

After Agenda

Board of Commissioners of Spalding County
Extraordinary Session
Monday, June 21, 2021
6:00 PM
Room 108, Annex Building

The Spalding County Board of Commissioners held an Extraordinary Session in Room 108 of the Spalding County Annex on Monday, June 21, 2021, beginning at 6:00 p.m. with Chairman Clay Davis presiding. Commissioners Rita Johnson Gwen Flowers-Taylor, James Dutton and Ryan Bowlden were present for the meeting. Also, present were County Manager, William P. Wilson, Jr., Assistant County Manager, Michelle Irizarry, County Attorney, Stephanie Windham and Kathy Gibson, Executive Secretary to record the minutes.

I. OPENING (CALL TO ORDER) by Chairman Clay Davis.

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONES AND ALL OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES.

II. INVOCATION

Pastor Zachery Homes of Grace Paradise Fellowship Church delivered the Invocation.

III. PLEDGE TO FLAG

Commissioner Ryan Bowlden, District #4, led the Pledge to the Flag.

Commissioner Bowlden then asked that the Agenda be amended for a new Item #1 under Presentations and Proclamations to include a Proclamation for William P. Wilson, Jr., the outgoing Spalding County Manager and that a new Item #14 be added under New Business to include a request from Marie Broder in the District Attorney's Office to continue a Resolution signed by the Board of Commissioners on June 18, 2005 allowing non-State paid employees in the District Attorney's Office to remain members of the State Employees Retirement System.

Motion/Second by Bowlden/Johnson to amend the agenda for a new Item #1 under Presentations and Proclamations to include a Proclamation for outgoing Spalding County Manager, William P. Wilson, Jr. Motion carried unanimously by all.

Motion/Second by Bowlden/Dutton to amend the agenda for an Item #14 under New Business to include a request from Marie Broder in the District Attorney's Office to continue a Resolution signed by the Board of Commissioners on June 18, 2005 allowing non-State paid employees in the District Attorney's Office to remain members of the State Employees Retirement System. Motion carried unanimously by all.

IV. APPOINTMENTS

1. Consider appointment of Kathy Gibson as the County Clerk for Spalding County upon the retirement of County Manager, William P. Wilson, Jr.

Motion/Second by Johnson/Dutton to appoint Kathy Gibson as County Clerk for Spalding County effective July 1, 2021. Motion carried unanimously by all.

2. Consider appointment of Michelle Irizarry as Interim County Manager for Spalding County upon the retirement of the current County Manager, William P. Wilson, Jr.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Johnson to appoint Michelle Irizarry as Interim County Manager for Spalding County upon the retirement of the current County Manager, William P. Wilson, Jr. Motion carried unanimously by all.

V. PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

1. Proclamation recognizing William P. Wilson, Jr. for his service to the citizens for Spalding County over the last 35 years.

Chairman Davis then read the Proclamation honoring William P. Wilson, Jr. for his service and accomplishments while serving Spalding County as County Manager.

Mr. Wilson then thanked the Board of Commissioners for supporting him for the last 35 years, it has been an honor and a pleasure to serve and to be a part of this community. He stated he's not going anywhere, we love this County, as his wife stated it is in his blood and he's been married to Spalding County for the last 35 years.

2. Judge Sid Esary to present a report on the Accountability Court's programs over the past few years, the successes they have had and the challenges they have faced.

Judge Esary introduced himself as the elected State Court Judge for 16 years. He retired at the end of 2016 and when he retired he consulted with his successor, Judge Thacker and they determined what was needed in Spalding County was an Accountability Court. This concept is fairly new in juris prudence, if someone is charged with a crime, they come before the Court at which time they are found guilty or innocent. If they are found guilty they are fined or punished by probation or possibly jail. Traditionally, then the court is through with them.

Judge Esary stated that he recognized and he believes most Courts recognize that at this point in the process we haven't accomplished anything to help that individual. Nothing has changed, they go back to the same pattern of behavior and back to the same abuses that got them into trouble to begin with. He sat there for 16 years and watch this happen. So, he thought with the creation of an Accountability Court with the funding coming from the State. He and Judge Thacker decided they needed to start an Accountability court. Judge Esary stated there are several different types of Accountability Courts. They are all basically the same. We felt the emphasis in Spalding County needed to be on people with Mental Health issues and veterans, so that is what we have singled out. We are the Spalding County Mental Health/Veterans Accountability Court.

Judge Esary then stated that once an individual has been charged, if they are a good fit for the program, they will go in and pull them out of the judicial system and treat them. This treatment is very expensive, we have trained clinical psychologists that deal with the issues they have. We drug test them twice a week on a random basis, we have a compliance office who goes out and checks on these individuals, they have a curfew. We literally stay in their "back pockets" for 16 months. In Spalding County, he made the determination that he wanted to get people who had been charged, but

had not been convicted and if they successfully completed the program, he has worked it out with the prosecutors in all levels of the Court that we would then dismiss the charge against them. So, when they complete this program they have not only received excellent treatment and hopefully are well and they didn't have a record. That was the objective.

It is a 16-month program that was started in 2017, the first graduates were in the middle of 2018. Since that time, they have had 31 people graduate from the program and out of the 31 we have only had 4 who have been repeat offenders. That is a recidivism rate of approximately 13%. From the statistics he has reviewed, if they go into prison, upon release the recidivism rate will run 60-70%. If they get some treatment in prison, the recidivism rate drops back to approximately 50%. So a 13% recidivism rate is virtually unheard of and this is because the program is designed to bring the participants to an understanding of what the problem is and then treat them.

