

After Agenda

**Board of Commissioners of Spalding County
Extraordinary Session
Monday, August 15, 2022
6:00 PM
Room 108, Spalding County Annex Building**

The Spalding County Board of Commissioners held an Extraordinary Session on Monday, August 15, 2022, in Room 108 of the Spalding County Annex Building, beginning at 6:00 p.m. with Chairman Clay Davis presiding. Commissioners Rita Johnson, Ryan Bowlden, James Dutton and Gwen Flowers-Taylor were present for the meeting. Also present were County Manager, Dr. Steve Ledbetter, County Attorney, Stephanie Windham and County Clerk, Kathy Gibson 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

Reginald Watts with Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church delivered the Invocation.

III. PLEDGE TO FLAG

Commissioner Rita Johnson, District #3 led the Pledge to the Flag.

IV. PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

1. Consider request to recognize the following employees for their service to Spalding County:

- ✓ Magistrate Court Judge, Rita Cavanaugh for 40 Years of Service.

Judge Cavanaugh stated it has been an honor to serve the County for 40 years. She stated that she had actually been working for the County 47 years, but prior to being Magistrate Judge she was Justice of the Peace. So, she has been in the system for 47 years. It has been a pleasure and a great learning experience for her as she has learned a lot about people.

Commissioner Dutton then added that Judge Cavanaugh is the longest serving Judge in Georgia history and he hopes that she serves 40 more years.

- ✓ Kenneth Wilkerson, Public Works for 35 Years of Service.

T.J. Imberger, Director of Public Works gave a history of Mr. Wilkerson's tenure with Spalding County. He is currently a senior public works officer and a premier equipment operator. He has won

numerous equipment operator competitions and he fills in for the Road Supervisor when there is a need. In 2020, he was named the American Public Works Association, Georgia Public Works Employee of the Year.

Mr. Wilkerson thanked the Board for this opportunity and stated that he has enjoyed his time at Spalding County.

- ✓ T.J. Imberger, Director of Public Works for 30 Years of Service.

Dr. Ledbetter stated that he can't say enough about Mr. Imberger. He will be the President of GRPA in the upcoming year. He is instrumental across the state and he has had the opportunity to ride around with Mr. Imberger and see what he does locally. Dr. Ledbetter then added that he has also had the privilege of walking around at ACCG training events and listening to our vendors talk about what Mr. Imberger does for our County and how committed he is to making sure that we have all the things that are needed to take care of our citizens on an annual basis.

Mr. Imberger stated the last 30 years has been fun, but there is a lot more work to do. He has worked for some great commissioners, and he can't do what he has been able to do without an amazing staff.

- ✓ Randy King, Public Works, for 25 Years of Service

Mr. Imberger covered Mr. King's tenure with the County. He served in the Air Force from 1992-1996 and started in Spalding County in 1997. Mr. King was instrumental in creating the Sign Making equipment for the County and pioneering the cost saving effects of having an in-house sign department. Mr. King became the solid waste supervisor in 2020 where he instituted numerous policy changes and implemented training techniques in cost savings. Mr. King is a great asset to the County.

Mr. King stated that he started with the County when he was less than half the age he is right now. When he started with the County the plan was to do a few years and 25 years later, here he is. He has done a few things, learned a lot of stuff and worked with a lot of people. All in all his time here has been good and he's going to give it 5 more years.

V. PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Consider approval of financial statements for the one month ended July 31, 2022.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Dutton to accept the financial statements as presented for the one month ended July 31, 2022. Motion carried unanimously by all.

2. Discuss the Millage Rate.

Dr. Ledbetter stated that a listing of assessments consisting of real property, timber, mobile home, motor vehicles, heavy duty equipment, and public utilities is all consistent with how we assess the digest every year. The digest must be approved the State Department of Revenue before tax bills can be sent out. Bills must be received 60 days in advance of due dates. Spalding County Tax Bills are expected to be mailed out October 1st with a due date of January 1st, 2023.

