



**After Agenda
Board of Commissioners – Extraordinary Session
February 20, 2023
6:00 PM
Room 108, Spalding County Annex Building
119 E. Solomon Street
Griffin, GA 30223**

The Spalding County Board of Commissioners held their Extraordinary Session on Monday, February 20, 2023, in Room 108 of the Spalding County Annex Building, beginning at 6:00 p.m. with Chairman Clay Davis presiding. Commissioners James Dutton, Gwen Flowers-Taylor, Ryan Bowlden and Rita Johnson were present for the meeting. Also present were County Attorney, Stephanie Windham and County Clerk, Kathy Gibson to record the minutes. County Manager, Steve Ledbetter was absent from the meeting.

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

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONES AND ALL OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES.

II. INVOCATION

1. Commissioner James R. Dutton, District #2, to deliver the Invocation.

III. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

1. Commissioner Ryan Bowlden, District #4, will lead the Pledge to the Flag.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Dutton to amend the agenda to lift from the table and discuss the conveyance of property to the Housing Authority as Item #3 under Old Business. Motion carried unanimously by all.

IV. PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Consider approval of Financial Statements ending January 31, 2023.

Jinna Garrison, Administrative Services Director, stated that she would be glad to answer any questions the Board may have regarding the Financial Statements.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Johnson to accept the Financial Statements ending January 31, 2023 as presented. Motion carried unanimously by all.

V. PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

1. Miller Edwards with Mauldin & Jenkins LLC is present to review the June 30, 2022, Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

Mr. Edwards stated that Spalding County has experienced challenges for over a decade, but it is nice to see you have the year that you just completed. In FY2022 there were a number of nice things that happened. The Fund Balance increased. Looking at the big picture, the County as a whole had a pretty good year. There is approximately \$168 million in assets, and approximately \$66 million is cash. There were liabilities of approximately \$67 million. About \$17 million of that is short term and approximately \$50 million is long term liabilities. There is a strong amount of total assets with only a small amount currently against it. The County is in a good liquid position right now.

Mr. Miller then addressed the unfunded amount in the Net Pension Plan. Currently, the County is approximately 76.5% funded. This is not in a bad place, but he would like to see this in the lower 80% range. He would like for Spalding County to start thinking about how to start funding the benefit portion that is provided to retirees.

Spalding County has had a good year, the County took in approximately \$73 million in revenues and spent approximately \$62 million. There was a bottom line of about \$11 million across all funds. This includes the SPLOST funds, the Fire District Fund and all the other funds. Everything looks good. The County currently has just short of three months of fund balance in the General Fund.

Mr. Miller then advised that from a financial standpoint the County has a clean unmodified audit report and that the report the Board received this evening presents fairly the financial position of Spalding County. He also noted that there was no findings on the compliance side, when you look at the internal controls how they are designed and operating and we test for compliances significant to the County. We have nothing to report on this.

VI. CITIZEN COMMENTS

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 Member or to the audience. Personal disagreements with individual Members 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 (3) minutes to speak on their chosen topics as they relate to matters pertinent to the jurisdiction of the Board of Commissioners. No questions will be asked by any of the members 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 (3) minutes or more than once, unless the Board votes to suspend this rule.

Mike Kendall, 130 N. Hill Street, Griffin, GA stated that there is a need for the County to close the driveway located behind the Old Post Office to accommodate 114 N. 8th Street.

The building was damaged during the tornado and they need to put a container in the driveway on Friday, February 24th and Monday, February 27 to allow the contractor to clean up and repair the damage to the building. The County does have a small parking lot behind the Old Post Office and the people in the building will need to park somewhere else for those two days.

Consensus of the Board was to allow a container to be placed in the driveway behind the Old Post Office for the two days requested and that staff notify the occupants of the building of the closure of the driveway and parking lot.

VII. MINUTES

1. Consider approval of the Minutes from the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting on February 6, 2023, and the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Special Called Meeting and Work Session on February 15, 2023.

Motion/Second by Johnson/Flowers-Taylor to approve the minutes from the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting on February 6, 2023, and the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Special Called Meeting and Work Session on February 15, 2023. Motion carried unanimously by all.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Consider on second and final reading an amendment to the Spalding County Code of Ordinances to update the List of Roadways both On-System and Off-System as provided by the Georgia Department of Transportation and approved by the Board of Commissioners at the Extraordinary Session on December 19, 2022.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Bowlden to approve on second and final reading an amendment to the Spalding County Code of Ordinances to update the List of Roadways both On-System and Off-System as provided by the Georgia Department of Transportation and approved by the Board of Commissioners at the Extraordinary Session on December 19, 2022. Motion carried unanimously by all.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

1. Lift from the table and consider appointment to the Spalding County Board of Zoning Appeals to succeed Robert "Rob" Peurifoy for a four-year term to expire on December 31, 2027, from District 2.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to lift from the table and consider appointment to the Spalding County Board of Zoning Appeals to succeed Robert "Rob" Peurifoy for a four-year term to expire on December 31, 2027, from District 2. Motion carried unanimously by all.