Judge Esary stated that the numbers for the Accountability Court dropped during COVID because they were unable to have jury trials, but in the last few months their numbers have picked back up and they currently have 24 individuals in the program, which is more than they have ever had, and they have 8 potential individuals in the pipeline to enter the program. In the next month, we will be looking at having 34-35 participants. This will be stretching our resources to the absolute limit.

Judge Esary stated that the program is funded through a grant from the State of Georgia and the County is required to put up a 10% matching amount. Most of the money is in the form of in-kind, the County provides the Court with office space, utilities, phones, and internet connections. The bulk of the money comes from the grant. Spalding County is the physical agent, which is a requirement of the grant, but what happens is the Accountability Court give a bill to the County. The County then pays the bill and quarterly the County is reimbursed for the money that is paid out.

Judge Esary stated that he has one full-time employee who is his coordinator. The grant takes care of her salary completely including the benefits. Judge Esary stated that he gets a stipend for the two days in the month that he holds Court. He receives no other funding other than this amount. We have been able, to date to run this program without the participants having to come out of pocket for anything. As long as we can continue to get enough money from the grant to pay for drug testing and to pay for the personnel he has, that is what we are going to do.

They have 24 current participants, 17 men and 7 women. 5 are Caucasian, 9 are African American and 4 are veterans. These are the statistics. The truth of the matter as to why we do this is for example one of our first graduates was a man who got his third DUI and was arrested going northbound on 19-41 in the southbound lane. He had a wife and two small sons. He was working as an apprentice electrician in Atlanta and because of the way we structured our program he was able to continue and upon graduation he was a union member of the electrical union. His wife approached Judge Esary at her husband's graduation and advised that when their two children were born, he was not there because he was out drinking, but since he had gotten into the program, he had been there for them since beginning the program.

Judge Esary stated that there are three graduates who had jobs but have gotten up the courage and save enough money to go out on their own and start their own businesses. All of these things are what makes this Court worthwhile, and we want to thank the County for enabling us to be able to do this. There is a need and they

have been very successful. We are starting to pick up momentum and get more folks into this program and he expects it to continue to grow. They have the support of the local Bar Association.

Commissioner Dutton thanked Judge Esary, he stated that he is personally a supporter of this Court. The first graduate of this program was someone he recommended to the program. He has seen it literally change the individual's life, it changes their family's lives, it changes their kids lives and that it is that kind of individual treatment that we need in Spalding County.

Chairman Davis then thanked Judge Esary for everything he is doing for the County and for the Accountability Court as a retiree.

3. Representatives from the Jewkes Law Firm to update the Board of Commissioners on the current indigent defense contract.

Jordan Jewkes of the Jewkes Firm stated that the State Court taking on the Accountability Court is truly phenomenal, and he encouraged everyone to become familiar with this Court because it is life changing. The graduating ceremony is a moving experience.

He introduced the attorneys who are currently working at the Jewkes Firm: Terrance Malloy, Harry Charles, Ava Standard and Chastity Porter. He then turned the meeting over to Mr. Malloy and Mr. Charles who are working here in Spalding County.

Terrance Malloy stated that the Jewkes Law Firm started working with the County on July 1st, 2020, and he gave statistics of the work they have completed for the County over the past year. The firm inherited 925 State Court cases from their predecessor, between July 1, 2020, and December 31, 2020, they opened 402 additional cases and disposed of 466 cases. As of December 31, 2020 their caseload for State Court totaled 861. Since January 2021 they have opened 404 new cases and disposed of 456 cases and their current caseload is 809.

Each month the State Court traditionally has two days for Bonded/Ticket Arraignments, and they are present in the courtroom to accept applications which has resulted in approximately 25 applications being approved. Being present in the courtroom for this process has been pro-active and had nothing but positive results.

The number of cases listed on court calendars will increase beginning July 1, 2021 due to the COVID 19 restrictions being lifted. Spalding County has resumed Bench Trials and Jury Trials, which will also increase the number of cases being disposed of moving forward.

Mr. Malloy then advised that on average there are 180 Jail Applications monthly. The results average 40 processed for representation, 80 applicants refuse their services initially and 59 bonded prior to received an application from the jail for representation. A letter is mailed to those who bonded out inquiring as to their need or desire for representation or to request documents such as proof of income to complete the application process.

In addition to State Court, the Jewkes Firm has handled a total of 57 cases in Juvenile Court. From January through June 2021 they received 18 New Cases and closed 24 cases, the cases currently open for Juvenile Court total 61.

The Jewkes Firm gives State Court clients the opportunity to complete a brief survey

at the conclusion of their case concerning their representation. The survey is rated 1-5 with 1 being a poor rating and 5 being an excellent rating. The five questions asked are as follows:

- How satisfied were you with the quality of representation provided by the Jewkes Firm? Out of 292 responses, 271 gave the firm a rating of 5.
- It is easy to get in contact with the Jewkes Firm. Out of 292 responses, 253 gave the firm a rating of 5.
- The Jewkes Firm attorneys are available to meet with me. Out of 292 responses, 266 gave the firm a rating of 5.
- How likely are you to recommend the Jewkes Firm to family and friends. Out of 251 responses, 227 gave the firm a rating of 5.

