

**DAWSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
VOTING SESSION MINUTES – NOVEMBER 19, 2020
DAWSON COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER ASSEMBLY ROOM
25 JUSTICE WAY, DAWSONVILLE, GEORGIA 30534
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE 4:00 PM WORK SESSION**

ROLL CALL: Those present were Chairman Billy Thurmond; Commissioner Sharon Fausett, District 1; Commissioner Chris Gaines, District 2 (via teleconference); Commissioner Tim Satterfield, District 3; Commissioner Julie Hughes Nix, District 4; County Manager David Headley; County Attorney Angela Davis; County Clerk Kristen Cloud; and interested citizens of Dawson County.

INVOCATION: Chairman Thurmond

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chairman Thurmond

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion passed 4-0 to approve the Minutes of the Work Session held on November 5, 2020. Nix/Satterfield

Motion passed 4-0 to approve the Minutes of the Voting Session held on November 5, 2020. Fausett/Nix

Motion passed 4-0 to approve the Minutes of the Special Called Joint Meeting held on November 17, 2020. Satterfield/Fausett

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion passed 4-0 to approve the agenda with the following change:

- Addition of Nos. 8 and 9 under New Business:
 - Request to Replace Sheriff's K9 Kennel Office
 - FY 2022 Georgia Department of Transportation / Federal Transit Administration Section 5311 Transit Contract

Fausett/Satterfield

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

PUBLIC HEARING:

Proposed FY 2021 Budget (1st of 3 hearings; the 2nd hearing will be held at the 4 p.m. December 3, 2020, Work Session and the 3rd hearing will be held at the December 3, 2020, Voting Session immediately following the Work Session)

Chairman Thurmond opened the hearing by asking if there was anyone present who wished to be heard on the Proposed FY 2021 Budget and, hearing none, closed the hearing.

ZONINGS:

Chairman Thurmond announced that if anyone contributed more than \$250 to the commissioners or chairman in the past two years and wished to speak they would have to fill out a disclosure form, which would be made available to them. Under normal program, 10 minutes is given to those who wish to speak in favor of or opposition to with some redirect, time permitting.

ZA 20-15 – Arquim Velasquez requests to rezone TMP L15-116-009 from RA (Residential Agriculture) to CHI (Commercial Highway Intensive) for the purpose of opening a landscape supply business (Highway 53 East).

Planning & Development Director Jameson Kinley said the applicant owns an existing landscaping business, which has operated in Dawson County for more than a decade. The business currently is licensed to operate at 18 Blueridge Overlook. Kinley said the subject property is located on Highway 53 East at the War Hill Park Road intersection. Kinley said no significant comments were returned via any interdepartmental forms, other than coordination with the Georgia Department of Transportation regarding entrance. “This will happen at the plan review stage if approved,” said Kinley, who added, “As you know, CHI is not yet in our comprehensive plan ... [and] this area is called out as Commercial Highway Business ... and Planning sees this as an appropriate use for this property.” Kinley said the Planning Commission recommended approval of the application.

Applicant Arquim Velasquez said he wishes to move his current business located on Blueridge Overlook to the location on Highway 53 East. He said his business will be located on the back of the subject property that already is graded, about 100 to 150 feet away from the road.

Chairman Thurmond opened the hearing by asking if there was anyone present who wished to speak either for or against the application and, hearing none, closed the hearing.

Commissioner Nix made a motion to approve ZA 20-15 with stipulations but withdrew the motion following discussion.

Motion passed 4-0 to table ZA 20-15 until the December 3, 2020, Voting Session.
Fausett/Satterfield

ZA 20-16 – Jim King on behalf of Debra Barnaby requests to rezone .8 acres of TMP L08-115-004 from RA (Residential Agriculture) to RL (Residential Lakefront) (Nix Bridge Road).

Planning & Development Director Jameson Kinley said the applicant wishes to rezone .8 acres at 1239 Nix Bridge Road. Her intentions are to build a single-family home on the property. The surrounding properties are residential - zoned RA and RSR - but the Future Land Use calls for this property to be Residential Lakefront, according to Kinley. He said rezoning the property would bring it into compliance with the county’s comprehensive plan. Kinley said the Planning Commission recommended approval of the application.

Jim King, representing the applicant Debra Barnaby, said Barnaby is one of his neighbors. He said she currently lives in a home off the lake and has “always dreamed of living on the lake.” King said the subject property is a lot not zoned Residential Lakefront like those around it.

Chairman Thurmond opened the hearing by asking if there was anyone present who wished to speak either for or against the application.

The following spoke in favor of the application:

- Danny Thompson, Dawsonville, Georgia

None spoke in opposition to the application.

Chairman Thurmond asked if there was anyone else present who wished to speak on the application and, hearing none, closed the hearing.

