Board of Commissioners Agenda Meeting
Courthouse Commission Chambers
January 26, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.
Minutes

Members Present:
Chairman John Daniell
Commissioner Mark Thomas
Commissioner Chuck Horton
Commissioner Amrey Harden
Commissioner Mark Saxon

Staff Present:
Daniel Haygood, County Attorney
Justin Kirouac, County Administrator
Kathy Hayes, County Clerk
Diane Baggett, Communications Manager (via Zoom)
Alex Newell, Internal Services Director
Wes Geddings, Finance Director
C.J. Worden, EMA Director
Jody Woodall, Public Works Director

Call to Order: 6:00 p.m.
Chairman John Daniell called the meeting to order and stated that participants using Zoom may comment by using the raised-hand feature.

Pledge of Allegiance:
Attorney Mike Pruett led the Pledge after a moment of silence.

Approval of Agenda:
ACTION:

Motion:	Mark Thomas motioned to approve the January 26, 2021 Agenda.
Second:	Chuck Horton
Voted in Favor of Motion:	Mark Thomas, Chuck Horton, Amrey Harden, Mark Saxon
Voted Against Motion:	None.
Final Action:	**Motion Passed**.

Statements and Remarks from Citizens:
None.

Statements and Remarks from Commissioners:
Chairman Daniell shared that ER Snell was the low bidder for Mars Hill Road, Phase II (Experiment Station Road) and construction may start in the spring of this year.

FY2020 Audit – Clay Pilgrim, Rushton & Company:

Presented by:	Clay Pilgrim, Accountant, Rushton & Company
Discussion:	Wes Geddings, Finance Director, introduced Clay Pilgrim of Rushton & Company. Mr. Pilgrim presented to the Board "Report to the Board of Commissioners for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2020" with a Power Point presentation of the report. The financial condition of the County is strong with no material weaknesses or noncompliance noted and with one significant deficiency. Oconee County was issued an unmodified opinion stating that the financial statements present fairly, in all material aspects, the financial position of Oconee County as of June 30, 2020. Mr. Pilgrim thanked county staff for cooperation during the audit.

First Reading and Public Hearing – Timber Harvesting Ordinance Amendments:

Presented by:	Justin Kirouac, County Administrator
Discussion:	The State of Georgia recently amended timber harvesting provisions, which require the State Forestry Commission to create a notification website for providing notice of timber harvesting operations to local governments. Also, amendments were included for surety bonds and letter of credit requirements, and to provide procedures for making/adjudicating claims against bonds, including appeals. The amendments to Oconee County's Timber Harvesting Ordinance comply with the new provisions of state law (and the model ordinance provided by the Association County Commissioners of Georgia). The Public Hearing as been advertised as required. A Second Reading and Public Hearing will be held at the Board's Regular Meeting on February 2, 2021.

The Public Comment Period was opened and there was no Public Comment.
Chairman Daniell asked if there were "raised hands" via Zoom and there were none.

Rezone No. P20-0210, Deferred Tax, LLC – Request to Defer:

Presented by:	Guy Herring, Planning & Code Enforcement Director
Discussion:	Deferred Tax, LLC, presented a request to defer Rezone No. P20-0210 to the Board's Regular Meeting on March 2, 2021.

ACTION:

Motion:	Chuck Horton motioned to approve the request to defer of Rezone No. P20-021 to the Board's Regular Meeting on March 2, 2021.
Second:	Mark Thomas
Voted in Favor of Motion:	Mark Thomas, Chuck Horton, Amrey Harden, Mark Saxon
Voted Against Motion:	None.
Final Action:	**Motion Passed**.

Eagle Tavern Project Request for Proposal (RFP):

Presented by: Alex Newell, Internal Services Director

Discussion: An assessment of the County's historic structures was completed in 2019 with recommendations to repair the foundations of the Eagle Tavern and Central School House. A Request for Proposal resulted in three companies submitting for the Foundation Restoration Project. The recommendation is to proceed with the Foundation Restoration Project and award the project to Garland & Associates, Inc., in an amount not to exceed $422,000.00. Funding to be provided from the 2009 Historic and Scenic Facilities SPLOST and an amendment to the FY21 General Fund.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agent for the February 2, 2021 Regular Meeting.

The Public Comment Period was opened and there was no Public Comment. Chairman Daniell asked if there were "raised hands" via Zoom and there were none.

Fire Station and Senior Center Generators – Bid Award:

Presented by: C.J. Worden, EMA Director

Discussion: The Board approved the purchase and installation of six fixed generators for Fire Stations 1, 4, 5, 6, 7 and the Senior Center through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program from Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security (*see minutes dates September 22, 2020*). Recommendation for the bid award is Current Edge Solutions, LLC, in an amount not to exceed $208,013.40 with funding from the grant of $176,811.39 leaving a net cost to the County of $31,202.01. The FY21 General Fund Budget requires an amendment for usage of the Fund Balance.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda for the February 2, 2021 Regular Meeting.

The Public Comment Period was opened and there was no Public Comment. Chairman Daniell asked if there were "raised hands" via Zoom and there were none.