More than 80% of all categories of clients queried are in the 5 rating

Commissioner Dutton stated that when we were talking about the contract, both he and Commissioner Flowers-Taylor expressed they wanted feedback from whomever the contract was awarded. So, there is responsibility taken by the attorneys and we know that the people are actually being represented.

Mr. Malloy added that they can't get to every client they have, but they are making an effort to capture the information from as many clients as possible. We try to implement this as part of their exit documentation and information upon leaving court.

Commissioner Dutton stated that he has seen them in the courtroom and they are very proactive. They remain there in case somebody comes in and needs representation they are there, in the courtroom, just in case. They are doing a fantastic job.

4. Vanessa Wilkins Executive Director of Promise Place to present information on the resources available to county citizens.

Ms. Wilkins then gave a presentation on Promise Place, she introduced Sara Brown who is the Community Activist in their Griffin Office and Lynn Seawood who is the Shelter Manager. Ms. Wilkins gave an overview of Promise Place, their services and how many clients they have assisted in Spalding County this year.

Commissioner Dutton then asked Ms. Wilkins what Spalding County as a community do to affect more change.

Awareness is key. We have all these services available for those who are victims of violence, but we are very strong on the prevention side of it. We need help getting into Churches and businesses to do lunch and learns. Educating about domestic violence in the workplace and partner with us when we have events. Come out and help support us.

Commissioner Dutton then asked if the Local Bar Association assisting with the legal needs of Promise Place?

There are a few members of the Local Boar Association that if we call them, they will help us with Pro Bono for a client. Sometimes taking on a case like this can be really complicated. If we can get in front of the Bar Association and do a presentation and each attorney choose one case a year that would be a great help.

Commissioner Dutton then asked what the Board of Commissioners can do to help them in their mission.

Help with awareness or with funding we are 5% certified, so if we could be a part of that during the year. All of you have your own network of people that you belong to, introduce us your network and they, in turn will introduce us and that is how we will spread until reach the entire community.

VI. PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Consider approval of financial statements for the 11 months ended May 31, 2021.

Ms. Garrison was available to answer any questions the Board may have regarding the financial statements.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Bowlden to approve the financial statements for the 11 months ending May 31, 2021. Motion carried unanimously by all.

VII. CITIZEN COMMENT

Speakers must sign up prior to the meeting and provide their names, addresses and the topic they wish to discuss. Speakers must direct your remarks to the Board and not to individual Commissioners or to the audience. Personal disagreements with individual Commissioners or County employees are not a matter of public concern and personal attacks will not be tolerated. The Chairman has the right to limit your comments in the interest of disposing of the County's business in an efficient and respectable manner.

Speakers will be allotted three minutes to speak on their chosen topics as they relate to matters pertinent to the jurisdiction of the Board of the Commissioners. No questions will be asked by any of the commissioners during citizen comments. Outbursts from the audience will not be tolerated. Common courtesy and civility are expected at all times during the meeting. No speaker will be permitted to speak more than three minutes or more than once, unless the Board votes to suspend this rule.

Spoke in favor of the Juneteenth Proclamation:

Jada Touchstone, 198 Petticoat Lane
Yoshunda Jones, 102 Saint Luke Drive
Sharon King, 123 Lakeside Drive
Morris Colvin, 100 Callie Road
Donald Driver, 534 Moore Street
Summer Clackum, 1159 Williams Mill Road
Hannah Haden, 201 Southland Drive, Barnesville

Peter J. Cabrell, 1260 Hillview Road, spoke about Amplification Permits and he wanted to know why surrounding neighbors were not compensated for the inconvenience that those applying for and getting amplification permits caused to the silence in the neighborhood.

VIII. MINUTES -

1. Consider approval of Minutes for the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Work Session and morning Executive Session, the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting and evening Executive Session on June 7, 2021, the Special Called Emergency Meeting and Executive Session on June 15, 2021, and the Special Called Meeting and Executive Session on June 16, 2021.

Motion/Second by Johnson/Flowers-Taylor to approve the Minutes for the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Work Session and morning Executive Session, the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting and evening Executive Session on June 7, 2021, the Special Called Emergency Meeting and Executive Session on June 15, 2021, and the Special Called Meeting and Executive Session on June 16, 2021. Motion carried unanimously by all.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA -

1. Consider approval on second reading an ordinance amending the FY 2021 Budget Ordinance to provide for end of year budget amendments.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Dutton to approve on second reading an ordinance amending the FY 2021 Budget Ordinance to provide for end of year budget amendments. Motion carried unanimously by all.

X. OLD BUSINESS – None.

XI. PUBLIC HEARING –

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to go into a public hearing on streetlight districts for Sun City Peachtree Pod 15, Pod 17, and Del Webb Extension. Motion carried unanimously by all.

Mr. Wilson stated that no one had signed up to speak regarding the streetlight districts under consideration this evening.

1. Conduct a Public Hearing on a streetlight district for Sun City Peachtree - Pod 15.
2. Conduct a Public Hearing on a streetlight district for Sun City Peachtree - Pod 17.
3. Conduct a Public Hearing on a streetlight district for Sun City Peachtree - Del Webb Extension.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to close public hearing on streetlight districts for Sun City Peachtree Pod 15, Pod 17, and Del Webb Extension. Motion carried unanimously by all.