Staff will be recommending this year that we not use the rollback millage rate. We are recommending that we keep the same millage rate as the last two years. For the last two years, the millage rate has been 16.138% for the County and we are recommending that we retain the same millage rate for one specific reason. The cost of inflation to provide services for any company, but especially for Spalding County continues to rise because of the inflated economy and the issues that are going on with the economy right now. Dr. Ledbetter stated he was looking at the data right before he came into this meeting and overall, there has been a 14% increase in the inflation rate for the country. Costs for services are continuing to go up.

Dr. Ledbetter advised that over the next few weeks, staff will be working with our Citizen Engagement Specialist, DeAndre Smith, to share in written form and through video the information for the Tax Digest and how this decision supports the services we deliver for our community. The information will be posted on the social media sites and the InSpalding channel on UTube and to the website.

Dr. Ledbetter stated that the Public Hearings are scheduled for August 25th at 5:30 p.m., September 19th at 11:00 a.m. and September 22nd at 5:30 p.m. and are expecting to set the millage rate on September 22nd at 6:00 p.m.

Dr. Ledbetter stated that what is being requested by staff this evening of not accepting the rollback is not set in stone. That is staff's recommendation, and we are asking for your direction as the Board of Commissioners for how we should proceed. Three public hearings are a mandate under Georgia Law for anything other than accepting the full rollback. What staff is requesting is that we continue to push forward with three public hearings in anticipation of meeting the inflated rate for services and paying for services over the next year.

Dr. Ledbetter then reminded the Board that when we balanced our budget, we used a little over \$7 million of fund balance to balance the budget this year. This is a lot, and he is concerned about the amount of money we are going to need over the next year to insure that we are keeping pace with the inflation that is going on in our country.

Chairman Davis then stated in summary that we will be setting up three public hearings and on September 22nd we will decide what the millage rate will be. We want to listen to the people coming to the

public hearings to talk to us about what they think it should be.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that she would be out of town on September 22nd.

VI. 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.

No one signed up to speak.

VII. MINUTES -

1. Consider approval of Minutes for the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Special Called Meeting and Zoning Public Hearing, July 28, 2022. Consider approval of the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting, August 1, 2022. Consider approval of the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Special Called meeting, August 4, 2022.

Motion/Second by Johnson/Dutton to approve the Minutes for the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Special Called Meeting and Zoning Public Hearing, July 28, 2022. Consider approval of the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting, August 1, 2022. Consider approval of the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Special Called meeting, August 4, 2022. Motion carried unanimously by all.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA-

1. Consideration on second and final reading of Amendment to UDO, Article 22D North Expressway Improvement District Overlay, Re-adoption of Ordinance with the addition of residential requirements along with accompanying Overlay Map.

Motion/Second by Johnson/Flowers-Taylor to approve on second and final reading of Amendment to UDO, Article 22D North Expressway Improvement District Overlay, Re-

adoption of Ordinance with the addition of residential requirements along with accompanying Overlay Map.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that on page 5 of 23 the Ordinance talks about the setback which is 20' from the edge of the roadway and on the back of the property the setback is 25'. Is there a reason why the front and the back are different. That may be normal, but a development could have an entrance from the backside, so why would that entry be different from the one coming off of 19-41?

Ms. Windham stated that the setback on the front of the property is going to be different from the back or side of the property.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor then asked if someone wanted their entryway off of Georgia 3 and wanted their address to be Highway 3 instead of 19-41, then would the road frontages be flipped?

Ms. Windham advised they would be flipped, the front would be considered where ever the front door would be.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor then stated that on page 11 of 23 it talks about the lighting. She was not sure if that is lighting that would go on to other peoples' property or if it were a business, how would the lighting affect other property? We have discussed special types of lighting where it doesn't shine anywhere but straight down. She doesn't see a reference to that, it simply says the lighting should be directed away from other peoples' property, but it is not specific. Since we are talking about it being a residential overlay, she feels it would be important to people to make sure they don't have lights shining from a business that might be adjacent to it.

Dr. Ledbetter stated that he had a conversation with Kellie Littlefield earlier today and we are bringing a "raising the bar" upgrade to our lighting ordinance across the county. This should be coming to the Board in the next month or so, which will cover this.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor then asked where it shows in the overlay the requirements for sidewalks on adjacent roadways?

