

**HARRIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION**

December 17, 2024
6:30 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Rob Grant, Susan Andrews, Greg Gantt, Scott Lightsey, Bobby Irions. Staff Present: Russell Britt, County Attorney; Andrea Dzioba, County Clerk; Elizabeth Barfield, Chief Financial Officer; Brian Griffith, Public Works Director; Ashley Marston, Recreation Director; Mike Fuson, Assistant Recreation Director.

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Chairman Grant called the Regular Session to order at 6:30 p.m.
2. **INVOCATION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** Vice-Chair Andrews gave the invocation. Chairman Grant led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **MINUTES** The motion to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2024 Regular Session was made by Commissioner Irions, seconded by Commissioner Gantt, and passed unanimously.
4. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. **Financials - July 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024.** Chief Financial Officer Elizabeth Barfield appeared before the Board and advised that the General Fund is well under budget; that there are some items that look over budget but will be reclassified during the work on the audit since they will be moved to the prior fiscal year; that property tax revenue is not reflected in these financials as payments started in October and the due date in December 20th; that the bond issue for the E911 radio system project closed today; and that they are working on the audit and other year-end reporting. In response to a questions from the Board, Ms. Barfield stated that the audit is expected to completed approximately 2 months late; that there are no fines related to it being tardy; and that an extension is not available.
 - B. **Resolution - GEFA Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan Agreement and Note.** Chairman Grant introduced the item related to GEFA Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan Agreement and Note. Chairman Grant stated that in addition to the original \$100,000 received in principal forgiveness from GEFA for the lead service line inventory it has been determined that additional funds are needed for the initial inventory and any follow up field investigation. He further stated that Carter & Sloope submitted a second application in 2024 to make up the difference needed for funding and the County was awarded funding in the amount of \$480,000 with \$120,000 of that being principal forgiveness and that any remaining funds from this loan can be used to replace any lead or galvanized service lines within the system.

The motion to adopt the proposed resolution and authorize the Chairman and/or County Clerk to execute all necessary GEFA documents related to this project was made by Commissioner Lightsey, seconded by Vice-Chair Andrews, and passed unanimously.
 - C. **Concept Plan - Harris County Community Center Field.** Ashley Marston, Recreation Director, and Mike Fuson, Assistant Recreation Director, appeared before the Board and presented the Concept Plan for the property adjacent to the Community enter which will include pickleball courts, a multi-purpose field, and playground. In response to questions from the Board, discussion included that there would be portable bleachers included in a future budget; that the topography would have to be looked at in order to determine whether any expansion of the number of pickleball courts would be possible; that the area may need to be terraced; that it is expected that there would also be a pavillion/restrooms/concessions; and that this project would be constructed in phases over four years.
 - D. **Appointments to the Recreation Board.** The motion to appoint Brad Johnson and Kayla Sheppard to the Recreation Board for terms effective from January 1, 2025 until December 31, 2027 was made by Chairman Grant, seconded by Commissioner Irions, and passed unanimously.
 - E. **Appointments to the Development Authority.** The motion to appoint Harry Boyd and Chairman Rob Grant to the Development Authority for terms effective from January 1, 2025 until December 31, 2028 was made by Commissioner Irions, seconded by Vice-Chair Andrews, and passed unanimously.

- F. **Declaration of Surplus County Property.** Chairman Grant advised that Public Works Director Brian Griffith has deemed the items listed below as unneeded for County operations and recommends that the Board declare these items as surplus property. The items are as follows: 1) Sickle Bar Mower; 2) 1975 Sheep Foot/Browning; 3) Fuel Tank; 4) Gas Pump; 5) Root Rake; 6) Disc Harrow; 7) 2017 John Deere Tractor 5075E (1934); 8) Utility Trailer; 9) Durapatcher; 10) 2014 Duraco 125DJT Durapatcher; 11) Tiller; 12) 7 ft Cutter; 13) Cutter Brown 415; 14) Cutter Brown 415; 15) Sweeper; 16) 2017 New Holland Workmaster 70; 17) 1994 INT Ambulance Chassis.

The motion to declare the items listed as surplus County property and authorize their disposal through advertised electronic public auction was made by Commissioner Lightsey, seconded by Commissioner Gantt, and passed unanimously.

5. **COUNTY MANAGER.** County Clerk Andrea Dzioba briefly reviewed the updated SPLOST, LOST, TSPLOST, Single Family Home Building Permits, Solid Waste Tonnage, Active Water Works Customers, and Georgia Fund 1 Monthly Yields. Ms. Dzioba further advised that the Public Works building should have the doors installed by tomorrow and that it is expected that they will be moving in closer to the end of the month. She further stated that Courthouse Renovations have been continuing and moving forward. Chairman Grant advised that Vice-Chair Andrews and himself met with KinderMorgan related to their pipeline expansion and that KinderMorgan will be holding public meetings for citizens to attend and ask questions.
6. **COUNTY ATTORNEY.** Russell Britt, County Attorney, stated that he did not have any additional business to come before the Board this evening.
7. **ADJOURNMENT.** There being no further business to discuss, the motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Irions, seconded by Commissioner Lightsey, and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Rob Grant, Chairman

Attest:

Andrea Dzioba, County Clerk