XII. NEW BUSINESS -

1. Consider approval of the following request:
 - Zetella Z, LLC dba Zetella Express, 4319 Newnan Rd., Griffin, GA 30223. Request to add Retail Sale of Liquor to current 2021 Alcohol License Beer and Wine Sales.

Mr. Wilson stated that all departments have reviewed this request and staff recommends approval.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to approve the request from Zetella Z, LLC dba Zetella Express, 4319 Newnan Rd., Griffin, GA 30223. Request to add Retail Sale of Liquor to current 2021 Alcohol License Beer and Wine Sales. Motion carried unanimously by all.

2. Consider request from Aaron Burks, Owner of the Lake Pavilion, for an amplification permit for two consecutive weekends in August to host a Festival. Times requested

for amplification are Saturday, June 17 from 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., Sunday, June 18, from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., Saturday, August 14th from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. and Sunday, August 15th from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Mr. Wilson advised that Mr. Burke is here to answer any questions the Board may have regarding these events.

Aaron Burke, 1704 Queen Victoria Court, Locust Grove, GA advised that the dates should be July 17, 5:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m. and July 18, 5:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. and August 14th. from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and August 15th. from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Chairman Davis asked Mr. Burke what size crowd he thought these events would bring in?

Mr. Burke stated the festival is a two-day event, one day will be Caribbean, the next day will be Blues and Jazz. He is expecting approximately 1000 over the two day period. These events are normally between 200-600 people.

Chairman Davis then asked if he has the ability to park this number of people without their parking out on the street?

Mr. Burke stated that in 2017 there was one incident of parking on the street. We do know that is not permitted. We have recently cleared some more land we do have adequate parking along with a softball field to accommodate overflow parking.

Chairman Davis then asked about bathroom facilities.

Mr. Burke stated they do have restroom facilities on-site and they have rented port-a-potties in the Summer months for bigger crowds. This venue was built in 1991. We are running this facility the same way it has been ran all along. These are concerts and events that we are bringing into this property. The July even is really an international music even and they have people coming from other countries to attend this event.

Chairman Davis then asked if they have in the past had any problems with law enforcement.

Mr. Burke advised that they work closely with the Spalding County Sheriff, we have licensed security at all of our events. We have safe events. If the events are safe we can't do them.

Motion/Second by Johnson/Dutton to approve a request from Aaron Burks, Owner of the Lake Pavilion, for an amplification permit for two consecutive weekends in August to host a Festival. Times requested for amplification are July 17, 5:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m. and July 18, 5:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. and August 14th, from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and August 15th, from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that she knows there have been complaints regarding this property since 2015 in regard to the noise. She is aware that the pavilion was built on this location before the neighborhood was established, but we know that the neighborhood is there now. If you are having an occasional event that is fine. Her concern is for the neighbors who on the weekend is going to be hearing festival music all weekend.

Mr. Burke stated that he had some problems in 2018 regarding the noise, but he hasn't had any problem since that time. We don't do music festivals every weekend. Most of the time we are doing weddings, Chick-fil-A is having their corporate event there this Sunday. He now has decibel meters that he uses to keep the decibel levels down.

Commissioner Dutton stated he feels the Board should approve this request and if people in the neighborhood have a problem with it then we should revisit this. There are specific decibel limits, and he has the meter to help self-enforce that, but maybe those limits are to low. Not for this event, but for future events. He feels we should have that conversation if there are any complaints.

Motion carried 4-1 (Flowers-Taylor).

3. Consider request to replace Colliers Summer Food Program at the Spalding County Recreation Centers with the Small Treasures Learning Center Bright From The Start Summer Food Feeding Program.

Mr. Wilson advised that Colliers had notified Spalding County Leisure Services that they would not be able to accommodate the needs for the Food Program this Summer and Small Treasures Learning Center Bright From The Start Summer Food Feeding Program has stepped-up to provide this service. Staff recommends approval of this request.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to approve the request to replace Colliers Summer Food Program at the Spalding County Recreation Centers with the Small Treasures Learning Center Bright From The Start Summer Food Feeding Program. Motion carried unanimously by all.

4. Paragon Consulting to present conceptual plans and cost estimates for family fun pool and splash pad.

Brian Upton, Paragon Consulting, advised that a couple of months ago the Board asked Paragon to look into the cost of three different options: 1. A splashpad, 2. A zero to 4' pool and 3. A combination of the two. Paragon is currently under contract with Lyman Davis and Dooley to design the Aquatic Center and we have asked them to help us on the pool component, so they assisted in development of the concept for these three options. The location for this has not been determined so we created somewhat of a general site plan, like was initially done for the Aquatic Center until a decision as made on a location. They costed out the site components of the plan as if it was a standard site, not a hilly site or a low site or a rocky site. All of those things will need to be looked into, should you make a decision to move forward, once the site is selected. We need to make sure we are putting it in a spot that is not going to cost a lot of money should there be some subsurface conditions. Mr. Upton then advised that Jeremy Buffington has been working on this with David McCauly from Lyman Davis and Dooley, so he then turned the presentation to Jeremy Buffington to present the details of the three options.

Jeremy Buffington then covered the initial pool design. They have prepared three designs for viewing which will merge into one another.

