

The Brooks County Board of Commissioners met for its Monthly Work Session and Regular Monthly Meeting on Monday, February 5, 2018 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. Willie Cody; and Mr. James Maxwell. Mr. S. L. Jones was not present due to health issues. Others present were: Mr. Justin DeVane, County Administrator; Ms. Patricia Williams, County Clerk; Mr. Vann Parrott; County Attorney; and various residents.

**PUBLIC HEARING – PETITION FOR ZONING CHANGE – AMANDA HALL – 11693 TROUPEVILLE HWY**  
**SIGN-IN SHEET PROVIDED – NO ONE SIGNED**

Administration received a request from Planning and Zoning for a request from Amanda Hall to change from Agriculture to Commercial Highway on 1.5 acres of land, located at 11693 Troupeville Road. Ms. Sherry Davidson, Planner, SGRC, presented the petition to the Board; stating the change is for market resale. The SGRC Staff made a recommendation for approval and Planning Commission met and approved the SGRC recommendation unanimously.

Chair inquired if anyone was present to speak for or against; no one signed in. Chair closed Public Hearing at 5:02 p.m. to go into Work Session,

**WORK SESSION** – Chair Exum called Work Session to order.

**Reports from Committees/Departments**

- A. Ben DeVane – County Surveyor/Engineer** – presented project updates.
- 2017 LMIG is complete; Greenlake Circle is complete; looks good; received compliments from residents.
  - Pulled drawings on Hagan Farm Property; can get copies and all information is available.
  - Attended Erosion Control and Wetland Seminar in Atlanta and Savannah.

Chair closed Work Session to go into the Regular Meeting at 5:08 p.m.

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

**A. Prayer & Pledge** – Pastor Bobby Christian led all in attendance in prayer and pledge of allegiance.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

**A. February 5, 2018 Regular Monthly Meeting** – Mr. Wingate made a motion to approve the agenda Mr. Cody 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 & Executive Session January 8, 2018
- B. Special Called Meeting & Executive Session January 25, 2018
- C. Special Called Meeting & Executive Session January 25, 2018

**4. Appearances**

**A. Johnny Brown – Use of Facilities Request (Courthouse Grounds)** - Administrator received a request from the Love Joy Chapter #246 Order of the Eastern Star to reserve the Courthouse Grounds on March 24<sup>th</sup> for their annual Community Easter Egg Hunt. The Chapter has hosted this event for several years now and has been approved by the Board in the past. The event is scheduled to begin at 9am until 2 pm. Mr. Cody made the motion to approve use of Courthouse Grounds for Easter Egg Hunt on March 24, 2018, Mr. Wingate seconded. Vote was unanimous.

**5. New Business**

**A. Petition for Zoning Change – Amanda Hall – 11693 Troupeville Highway** – Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the Zoning change request from Agricultural to Commercial Highway on 1.5 acres of land located on 11693 Troupeville Highway; seconded by Mr. Wingate. Vote was unanimous.

**B. Shannon Walker – Adoption of Updated Brooks County Board of Health Fees for Services** - Administrator received a request from Mr. Shannon Walker to present to the Board an updated fee for services provided by the department that was passed by the Brooks County Board of Health. On the motion by Mr. Maxwell, seconded by Mr. Cody, Board unanimously adopted the Resolution of the Brooks County Board of Health the rules and regulations mandated by the State of Georgia for on-site sewage management systems, food service establishments, tourist accommodations, and portable sanitation Resolution of the Brooks County Board of Health.

**C. Reimbursement Request – Brooks County Development Authority** -Administrator received a request from Ms. Tiffany Holmes of the Brooks County Development Authority for reimbursement for purchases, maintenance and other fees associated with the operation of the Brooks County Industrial Park. The Development Authority is requesting use of the trust account funds the County holds. The request is for a total of \$54,028.35. The request of funds in the amount of \$54,028.35 from the trust account fund was approved by the Board unanimously on the motion by Mr. Maxwell; seconded by Mr. Wingate.

**6. Unfinished Business**

**A. Selection of Road Superintendent** – Administrator inquired to the Board in regards to their decision to hire a Road Superintendent from the applicants they interviewed. He asked if they wanted to bring applicants back, or look at other applicants that applied or if advertise for the position again? Mr. Maxwell stated he was ready to make

a decision and hire Johnny Allen; Mr. Cody agreed. Mr. Wingate did not agree with Mr. Maxwell; suggested re-opening the process and expand. He emphasized he is not ready to make a decision. Ms. Exum also stated she is not ready to make a decision; there are lots of issues; the position requires leadership; we need to make sure we hire most qualified. She suggested opening up the application process again. Mr. Maxwell made the motion to hire Johnny Allen, Mr. Cody seconded. Chair called for the vote. Mr. Maxwell and Mr. Cody voted yes. Mr. Wingate voted no. Ms. Exum voted no making the vote a tie. Discussion by the Board started as to whether or not Ms. Exum, Chairperson, could vote without the vote being a tie. The Board will wait for a legal opinion from County Attorney into the matter as to whether the Chairperson can vote.

**B. Appeal Filed by Mr. Ken Collins** – Mr. Wingate made the motion to uphold the Board's decision to terminate Elections Superintendent, Ken Collins; but change language in the minutes to only state incompetence, Mr. Cody seconded. Vote was unanimous.

**7. County Administrator Notes/Comments**

**A. Property Sale Update** – Administrator informed the Board of the surplus property being put out to bid; property has been posted with "For Sale" signs; and the bids will be accepted until March 12, 2018 at 3 pm.

**B. Mowing Tractor** – Administrator informed the Board of need for bigger tractor for mowing; the one purchased is not big enough for mower. He inquired if Board wanted to contract out services.

**8. Commissioners Notes/Comments**

**A. Joe Wingate - District 1** – Commented on opportunity for leash law; Gardner Road needs work; and announced this will be his last year on the Board.

**B. S. L. Jones, District 2** – Not present.

**C. Willie Cody, District 3** – No comment.

**D. Myra Exum, District 4** – Stated residence are pleased, thankful; and happy for work on Greenlake Circle.

**E. James Maxwell, District 5** – No comment.

**9. Executive Session** – None

10. **Adjournment** - Mr. Maxwell made the motion to adjourn regular meeting at 5:39 p.m.; Mr. Wingate seconded.

Ms. Myra Exum, Chair

Mr. Justin DeVane, Administrator

Ms. Patricia A. Williams, Clerk