its Monthly Work Session and Regular Monthly Meeting on Monday, May 1, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Meeting Room located at the Brooks County Office Building. Commissioners present were: Ms. Myra Exum, Chairperson; Mr. Joe Wingate, Vice Chairman; Mr. James Maxwell; Mr. Willie Cody; and Mr. S. L. Jones. Others present were: Mr. Justin DeVane, County Administrator; Ms. Patricia Williams, County Clerk; Mr. Vann Parrott, County Attorney; and various residents.

PUBLIC HEARING – SIGN-IN SHEET PROVIDED

- A. Request for Variance – Eric Davis** – Zoning received a request from Eric Davis for a variance to allow construction of two duplex units on his property located between Perdue Road and Shiver Road. Ms. Sherry Davidson, Planner, Southern Georgia Regional Commission, presented the request, stating the Petition is for a variance of 20,000 sq. ft. from the minimum 60,000 sq. ft. lot size requirement; in order to build two duplexes in a DR-20-M zoning district on property that is a conforming lot of record located with frontage on Shiver Road and Perdue Road. Planning Commission recommended approval of the variance request during their meeting on April 18, 2017. Regional Commission Staff recommended approval due to being a great asset to the community; even though the request does not meet the strict standards of hardship and uniqueness, and is not created by the regulation of the Code. The hardship is self-imposed by wanting to over develop the property. Ms. Davidson inquired to the Board if they had any questions; there were none. Chair asked if anyone present would like to speak for or against the request; no one spoke.

Chair closed the Public Hearing at 5:06 p.m.; and went into the Work Session.

WORK SESSION – Chair Exum called Work Session to order.

Reports from Committees/Departments

- A. Scott Routsong – Library** – was not present; will appear next month.
- B. Glenn Walker – Public Works** – Mr. Walker presented updates for month of April 2017.
- There were 11 pipes installed, six signs replaced; trash picked up; and six – 911 calls.
 - One hay removal and five trees; 152 bags of sand used for 24 pot holes.
 - The new mowing tractor will be in this week.
- D. Ben DeVane – County Surveyor/Engineer** – presented project updates.
- Working on the 2017 LMIG; Greenlake Circle is being surveyed.
 - Working with FEMA and Glenn Walker for storm damage assessment; they have requested a hydraulic study.

- Received a proposal from TTL to extend water main; and get off private property for the five residents close to the landfill. Estimated cost is \$55,750.00

Chair closed Work Session to go into the Regular Meeting at 5:23 p.m.

1. **Call to Order** – Ms. Exum called meeting to order.

A. **Prayer & Pledge** – Mr. Maxwell led all in attendance in prayer and pledge of allegiance.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

A. **May 1, 2017 Regular Monthly Meeting** – Mr. Cody made the motion to approve the agenda, Mr. Maxwell seconded; vote was unanimous.

3. **Approval of Minutes**

On a motion by Mr. Cody, seconded by Mr. Maxwell, the Board unanimously approved the following minutes:

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------------|----------------|
| A. | Work Session & Regular Meeting | April 3, 2017 |
| B. | Special Called Meeting | April 17, 2017 |

4. **Appearances**

A. **Zurich DeShazor – Request for Facilities (Courthouse Grounds)** – Mr. DeShazor requested permission to use the Courthouse Grounds on September 2, 2017 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for a car show. Mr. Cody made the motion to approve the request to use the Courthouse Grounds from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for a car show on September 2, 2017.

B. **Georgia Forestry Commission – New Station** – Georgia Forestry requested to appear before the Board to discuss construction and location of a new joint station in Brooks County to conduct operations between Cook and Brooks County. They have been in the same location for 25 years. Cook County Hospital and Development Authority approached the Forestry Commission about relocating. The new station will be located on Highway 76.

C. **East Brooks Volunteer Fire Department – Discuss Millage, Station Improvements**

Representatives from East Brooks Fire Department appeared to discuss the construction of a new well needed to have enough water to fight fires. Quotes were not presented; but stated three had been received. Chair recommended getting with Jordan Smith, Brooks County Fire Coordinator, and get prices for budgeting.

