

**Oconee County Board of Commissioners Meeting
Courthouse Commission Chambers
January 4, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.
Minutes**

Members Present:

Chairman John Daniell
Commissioner Mark Thomas via Zoom
Commissioner Chuck Horton
Commissioner Amrey Harden
Commissioner Mark Saxon

Staff Present:

Justin Kirouac, County Administrator
Daniel Haygood, County Attorney
Holly Stephenson, County Clerk
Alex Newell, Internal Services Director
Guy Herring, Planning and Code Enforcement Director
Bruce Thaxton, Fire Chief
Merry Howard, Senior Center Director
Diane Baggett, Communications Manager
Tracye Bailey, Deputy Clerk

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:

Commissioner Amrey Harden led the Pledge after a moment of silence.

Approval of Agenda:

Chairman John Daniell requested an addition to the agenda under Item 9, as Number 3: Resolution Supporting Reform to Georgia's Annexation Dispute Resolution Law.

ACTION:

Motion:	Amrey Harden made a motion to approve the January 4, 2022 Agenda with the addition.
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:

Sharon Thelen, 1281 Dials Plantation Drive, addressed the Commission in regards to growth and development in Oconee County. She requested the Commissioners stay consistent with the goals of the Oconee County Comprehensive Plan about growth along Highway 316. She asked the Commission to support the Bogart City Council in their request for an interchange at McNutt Creek Road and Highway 316.

Statements and Remarks from Commissioners:

None.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of December 7, 2021 Regular Meeting:

ACTION:

Motion: Mark Saxon made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2021 Regular Meeting.

Second: Chuck Horton

Voted in Favor of Motion: Mark Thomas, Chuck Horton, Amrey Harden, Mark Saxon

Voted Against Motion: None

Final Action: **Motion Passed.**

Rezone No. P21-0213:

Applicants:	Smith Planning Group, LLC
Owners:	Tumano, LLC and Marvin & Gwendolyn Barton
Location:	Along Union Church Road, Tax parcels B-07-001G and B-07-001GA
Acreage:	±4.93 acres
Zoning:	AG (Agricultural District)
Request:	AR (Agricultural Residential District)

Presented by: Guy Herring, Planning & Code Enforcement Director

Discussion: Mr. Herring briefed the Board regarding the request for the property, which is currently zoned AG (Agricultural District) in the Country Estates Character Area. The applicants/owners request the rezone of both parcels in order to revise the lot lines and bring both parcels into conformance with the Unified Development Code. Planning Commission and Staff recommend approval with one condition.

The Public Hearing was opened.

Bob Smith, Smith Planning Group, represents the owners who support the rezone and agree to the condition.

*There were no further comments in favor of the request and no comments against the request.
Chairman Daniell asked if there were "raised hands" via Zoom and there were none.
The Public Hearing was closed.*

ACTION:

Motion: Chuck Horton made a motion to approve Rezone No. P21-0213 from AG (Agricultural District) to AR (Agricultural Residential District), ±4.93 acres, Union Church Road with one condition.

Second: Mark Saxon

Voted in Favor of Motion: Mark Thomas, Chuck Horton, Amrey Harden, Mark Saxon

Voted Against Motion: None

Final Action: **Motion Passed to approve Rezone #P21-0213 with one condition.**
(See documentation in Ordinance and Resolutions Book No. 22.)

Discuss and Consider Public Safety Officials and First Responder Supplemental Grant along with Budget Amendment as Necessary:

Presented by: Justin Kirouac, County Administrator

Discussion: Justin Kirouac explained Governor Kemp authorized the use of state ARP funds for Public Safety and First Responders within local governments. This pass-through grant will be submitted for a total of \$125,632 to the state. The request is for approval to receive these funds and disbursement as per Governor Kemp's order, along with any necessary budget amendments.

Commissioner Harden confirmed this money is still subject to withholdings.

ACTION:

Motion to Confirm: Mark Saxon made a motion to approve the Public Safety Officials and First Responders Supplemental Grant along with any necessary budget amendments.

Second: Chuck Horton

Voted in Favor of Motion: Mark Thomas, Chuck Horton, Amrey Harden, Mark Saxon

Voted Against Motion: None

Action/Motion: **Motion Passed.**

Discuss and Consider Approval of the 2022 Consolidated Appropriations Act Funding Contract:

Presented by: Merry Howard, Senior Center Director

Discussion: The Consolidated Appropriations Act Funding of 2021 was signed into law on December 27, 2020 and is intended to provide additional support for nutrition services to aid Home Delivered Meals clients during the COVID-19 pandemic. NEGRC/Area Agency on Aging is requesting approval of this funding contract which is valid through September 30, 2022. The contract is 100% federal funded for \$15,134.

