

Bryan County Board of Commissioners - March 7, 2006

The regular meeting of the Bryan County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, March 7, 2006. The following members were present: Chairman Jimmy Burnsed, Commissioner Ed Bacon, Commissioner Rick Gardner, and Commissioner Toby Roberts. Also present: County Administrator Phillip Jones, County Clerk Donna Waters and County Attorney Charles Brown. Commissioner Bloudean Newman and Commissioner Glen Willard were not present

Chairman Burnsed called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Invocation was given by Commissioner Roberts. Everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance. Visitors were recognized.

A discussion was held on the *minutes* of the February 14, 2006 regular meeting. A motion was made by Toby Roberts and seconded by Ed Bacon to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

A discussion was held on the *consent agenda*. A motion was made by Toby Roberts and seconded Rick Gardner to accept the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

The following items were listed on the consent agenda:

1. ***Approval of New Occupational Tax Certificates***
 - *Manisha Patel - Zip-N-Food Store #4
 - *Douglas DuBose - Black Creek Feed & Seed
 - *Elizabeth Barfield - Triple B Cleaning
 - *Annemarie Walter - Anne Walter Designs
 - *Walter Meeks - Chimney Field
 - *Darlene Floyd - D & S Nursery & Lawn Care Maintenance
 - *Kermit Cowart - Earthworks Grading, LLC
 - *Jason Happe - J.T. Hapsen
 - *John Johnson - JBM Contracting
 - *Kathy Gerber - K.G.'s Coastal Cleaning Services
 - *Patricia Sanders - Kellers Hair Salon
 - *Walter Lee Lanier - Lanier Plumbing, LLC
 - *Paul Drew - P & K Homebuilders
 - *Katherine Reno - Reno Enterprises

2. ***Approval of Alcoholic Beverage License***
 - *Manisha M. Patel - Zip-N-Food Store #4

3. ***Approval of Tax Refunds***
 - *Charles Riner - Map & Parcel #0341-128 - \$7.21
 - *Dwight & Grace Deice - Mobile Home - \$119.06
 - *Leo Stevens - Mobile Home - \$736.94
 - *Anita Jackson - Mobile Home - \$424.86
 - *Laverne Burnsed - Mobile Home - \$128.19
 - *Harley B. Smith - Mobile Home - \$325.91

4. ***Denial of Tax Refund***
 - *Betty Shanks - Map & Parcel #0611-020 - \$52.96

5. ***Approval of Work Schedule for County Roads by District for Paving Projects***
 - *District 1 - Otter Hole Branch Road; Conley Road; Winding Way, Lake & Benton Roads; George Edwards Road; and Pembroke Connector Road
 - *District 2 - Mannie English Road; Frank Hendry Road; Bell Road; and Sadies Kitchen Road
 - *District 3 - Intersection of Belfast Siding and Belfast Estates Road; and Seascape Road
 - *District 4 - Recreation Park Road; Fancy Court; Fancy Hall Drive; and Jake Brown Road
 - *District 5 - Sheriff Complex Road; Peach Tree, Mullino, D. Myrick Roads; and Cartertown Extended

Pratt Lockwood, Recreation Director, met with the board to discuss several items.

****Request for part time secretary to go full time at Hendrix Park*** - A motion was made by Toby Roberts and seconded by Ed Bacon that we allocation \$7,000 to make this a full time position for recreation with funds to come from contingency. Motion carried unanimously.

****Hendrix Park Entrance Way*** - Several examples of different entrance gates from around this area were presented to the board for review for possible styles for the entrance to Hendrix Park. A motion was made by Rick Gardner and seconded by Ed Bacon to approve style #4 (which is a brick entrance with brick columns and wrought iron fence between the brick columns) with funds to come from SPLOST IV. Motion carried unanimously.

****Request for proposals for consultant/engineer for the Dee Henderson Recreation Park***. It was the consensus of the board to discuss this with the county's new engineer, Dale Dudley, before making a decision.

A discussion was held on a request by *Georgia Central Railroad* soliciting the commissioners support for federal funds. A motion was made by Toby Roberts and seconded by Rick Gardner to authorize the Chairman to sign a letter of support for Georgia Central Railroad requesting federal funds for railroad trusses and that copies of the letter be sent to our federal senators and congressmen. Motion carried unanimously.

Neil Smiley, Director of Engineering & Inspections, met with the board to give an update on projects in his department.

***Bridge Replacement: Bacontown Road and Harris Trail Road** - Batir Bridge has completed work on these bridges and the roads have been opened to normal traffic. Work was completed approximately 30 days ahead of schedule.