Ms. Windham stated that Mr. Galloway actually wrote the Ordinance. Perhaps Dr. Ledbetter knows where that would be.

Dr. Ledbetter stated that it is included, but it is part of a separate ordinance that we will be bringing to you to specifically address sidewalks on adjacent roadways not only for 19-41, but for any future development in the County. Because it is not specifically for this overlay district, it is for the entire county.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that she understands that, but for the North Expressway District people have been waiting for the last six months to either sell or develop and we are going to end up with developments that will start without this section included. She stated that she feels we need to address this in this overlay which has nothing to

do with the rest of the County. Starting the developments on the North Expressway, we have expressly said that in that overlay district we expect sidewalks to be an integral part of the development. Not just interior sidewalks. That was Section 2209-B.

Commissioner Dutton stated that Commissioner Flowers-Taylor is right, the Board asks for things and if he were going get back to a court in the amount of time it takes for our zoning to pass, they would put him in jail. Yet here we are saying “hey we’ve been waiting on this.” We see movement now happening after 4 years of asking for it on the zoning stuff. Why did it take so long.

Commissioner Johnson then added that if the ordinances coming to us will include the North East Expressway, it shouldn’t take that long.

Dr. Ledbetter stated it shouldn’t take long. Ms. Littlefield advised this evening that she has the draft of the lighting ordinance, the draft for the subdivision ordinance and the draft for the sidewalk ordinance being delivered to Mr. Galloway for review. We are working on this as staff and are sending them to Mr. Galloway for his consideration and word smithing. Mr. Galloway does a great job with word smithing; he gets us in a good position where we can defend it.

Dr. Ledbetter agreed that we have to push these things through faster so that we can get the “raising of the bar” made.

Commissioner Dutton then stated that he wanted to point out that Ms. Littlefield’s department is the most understaffed and over utilized and one of the most in demand departments and yet all four of these things needs some word smithing on them. Ms. Littlefield is to be commended on how incredibly proactive she has been.

Commissioner Dutton then stated that we can pass this ordinance tonight and then set the expectation of this as still an issue.

Chairman Davis then stated that we are going to go ahead and vote for the ordinance with amendments to fix the items discussed this evening.

Commissioner Dutton then stated that the amendment would be county wide and would include the overlay district.

Ms. Windham stated that when the amendments are approved, she would suggest that the overlay be amended as well so there is no confusion when people are looking at the zoning ordinance and they are in the overlay district, that is where they are going.

Motion carried unanimously by all.

IX. OLD BUSINESS – None.

X. NEW BUSINESS-

1. Consider request from the Spalding County Parks & Leisure Services Advisory Commission to allow the Makin' Tracks Travel Club to take the

motor coach to and from Cape Canaveral Florida from April 24th to April 28th, 2023.

Ms. Carmichael advised that the Makin' Tracks Travel Club is planning ahead in anticipation of the arrival of the new motorcoach. In order to get their travel plans together, they have sent a request to the Parks and Leisure Services Advisory Commission to take the motorcoach to Cape Canaveral to allow them to board a cruise ship and then return home after the cruise. It is part of the policy that the Board of Commissioners approve any out-of-state travel.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor then asked what the driver would be doing while the travel club was on the water?

Ms. Carmichael stated that the group will invite the driver to go on the cruise with them and the travel club will pick up the cost of his cruise. It actually makes it more affordable for them for the driver to go on the cruise with them. If the driver goes on the cruise, the motorcoach will stay at Cape Canaveral and then he or she will bring them back.

Commissioner Dutton then asked if the salary for the driver been established.

Ms. Carmichael then stated that if the driver goes on the cruise with the group, then the cost to each member of the Makin' Tracks Travel Club will be \$1,690.00. This includes the motorcoach driver's mileage and hourly rate for the trip down and back. He will not be on duty for the entire trip.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor then asked what was decided on as a salary for the motorcoach driver?

