

**Board of Commissioners Agenda Meeting
Courthouse Commission Chambers
July 26, 2022 – 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
Alex Newell, Internal Services Director
Holly Stephenson, County Clerk
Guy Herring, Planning and Code Enforcement Director
Melissa Braswell, Finance Director
Diane Baggett, Communications Manager
C.J. Worden, EMA Director
Lisa Davol, Parks and Recreation Director

Call to Order:

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 Chuck Horton led the Pledge after a moment of silence.

Approval of Agenda:

ACTION:

Motion:	Chuck Horton made a motion to approve the July 26, 2022 Agenda.
Second:	Mark Thomas
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 announced the new appointments coming up for Citizens Advisory Boards: Planning Commission has two appointments; Recreation Advisory Committee has four appointments; and KOCBC has one appointment. Deadline for applications is Tuesday, August 17th at noon. Applications are available on the county website.

Public Hearing for Update to the Comprehensive Plan:

Presented by:	Guy Herring, Planning and Code Enforcement Director
Discussion:	Planning and Code Enforcement Director Guy Herring presented a slide show outlining the five-year Update to the 2018 Comprehensive Plan. The total plan is updated every ten years, but this five-year update is required by the State of Georgia. The update will be approved by

the DCA and adopted by June 2023. The process includes community assessment, public participation, and a final update for goals and strategies, future development guide and five-year implementation program. There is a community survey available on the county website for citizen input with over 1,100 responses to date.

Commissioner Harden questioned the different types of focus groups which will be based on where participants live and their interests.

*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.
The Public Hearing was closed.*

First Reading of Amendment to the Noise Ordinance:

Presented by: Guy Herring, Planning and Code Enforcement Director

Discussion: The proposed changes to the Noise Ordinance were presented which include prohibiting tractor trailers and other large vehicles from producing excessive noise by using Jake brakes or failing to use a proper muffler.

*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.*

Discussion of the 2022 Millage Rate:

Presented by: John Daniell, Chairman

Discussion: The advertisement of the five-year tax levy has run in the paper, with scheduled millage rate adoption at the August 2, 2022 meeting. The real growth versus inflationary growth of existing properties was calculated to determine the roll back millage rate to keep from incurring a tax increase. The millage rates which show no tax increase will be adopted as: unincorporated - 5.954 and incorporated - 6.804.
The 3.4% increase in taxes collected is the real growth in the digest less any new exemptions. Commissioner Harden questioned the significant increase in exemptions.

Discussion of TSPLOST:

Presented by: John Daniell, Chairman

Discussion: Chairman John Daniell advised all the cities have voted to participate in TSPLOST if the Board votes to place it on the ballot. Should TSPLOST pass in the election, funding would be divided among four categories: related services for maintenance to result in a reduction in the mill rate of 1 mill for tax payers if passed; multi-use paths; safety and intersection improvements; and paving.
Commissioner Horton suggested promoting TSPLOST education and awareness more than in the past if the vote passes.

Discuss the Alcohol License Request for Costco Wholesale Corporation; 5550 Parkway Boulevard; Athens with Justin Spira as the Registered Agent:

Presented by: Holly Stephenson, County Clerk

Discussion: Holly Stephenson, County Clerk, requests approval of an application for retail package sale of beer and wine for Costco. The registered agent, Mr. Justin Spira, has completed the RASS Training. Costco will be located at 5550 Parkway Boulevard in Athens, Georgia. The application is complete.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the August 2, 2022 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.

Discussion of the Wireless Emergency Alert Testing MOU:

Presented by: C. J. Worden, EMA Director

Discussion: The Federal Communications Commission has provided an opportunity to actively test the effectiveness of Wireless Emergency Alert distribution to wireless devices throughout the United States. Oconee County has the opportunity to participate in this active testing free of charge. The recommendation is to execute the MOU in order to participate.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the August 2, 2022 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.*

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:

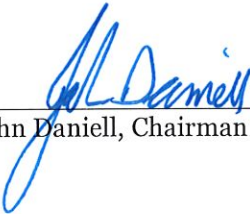
None

Action/Motion:

Motion Passed.

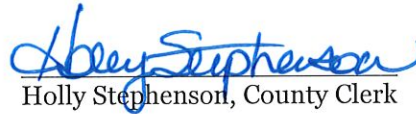
Meeting Adjourned:

6:21 p.m.



John Daniell, Chairman

8-2-2022
Date

 8-2-2022

Holly Stephenson, County Clerk Date