

**MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
AUGUST 26, 2019
6:00 PM**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

District 1 Commissioner Lee Allen

MEDIA PRESENT:

Zach Mitcham, Madison County Journal

STAFF PRESENT:

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

Chairman Scarborough called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., led in the pledge to the American Flag and gave the invocation.

Item No. 1. Approval of minutes:

Minutes of the July 29, 2019 Public Hearing & Regular Business Meeting

Minutes of the August 5, 2019 Agenda Setting Meeting

Minutes of the August 12, 2019 AM & PM Public Hearing

On motion by Commissioner Bettis and second by Commissioner Doster the Board voted to approve the minutes of the July 29, 2019 Public Hearing & Regular Business Meeting, August 5, 2019 Agenda Setting Meeting and the August 12, 2019 PM Public Hearing. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Strickland, Bettis, Kirk and Doster voted YES.

On motion by Commissioner Bettis and second by Commissioner Strickland the Board voted to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2019 AM Public Hearing. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Strickland and Bettis voted YES. Chairman Scarborough voted YES. Commissioners Kirk and Doster abstained.

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

None

Item No. 3. Chairman's Report

Chairman Scarborough stated the September 9, 2019 agenda will include a discussion item regarding a position change for Rhonda Wooten to County Clerk/Administrator.

Item No. 4. Statements and Remarks from Citizens on agenda items

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

Ted Fowler requested clarification of the amendment to the noise ordinance, agenda item number six.

Gina Ward requested that the amendment to the noise ordinance, agenda item number six, include more stipulations.

The following citizens addressed the Board regarding agenda item number ten:

Rodney Rogers, Joe Guest, Joe DiNapoli, Cristin Thurman, Brad Crumley, Jackie Taylor, Dawn Eberhardt, Bill Taylor and Nicole Bridges all spoke in support of the Little League program.

Adrienne Simmons encouraged the Board to vote in the best interest of the kids.

Leah Streetman said that she was waiting to hear the proposal from Little League.

Michelle May asked if a new position at the recreation department is being created to support the Georgia Recreation and Park Association program.

NEW BUSINESS:

Item No. 5. Consider a \$3,287.48 refund to Thomas Hartley for overpayment of 2018 taxes

Chief Appraiser Robin Baker was unable to attend the meeting due to a family emergency. Chairman Scarborough read an email from Mr. Baker giving an account of the events leading to the overpayment of 2018 taxes.

On motion by Commissioner Strickland and second by Commissioner Bettis the Board voted to refund \$3,287.48 to Thomas Hartley for overpayment of 2018 taxes. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Strickland, Bettis, Kirk and Doster voted YES.

CONSENT AGENDA:

The following items were discussed at the August 5, 2019 meeting.

County Attorney Mike Pruett explained the noise ordinance. Commissioner Doster said the Board is trying to set expectations for the future.

Item No. 6. Consider approving an amendment to the noise ordinance

Item No. 7. Consider approving a Beer & Wine License application for Hwy 29 Quick Stop Inc.

On motion by Commissioner Doster and second by Commissioner Kirk the Board voted to approve consent agenda items six and seven. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Strickland, Bettis, Kirk and Doster voted YES.

OLD BUSINESS:

Item No. 8. Consider approving the 2019 Millage Rate

On motion by Commissioner Strickland and second by Commissioner Doster the Board voted to set the millage rate at 14.649 for the incorporated area and 13.107 for the unincorporated area. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Strickland, Bettis, Kirk and Doster voted YES.

Item No. 9. Consider resolution to combine the School Board, ID&BA and County millage rates

On motion by Commissioner Bettis and second by Commissioner Doster the Board voted to approve the resolution to combine the School Board, ID&BA and County millage rates. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Strickland, Bettis, Kirk and Doster voted YES.

Item No. 10. Consider Recreation Department's Facilities Use Agreements

Chairman Scarborough clarified that the new position at the recreation department is to bring back a position that was in place a number of years ago. He said bringing the position back was considered to handle the scope of activities that are offered at the recreation department due to growth. He said the position is needed regardless of Little League or GRPA.

Commissioner Bettis stated the qualifications and ethics which enable her to make decisions regarding the recreation department.

Commissioner Strickland said the county owns the property, hires the director and appoints the Recreation Board Members.

Commissioner Kirk said that while at the recreation department watching games, people have approached him regarding management issues with Little League.

Commissioner Doster stated that he sought expert opinions regarding the Little League management issues and the proposal received from the recreation department.

There was further discussion regarding the negative Little League comments on social media and the prevailing attitude.

On motion by Commissioner Strickland and second by Commissioner Bettis the Board voted to not renew the Facilities Use Agreement with Little League. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Strickland, Bettis, Kirk and Doster voted YES.

Item No. 11. Roads Update

Commissioner Bettis requested maintenance on Thomas Drive.

Commissioner Strickland requested repair of uneven pavement on New Haven Church Road.

Item No. 12. Urgent Matters

There were no urgent matters.

Item No. 13. Statements and Remarks from Citizens

Chairman Scarborough asked if there were any statements or remarks.

Michele May encouraged the Board to not lump everyone who spoke tonight into a negative group.

David Routhieaux apologized for the comments that others have made on social media.

Item No. 14. Executive Session to discuss land acquisition, personnel matters and/or potential litigation (if needed).

There was no need for executive session.

Item No. 15. Adjourn.

On motion by Commissioner Strickland and second by Commissioner Doster the Board unanimously agreed to adjourn at 7:30 p.m.