



Spalding County online

Board of Commissioners

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

The Board of Commissioners of Spalding County, Georgia, held a Special Called Meeting on Monday, January 6, 2003 beginning at 5:00 o'clock p.m. in the Courthouse Annex in the City of Griffin, Spalding County, Georgia. Those present were Chairman Johnie McDaniel, Vice Chairman Dick Morrow, Commissioners Eddie Goss, Cecil Davis and Michael Kendall. Also present were County Manager William Wilson, Assistant County Manager Michael Sabine, Finance Director Jinna Garrison, County Attorney Jim Fortune and County Clerk Phyllis Doane.

Special guests were Rachel Spears, King and Spalding, David Luckie, Executive Director and Daa'ood Amin, Chairman of Board of Directors, Griffin-Spalding Development Authority.

Chairman McDaniel called the Special Called Meeting to order.

The purpose of the meeting is to hear presentation from the Development Authority regarding SPLOST projects.

Mr. Luckie and Mr. Amin came forward and gave their presentation.

Mr. Luckie stated at the last meeting their proposal for SPLOST was \$30,777,525, which included \$2M for a University Technology Center and \$375,000 for maintenance and operation of that facility for five (5) years. At the meeting it was brought out that the \$375,000 could not be included in SPLOST and the Board of Commissioners had reservations and questions regarding the Technology Center. The Development Authority had met since then and decided to remove the Technology Center from their proposal and bring a new proposal in the amount of \$29,402,525.

Mr. Amin presented the new proposal for Industrial SPLOST to the Board of Commissioners. The proposal consists of two line items, I-75 purchase of 189 acres and 652 acres contiguous to Green Valley Industrial Park for a total of \$29,402,525. The \$2 Million project has been removed along with the \$375,000 for m&o and we are requesting that \$1 Million of this money be allocated for the development portion of the I-75 project. He said they were severely under budget for this initially. The previous request for I-75 project was \$6,727,524 and the new request is for \$7,727,524. He said that this would leave approximately \$1.5 Million for viable projects the Board would like to see on the SPLOST in March.

Mr. Luckie stated that the Development Authority is committed to do the University Technology Center later down the road and hopefully, as suggested by the Board of Commissioners, be in a position to do this project themselves without using taxpayers' money.

County Manager Wilson stated that he had requested that the numbers be reconfigured and with a \$30 Million Bond Issue request from the Development Authority, bond issuance costs and approximately \$375,000 for parkland acquisition, this reduces the issue size by approximately \$1 Million and lowers the total interest expense by \$114,000 and makes available approximately \$951,000 in additional pay-as-you-go projects.

The Board has previously agreed on the City of Orchard Hill and City of Sunny Side receiving \$250,000 each, City of Griffin and Spalding County transportation projects \$800,000 each, \$500,000 for Senior Center expansion to match a possible 2005 CDBG Grant and \$1Million for future parks, greenspace land acquisition.

Commissioner Davis asked Mr. Wilson what would he suggest that would be the fairest use of this \$951,000 that would be equally valuable to the City and County. Mr. Wilson stated that one of the issues that has been raised over the past year is that of Animal Control. He recommended the replacement of the existing animal shelter with a new rather larger more modern facility including a new incinerator, etc. to be constructed probably in late 2006 or early 2007. We have a jointly used animal shelter between the City of Griffin and Spalding County.

Commissioner Kendall recommended that the excess money be used to help make the CDBG Grant more competitive by putting in some matching funds. The County through McIntosh Trail is going to apply for a CDBG grant to get sewer on the North Side of the County. The application is due in April 2003 to be funded in 2004. The removal of septic tanks and the charge of the Sewer Capacity Recovery Fee has to be addressed somehow in this grant to make the application competitive.

County Manager Wilson stated for a sewer project we would have to have an Intergovernmental Agreement between the City and County before monies can be utilized for this project.

Chairman McDaniel stated that the meeting was not advertised as a Public Hearing but County Attorney Fortune commented that you could receive comment but take no formal action.

Chairman McDaniel asked citizens if they had any questions or comments.

Mr. James Brooks came forward and gave his address as 148 Tomochichi Road. He had sewerage concerns regarding the I-75 tract of land. He said that this tract was originally to be a rock quarry and it fell through. Mr. Luckie stated there is rock on this tract; however, a rock study had been performed by ISE and everything looks find except for a couple of spots. The \$7 Million development cost came from the engineer's study.

Ms. Gwendolyn Flowers came forward and gave her address as 134 Spalding Street. She stated she was here on behalf of Ms. Jewell Walker-Harps who could not attend the meeting. She requested on behalf of the Griffin Branch NAACP to include in the March 2003 SPLOST an amount of \$2 Million for the implementation of sewer services to the North Side of Griffin. The specific area to be found within the following boundaries: Griffin City Limit North to East McIntosh Road, west to North Ninth Street and East to Greer Road. She stated there is a great need for this service and there has been an attempt through the CDBG grant to secure some services for certain streets in that area. The grant is not competitive and will not come to fruition without matching funds from the County. She asked the Board to consider seriously the request for services or consideration of funds in this upcoming SPLOST.

Commissioner Kendall was asked if he knew a dollar amount that would make the CDBG grant competitive. Mr. Kendall stated that the main issue right now was the removal of the septic tanks and the Sewer Capacity Recovery Fee. It has been projected that it would cost \$6,000 per household for forty (40) low-income families to service. The Sewer Task Force has asked the City to waive the Sewer Capacity Recovery Fee, which they would not.

County Manager Wilson restated the total of bonded money is \$33,448, leaving \$4.5 Million for pay-as-you-go projects. He said that he needed some direction tonight as to the projects to direct King & Spalding in drawing up the Bond Resolution, which will be brought before the Board on Wednesday, January 15th. This is the last date we have to call for a bond referendum.

The consensus of the Board was to direct County Manager Wilson to place the development projects presented tonight along with the \$375,000 for parkland acquisition on the referendum and defer the excel collections until another Special Called Meeting.

With no further business, Commissioner Morrow made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion and meeting was unanimously adjourned.

County Clerk

Chairman

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