Motion passed 4-0 to approve ZA 20-16. Fausett/Satterfield

ZA 20-17 – JC Jones requests to rezone TMP 110-025 from RSR (Residential Sub-Rural) to RSRMM (Residential Sub-Rural Manufactured Moved) for the purpose of moving in a stick-built home (Cothran Road).

Planning & Development Director Jameson Kinley said the applicant intends to remove an existing mobile home and move an existing stick-built home on to the property. Rezoning will bring this parcel into compliance, according to Kinley, who added that the Planning Commission recommended approval of the application.

Applicant JC Jones said he resides behind the subject property, which belonged to his mother. He said he plans to remove a double-wide trailer from the property and move a stick-built home on to the property.

Chairman Thurmond opened the hearing by asking if there was anyone present who wished to speak either for or against the application and, hearing none, closed the hearing.

Motion passed 4-0 to approve ZA 20-17. Fausett/Nix

VR 20-21 – Dawson Forest Partners GA requests to vary from the Dawson County Land Use Resolution Article III, Section 314.L.1, 2, 3 regarding roads and utilities in residential / planned communities. TMP 087-001 (Dawson Forest Road).

Chairman Thurmond announced that the applicant was not present.

Planning & Development Director Jameson Kinley said Dawson Forest Partners looks to appeal the decision of the Planning Commission for denying its variance application to dedicate the roads within the Etowah Preserve neighborhood to the county. “The Planning Commission denied the application based on lack of evidence presented for there to be a practical difficulty or unnecessary hardship for the variance,” said Kinley. “Staff was not in favor of the variance presented based on hardship and the general precedence it would set. It was noted that granting this variance did not guarantee acceptance into the county maintenance program; granting this variance would merely allow the applicant to apply for the variance without a violation of our Land Use Resolution.”

The applicant was not present.

Chairman Thurmond opened the hearing by asking if there was anyone present who wished to speak either for or against the application.

None spoke in favor of the application.

The following spoke in opposition to the application:

- Hugh Stowers Jr., Dawsonville, Georgia
- Beth Martin, Dawsonville, Georgia

Chairman Thurmond asked if there was anyone else present who wished to speak on the application and, hearing none, closed the hearing.

Motion passed 4-0 to approve to table VR 20-21. Fausett/Satterfield

NEW BUSINESS:

Consideration of Request to Apply for Georgia Forestry Commission Volunteer Fire Assistance 50/50 Grant

Motion passed 4-0 to approve the Request to Apply for the Georgia Forestry Commission Volunteer Fire Assistance 50/50 Grant. Nix/Satterfield

Consideration of Request for Fundraiser to Benefit Emergency Services

Motion passed 4-0 to approve the Request for a Fundraiser to Benefit Emergency Services. Satterfield/Gaines

Consideration of IFB #372-20 - Harry Sosebee Road / Lumpkin Campground Road Roundabout

Motion passed 4-0 to approve IFB #372-20 - Harry Sosebee Road / Lumpkin Campground Roundabout; to accept the bids submitted and to award a contract to Vertical Earth, not to exceed the amount of \$1,139,463.18 plus a contingency of 10 percent (\$113,947) for a total of \$1,253,410.18 and to use Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax VI funds for this project. Fausett/Satterfield

Consideration of 2020 Capital Improvements Element Adoption

Motion passed 4-0 to approve the 2020 Capital Improvements Element Adoption. Nix/Fausett

Consideration of 2021 Supplements for Elected Officials

Motion passed 4-0 to approve 2021 Supplements for Elected Officials - Sheriff: \$10,417 per year for the duration of term; Chief Magistrate: \$8,000 per year for the duration of term, plus performance pay of \$1,815.28 per year for duration of term; Associate Magistrate (appointed position): \$5,384 per year; and Tax Commissioner: \$4,000 per year for the duration of term. Fausett/Satterfield

Consideration of Correction to Previously Approved 2021 Holiday and Payroll Calendar

Motion passed 4-0 to approve the Correction to the Previously Approved 2021 Holiday and Payroll Calendar. Nix/Fausett

Ratification of Veterans Memorial Park Bore Casing Emergency Repair

Motion passed 4-0 to ratify the Veterans Memorial Park Bore Casing Emergency Repair in the amount of \$12,190; funds will come from the Facilities department's operating budget. Satterfield/Fausett

Consideration of Request to Replace Sheriff's K9 Kennel Office

Motion passed 4-0 to approve the Request to Replace the Sheriff's K9 Kennel Office. Satterfield/Nix

Consideration of FY 2022 Georgia Department of Transportation / Federal Transit Administration Section 5311 Transit Contract

Motion passed 4-0 to approve the FY 2022 Georgia Department of Transportation / Federal Transit Administration Section 5311 Transit Contract. Fausett/Nix

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion passed 4-0 to enter into Executive Session to discuss litigation. Nix/Satterfield

Motion passed 4-0 to come out of Executive Session. Fausett/Nix

APPROVE:

ATTEST:

Billy Thurmond, Chairman

Kristen Cloud, County Clerk