Ms. Carmichael advised that a driver has not been located at this time and that the salary will be \$22.00 - \$25.00/hour as directed by the Board.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to approve the Makin' Tracks Travel Club to take the motorcoach to and from Cape Canaveral Florida from April 24th to April 28th, 2023. Motion carried unanimously by all.

2. Consider request for an amplification permit from Iris Hernandez to host a Baptism celebration at 2160 Rocky Creek Road, Hampton, on August 27, 2022 from 5:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

Ms. Hernandez's application requests an 11:00 pm end time for the amplification application; however, staff has advised that they will have to cease amplification at 10:30 p.m.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to approve an amplification permit from Iris Hernandez to host a Baptism celebration at 2160 Rocky Creek Road, Hampton, on August 27, 2022 from 5:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. With all amplification ceasing at 10:30 p.m. Motion carried unanimously by all.

3. Consider request from the Spalding County Parks and Leisure Services Advisory Commission to continue the MOU with the GRPA Boost program for after school programming in Spalding County.

Kelly Carmichael, Leisure Services Supervisor, advised that the only cost to the county for this program would be for utilities which are covered for the facility already within the budget.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to approve the MOU with the GRPA Boost program for after school programming in Spalding County. Motion carried unanimously by all.

4. Consider recommendation from the Parks and Leisure Services Advisory Commission to approve an MOU from Small Treasures for Afterschool meal service at Fairmont and City Park.

Ms. Carmichael advised that the cost of this program is covered 100% by the MOU. These services will be provided by Small Treasures at no cost to the County.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to approve an MOU from Small Treasures for After School meal service at Fairmont and City Park. Motion carried unanimously by all.

5. Consider request from the Parks & Leisure Services Advisory Commission to reduce the number of members required to conduct business from seven (7) to five (5).

The Board discussed this request and asked that the matter be tabled until the County Manager and County Attorney could work together on the next agenda item and bring it back before the Board.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Bowlden to table the request from the Parks & Leisure Services Advisory Commission to reduce the number of members required to conduct business from seven (7) to five (5). Motion carried unanimously by all.

6. Instruct the County Manager to work with the County Attorney to utilize the guiding principles and guidelines outlined in the Parks & Leisure Services Commission Resolution to return to the Board of Commissioners an overarching resolution with governing rules, regulations, and policies for all Spalding County appointed boards.

Consensus of the Board is for the County Manager and County Attorney to use the Parks & Leisure Services Commission Resolution to set up guiding principles and governing rules, regulations and policies for all of Spalding County's appointed boards.

7. Consider a Memorandum of Understanding with Fayette County to provide 911 Mutual Aid should either county request assistance.

Ricardo McCrary, E-911 Director, stated that this is a Memorandum of

Understanding with Fayette County to provide E-911 Mutual Aid should either county request assistance. This has traditionally been performed as a courtesy under the State Mutual Aid agreement, but this agreement will establish the service directly with Fayette County.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Johnson to approve a Memorandum of Understanding with Fayette County to provide 911 Mutual Aid should either county request assistance. Motion carried unanimously by all.

8. Consider request from Spalding County Public Works to approve a Task Order Form for sidewalk construction plans in preparation for bidding out this project.

Motion/Second by Johnson/Dutton to approve a Task Order Form for sidewalk construction plans in preparation for bidding out this project.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor asked why there was a pavilion and other items included in the sidewalk construction plans. This is a TSPLOST project and we are suppose to be building sidewalks. Not saying the additions aren't good, just saying that we said we were going to use these funds for sidewalks and we are deviating from what we said we were going to do.

Commissioner Dutton agreed, he added that the sidewalks are a must, not a want and any additional building or deviation would be a want.

Mr. Imberger stated that the reason for the deviation was to establish a trailhead at this location for a possible expansion of the trail system at some time in the future.

Brian Upson then stated that the additional items total approximately \$60,000 and that his company could come back to the Board and present a base plan for sidewalks and an alternate concept with for the structures.

Motion failed by a 1-4 (Bowlden, Flowers-Taylor, Dutton, Davis) vote.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Fowers-Taylor to approve a Task Order Form for a base sidewalk construction plan and an alternate construction plan to include structures should the Board decide to go in that direction. Motion carried 4-1 (Johnson).