5. New Business

A. Request for Variance – Eric Davis – Zoning received a request from Eric Davis for a variance to allow construction of two duplex units on his property between Perdue and Shiver Road. Zoning states a minimum of 30,000 sq. ft. is required per duplex (60,000 sq. ft.); the two lots are 20,000 sq. ft. each; the variance is for 20,000 sq. ft. total. On the motion by Mr. Cody, seconded by Mr. Maxwell; Board unanimously approved the variance request of 20,000 sq. ft. from the minimum 30,000 sq. ft. by Eric Davis to allow construction of two duplex units on his property located between Perdue and Shiver Road. Mr. Cody stated the addition will be an asset to the community.

B. Brooks County Development Authority – Brooks County Development Authority submitted a request for reimbursement of costs associated with the Brooks County Industrial Park to be paid from the tax millage collected by the County on behalf of the Development Authority. The requested amount is \$39,992.02. Currently, the County and Development Authority do not have an active agreement regarding these funds. Mr. Maxwell questioned what is being done with the funds the Authority receives monthly for property rental; and requested the Board be provided a list of what they are doing with the funds. After discussion, Mr. Wingate made the motion to approve the request from Development Authority in amount of \$39,992.02 to be paid from tax collected funds. Vote was unanimous.

C. Replacement Appointment to Airport Authority – Mr. Timmy Hiers – Mr. Kenny Baker, Airport Authority Chair, requested the Board's consideration to appoint Mr. Timmy Hiers to replace Mr. Tommy Roberts' vacant seat on the Board. Mr. Roberts resigned; and Mr. Hiers has agreed to serve. Mr. Wingate made the motion to appoint Mr. Timmy Hiers to replace Mr. Tommy Roberts on the Airport Authority Board; Mr. Maxwell seconded. Vote was unanimous.

D. Approval of Yancey Repairs Invoice on Cat 200B Excavator – Administrator received a request from Yancey for approval of repairs completed on the Cat 200B Excavator. Originally, the excavator was sent to Yancey to repair the swivel that was estimated in the \$3,000 range. Additional repairs were authorized by Glenn without Administrator approval. Upon receiving the repair bill back; the bill was \$13,901.88. The Shop is not authorized to request P. O.s for invoices over \$11,000 without Board approval. The repairs for the Cat 200B Excavator in the amount of \$13,901.88 was approved on the motion by Mr. Maxwell; and seconded by Mr. Cody. Vote was unanimous. Ms. Exum reminded all department heads in attendance the importance to follow the purchasing policy.

6. Unfinished Business - None

7. County Administrator Notes/Comments

A. Crossing Improvements – CSX Rail at Pidcock Road – GDOT sent a letter to Administration stating that CSX and GDOT will be installing a lighted crossing at the CSX Rail and Pidcock Road. GDOT will be paying 100% of the improvement costs for this project.

B. USDA Lease Offer Submission – Administrator informed the Board he had submitted the Lease Offer Application to USDA.

8. Commissioners Notes/Comments

A. Joe Wingate - District 1 – Reported he had been checking on Charles DeVane, Humane Society, and he informed him he had built a dog shelter. He also reiterated the need for striping on Tallokas Road from Magnolia Church Road to the County line.

B. S. L. Jones, District 2 – No comment.

C. Willie Cody, District 3 – Inquired about status of Simmon Hill Road; and what does the Board plan to do. He stated nothing been done since he has been in office.

D. Myra Exum, District 4 – No comment.

E. James Maxwell, District 5 –No Comment.

9. Executive Session – None

10. Adjournment - Mr. Maxwell made the motion to adjourn regular meeting at 6:00 p.m.; Mr. Maxwell seconded.

Ms. Myra Exum, Chairperson
Mr. Justin DeVane, Administrator
Ms. Patricia A. Williams, Clerk