Commissioner Dutton, District 2 reappointed Robert “Rob” Peurifoy to the Spalding County Board of Zoning Appeals for a four-year term to expire on December 31, 2027.

2. Lift from the table and consider appointments to the Spalding County Ethics Review Panel.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to lift from the table and consider appointments to the Spalding County Ethics Review Panel. Motion carried unanimously by all.

Commissioner Flowers- Taylor, District #1:

- Robert Lattimer
- Mariam Eberhart
- Virginia Church

Commissioner James Dutton, District #2:

- Bryan Styler
- Eva Berlin-Sylvestre
- Katherine Sylvestre

Commissioner Rita Johnson, District #3:

- Zachery Holmes
- Tangela Booker
- Reginald Watts

Commissioner Ryan Bowlden, District #4:

- Lovelle Camp
- Jackie Roberson
- Rita Mace

Commissioner Clay Davis, District #5:

- Robert Beyer
- Katherine Schafer-Lindgren
- Deb Piccone

3. Lift from the table and discuss the conveyance of property to the Housing Authority.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Dutton to Lift from the table and discuss the conveyance of property to the Housing Authority. Motion carried unanimously by all.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated:

- a. That she would like to have covenants included in the deed for the transfer of property to the Housing Authority that would include Architectural demands on the housing to be built in that location to be approved by Spalding County.
- b. She then asked that the developer be present at the meeting on March 6th to present the proposed plans to the Board.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Dutton to table the matter until the March 6th meeting for presentation by the Housing Authority developer and decision by the Board. Motion carried unanimously by all.

X. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider approval of Inmate Detail Contracts with the following Agencies for 2023:

- City of Griffin
- Griffin-Spalding Board of Education
- Fayette County
- Henry County
- City of Thomaston
- Upson County

Warden Humphrey advised that these contracts include increases in some of the fees charged for the services provided and by all of the contracts being renewed at the same time, they will all expire on the same date. Right now the contracts expire at different times and sometimes go a period of time before renewal. This will ensure that all the contracts are on the same annual cycle and will be renewed at the same time.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Dutton to approve Inmate Detail Contracts with the City of Griffin, the Griffin-Spalding Board of Education, Fayette County, Henry County, the City of Thomaston and Upson County for 2023. Motion carried unanimously by all.

2. Consider request from Carl Humphrey, Warden at the Spalding County Correction Institution, to implement an Inmate Fire Fighter Program.

Warden Humphrey stated that this Program has been implemented in other Georgia Counties and is very successful. He stated that the citizens and fire departments in those communities have accepted the inmates as part their fire services and their communities. He asked that Spalding County implement the program and approve hiring a correction officer who would be dedicated to this program. He also stated

that once implemented the Board would be updated quarterly on status of this program.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to approve the request from Carl Humphrey, Warden at the Spalding County Correction Institution, to implement an Inmate Fire Fighter Program. Motion carried unanimously by all.

3. Consider request from the I-75 Central Corridor Coalition, Inc. in support of a GDOT initiative to apply for the I-75 Corridor to be selected as part of the Federal Railroad Administration's Corridor Identification and Development (CID) program.

Motion/Second by Johnson/Dutton to approve a request the from the I-75 Central Corridor Coalition, Inc. in support of a GDOT initiative to apply for the I-75 Corridor to be selected as part of the Federal Railroad Administration's Corridor Identification and Development (CID) program. Motion carried unanimously by all.

XI. REPORT OF COUNTY MANAGER – None.

XII. REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS

Rita Johnson

- She was very happy with the results of the audit review this evening.
- She feels it is an excellent idea to implement the Inmate Firefighter Program.

Ryan Bowlden

- Expressed his concerns about the Land Bank and the need for an update, in writing from that Authority.

Gwen Flowers-Taylor

- Stated that DeAndre Smith, Citizen Engagement Specialist, should attend the ACCG training in Savannah.
- Expressed her thanks to the community for their coming together during the recent disaster and looking out for their neighbors.

James Dutton

- Sent get well wishes to Dr. Ledbetter.
- Stated that the MLK Parade was cancelled due to the tornado. He would like to know when the Parade will take place and wondered if it could be combined with the Juneteenth Parade.
- He would like an update from Municode and the status of the update to the Spalding County's Code of Ordinances.

Clay Davis

- Congratulated Commissioner Rita Johnson on being named "Best Elected Official."
- Stated that he felt the workshop was very helpful.
- Believes that Dr. Ledbetter will be back soon.

- He feels we need to have a joint Land Bank Authority meeting with the City of Griffin at sometime in the near future.

We need to cancel the Zoning Meeting that will occur during the ACCG Annual Conference in April. This should be on the next agenda.

Stephanie Windham

- Stated that Dr. Ledbetter was on the phone, and he assured everyone that DeAndre will be attending the ACCG Annual Conference.
- Ms. Windham advised that Tomochichi will be on the March 6th calendar.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION – None.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion/Second by Johnson/Flowers-Taylor to adjourn the meeting at 7:04 p.m.