9. Consider approval of Building 10 property for construction as part of the Butts and Spalding Intergovernmental Agreement.

Dr. Ledbetter advised that this is the first of three properties to be developed that fall under the Butts and Spalding IGA. The construction on the lot involved will be approximately 90% on the Spalding County side. This request is to acknowledge the agreement and get permission to continue with construction plans for this building.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Bowlden to approve the request for construction on the Building 10 property, part of the Butts and Spalding Intergovernmental Agreement. Motion carried unanimously by all.

XI. REPORT OF COUNTY MANAGER

- ✓ He wanted to congratulate DeAndre Smith and Amy Storey on their work in getting a studio set up over at Public Works that will afford us the opportunity to have good conversation in a quiet location where we can video and share back with the community in a much more informative manner what is going on inside of the community.

Dr. Ledbetter then played a video of his comments for the evening that were filmed at the new studio.

- ✓ On July 27th we had an event with the Fire Department where local emergency responders were on the scene of a small plane crash off of Carver Road as part of a mock disaster drill. There were approximately 90 people who participated in this simulated emergency event. He was proud of our employees who did a phenomenal job. Spalding County Fire Department, WellStar Hospital and EMS, Spalding County Sheriff's Office, the Spalding Coroner's Office, Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Fayette County Fire-EMS and the Southern Crescent Technical College Film Students were all part of this event.
- ✓ Regarding the LMIG work that was done last year on Baptist Camp Road, the paving is complete and Public Works is working to get the grass cut on Baptist Camp Road.
- ✓ The Comprehensive Transportation Plan is about 70% complete and that report should be back to us by the first quarter of 2023.
- ✓ The Transit Study is now 90% complete. The final draft was submitted to the Atlanta Regional Commission for final comments last week. We are looking to complete that project within the next two months.
- ✓ State Route 155 Redesignation project. Heath and Lineback were consultants for this project and we are 76% complete. We received an update for the project last week and the consultants' portion of the project is anticipated to be complete in Fall 2022.
- ✓ Meja Construction has begun sending out RFI's and other submittals to the engineers and Community Development this week. A notice to proceed was issued on July 12th and he is happy to report that the grading began this week on that project.
- ✓ The Rosenwald School Building is approximately 90% complete. The architect is coordinating materials and colors with McLeRoy Construction, Kelly Carmichael and Morgan Cantrell for items associated with the SHPO requirements. The expected completion date is September 16, 2022, so we are only a few weeks away from having that project complete.
- ✓ Paragon is the prime consultant and Epstein and Associates are the architects on the Rosenwald Gymnasium project. Epstein is permitting the

construction documents through Spalding County this week and we are looking to bid that phase of the project in mid-September.

- ✓ The Cabin District Fire Station is experiencing problems with some of the water runoff from the collection center during rain events. We have had some challenges with that water infiltrating into the fire station. Paragon is currently working with Public Works and the Building Maintenance department to reroute that water from coming directly into the fire station. That project should get started in September as well.
- ✓ Paragon is working with Public Works to finalize a TOF for design of a splash pad on Carver Road.
- ✓ Courthouse Elevator Modification and Update, we are waiting on parts from TKE. Expected delivery is late-August to early September. Lance Griffin and his team will complete the mechanical room construction next week.
- ✓ Regarding TSPLOST resurfacing: Malier Road, Bicycle Road, County Line Road, Creekwood Drive, Landing Way, Quail Creek Drive and West Ellis Road have all been resurfaced. Striping has been placed on these roads, but this striping is temporary. The asphalt has to cure for 30-60 days before thermal-plastic striping can be placed on these roads.
- ✓ Mr. Imberger is working with McLeRoy Construction to get a cost estimate for Chip & Seal for the unimproved portion of Pineview Road. Additionally, Paragon is supporting the request to ensure we avoid any issues with subsurface rock and potential safety issues with the crest of the hill on that road.
- ✓ Carver Road sidewalk construction was considered by the Board of Commissioners this evening.

