

HARRIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Commission Chamber, Room 215, Harris County Courthouse
REGULAR SESSION
November 4, 2025
6:30 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Rob Grant, Susan Andrews, Greg Gantt, Scott Lightsey, Bobby Irions. Staff Present: Clark Harrell, County Manager; Russell Britt, County Attorney; Andrea Dzioba, County Clerk; Melissa Price, E911/EMA Director; Brian Williams, Community Development 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 September 23, 2025 Joint Meeting of the Harris County Board of Commissioners and the Harris County Board of Education and the October 21, 2025 Regular Session was made by Commissioner Gantt, seconded by Vice-Chair Andrews, and passed unanimously.
4. **PRESENTATION**

- A. **FOCUS and Valley Rescue Mission.** Chairman Grant stated that Kathy Carlisle from FOCUS and Adam Churchwell from Valley Rescue Mission are in attendance to address the Board related to services that they are providing in the Community.

Kathy Carlisle made a presentation and discussed hidden poverty; the United Way Program (A.L.I.C.E. - Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed); that 2,273 individuals receive food stamps - 344 of those are elderly; that 39% earn less than \$75,000; that with a county that is 464 square miles that transportation is a barrier; that FOCUS was founded in 1984; and that the Philomena Family Center opened in 2025. Curt Ellis, Director of Ministry, has been with FOCUS for approximately one year; that services include financial and counseling; and that there is expected to be over \$50,000 in giving in 2025.

5. **PUBLIC HEARINGS AT 7:00 P.M.**
 - A. **Application of Brandi Payne, to rezone a 0.965-acre parcel, located on Map 081A, Parcel 027, Land Lot 155, Land District 18th; Rezoning from C-4 (Highway Commercial) to R-1 (Low Density Residential); Current use is commercial property; proposed use is to mtch surrounding R-1 zoning district and to be used as a single family home; property located at 4517 Harris Road, Ellerslie, GA.** Chairman Grant called the Public hearing to order at 7:00 p.m. and introduced the proposed application. Brandi Payne, Applicant, appeared before the Board to provide information and respond to questions. She advised that she is requesting the rezoning so that in-laws can move in and be closer.

Chairman Grant asked if there was anyone that would like to speak in favor of this application. There being none, Chairman Grant asked if there was anyone that would like to speak in opposition to the application. There being none, Chairman Grant closed the public hearing at 7:03 p.m.

A motion to approve the Application of Brandi Payne, to rezone a 0.965-acre parcel, located on Map 081A, Parcel 027, Land Lot 155, Land District 18th; Rezoning from C-4 (Highway Commercial) to R-1 (Low Density Residential); Current use is commercial property; proposed use is to mtch surrounding R-1 zoning district and to be used as a single family home; property located at 4517 Harris Road, Ellerslie, GA was made by Vice-Chair Andrews, seconded by Commissioner Irions, and passed unanimously.

B. Application of Ramon Vazquez, to rezone a 1.07-acre parcel, located on Map 066, Parcel 009, Land Lot 122, Land District 18th; Rezoning from R-1 (Low Density Residential) to C-4 (Highway Commercial District); Current use is vacant property; proposed use is to expand commercial business and combine with commercial property next door; property located next to 12275 Warm Springs Road, Ellerslie, GA.

Chairman Grant called the Public hearing to order at 7:04 p.m. and introduced the proposed application. Ramon Vazquez, Applicant, appeared before the Board to provide information and respond to questions. Ramon Vazquez stated that he wanted to be able to store tools for his business on the property.

Chairman Grant asked if there was anyone that would like to speak in favor of this application. There being none, Chairman Grant asked if there was anyone that would like to speak in opposition to the application. There being none, Chairman Grant closed the public hearing at 7:06 p.m.

A motion to approve the Application of Ramon Vazquez, to rezone a 1.07-acre parcel, located on Map 066, Parcel 009, Land Lot 122, Land District 18th; Rezoning from R-1 (Low Density Residential) to C-4 (Highway Commercial District); Current use is vacant property; proposed use is to expand commercial business and combine with commercial property next door; property located next to 12275 Warm Springs Road, Ellerslie, GA with condition of 8-foot privacy fence construction along the north property line where the full 25' landscape buffer cannot be met was made by Vice-Chair Andrews, seconded by Commissioner Irions, and passed unanimously.

6. PRESENTATION (continued)

- A. **FOCUS and Valley Rescue Mission.** Adam Churchwell, Supervisor at Crossroads (an addiction recovery program of Valley Rescue Mission), advised that they provide work therapy with a retail store and selling mums; and that they also have wood and small engine repair shops. Commissioner Lightsey stated that he has had people ask about the mums and FOCUS and that is why he asked them to come speak before the Board.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **License Agreement with ATC Sequoia LLC.** Chairman Grant introduced the item related to a license agreement with ATC Sequoia LLC. County Attorney Russell Britt informed the Board that this agreement is one of three from the last meeting and that proposed edits have been worked out with the licensor. E911/EMA Director Melissa Price, in response to questions from the Board, advised that they hope to have equipment by the first quarter of 2026 but the shelters will take longer.

A motion to approve the Tower Site Lease with ATC Sequoia LLC and authorize the Chairman to execute same was made by Commissioner Lightsey, seconded by Chairman Grant, and passed unanimously.

8. COUNTY MANAGER.

- A. **County Manager Correspondence.** County Manager Clark Harrell stated that he is currently working on the Mountain Hill Road realignment which is still conceptual and that he will work with GDOT to hopefully fund; that there is a Department Head meeting tomorrow and that one of the discussions will be the transition to the ADP payroll system; that GDOT is in Harris County doing bridge inspections; and that Steve Morgan has been hired as an AG consultant which will save the County \$9,000 plus retirement and that he will be based at the Soil and Water Conservation office.

9. **COUNTY ATTORNEY.**

- A. **City of Hamilton Annexation.** County Attorney Russell Britt stated that the County received a application from the City of Hamilton for annexation and the County has confirmed that no County-owned public facilities are located in the area proposed to be annexed. Mr. Britt advised that the property is just over 5 acres down 116 which is contiguous to city property and that the city wants to develop as residential in the hopes to support retail (grocery) which is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan. He further stated that the County could object to the annexation if there was a basis to do so, however, he doesn't see anything that would rise to that level. Mr. Britt further stated that if there is no objection to the annexation that no further action is required. No action was taken by the Board.

County Attorney Russell Britt stated that he did not have any additional business to come before the Board this evening.

10. **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 7:24 p.m.

Rob Grant, Chairman

Attest:

Andrea Dzioba, County Clerk