

**Houston County Commissioners Meeting
September 18, 2018
Warner Robins, Georgia**

The Houston County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday September 18, 2018 at the Houston County Annex in Warner Robins, Georgia with Chairman Stalnaker presiding and Commissioners McMichael, Walker, Robinson, and Thomson present. Also present were County Attorney Tom Hall, Director of Administration Barry Holland, Director of Operations Robbie Dunbar, Director of Personnel Ken Carter, Director of Purchasing Mark Baker, Fire / HEMA Chief Jimmy Williams, Assistant Fire Chief Chris Stoner, Traffic Engineer Ken Robinson, Flint Energies VP of Member Solutions Rogie Roberson, Jim Taylor, and Walton and Becky Wood.

Commissioner McMichael gave the invocation.

Lt. Col. Karena Zaloudek, USAF led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and briefed the Board on her 17 years of military service. She first thanked the firefighters and first responders present at the meeting for their service to our community. Being from Florida she attended the University of Central Florida graduating in 2001 where she was in the ROTC program. She was commissioned as an officer in the Air Force in 2002 and currently serves as an Air Battle Manager with the J-Stars program. She has been stationed at Robins AFB three times during her career, has completed 13 combat deployments, 1,500 combat flight hours and over 3,000 hours overall. She and her husband love this community and have decided that when she does retire in a few years that they would like to remain here.

Chairman Stalnaker recognized Firefighter Alexander Liczewsky, Recruit Timothy Soler, and Recruit McKayla Conner each of whom performed the 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb challenge at the Planet Fitness gym climbing the equivalent of 110 flights of stairs symbolic of the 343 firefighters who lost their lives on September 11, 2001 at the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center in New York. Chief Williams remarked that he was very proud of all three of these volunteers for their tribute as well as his entire compliment of volunteer firefighters for the service they provide to our community. All three were presented a County challenge coin and engraved case along with a lapel pin.

Chairman Stalnaker then recognized firefighter Vince Walls who, after being nominated by his peers, was recently named Firefighter of the Year by the Georgia State Firefighters Association. Vince has served with the Houston County Fire Department since 2013 where he has excelled in assisting with department training. He also serves as an adjunct instructor at the GA Fire Academy. Vince was also presented with a County challenge coin and engraved case along with a lapel pin.

Chief Williams congratulated him thanking him for his dedicated service to his fellow firefighters and our community.

Chief Williams then briefed the Board on the status of the 100-foot ladder truck that is being manufactured and readied for delivery in October. The associated equipment for this truck has also been put out for bid and will be coming to the Board for their approval in October.

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Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve the minutes from the meeting of September 4, 2018.

County Attorney Tom Hall conducted a second reading of an amendment to the Houston County Code of Ordinances which would add Section 62-7 to chapter 62-Traffic and Vehicles permitting the addition of a three-way stop at the intersection of Abercorn Street and Bull Street.

Chairman Stalnaker closed the regular meeting and opened a public hearing.

Alvin Thomas, 129 Abercorn Street, Warner Robins representing the Savannah Square Architectural Control Committee thanked the Board for considering the 3-way stop sign placement to help control speeders using the neighborhood streets as a cut-through avoiding the intersection of Hwy. 96 and Lake Joy Road.

Chairman Stalnaker explained the process of how a traffic study is performed and the necessary coordination with the Sheriff's Department before the Board considers a placement of a new stop sign.

Traffic Engineer, Ken Robinson stated that message boards will be placed in the area warning residents and the traveling public of the new signs. He thought that the stop signs might be in place within the next 7 to 10 days

There was no opposition.

There being no further comments Chairman Stalnaker closed the public hearing and reopened the regular meeting.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to approve an amendment to the Houston County Code of Ordinances Chapter 62 – Traffic and Vehicles; by adding a new section titled Sec. 62-7 Three Way Stop at the Intersection of Abercorn Street and Bull Street, which section shall read as follows:

Sec. 62-7 Three Way Stop at the Intersection of Abercorn Street and Bull Street.