Paragon has received a topographical survey on North Hill Street and will complete the conceptual plan later in the week and the costs estimates of what is expected at the end of this week.

Paragon is expecting the topographical survey for Spalding Street next week with the cost estimates to the Board by the end of the month.

- ✓ AMBUCS Park and City Park HVAC Systems contract was awarded to Wright Brothers earlier this month and construction should begin within the next few weeks.
- ✓ The Flint River Kayak Launch conceptual design is scheduled for completion by Paragon at the end of this month.
- ✓ Community Development upgraded their software this week and their office is currently changing over to a program that will allow us to do on-line permitting along with communicating with other departments with regards to the permitting. During this time building permits will take a little longer to process so please be patient.
- ✓ Dr. Ledbetter then showed a video of the Box City Event that was hosted by Spalding County Parks and Recreation and introduced by Spalding County

Community Development Staff and planning commissioners.

- ✓ He then congratulated Tyler White on his promotion to Animal Shelter Supervisor. Mr. White has been filling in as the interim supervisor and has been doing an outstanding job. We are pleased with the direction he is taking the shelter and we are confident that he and the entire team will be able to move our new shelter even farther along.
- ✓ At the last Board of Commissioners meeting, the Board of Commissioners issued a joint Proclamation with the City of Griffin welcoming our students back to school in Spalding County on August 3rd. The Proclamation was accepted by Dr. Keith Simmons and the School Board. We are encouraged by all that is going on in our school system and are looking forward to a great school year.
- ✓ A few of the commissioners went on a field trip with Mr. Imberger to review splash pads in our area. There will be more information forthcoming as we move forward.
- ✓ He thanked the Board of Commissioners, the staff and the entire community, as he has completed one year as the County Manager and he is privileged to be a part of this community. Thank you for all you have done to make this year memorable.
- ✓ He then stated that Spalding County was announced as a finalist in the 2022 IEEE Smart Cities Award Contest for its project entitled Connectivity Solutions for Spalding County. The project addressed the efforts to make low cost wireless broadband available for Spalding County Residents. This is from the work completed over the last year through our Partnership for Inclusive Innovation working with Georgia Tech. As a part of this recognition, IEEE Smart Cities presentation will be presented in Cyprus on September 26-29th. We are listed as a finalist and there is a great possibility that we could win this award because of the staff here at Spalding County, the Partnership for Inclusive Innovation and our interns through Georgia Tech.

XII. REPORT OF ASSISTANT COUNTY MANAGER – None.

XIII. REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS

Rita Johnson – Congratulated the employees recognized this evening for their years of service. At the upcoming public hearings, we need to emphasize that the current inflation rate is 14% and people need to be aware of that and how it has and will be affecting our services. Once everyone gets a grasp of that hopefully they will understand our position. She then asked for a quick update on Code Enforcement.

Dr. Ledbetter advised that we currently have one Code Enforcement Officer and we have an active job recruitment going on through the HR Department for a Chief Code Enforcement Officer. We need to make sure that we are engaged in Code Enforcement and the HR group is actively searching for a Chief Code Enforcement Officer.

Ryan Bowlden – He wanted to follow up on the Code Enforcement Office. If we do this, we need to do it the right way this time. It is not a regular employee; the Sheriff and Law Enforcement need to be involved in the interview process. We need to make sure that post records for the individual are reviewed and these things need to be looked into.

He asked about the chip and seal on Yarbrough Mill, that was our shining star and we need to make sure it is done right. He went over there the other day and it looks like a good lane down the middle of it, but it is cracking and it is washing out at the creeks. He then asked why it wasn't extended from River Road on up to Blanton Mill Road? When you get on that end of the road it is rough. We have got to get this done right; we have a lot of people watching us.

Gwen Flowers-Taylor – She thinks that what was mentioned during the meeting about a JSPLOST and a potential for something to happen legislatively is projecting too far into the future. She has been around long enough to know that nothing happens fast in government, and she thinks we need to sit down and look at what the options we have to build a jail. In the past we have gone out on a limb financially and were able to come back and pay the debt off with a SPLOST. She is getting tired of us talking about it, we just need to do something. We need to get a plan, we can have an alternate plan, but this is something that we cannot put on hold. We need to stop dancing and make some commitment. Judge Thacker is working on an overall plan. Whatever the plan is, the first phase needs to construct a new jail.