- First is the pool design which is approximately 40' X 60' it includes a pool/patio area that extends around the exterior of the pool. There is a 20' X

70' building that will house the restrooms, changing rooms, and showers and provide pool entry. The pool area is also fenced around the exterior. There is also a 20' X 30' mechanical room to house products and mechanics to operate the pool. There are also two pavilions provided in the design. The quote also includes a 65 space parking area, depending on what is available at the site chosen. (Estimated total budget for the pool is \$1,767,964)

- Second the Conceptual Masterplan for the Spalding County Splash Pad was presented which the area for this design is approximately a 50' X 50' area, a tumble bucket, an umbrella, some arch sprays and some blasters. The reasons for these designs is in many cases the splash pad will have artificial turf areas, so that has been accommodated. There are a lot of soft surface areas to relieve your feet when you are coming in. There are some seating areas for those watching the children play. There are two pavilions in this design, a fenced in area for the entire facility and there are two shade structures in this area. There is also a 65 space parking area included for the stand alone concept plan. (Estimated total budget for the splash pad is \$1,317,230)
- The last was the Conceptual Masterplan for the Spalding Pool and Splash Pad combined showing how the two plans will fit together in one site. The two conceptual plans including all of the items listed individually and eliminating one of the 65 space parking areas. (Estimated cost for the combined pool and splash pad is \$2,886,637).

Mr. Buffington also reminded the Board that the concept plan is a generic plan, once a site is selected the numbers will change.

Chairman Davis then asked if we took the splash pad portion and placed it at the Aquatic Center what would be the order of magnitude?

Mr. Buffington stated that he had not pulled the numbers out to accommodate that scenario. Potentially, it would be significantly lower because you would already have water and sewer, you would have the graded pad with the completed Aquatic Center site. You may be able to piggyback on the Aquatic Center Mechanical as well.

Commissioner Johnson stated that the goal of this was to have something closer to town, more than at the Lakes at Green Valley. There was an issue at Wyomia Tyus Park with the pool, but would it be possible for a splashpad? Would that concept not work either?

Mr. Upson advised that a splash pad would be a much smaller area, so you could possibly look at areas within the park. We haven't looked inside Wyomia Tyus Park property. Where we were looking was at the Cowan Road rear area of the school site. That was going to be a much bigger footprint that we couldn't fit inside of the park. We can investigate areas inside the park and try to utilize parking, but you are still going to have to have a restroom with locker rooms. You will still have to build a building even with the splash pad. There is nothing out there that you could currently use.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that the building that is the office/restrooms is 1,400 square foot which is pretty big for restrooms. City Park had a 14' X 18' room.

Mr. Upson advised that it was not to code or current standards of use. You have to have so many restrooms, they have to be individual restrooms instead of dormitory type restrooms and the dressing rooms have to be blocked off individually versus a big open space. The new standards require that number of square feet to accommodate the potential footage of the pool or splash pad.

Mr. Wilson reminded the Board that this has been provided for information purposes, it is not a quote.

Mr. Upson stated that this is based on today's prices for materials and labor. A year from now, it could go down, but it also could go up. These prices are based on today's cost estimates. If you move forward and start picking some sites, we can take this and get it honed-in better.

5. Consider recommendation from Parks & Leisure Services Advisory Commission to approve request from Spalding County Pickleball Association for County Support Services during the APP Professional Pickleball Tour September 15-19, 2021.

Mr. Wilson stated that this was brought before the Park & Leisure Services Advisory Commission and they recommended approval. We have representatives here this evening from Pickleball and Ms. Carmichael is here to answer any questions the Board may have.

Lynn Lowery introduced himself as a representative of the Spalding County Pickleball Association and his purpose is to give a presentation on the APP Tour and also what the Spalding County Pickleball Association is asking the County to provide in terms of resources and support for the event. The APP Tour is the official pickleball tour of the USA Pickleball Association established in 2021 and they have signed a 3-year agreement with the Pickleball Association to be the official professional tour of the Association.

This APP Tour Stop will be the Atlanta Official Opening Stop here in Spalding County. This will be one of 17 tour stops for 2021. The Atlanta Metro Open will be one of four qualifiers for the national championship. So, basically if you are a gold medal winner of this tournament, you will automatically pre-register for the national championships. The Atlanta Metro Open will also be a prize payout event as well, it is \$60,000 and one of three stops on the tour with a \$60,000 payout. There is only one other stop that will payout more than this stop and that is the nationals in Miami.

The Atlanta Metro Open is being considered as a CBS Sports Network site. The APP Tour is negotiating that right now with CBS Sports. Even if CBS Sports decides not to broadcast here the APP Tour actually has their own station on YouTube and in some aspects, it is actually better than the CBS Sports Network. The APP TV currently has 800,450 subscribers, they have posted 196 videos and this site, and these videos have had over 2 million views since 2020. Most of the videos on this site average between 4,000 – 118,000 views per video. There is a good chance of national exposure with this event.

The number of participants expected for this event will be 700-1000 participants. Now, to what we are asking of the County. The Pickleball Associations realizes that our specialty is hosting event at the facility. It is not the logistics of what goes into managing and hosting the magnitude of an event like this. Basically, what we are asking is:

- Facility Grounds Preparation - Tyus Park grounds Maintenance prior to Sept 15
- Facility Maintenance – Pickleball complex cleaned and minor building maintenance including cleaning courts, fence repair, gates, parking lot striping, walkways clean.
- Roadway maintenance leading to Park – Cut grass, pick up litter, patch potholes.
- Site Prep Help – Tent (if available), portable restrooms, additional trash cans,
- Restroom and trash maintenance throughout event.
- Parks Grounds Maintenance
- Portable Restrooms – Requested throughout event.
- Portable Bleachers – Baseball bleachers moved to Pro Courts, etc.
- Internet capabilities – If available for event operations and livestream broadcasting
- Pavilions – Reserved for event
- Baseball and Soccer parking Lots – Needed for event parking.
- First Responders – Spalding County Deputy for Security & Spalding Fire staged on site as first responders.
- Golf Carts - To transport guests throughout park.
- Leisure Services staff - As available for event operations support.

