

**MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
AGENDA SETTING MEETING
JULY 6, 2020
6:00 P.M.**

(In person meeting held in Superior Courtroom and also available remotely through Zoom)

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commission Chairman John Scarborough
District 1 Commissioner Lee Allen
District 2 Commissioner Tripp Strickland
District 3 Commissioner Theresa Bettis
District 4 Commissioner Brian Kirk
District 5 Commissioner Derek Doster

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

MEDIA PRESENT:

Zach Mitcham, Madison County Journal

STAFF PRESENT:

Rhonda S. Wooten, County Clerk
Mike Pruet, County Attorney

Chairman Scarborough called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Item No. 1. Chairman's Report

Chairman Scarborough said a plan for early distribution of SPLOST funds and project priorities will be discussed at the July 27, 2020 meeting.

Item No. 2. Hearings and Actions on Zoning Matters

None

Item No. 3. Statements and Remarks from Citizens on an agenda item

Chairman Scarborough asked if there were any statements or remarks on an agenda item.

Todd Higdon addressed the Board in opposition to agenda item number four.

OLD BUSINESS:

Item No. 4. Consider a lease purchase agreement for property located at 20 Albany Avenue

Chairman Scarborough explained the reasoning behind the purchase was in part due to being approached last year with the possibility of a fourth Superior Court Judge being added to handle our caseload. Further consideration was given due to the proximity to the government complex. The Tax Commissioner's Office, Tax Assessors' Office and Building/Zoning Office were initially mentioned to be relocated. Currently we have to make arrangements for a new location for the Industrial Development and Building Authority.

After discussion, on motion by Commissioner Strickland and second by Commissioner Doster the Board voted to approve the lease purchase agreement for the property located at 20 Albany Avenue. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Strickland, Kirk and Doster voted YES. Commissioners Allen and Bettis voted NO.

Item No. 5. Consider a lease purchase agreement for a new facility for Division of Family & Children Services

Chairman Scarborough explained that the State submitted a Request for Proposal for this project and it was awarded to a developer in Atlanta. The State Property Commission set funds aside for payments over a 20 year period. The County would be purchasing the property from a Public Purpose Corporation and leasing it to the state.

Members of the audience requested an opportunity to speak. With agreement from the Board, Chairman Scarborough opened the meeting back up for public comment.

Josh Chandler, Todd Higdon, Gina Ward and Michael McAvoy spoke in opposition to the lease purchase.

Bill Berryman, representing Municipal Development Services, spoke in favor of the lease purchase.

After discussion regarding the status of the final draft of the agreement, the Board took no action.

NEW BUSINESS:

None

Item No. 6. Roads Update

Commissioner Bettis requested pot hole repairs on Amberly Drive.

Item No. 7. Urgent Matters

There were no urgent matters.

Item No. 8. Executive Session to discuss real estate acquisition, personnel matters and/or potential litigation

There was no need for executive session.

Item No. 9. Adjourn

On motion by Commissioner Strickland and second by Commissioner Allen the meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.