***Deep Patch and Overlay: Harris Trail/Port Royal Road** - We started the deep patch phase of this project a couple of weeks ago. As work progressed on milling out the bad areas, we experienced a breaking up of the roadway around these areas. Also, the loaded dump trucks hauling material and local dump trucks working on other projects caused new damage to the existing road. The DOT advised we stop operations and look at another plan to repair these roads. They advised us to look at a study done by the Atlanta Laboratory calling for reclamation of the existing roadway. We have currently spent approximately \$30,000 county funds and \$30,000 DOT funds. DOT is going to do a new contract on this project and will be giving us \$500,000 to do this work. The total project will cost approximately \$650,000. This will cost the county an additional \$30,000. This project will be the reclamation of the road as it is now and it will be overlaid with asphalt. The DOT will re-let this contract out and this should take approximately 30 days. Work can be done in about 2-3 weeks. A motion was made by Toby Roberts and seconded by Ed Bacon that we move forward with this project, staying within the parameters of the funds with \$30,000 being borrowed and paid back with SPLOST V funds. Motion carried unanimously.

***Highway 144 Traffic Light** - The supplies are in house and the July deadline will be met.

***Highway 144 Lighting** - This project is still on hold. The Federal DOT has not released funds back to the State DOT.

***Otterhole Branch Road** - Right-of-way has been certified. We have no condemnations. A motion was made by Ed Bacon and seconded by Toby Roberts that we go ahead and start clearing Otterhole Branch Road with county staff. Motion carried unanimously.

A discussion was held on *tax relief for senior citizens*. The board discussed at \$50,000 homestead exemption for qualified homeowners for senior citizens age 65 and over and a \$30,000 homestead exemption for all other qualified homeowners. This homestead exemption will be in lieu of any other homestead exemption. A motion was made by Toby Roberts and

seconded by Ed Bacon to adopt the resolution which shall be submitted to the general assembly in support of the introduction of local legislation to provide for a fifty thousand dollar (\$50,000) homestead exemption for qualified homeowners age 65 and older and a thirty thousand dollar (\$30,000) homestead exemption for all others that qualify for homestead exemption. I further move that the Chairman be authorized to execute such resolution. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Burnsed called the *planning & zoning public hearings* to order.

1. **Case # Z-0301-06 - Lynn Parker rezoning** of 5.05 acres on Old Mill Creek Road. No one was present to speak for or against this rezoning.
2. **Case # Z-0304-06 - Chris Canicatti rezoning** of 10+ acres on Old Mill Creek Road. No one was present to speak for or against this rezoning.
3. **Case # Z-0302-06 - Judy Price** - Applicant withdrew this application.
4. **Case # Z-0303-06 - Inez Mainer/John Thomas, Jr.** - Applicant withdrew this application.

Chairman Burnsed declared the public hearings closed.

John Butler, Zoning Administrator, met with the board with planning & zoning issues.

1. **Case # Z-0301-06 - Lynn Parker** makes application to rezone 5.05 acres on Old Mill Creek Road off Hendrix Road near Hendrix Park in the Black Creek Community from A-5 to R-1 CD. The applicant is seeking to reverse a zoning change approved in 1994 to allow the keeping of large farm animals on the 5+ acre parcel. The property is located at tax parcel number 025-020.04. A motion was made by Ed Bacon and seconded by Rick Gardner to approve the rezoning request of Lynn Parker, Case # Z-0301-06, from A-5 to R-1 CD. Motion carried unanimously.
2. **Case # Z-0304-06 - Chris Canicatti** makes application to rezone 10+ acres on Old Mill Creek Road off Hendrix Road near Hendrix Park in the Black Creek Community from A-5 to R-1 CD. The property is located at tax parcel number 025-020.07. A motion was made by Ed Bacon and seconded by Toby Roberts to approve the rezoning request of Chris Canicatti, Case # Z-0304-06, from A-5 to R-1 CD. Motion carried unanimously.

A discussion was held on candidates for the *comprehensive plan committee*. The committee should number between 20 and 30 individuals, roughly evenly divided between North Bryan and South Bryan. A list of suggested members were given to the board for consideration, feedback, additions, etc.

Phillip Jones, County Administrator, gave information to the board on House Resolution 162, information on the NIMS Training Program (National Incident Management System) and a copy of an article in the Georgia Trend Magazine on Early Intervention.

A motion was made by Toby Roberts and seconded by Ed Bacon to go into **closed session** to discuss litigation and potential purchase of real estate. Motion carried unanimously. The board went into closed session at 3:25 p.m. The board went back into regular session at 3:35 p.m.

Chairman Burnsed stated we discussed pending legal matters with the County Attorney during closed session and we discussed the potential purchase of a piece of real estate.

A discussion was held on converting a **part time position** to a full time position in the **Section 5311** department. This position is a van driver and there should not be an increase in the overall budget for this department. A motion was made by Rick Gardner and seconded by Toby Roberts to convert the part time position to a full time position in the Section 5311 department. Voting for: Gardner and Roberts. Voting against: Bacon. Motion carried.

Tara Jennings, Family Connection Coordinator, met with the board to give an update on her departments. She stated that when she took over the Senior Citizens program in December, we were at 49% compliance for Bryan County. As of February 16, we are at 93% compliance. This means we have increased our file capacity, which means we were not keeping up with our clients very well; we have increased our attendance and we have increased our activity base.

A motion was made by Ed Bacon and seconded by Toby Roberts to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.