Commissioner Johnson asked if there is a dollar amount attached to this or is this just the services we are talking about?

Mr. Lowery stated it is the services.

Chairman Davis then asked Assistant County Manager Michelle Irizarry, that starting with this event and going forward, he wants to keep track of what it is costing Spalding County in the way of manpower and resources. He wants to get an idea for this event brings in a lot of money and we understand, that and we have other people asking us for resources like this for different events. What is it costing us to provide these services? He asked Ms. Irizarry to take the list and cost it out on this event and come back to the Board and let us know what it cost the County to assist in services for the event.

Mr. Lowery then stated that with just the players, it will generate approximately \$1 million in economic impact for this community by itself. To put that in perspective, the 24 tournaments we have had so far \$2.4 million in economic impact.

Commissioner Dutton then asked if there were any chance of this being a repeatable event. Do they go back to the same site?

Mr. Lowery stated they have been talking with the CEO of the APP Tour and he is basically saying that based on the success of the event here, it will lead to at least a

three-year commitment going forward. He has just released the 2022 schedule and we are listed on the 2022 schedule already.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Johnson to approve recommendation from Parks & Leisure Services Advisory Commission to approve request from Spalding County Pickleball Association for County Support Services during the APP Professional Pickleball Tour September 15-19, 2021. Motion carried unanimously by all.

6. Consider approval of contract with Story First Films for the Rosenwald Oral History Project.

Mr. Wilson stated the project is completely funded by GSBTA. It is \$6,200, they did obtain 3 bids and \$6,200 was the lowest of the three and staff recommends approval.

Kelly Carmichael, Leisure Services Supervisor, stated that \$6,200 was the lowest bid; however, it is high quality. It was the best proposal out of the three.

Commissioner Johnson asked if it was a project of the Fairmont Alumni?

Ms. Carmichael stated this is a project of the Fairmont-Rosenwald History Center. We already have recorded oral histories that were conducted by the University of Georgia Griffin Campus and they are filed at the Russell Library at the University of Georgia. Anybody can access those, historians, students, anyone. During our steering committee meetings we realized there were a host of people who had not had oral histories done and we wanted to add a visual component to the exhibits that we were putting together, so we wanted to do video histories whereby there is high quality audio and there will also be available through the Russell Library and stored there.

Commissioner Johnson asked if this would be local folks from Spalding County?

Ms. Carmichael stated it would be local people who attended the Fairmont-Rosenwald schools and live in the area. GSBTA had committed \$100,000 to the History Center and this is the first draw that we will have. This isn't coming out of what the County has committed to the Center.

Motion/Second by Johnson/Dutton to approve the contract with Story First Films for the Rosenwald Oral History Project. Motion carried unanimously by all.

7. Consider approval on first reading the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Ordinance.

Mr. Wilson stated that the Board held the Public Hearing on the Ordinance at the last meeting, this is approval on first reading. We have a Special Called Meeting on Thursday, June 24th, at 5:45 p.m. to approve the Ordinance. It is the Budget that the Board reviewed and agreed upon earlier this year.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Bowlden to approve on first reading the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Ordinance. Motion carried unanimously by all.

8. Consider a contract with Flo Analytics for a redistricting project for the County Commissioner and School Board Districts.

Commissioner Dutton asked that the contract be tabled until the next meeting.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Bowlden to table a contract with Flo Analytics for a redistricting project for the County Commissioner and School Board Districts. Motion carried 4-1 (Flowers-Taylor).

9. Consider authorizing Chairman to execute a Letter of Intent with Central Georgia EMC for the provision of a Fiber Broadband Network to EMC members in Spalding County.

Mr. Wilson stated that the Central Georgia EMC gave a presentation at the last meeting and the Board asked that he contact the Board of Education and ask them to work with us on funding for this. The email has been sent, it hasn't been addressed by the Board of Education at this time. This is a Letter of Intent and is a binding agreement. So, if you want to hold off until we hear from the Board of Education, we can do that. You asked that it be placed on the next agenda for consideration and that is why it is presented tonight.

Chairman Davis stated that he's not sure we are ready to jump into broadband after some of the information have received since the presentation. He would ask that the County come back to the Board and discuss broadband vs. Wi-Fi what the differences are and could we do broadband in some places and Wi-Fi in other places. Do we have to go with all broadband or all Wi-Fi and what is the cost difference to us?

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Dutton to table authorizing the Chairman to execute a Letter of Intent with Central Georgia EMC for the provision of a Fiber Broadband Network to EMC members in Spalding County until we hear back from the School Board and staff submits information regarding broadband vs Wi-Fi. Motion carried unanimously by all.

10. Consider approval of a streetlight district for Sun City Peachtree - Pod 15.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers- Taylor to approve a streetlight district for Sun City Peachtree – Pod 15. Motion carried unanimously by all.

11. Consider approval of a streetlight district for Sun City Peachtree - Pod 17.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers- Taylor to approve a streetlight district for Sun City Peachtree – Pod 17. Motion carried unanimously by all.