County Bridge Repair Project – Bid Award:

Presented by: Jody Woodall, Public Works Director

Discussion: The Georgia Department of Transportation periodically provides an inspection report for county bridges and determines needed repairs. Public Works has performed several repairs and an Invitation to Bid was submitted for additional repairs. Recommendation for the Bid Award is JHC Corporation in an amount not to exceed $142,000.00. Funding for the project requires a budget amendment to the FY21 General Fund Budget.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda for the February 2, 2021 Regular Meeting.

The Public Comment Period was opened and there was no Public Comment. Chairman Daniell asked if there were "raised hands" via Zoom and there were none.

Update of the Hog Mountain Road Widening Project:

Presented by: Jody Woodall, Public Works Director

Discussion: The Hog Mountain Road Widening Project (SR 53 to US 441) was prioritized by the County Transportation Task Force and identified in the MACORTS (Madison-Athens-Clarke-Oconee-Regional Transportation System) 2045 Transportation Plan. The project will provide a two-foot shoulder widening on each side of the road and overlay the existing roadway. A cost estimate and recommendation will be presented to the Board at its Regular Meeting on February 2, 2021.

FY2020 Resurfacing Project Contract Amendment:

Presented by: Jody Woodall, Public Works Director

Discussion: The FY2020 Resurfacing Project is primarily focused on subdivisions. Stonebridge Subdivision contains two roads that were not included in the recommended project list as presented to the Board of Commissioners at its Regular Meeting on July 7, 2020. Mr. Woodall presented the additional quantities from the contractor, C.W. Mathews, in an amount not to exceed of $142,408.83, which brings the total for the FY2020 Resurfacing Project in an amount not to exceed $2,236,545.83. Funding for the project is included in the Public Works FY21 General Fund Budget.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda for the February 2, 2021 Regular Meeting.

The Public Comment Period was opened and there was no Public Comment.
Chairman Daniell asked if there were "raised hands" via Zoom and there were none.

Update of the FY2021 Resurfacing Project:

Presented by: Jody Woodall, Public Works Director

Discussion: Mr. Woodall requests the addition of Spartan Lane and the remainder of Bel Fair Subdivision for the FY2021 Resurfacing Project as well as the overlay of the Hog Mountain Road segement, which would complete resurfacing for these two subdivisions. A recommendation and the estimated cost will be presented at the Board's Regular Meeting on February 2, 2021.

FY2021 Second Quarter Financial Update:

Presented by: Wes Geddings, Finance Director

Discussion: Finance Director Wes Geddings presented the FY2021 Second Quarter Financial Update. Mr. Geddings stated that the County is financially sound and reviewed the financial status of the County's General Fund, LOST, SPLOST and the Water Resources Enterprise Fund. General Fund Revenue is 78% collected; General Fund Expenditures are 42% expended; Water Resources Revenue is 58% collected; and Water Resources Expenditures are 56% expended. Capital projects for FY21 were also reviewed. SPLOST 2004 is 99% complete; SPLOST 2009 is 99% complete (historic renovations); and, SPLOST 2015 is 58% complete. Mr. Geddings noted that the Board of Elections will require an FY21 General Fund budget amendment due to the multiple elections during 2020.

FY2022 Budget Submittal Plan:

Presented by: Wes Geddings, Finance Director

Discussion: FY22 Budget Submittal Plan is as follows:

- January 26, 2021: FY22 Budget Submittal Plan presented to the Board of Commissioners.
- January 26, 2021: FY22 Budget Submittal Request to Department Heads and Elected Officials.
- February 26, 2021: Budget Requests due to Finance.
- March 1-12, 2021: Recommendation back to departments.
- March 15-19, 2021: Recommendation Review Meeting as requested.
- March 20 – April 2, 2021: Budget consolidation.
- April 5 – April 16, 2021: Commissioner review of recommendations.
- April 27, 2021: Draft budget presentation to Board of Commissioners.
- May 4, 2021: Budget proposal presented to Board of Commissioners.
- May 18, 2021: First Public Hearing
- June 1, 2021: Second Public Hearing and adoption.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agent for the February , 2021 Regular Meeting.

The Public Comment Period was opened and there was no Public Comment.
Chairman Daniell asked if there were "raised hands" via Zoom and there were none.

Executive Session:

Adjourn into Executive Session: 6:50 p.m.
Motion: Mark Saxon motioned to adjourn into Executive Session to discuss personnel and land acquisition.
Second: Mark Thomas
Voted in Favor of Motion: Mark Thomas, Chuck Horton, Amrey Harden, Mark Saxon
Voted Against Motion: None.
Action/Motion: **Motion Passed.**
No action was taken in Executive Session.
Executive Session Adjourned: 7:18 p.m.

Regular Session:

Adjourned into Regular Session: 7:19 p.m.
Motion: Mark Saxon motioned to adjourn back into Regular Session.
Second: Mark Thomas
Voted in Favor of Motion: Mark Thomas, Chuck Horton, Amrey Harden, Mark Saxon
Voted Against Motion: None.
Action/Motion: **Motion Passed**.

Meeting Adjourned:

Meeting Adjourned: 7:20 p.m.
Motion: Mark Saxon motioned to adjourn the meeting.
Second: Mark Thomas
Voted in Favor of Motion: Mark Thomas, Chuck Horton, Amrey Harden, Mark Saxon
Voted Against Motion: None.

Action/Motion: **Motion Passed**.

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Chairman John Daniell Kathy Hayes, County Clerk Date