In order to help ensure the safety and the proper flow of traffic for the traveling public at the intersection of Abercorn Street and Bull Street a three-way stop shall be erected.

County Attorney Tom Hall presented a quit-claim deed for the old road right-of-way on Kersey Road.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to authorize Chairman Stalnaker signing the quit-claim deed conveying the old right-of-way for Kersey Road to James Bell and Tonya Bell.

Mr. Walker presented a list compiled by Public Works for consideration for submission to the Georgia Department of Transportation for the 2019 Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant funding.

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Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to approve the proposed 2019 LMIG priority list to be submitted to Georgia D.O.T. the estimated grant funding would total \$840,190.88 and the 30% mandatory match from the County is \$252,057.26. The road names, mileage and priority ranking are as follows:

1. Foxwood Circle	0.46 miles
2. Magnolia Hills Road	0.32 miles
3. Lakeview Terrace	0.18 miles
4. Gail Drive	0.41 miles
5. Glenda Drive	0.60 miles
6. Linda Sue Lane	0.21 miles
7. Twelve Oaks Drive	0.62 miles
8. Drew Court	0.07 miles
9. Knodishall Drive	0.63 miles
10. South Hiley Court	0.11 miles
11. Heritage Drive	1.14 miles
12. Highway 41 Circle	1.19 miles
13. Crocket Way	0.06 miles
14. Suncrest Court	0.10 miles
15. North Hiley Court	0.23 miles
16. Klondike Road	2.06 miles
17. Thompson Mill Road	1.10 miles
18. Orchard Crest Lane	0.22 miles
19. Hunt Road	1.92 miles
20. Winship Drive	0.06 miles
21. Thomas Court	0.19 miles

Chairman Stalnaker explained that the Public Works staff likely considered as many as one hundred different roads but that the twenty-one roads selected were graded out utilizing specific criteria and were determined to be top priorities.

Mr. Thomson presented two resolutions that will assure the County's compliance with HB 751 that was passed by the General Assembly during the 2018 Session.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to authorize the execution of a resolution authorizing a 9-1-1 charge on postpaid wireline, wireless, and voice over internet protocol (VOIP) telephone service within Houston County; and, the execution of a resolution authorizing a 9-1-1 charge on prepaid wireless telephone service within Houston County.

Chairman Stalnaker explained that there is some level of concern with the new process of revenues funneling through the Department of Revenue first before being distributed to the local governments and expressed his hope that the level of revenue received directly from providers in the past would remain equal.

Mr. Thomson presented a request for approval of a bid on the Peach Blossom Road Water System Improvement project. Public Works as well as our water system consultant Carter & Sloope Consulting Engineers, recommend award to low bidder Pyles Plumbing & Utility Contractors.

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Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to approve the award of the Peach Blossom Road Water System Improvements project to Pyles Plumbing & Utility Contractors, Inc. of Macon for the total base bid of \$555,946.93. This project is funded by Water Capital Funds.

Chairman Stalnaker remarked that after numerous water main breaks and resulting road and property damage that this was a much needed and anticipated project.

Mr. McMichael presented a request from the Engineering Department for the release of the bonds for the Ammons Road Improvement project.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve the release of the bonds for the Ammons Road Improvements project submitted by Benning Construction Company. The work for the roadway improvements and commercial driveway installations on the section of Ammons Road between Old SR 96 and SR 247 have been satisfactorily completed and accepted by Public Works.

Mr. McMichael presented a request from Purchasing for approval of a bid on four pick-up trucks for use in the Sheriff's Department.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to approve the award of four 2019 Ford F-150 crew cab 1/2 -ton trucks for use in the Warrants Division (one truck), and the Investigations Division (three trucks) of the Sheriff's Department from Wade Ford, Inc. of Smyrna, GA at a unit cost of \$26,778 or a total amount of \$107,112. SPLOST 2012 will fund the one truck for Warrants and SPLOST 2018 will fund the three trucks for Investigations.