12. Consider approval of a streetlight district for Sun City Peachtree Del Webb Extension.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers- Taylor to approve a streetlight district for Sun City Peachtree – Del Webb Extension. Motion carried unanimously by all.

13. Consider reappointment of:

- (County Appointment) Glenn Polk, Spalding County Fire and EMA Director and (At Large Appointment)
- Matt Perry, WellStar Spalding EMS Director

to the Region IV EMS Council for a three-year term ending June 30, 2024.

Mr. Wilson stated that normally our appointments end in January but there are a few commissions that have dates that end at different times. Staff recommends appointment of these individuals to the Region IV EMS Council.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Dutton to reappoint Glenn Polk, Spalding County Fire and EMA Director and Matt Perry, WellStar Spalding EMS Director to the Region IV EMS Council for a three-year term ending June 30, 2024. Motion carried unanimously by all.

14. Consider a request from Marie Broder in the District Attorney's Office for an updated Resolution, to continue a Resolution signed by the Board of Commissioners on June 18, 2005, allowing non-State paid employees in the District Attorney's Office to remain members of the State Employees Retirement System.

Mr. Wilson stated that District Attorney Broder has some local employees and this allows them to participate in the State Retirement System and also helps her to recruit for her office.

Commissioner Davis asked if this has to be done every year or just when we get a new District Attorney.

Mr. Wilson stated that anytime you get a new District Attorney she has to have a new resolution and it had to be sent into the State for this fiscal year and only found out about it this afternoon that is why she brought it to us for this evening's agenda. It has been included in the new budget and there is nothing for us to do, it is all included in the DA's circuit budget.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Johnson to approve a request from Marie Broder in the District Attorney's Office for an updated Resolution, to continue a Resolution signed by the Board of Commissioners on June 18, 2005, allowing non-State paid employees in the District Attorney's Office to remain members of the State Employees Retirement System. Motion carried unanimously by all.

XIII. REPORT OF COUNTY MANAGER

- ✓ Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours was all over the Griffin Daily News for two days. The County really did a great job, and he appreciates the Board coming by and talking to everyone. He wanted to thank everyone from every department that participated. We got great folks who do great things for Spalding County, and this helped to showcase everything that we do. We have received lots of kudos from everyone who attended. He thanked the Board for allowing us to participate, it was a great event.
- ✓ The Airport received a check for \$8.8 million to relocated the power utilities and to move forward with Phase II acquisition of real estate for the airport.
- ✓ Building permits during the month of May totaled 40. This is a total of 176 for the first five months and if we stay on line for that average we should have 422 permits this year which will top every year since we have been keeping up with the statistics with the exception of 2004 when we had 429. In 2004 the average square footage was 1,119 and the average square footage for 2022 is 3,274.

- ✓ Reminded the Board that they do not meet on July 5th that is a holiday, the calendar was approved in January of this year and you pre-approved cancelling the meetings for 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas.
- ✓ Jim Hall was Corner in Spalding County many years ago and more recently has been a regular at the Senior Center taking many of his meals at the center. He has also been the recipient of the Meals On Wheels service during COVID. Mr. Hall passed away and his sons, Jim, Steve and Eddie Hall asked Mr. Wilson to come by Mr. Hall's home. Mr. Wilson went by the home as requested and the sons presented him a check for the Senior Center in the amount of \$3,800 as a thank you for the meals his father received and for those who cannot afford to pay in memory of their father, Jim Hall, Sr.
- ✓ On a personal note, it has been an honor, a privilege and a pleasure to be the County Manager and to work for Spalding County for 35 ½ years. Thank you for the Proclamation and for allowing my family to be here tonight. It is going to be very different for him on July 1st.

XIV. REPORT OF ASSISTANT COUNTY MANAGER

- Thanked the Board for appointing her as Interim County Manager upon the retirement of Mr. Wilson. She looks forward to serving the Board and the citizens in the new capacity until a County Manager is chosen.
- Code Enforcement has been able to close 35 of their cases in the last 45 days. 30 were closed based on compliance, 5 of the larger cases were moved into the new system with extra violations added to them. Code Enforcement has closed 30 of the older cases for compliance. She will share the statistics with the Board. Code Enforcement is under Community Development and if you have any questions Debbie Bell will be happy to answer those for you.

Chairman Davis stated that this is one of the main topics for the Board for 2022 and he wants to make sure that Ms. Irizarry is watching that very closely. Ms. Bell is in charge of that but he asked that the Board be updated once a month at the high level and advise of any issues that the Board needs to be involved in.

- The temporary chiller at the Correctional Institution has arrived, we are awaiting the new chiller, but the temporary chiller is there.
- Animal Shelter construction is still in process, we are hoping for an August completion date.
- The Fire Department hosted their first story time with a firefighter. That was held at the Reid and Roberts Stations on June 6th and there were approximately 35 children in attendance at the two stations. It made a pretty big impact and Chief Byrd's picture was in the newspaper. The next story time is scheduled for June 27th at 1:00 p.m. at the Cabin Station.
- The Fire Department also hosted a Family Safety Day along with the Collaborative, the Sheriff's Office and WellStar and that was on June 12th.
- EMA weekly vaccine distribution is not being administered inside the Health Department, they have discontinued the drive-thru. They have not yet held the COVID testing for July because they are cutting back to a once a month.
- They completed the plans for the Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan and they are

working on the documents to move forward.

