

**DAWSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
VOTING SESSION MINUTES – AUGUST 4, 2022
DAWSON COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER ASSEMBLY ROOM
25 JUSTICE WAY, DAWSONVILLE, GEORGIA 30534
6:00 PM**

Motion passed 3-0 to come out of Executive Session. Satterfield/Gaines

ROLL CALL: Those present were Chairman Billy Thurmond; Commissioner Chris Gaines, District 2; Commissioner Tim Satterfield, District 3; Commissioner Emory Dooley, District 4 (via teleconference); County Manager David Headley; County Attorney Angela Davis; County Clerk Kristen Cloud; and interested citizens of Dawson County. District 1 Commissioner Sharon Fausett was not present.

OPENING PRESENTATIONS:

Proclamation of Achievement for Eagle Scout Projects

Chairman Thurmond read aloud a Proclamation of Achievement for Eagle Scout Projects.

Motion passed 3-0 to approve a Proclamation of Achievement for Eagle Scout Projects. Gaines/Satterfield

Habitat for Humanity North Central Georgia Introduction- Executive Director Steve Napier / Vice President of Development & Strategic Initiatives Sabrina Kirkland

Betsy McGriff, board member of Habitat for Humanity North Central Georgia, introduced the organization's VP of Development & Strategic Initiatives Sabrina Kirkland, who made a presentation.

Proclamation for National Health Center Week

Chairman Thurmond read aloud a Proclamation for National Health Center Week.

Motion passed 3-0 to approve a Proclamation for National Health Center Week. Gaines/Satterfield

INVOCATION: Chairman Thurmond

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chairman Thurmond

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion passed 3-0 to approve the Minutes of the Work Session held on July 21, 2022. Satterfield/Gaines

Motion passed 3-0 to approve the Minutes of the Voting Session held on July 21, 2022. Gaines/Dooley

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion passed 3-0 to approve the agenda with the following change:

- Addition of an Opening Presentation: Proclamation for National Health Center Week
- Addition of Nos. 3-4 under New Business:
 - Land Donation Agreement
 - Sheriff's Office School Traffic Direction Pay Increase Request

Satterfield/Gaines

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

2022 Millage Rate and Property Tax (3rd of 3 hearings; 1st hearing was held July 7, 2022, and 2nd hearing was held July 21, 2022)

Chairman Thurmond opened the hearing by asking if there was anyone present who wished to be heard on the 2022 Millage Rate and Property.

The following spoke on the 2022 Millage Rate and Property Tax:

- Michelle Clark, Dawsonville, Georgia, said she has concerns about her property taxes going up more than 22 percent. “Needless to say, if I had realized what we were going to be dealing with, I would have submitted something to protest our assessment,” she said. “However, when I looked at the assessment, I thought we could probably sell our house for this. We bought back in '95 with the intention of retiring here and obviously a lot has changed over that period of time, but here we are with a 22 percent increase. Most people's retirement incomes are down. We don't really know what's going to happen. I just think that 22 percent is a bit excessive and I've got some really big concerns.” Clark added that she moved to the county after her son was through school, “so we've never felt like we were much of a tax burden to the county but, in return, I just feel like things need to be a little more affordable than 22 percent. I don't know what our recourse is.”

Chairman Thurmond asked if there was anyone else present who wished to speak on the 2022 Millage Rate and Property Tax and, hearing none, closed the hearing.

Motion passed 3-0 to approve a rollback of the 2022 property tax, reducing the millage rate to 7.2225. The millage rate of 7.2225 is a reduction from the 2021 rate of 7.625. Gaines/Dooley

Extension of an Existing Moratorium on the Acceptance of Residential Rezoning Applications (1st of 1 hearing)

Chairman Thurmond opened the hearing by asking if there was anyone present who wished to be heard on an Extension of an Existing Moratorium on the Acceptance of Residential Rezoning Applications and, hearing none, closed the hearing.

Motion passed 3-0 to approve a resolution for an Extension of an Existing Moratorium on the Acceptance of Residential Rezoning Applications until November 2, 2022, effective immediately. Gaines/Satterfield

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Consideration of Proposed Transfer Station Improvements (Tabled from the July 21, 2022, Voting Session)

County Manager Headley provided an update concerning Proposed Transfer Station Improvements.

Motion was made by Commissioner Satterfield and seconded by Commissioner Dooley to approve Proposed Transfer Station Improvements to proceed with “Option 1” (to make necessary repairs and set up for recycling), not to exceed \$350,000.

Motion was made by Commissioner Satterfield and seconded by Commissioner Gaines to amend the original motion to include that the funds (not to exceed \$350,000) come from the county’s Solid Waste Fund.

The amended motion passed 3-0.

The original motion passed 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

Consideration of Request for Addition of Position Classification

Motion passed 3-0 to approve a Request for the Addition of Position Classification for Emergency Services. Satterfield/Gaines

Consideration of Request for Funding for Fire Hydrants

Motion passed 3-0 to approve a Request for Funding for Fire Hydrants; \$76,400 will come from General Fund’s fund balance. Satterfield/Gaines

Land Donation Agreement

Motion passed 3-0 to approve a Land Donation Agreement between donor Anne L. Styles and donee Dawson County. Gaines/Satterfield

Sheriff’s Office School Traffic Direction Pay Increase Request

Motion passed 3-0 to approve the Sheriff’s Office School Traffic Direction Pay Increase Request for an additional \$3,600 total. Satterfield/Gaines

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

APPROVE:

ATTEST:

Billy Thurmond, Chairman

Kristen Cloud, County Clerk