*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.*

ACTION:

Motion to Confirm: Chuck Horton made a motion to approve the 2022 Consolidated Appropriations Act Funding Contract.

Second: Amrey Harden

Voted in Favor of Motion: Mark Thomas, Chuck Horton, Amrey Harden, Mark Saxon

Voted Against Motion: None

Action/Motion: **Motion Passed.**

FY23 Budget Submittal Plan:

Presented by: Justin Kirouac, County Administrator

Discussion: FY23 Budget Submittal Plan is as follows:

- January 4, 2022: FY23 Budget Submittal Plan presented to the Board of Commissioners for Adoption.
- January 18, 2022: FY23 Budget Submittal Request to Department Heads and Elected Officials.
- February 18, 2022: Budget Requests due to Finance.
- March 1-11, 2022: Recommendation back to departments.
- March 14-18, 2022: Recommendation Review Meeting as requested.
- March 21 – April 1, 2021: Budget consolidation.
- April 4 – April 15, 2021: Commissioner review of recommendations.
- April 26, 2021: Draft budget presentation to Board of Commissioners.
- May 3, 2021: Budget proposal presented to Board of Commissioners.
- May 24, 2021: First Public Hearing
- June 7, 2021: Second Public Hearing and adoption.

ACTION:

Motion to Confirm: Mark Saxon made a motion to approve the FY23 Budget Submittal Plan.

Second: Chuck Horton

Voted in Favor of Motion: Mark Thomas, Chuck Horton, Amrey Harden, Mark Saxon

Voted Against Motion: None

Action/Motion: **Motion Passed.**

2022 Elections Qualifying Fee Schedule:

Presented by: Daniel Haygood, County Attorney
Discussion: Qualifying fees are based on State of Georgia law and require approval by the Board of Commissioners. 3% of minimum salary Oconee County 2022 Qualifying Fees are as follows:

- Member, Board of Commissioners - \$755.36
- Board of Education - \$54.00

ACTION:

Motion to Confirm: Chuck Horton made a motion to approve the 2022 Qualifying Fees.
Second: Amrey Harden
Voted in Favor of Motion: Mark Thomas, Chuck Horton, Amrey Harden, Mark Saxon
Voted Against Motion: None
Action/Motion: **Motion Passed.**

Consider Purchase of Fire Department Air Truck:

Presented by: Bruce Thaxton, Fire Chief
Discussion: Fire Chief Bruce Thaxton requests approval to purchase an Air Truck from Southeast Apparatus Company in Kentucky for \$249,515. This purchase was included in the FY22 budget and will be paid for with SPLOST funds and a donation by Presbyterian Homes. County Administrator Justin Kirouac added that approval should include any necessary budget amendments.

ACTION:

Motion to Confirm: Mark Saxon made a motion to approve the purchase of a 2022 Air Truck and any necessary budget amendments.
Second: Chuck Horton
Voted in Favor of Motion: Mark Thomas, Chuck Horton, Amrey Harden, Mark Saxon
Voted Against Motion: None
Action/Motion: **Motion Passed.**

ACCG Resolution Supporting Reform to the Georgia Annexation Dispute Resolution Law:

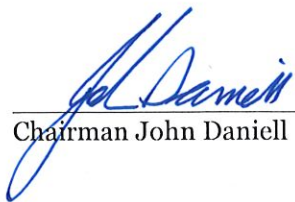
Presented by: Chairman John Daniell
Discussion: Chairman Daniell requested approval of a resolution proposed by ACCG to be submitted to the State to review with city and county input in regard to reform of the Georgia Annexation Dispute Resolution Law.

ACTION:

Motion to Confirm: Chuck Horton made a motion to approve the ACCG Resolution regarding Annexation.
Second: Mark Saxon
Voted in Favor of Motion: Mark Thomas, Chuck Horton, Amrey Harden, Mark Saxon
Voted Against Motion: None
Action/Motion: **Motion Passed.**

Meeting Adjourned:

Motion: Mark Saxon made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Second: Chuck Horton
Voted in Favor of Motion: Mark Thomas, Chuck Horton, Amrey Harden, Mark Saxon
Voted Against Motion: None
Action/Motion: **Motion Passed.**
Meeting Adjourned: 6:17 p.m.


Chairman John Daniell


Holly Stephenson, County Clerk

2-1-22
Date