

HARRIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
September 18, 2018
7:00 P.M.

Commissioners Present: J. Harry Lange, Susan Andrews, Martha Chewning, Becky Langston, Jim Woods. Staff Present: Randy Dowling, County Manager; Mark DeGennaro, Acting County Attorney in the absence of John Taylor, County Attorney; Nancy D. McMichael, County Clerk.

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Chairman Lange called the Regular Session to order.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** At the request of Chairman Lange, Susan Durham, President of the American Business Women's Association, led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **MINUTES.** The motion to approve the minutes of the September 4, 2018, Regular Session and the September 4, 2018, Work Session was made by Commissioner Chewning and seconded by Commissioner Woods. Commissioner Langston said there was a minor typo which she had already provided to Mrs. McMichael in item 6C. The motion to approve, with the correction, passed unanimously.
4. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. **Second Reading: Hotel/Motel Ordinance & Budget Amendment #2.** Chairman Lange said this was the Second Reading of the Ordinance to update the Ordinance and increase the hotel/motel tax from 3% to 5%, effective January 1, 2019, and authorizes sending the taxes normally remitted to the Georgia DNR for the promotion of FD Roosevelt State Park to the Harris County Chamber of Commerce for promotion of the Park, and that, if approved, affected businesses will be advised in October about the increase. He asked if anyone wished to make comments regarding the proposed Ordinance. There being no comments from the Board or attendees, he asked for a motion. The motion to approve, which resulted in Budget Amendment #2, was made by Commissioner Woods, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed unanimously.
 - B. **Request for Inmate Work Detail: Talbot County.** Chairman Lange said that the request of Talbot County for an inmate work detail was tabled so that Warden Cynthia Nelson could contact Talbot County about same. Warden Nelson reported that she had talked to the County Manager of Talbot County, Carol Ison; that in addition to providing the transportation, fuel, all equipment, tools, supplies, and salary and benefits of a Corrections Officer, Talbot is receptive to a fee of \$10/day/inmate for five (5) inmates four (4) days a week at ten (10) hours a day; that same must be taken back to Talbot County Commissioners on October 1 (their next meeting). Following discussion, the motion to move forward with the agreement was made by Commissioner Woods and seconded by Commissioner Andrews. Commissioner Chewning asked that a clause is included indemnifying Harris County. The motion, to include the addition of the indemnity clause, passed unanimously.
5. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. **Proclamation: American Business Women's Day.** Chairman Lange welcomed members of the Harris County Chapter of the American Business Women's Association and read the document proclaiming September 22, 2018, as American Business Women's Day. The motion to approve the document was made by Commissioner Chewning, seconded by Commissioner Andrews, and passed unanimously.
 - B. **Financial Statements: June & July 2018.** The motion to approve the June and July 2018 financial statements was made by Commissioner Chewning, seconded by Commissioner Woods, and passed unanimously.
 - C. **Economic Development Action Plan.** Craig Greehaw, Chairman of the Development Authority of Harris County, and Colin Martin, President and CEO of the Harris County Chamber of Commerce appeared before the Board to present and review, in PowerPoint, the Economic Development Action Plan prepared by the Chamber of Commerce and approved by the Development Authority. Following review and discussion, the motion to approve and adopt the plan for implementation was made by Commissioner Woods, seconded by Commissioner Andrews, and passed unanimously. (Document can be found in "Miscellaneous Documents" file as MD# 18-07.)

6. **COUNTY MANAGER**

- A. **Bid Award: Water Main Upgrade (SR 219)**. Randy Dowling, County Manager, said that bids were received on September 9 for the Water Main upgrade on SR 219, as follows:

Bidder	Base Bid
Crawford Grading & Pipeline, Luthersville, GA	\$ 1,540,835.57
Gordy Construction, Fortson, GA	\$ 1,557,249.75
RDJE, Inc., Newnan, GA	\$ 2,138,119.50

Mr. Dowling said after evaluation and review of the bids by Carter & Sloope, the recommendation is to award the bid to Crawford Grading & Pipeline for the low bid of \$1,540,835.57. He also said funding for this project totals \$1,709,797.60 (\$1,030,000 from Water Works and \$679,797.06 from GDOT). Commissioner Woods asked about awarding the bid to Gordy Construction, since they are located in Harris County and are slightly one percent (1%) higher than the low bidder. Discussion included that although the Board had previously discussed enacting a local preference policy, no policy or ordinance is in place for same. Following discussion, the motion to award the bid to Crawford Grading & Pipeline and to authorize the County Manager and County Clerk to execute the necessary contract documents was made by Commissioner Langston, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed unanimously. (Agreement can be found in “Contracts & Agreements” file as C&A #18-29A.)

- B. **Project Updates**. Randy Dowling, County Manager, reviewed various projects, as follows:

- (1) Animal Control Vehicles. Two (2) F150 pickup trucks are to be obtained tomorrow, Wednesday, September 19, and the boxes for same will be obtained in a couple of weeks.
- (2) LMIG 2019 Roads. Bids open October 9, bid award expected October 16, and project completion by May 2019.
- (3) Holland Drive. Project is on hold. Commissioner Langston said that she will have an answer regarding this project at the October 2 meeting.
- (4) Stripping of County Roads. Bid specs are being prepared.
- (5) Ellerslie Park Driveway Improvement. Bids opened August 30, award was made September 4, pre-construction meeting was held September 14, and project is expected to be completed by early November.
- (6) Airport Fencing, Phase I. Project is in progress and should be finished late this month.
- (7) Airport Access Road. Bids opened September 18, bid award expected October 2, and project completion expected next spring.
- (8) Airport Tractor/Mower. Order has been placed and equipment should arrive before the end of the month.
- (9) Solid Waste Vehicle Scales. Bid specs are being prepared.
- (10) Water Line Relocation (SR 219). Bids opened September 7, bid award was made during tonight’s meeting.
- (11) Comprehensive Plan Update. Currently underway with next meeting scheduled for October 16 with completion scheduled by next June.
- (12) Melody Lakes Dam. Discussed during several meetings; letter regarding the October 1 meeting with property owners went out on September 14.
- (13) Hotel/Motel Tax Ordinance. Second reading and adoption took place during tonight’s meeting; increased tax effective January 1, 2019.

- (14) Daesol Stream Reroute. Bid awarded on August 7; equipment is on the ground and project is expected to be completed by the end of December.

7. **COUNTY ATTORNEY**

- A. **Agreement: Harris County Chamber of Commerce - Hotel/Motel Tax**. Mark DeGennaro, Acting County Attorney, said that this document is based on the previous agreement with the Chamber; that the entire amount of hotel/motel tax collected will be remitted to the Chamber to be used according to state law; and will be effective January 1, 2019; and he recommended approval of same. The motion to approve the agreement was made by Commissioner Chewning, seconded by Commissioner Woods, and passed unanimously. (Document can be found in "Contracts & Agreements" file as C&A #18-28.)
- B. **Agreement: GDOT for Inmate Work Detail**. Mark DeGennaro, Acting County Attorney, said that this is the usual annual agreement with GDOT for an inmate work crew, and he recommended approval of same. The motion to approve the agreement was made by Commissioner Langston, seconded by Commissioner Andrews, and passed unanimously. (Document can be found in "Contracts & Agreements" file as C&A #18-29.)
8. **ADJOURNMENT**. There being no further business to discuss, the motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Langston, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed unanimously.

J. Harry Lange, Chairman

Attest:

Nancy D. McMichael, County Clerk