Mr. McMichael presented a request from the Purchasing Department for the approval of a bid on four new Chevy Tahoe Pursuit SUVs for use in the Sheriff's Department from a state-wide contract holder Hardy Chevrolet.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to approve the award of four 2019 Chevy Tahoe Pursuit SUVs for use in the Traffic Division (two SUVs at a unit cost of \$33,523), and the Juvenile Division (two SUVs at a unit cost of \$32,940) of the Sheriff's Department from Hardy Chevrolet of Dallas, GA at a total amount of \$132,926. These vehicles are funded by SPLOST 2012.

Ms. Robinson presented a resolution abandoning a portion of the McCarley Downs Drive temporary cul-de-sac in the McCarley Downs Subdivision Section 1 Phase 3 due to the development of the next phase of the subdivision and the extension of the road. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 32-7-2(b)(1) the adjoining property owner has been notified and a public notice of intent to abandon has been advertised in the Houston Home Journal once a week for two weeks.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to approve the Board of Commissioners signing the Resolution Abandoning a portion of the McCarley Downs Drive temporary cul-de-sac described as follows:

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All that tract or parcel of land, situate lying and being in Land Lot 54 of the Eleventh Land District of Houston County, Georgia being known and designated as Tract "A" and Tract "C", containing 0.17 acres, on a land survey done by Marty A McLeod dated June 19, 2018, G.R.L.S. No. 2991.

Ms. Robinson presented a request to convey a portion of the McCarley Downs Drive cul-de-sac in the McCarley Downs Subdivision Section 1 Phase 3 that has just been abandoned to Silver Pine Development, LLC, the adjacent property owner.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to approve Chairman Stalnaker signing the Quit Claim deed to Silver Pine Development, LLC for the abandoned portion of the right-of-way on the McCarley Downs Drive cul-de-sac described in the previous abandonment resolution.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to approve the payment of the bills in the amount of \$675,083.05.

Chairman Stalnaker then closed the meeting and opened public comments.

Rita Starnes-Tinney, Public Relations Officer at the Rolling Thunder GA - Chapter 3, spoke of the organization's mission of bringing awareness to the Prisoner of War / Missing in Action (POW/MIA) stating that over 82,000 remain unaccounted for from prior conflicts and wars. She reminded everyone that the third Friday of September each year is National POW/MIA Recognition Day. She also mentioned the upcoming 'The Ride Home' POW/MIA awareness event that the Rolling Thunder local chapter is hosting beginning Thursday, September 20th through Sunday, September 23rd with festivities at the Museum of Aviation and Central Georgia Technical College among other venues. She also mentioned that on Wednesday, September 19th at 5:00 pm the Rolling Thunder and the Warner Robins Police Department will have a flag raising ceremony at the WRPD Law Enforcement Center.

Jim Taylor, Warner Robins Building Supply Business Development & Marketing Manager, commended the Board and Chief Building Inspector Tim Andrews for helping to make this a builder friendly community.

There being no further public comments, Chairman Stalnaker closed the public comments and reopened the regular meeting.

Chairman Stalnaker then opened the meeting for commissioners' comments.

Chairman Stalnaker thanked the Sheriff's deputy for providing security for the meeting and also for his service to our community.

Mr. Walker thanked Ms. Starnes-Tinney for briefing the Board on the local chapter of the Rolling Thunder's efforts. He also thanked the firefighters for their service and thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

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Ms. Robinson thanked everyone for coming.

Mr. Thomson thanked Chief Williams, his staff and all other first responders for their selfless service.

Mr. McMichael thanked the firefighters and Ms. Starnes-Tinney.

Chairman Stalnaker acknowledged Flint Energies Chief Operating Officer Ty Diamond thanking him and Flint for being a great community partner.

There being no further comments, Chairman Stalnaker closed the commissioners' comments and reopened the regular meeting.

Motion to Adjourn by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all, meeting adjourned.

Barry Holland
Director of Administration

Chairman

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