She wanted to say that she had a great time on the first day of school. It was the first time she had ever gone to see the kids coming in on the first day and it was wonderful to see the Spalding County Employees, Public Works people, City Police and girl scouts welcoming all of the children back to school.

Jessie Maddox sent her a picture of him standing in his truck across from the entrance of the landfill telling people that they cannot go on the local street because it is supposed to be "No Thru Trucks." He stated that he is out there at 7 a.m. and he stops about 10 trucks a day from going down that street. Clearly, we should be able to put a sign up in front of the landfill to tell people they need to go back to SR16 and not travel down the local street because they are tearing that road up. He also stated that there is a stop sign at High Falls Road and Bucksnot where you turn to go into Rock Springs Church that had lights on it and the lights aren't working on it anymore.

James Dutton – We have our own sign shop and we need to have "No Thru Truck" signs everywhere that is not a highway. On Ellis Road, he was pulling out of his mom's driveway the other day and on the brand new freshly laid asphalt there were four 18-wheelers that came by. They are crushing this road that we just laid. The road has "No Thru Truck" signs on it and we have got to get somebody out there to enforce it.

He is glad that they are all on the same page when it comes to the jail. Judge Thacker and his staff are really working hard. He feels the harder part isn't necessarily where we are going to get the funds from, now that all five members of the Board know we need to do something. The question becomes "How do we do this the right way?" It's not just a building. There are a lot of elements and you can't go back and change something when there is that much concrete and safety

concerns, so we have to do this right.

Judge Thacker's group is visiting different facilities and talking to people while they are there to see what is useful or may not be useful. We need to make sure that when we build this it is something that is going to last.

He then stated with everything that the County is currently trying to build pavilions, parks, and splash pads, he doesn't know why we wouldn't raise our Impact Fees to what the State will allow us to raise them to. He feels the County should raise their Impact Fees to the maximum that the State will allow.

Commissioner Dutton stated that the way he looks at Impact Fees is the people who live here have paid the SPLOST and have paid the taxes to build all of these things have bought in and it's not fair that somebody comes in and gets to use them and didn't pay a dime toward it. That is what Impact Fees are for, to recapture that.

He was glad that we were invited by the School Board to be a part of the welcoming kids back to school this year and he expressed his thanks to the Animal Shelter for coming out and bringing some of the animals with them. You could see the anxiety dissipate when the kids got to pet an animal on their way into school.

The Second Saturday events are really great. The Downtown Council and Main Street and everyone involved are really great. He thinks the County is missing an opportunity not participating in this event.

Clay Davis – Asked Dr. Ledbetter to set up a workshop for the jail sometime over the next couple of months. We need to understand what we can do with bonds and the possibility of a JSPLOST. Please look at the calendar and make this happen.

On August 24th we have the evaluations of the County Manager and County Clerk that we need to get done.

Public Hearings on the mileage rates have been set. Any citizen interested in talking to the Board and letting us know what your thoughts are before we set a mileage rate, please come to the Public Hearings. It is your opportunity to let us know what your views are, so please don't hesitate to come out and speak.

He will be gone for the next couple of days reviewing the ACCG policies on what we are trying to do with legislation. He will update the Board on what he learns as soon as he returns.

Stephanie Windham stated that the College and Career Academy is inviting everyone to come out for their opening on Wednesday at 7:50 a.m. and 11:45 a.m.

Also, Beck, Owen, and Murray will be hosting Chamber After Hours tomorrow from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Chairman Davis then reminded everyone that GME is going on. We have people who need to see doctors and they have doctors to need to see people. This is a great opportunity. This location accepts patients whether they are insured, under insured or not insured. You can go in there and they will take care of you.

XIV. CLOSED SESSION – None.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion/Second by Johnson/Flowers-Taylor to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Motion carried unanimously by all.