- June 10th the County was approved to continue as a Storm Ready Community and that is good through June 2025.

XV. REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS

Rita Johnson – She was sad and disappointed that the Juneteenth Proclamation did not make it on to the Agenda a few weeks back. She believes that had it made it on to the Agenda during the discussion phase we could have gotten it passed. She would encourage the other Commissioners to look at this again. However, right after that Commissioner's Taylor and she attended ACCG training and one of her classed talked about successful leadership and motivation. The Juneteenth Proclamation came up with someone else in that class and embarrassingly she was the only Commissioner that did not have the Proclamation passed. She was encouraged and urged to come back and speak with the Board about doing something about it.

Secondly, she congratulated Michelle Irizarry on being named the Interim County Manager and she is looking forward to working with her.

She then thanked Mr. Wilson for the nine years she has served on the Board. All the wonderful things he has done, just in the last few weeks we have gotten the TSPLOST projects passed. You have always been on top of the budget. Your leadership and management skills have been exceptional. You are definitely one who has "Raised the Bar" when it comes to County Managers. When she was at the ACCG Meeting she brought it up and everybody was surprised to hear you were retiring and they knew that you would be tough to replace. She wanted to thank him for all he has done, his professionalism and everything has not gone un-noticed.

Ryan Bowlden – Also wanted to thank William Wilson for everything he has done for Spalding County. He use to be an employee for Spalding County and when the name William Wilson came across, he got the blame for everything. However, from the prospective of Commissioner he has really changed his mind. He then congratulated Ms. Irizarry on being named Interim County Manager.

Gwen Flowers-Taylor – She is not going to say congratulations to Mr. Wilson because she is sure we will be seeing him somewhere. She can say, having been here the longest, that she really knows that Mr. Wilson loves Spalding County and she feels that his intent has been to do what he thinks is the right thing. She appreciates his leadership and the way he has represented the County. It's not always been good for the two of us and that is okay, but she feels that through that time they have grown to respect each other and to learn who we are and why we are the way that we are. So, she just wants to say "hats off to you, job well done."

Mr. Wilson stated that we have had some tough times, but we have had some great time as well.'

James Dutton – He spent a lot of time in college getting a number of degrees and learning academically, but there really is something to be said of learning and knowing what is going on is better than a PHD. Being from somewhere, caring about that place, that matters. Mr. Wilson is going to be very hard to replace and he hopes that Mr. Wilson enjoys his retirement.

He then stated that he cannot say enough good stuff about the Veterans Accountability Court. He has put about 10 individuals through that Court and to see how it changes

lives, one person at a time. Our next meeting will be to talk about establishing this type of Court in the Juvenile System. If you can work with juveniles and encourage them to take a different path, to choose entrepreneurship, to choose responsibility, to choose leadership in a community then they won't take the path that we so often see that pipelines right into prison. He hopes that when that proposal is ready and we come back to this Board he hopes that the Board will support them funding that. There is a lot of grants they will be working to obtain and there are a lot of private organizations from whom we will be asking money as well.

The level of proactivity he is seeing in the courtroom from the Jewkes Law Firm is awesome. They are in there and it is usually two of them.

The splash pad numbers looked a lot higher than we thought they were going to be. He feels there is a way to get this done, not at break the bank costs, but he feels there is a way to get that done.

The Rosenwald Project, he has visited the construction site twice and it looks like a lot of work. He was there for the ribbon cutting and he can't wait to see the "after shot" because the "before shot" looks like there was a war.

Animal Shelter, if you haven't gone out to see the progress he encouraged everyone to do so. It looks great. The site looks like a hurricane came through, but he building looks fantastic. He can't wait to see the completed project.

We talked about alternatives to the expensive internet options. He is excited about getting some of the numbers they have been hearing over the last week and a half.

There are two events: The Public Safety Event at the Carver Road Fire Station, he had planned on stopping by to say hello to everyone, but when his son and daughter saw the slide there, he was there for quite a while. His children really enjoyed that and he thanked staff for making that happen. He was also able to bring his son to the Business After Hours event and his son enjoyed the ice cream, the CI did an outstanding job on the food and his son was thrilled at being able to sit on a tractor. The event could not have gone better. He can't say enough good stuff about these events and he can't wait to see what we do next.

Clay Davis – Quick update on Archway, the project with the UGA Sponsorship is coming to an end. It should be done in the next couple of months. We have 5 work groups and we have people on each one of them. Student engineering project ideas are due by July 9th, it is free work for us, so if you have ideas, please get them to Mr. Imberger or Ms. Irizarry and we will pass those along. They are due by July 9th.

Reminder that August 19-20 is the intergovernmental retreat. We are continuing the interview process to replace Mr. Wilson.

If you are interested in TSPLOST, the Committee meeting is tomorrow at 12:00 p.m. at the Welcome Center, if you are interested in participating or in what is going on.

Mr. Davis then stated that he hoped that Mr. Wilson will continue to pass along his thoughts, your information, your history as you see us moving along and trying to make decisions. We have relied on this for years with your ability to say, this is how we did whatever it was. This is how we got to where we are, he can't imagine us having to start all over without your being around to be able to help us through those things. Knowing that your heart is in the right place and hopefully coming back from time to time and standing up to share your ideas. He then stated that he salutes Mr. Wilson

for what he has done.

XVI. CLOSED SESSION

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion/Second by Johnson/Dutton to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 p.m. Motion carried unanimously by all.