

**MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
JANUARY 9, 2017
6:30 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commission Chairman John Scarborough
District 1 Commissioner Lee Allen
District 2 Commissioner Tripp Strickland
District 3 Commissioner Theresa Bettis
District 4 Commissioner John W. Pethel, Sr.
District 5 Commissioner Jim R. Escoe, Sr.

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 6:30 p.m. and introduced himself, the district commissioners, county attorney and county clerk. Chairman Scarborough requested that cell phone ring tones be turned off and then led in the pledge of allegiance to the American Flag and gave the invocation.

Item No. 1. Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of Agenda Setting Meeting of December 19, 2016. Minutes have been distributed.

On motion by Commissioner Escoe and second by Commissioner Pethel the Board voted to approve the minutes of the December 19, 2016 Agenda Setting Meeting. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 2. Business Involving Guests, Groups or Multiple Visitors.

None

Item No. 3. Chairman's Report.

Chairman Scarborough advised the Board that the Madison County Farm Bureau Board of Directors would like to schedule a meeting with the Board of Commissioners to offer information and support related to agricultural issues in the county. He said that they will be contacted to schedule a special called meeting.

Item No. 4. Hearings and Actions on Rezone Matters, Special Use Permits, Etc. (Wayne Douglas)

1. JBTL, LLC is being represented by Johnnie Duncan. The request is to rezone a two acre portion of 24 acres from A1 to RR with an existing home site. The property is on map 53 parcel 35 on Highway 98 West in District 2.

Chairman Douglas explained the rezone request and stated that the Planning and Zoning Commission voted five to zero to approve.

Chairman Scarborough asked if anyone would like to speak in favor of the request. No one came forward.

Chairman Scarborough asked if anyone would like to speak in opposition to the request. No one came forward.

Chairman Scarborough asked if anyone would like to speak in favor of the request. No one came forward.

On motion by Commissioner Allen and second by Commissioner Bettis the Board voted to approve the request. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

2. Hoyt Morris is being represented by Site Enhancement, Inc. The request is to rezone 81.59 acres from A1 to R1 for a major subdivision of approximately 80 lots. This is on map 46 parcel 148 on McCannon Morris Road in District 5.

Chairman Douglas explained the rezone request and stated that the Planning and Zoning Commission voted five to zero to approve.

Chairman Scarborough asked if anyone would like to speak in favor of the request.

Adam Swan with Site Enhancement Incorporated explained the proposed development and stated that the homes will be a minimum of 1600 square feet and stick built.

Chairman Scarborough asked if anyone would like to speak in opposition to the request.

Steve Bates, Larry Sorrells, Frank Golley, Linda Pitts and Priscilla Golley spoke in opposition to the request.

Chairman Scarborough asked if anyone would like to speak in favor of the request.

Adam Swan spoke in favor of the request.

On motion by Commissioner Bettis and second by Commissioner Escoe the Board voted to approve the rezone request. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Chairman Douglas advised the Board that two information meetings regarding the future land use map had been held and that it is now time to have the written portion of the map completed. He requested permission to have the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission handle the written portion so that it can be posted on the website and then one more information meeting will be held before it goes to a public hearing.

On motion by Commissioner Strickland and second by Commissioner Bettis the Board voted to set aside \$7500.00 to have the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission handle the written portion of the future land use map. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 5. Statements and Remarks from Citizens on agenda items.

Chairman Scarborough asked if there were any statements or remarks on an agenda item. No one came forward.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Item No. 6. Consider resolution for tax sale properties. (Lamar Dalton)

Tax Commissioner Lamar Dalton requested Board approval of a resolution authorizing the Tax Commissioner to make final determinations concerning the waiver, in whole or in part, of the collection of any penalties and interests.

On motion by Commissioner Escoe and second by Commissioner Pethel the Board voted to approve the resolution. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Tax Commissioner Dalton addressed the Board regarding a proposal to provide further tax exemption for the elderly. He stated that he would like to establish a Homestead Exemption Review Committee consisting of a member from the Board of Commissioners, the Board of Education, the Industrial Development & Building Authority and other citizens

Item No. 7. Consider Kwik Chek 2017 Beer & Wine license appeal. (Chairman Scarborough)

Attorney Victor Johnson addressed the Board on behalf of Beer and Wine License applicant Irfan Hameed. Mr. Hameed was also present. Mr. Johnson stated that Mr. Hameed has been the manager-agent of the store for over four years. After discussion, Commissioner Escoe asked if the business records could be shared with county attorney Mike Pruett. He was told yes. Commissioner Escoe asked if a beer truck had delivered to the store after January 1, 2017. He was told no. The Board discussed granting the license based on the information provided with the option of later revoking the license if the information proved to be untrue.

On motion by Commissioner Allen and second by Commissioner Bettis the Board voted to approve the 2017 Beer and Wine license for Kwik Chek. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

There was a five minute recess from 8:00 p.m. to 8:05 p.m.

Item No. 8. Consider selecting a vice chairman. (Chairman Scarborough)

On motion by Commissioner Allen and second by Commissioner Strickland the Board voted to name Commissioner Bettis the vice-chairman. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 9. Consider possible changes to Loop Road. (Chairman Scarborough)

Attorney Pat Graham addressed the Board on behalf of his client Lua Vu who is requesting that a portion of Loop Road, a county road which goes through her property, be abandoned or relocated to Loop Road extension, a private road. Engineer Phil Munro addressed the Board regarding the relocation of Loop Road to Loop Road Extension with a 90 degree angle intersection at Highway 98.

On motion by Commissioner Bettis and second by Commissioner Allen the Board voted to make no changes to Loop Road. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Bettis and Escoe voted YES. Commissioners Strickland and Pethel voted NO.

Item No. 10. Consider 2017 meeting dates and times. (Chairman Scarborough)

On motion by Commissioner Bettis and second by Commissioner Strickland the Board voted on the 2017 meeting dates and time to be included in the General Policy. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 11. Consider 2017 holidays. (Chairman Scarborough)

On motion by Commissioner Allen and second by Commissioner Bettis the Board voted on the 2017 holidays to be included in the Personnel Policy. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 12. Consider appointing Josh Chandler to the Industrial Development and Building Authority Board. (Chairman Scarborough)

On motion by Commissioner Bettis and second by Commissioner Pethel the Board voted to appoint Josh Chandler to the Industrial Development and Building Authority Board. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 13. Consider allowing Industrial Development and Building Authority to receive 2017 TAVT revenue. (Chairman Scarborough)

On motion by Commissioner Escoe and second by Commissioner Strickland the Board voted to allow the Industrial Development and Building Authority to receive the 2017 TAVT revenue. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 14. Roads Update

Chairman Scarborough stated that he rode Waggoners Grove Church Road with Alan and that the Road Department will be putting gravel down in a few bad areas.

Commissioner Allen stated that he rode with Alan on a few roads and discussed work that is needed at the creek on Sailors Road and the work that is needed at the end of Beck Road. Commissioner Allen stated that they discussed maintenance of roads versus paving roads.

Chairman Scarborough said that Alan is looking at equipment for sealing pavement cracks to help maintain roads.

Item No. 15. Urgent Matters

There were no urgent matters.

Item No. 16. Statements and Remarks from Citizens.

Chairman Scarborough asked if there were any statements or remarks. No one came forward.

**Item No. 17. Executive Session to discuss land acquisition, personnel matters and/or potential litigation
(if needed)**

There was no need for executive session.

Item No. 18. Adjourn

On motion by Commissioner Pethel and second by Commissioner Allen the Board unanimously agreed to adjourn at 8:39 p.m.