

**DAWSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
VOTING SESSION MINUTES – THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2024
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 Seth Stowers, District 1; Commissioner Alexa Bruce, District 3; Commissioner Emory Dooley, District 4; County Manager Joey Leverette; County Attorney Angela Davis; County Clerk Kristen Cloud; and interested citizens of Dawson County. District 2 Commissioner Chris Gaines was not present.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chairman Thurmond

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Chairman Thurmond introduced District 4 Commissioner-Elect Chad Turkett, who was in the audience.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion passed 3-0 to approve the Minutes of the Work Session held on October 17, 2024. Stowers/Bruce

Motion passed 3-0 to approve the Minutes of the Voting Session held on October 17, 2024. Stowers/Bruce

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

- Addition of No. 5 under New Business:
 - Recommendation for Budget Reallocation of Remaining American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds to be Utilized to Support Emergency Shelters and Community Warming Centers

Stowers/Bruce

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

ALCOHOL LICENSE:

New Alcohol License (Retail Consumption on Premises of Beer and Wine) – Brooklyn Joe’s Pizza Three LLC dba Brooklyn Joe’s Pizza Pasta & Grill, 219 Crossroads Boulevard, Suite 100, Dawsonville, GA 30534.

Dawson County Alcohol Administrator Kathryn Massey presented an alcohol license application for Brooklyn Joe’s Pizza Pasta & Grill.

Motion passed 3-0 to approve a New Alcohol License (Retail Consumption on Premises of Beer and Wine) – Brooklyn Joe’s Pizza Three LLC dba Brooklyn Joe’s Pizza Pasta & Grill, 219 Crossroads Boulevard, Suite 100, Dawsonville, GA 30534. Bruce/Stowers

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Recommendations to Chapter 22 Fire Code (1st of 1 hearing)

Chairman Thurmond opened the hearing by asking if there was anyone present who wished to be heard on Recommendations to Chapter 22 Fire Code and, hearing none, closed the hearing.

Motion passed 3-0 to approve Recommendations to Chapter 22 Fire Code. Dooley/Stowers

Proposed Acquisition of Approximately 2.11 Acres of Real Property (TPN 093-040-001) Through a Multi-Year Installment Purchase Agreement as Required in Accordance with O.C.G.A. § 36-60-13(a) and (g) (1st of 1 hearing)

County Manager Joey Leverette explained a proposed acquisition of the property at 751 Highway 53 East in Dawsonville.

Chairman Thurmond opened the hearing by asking if there was anyone present who wished to be heard on a Proposed Acquisition of Approximately 2.11 Acres of Real Property (TPN 093-040-001) Through a Multi-Year Installment Purchase Agreement as Required in Accordance with O.C.G.A. § 36-60-13(a) and (g) and, hearing none, closed the hearing.

Motion passed 3-0 to approve a Proposed Acquisition of Approximately 2.11 Acres of Real Property (TPN 093-040-001) Through a Multi-Year Installment Purchase Agreement as Required in Accordance with O.C.G.A. § 36-60-13(a) and (g) for a multi-function building for governing services in the amount \$12,400 monthly for 10 years, and to authorize the chairman to sign two contracts related to this lease-purchase agreement. Bruce/Stowers

FY 2025 Proposed Budget (2nd of 3 hearings; 1st hearing was held at the 4 p.m. November 7, 2024, Work Session and the 3rd hearing will be held on November 21, 2024)

Chairman Thurmond opened the hearing by asking if there was anyone present who wished to be heard on a FY 2025 Proposed Budget.

The following spoke on a FY 2025 Proposed Budget:

Jason Stephenson, court administrator, said, “As you know, Superior Court did not have a budget presentation this year, but I wanted to highlight two areas ... of why we recommended the levels that we did. Those two areas are regarding juror pay and court transcripts. The American Rescue Plan Act from the state of Georgia that’s funded a number of needs in the court system - that funding is likely to end December 31. In our proposal and in our recommendation to the county, we did not include any money from that ARPA grant to go toward court transcripts and juror pay. They’ve helped significantly over the last three years...” Stephenson added, “In addition to the ending of the ARPA grant, at your next [meeting] you’ll see an item from the Dawson County Grand Jury, which raises the pay of Grand Jury – it’s the negligible fiscal impact of about \$2,000; but both of those were the end of ARPA and the raise in Grand Juror pay are incorporated in the numbers - it’s about a \$20,000 difference in juror transcripts and about a \$20,000 difference in court reporter transcripts. Both of those can certainly be revisited mid-year, later on, but it’s our best guess and best projection of what we anticipate coming in 2025.”

Chairman Thurmond asked if there was anyone else present who wished to speak on a FY 2025 Proposed Budget and, hearing none, closed the hearing.

The next and final hearing concerning a FY 2025 Proposed Budget will be held at the November 21, 2024, Voting Session.

NEW BUSINESS:

Consideration of Second Georgia Public Library Services Major Repair and Renovation Grant

Motion passed 3-0 to approve a Second Georgia Public Library Services Major Repair and Renovation Grant with a 10 percent county match of \$24,700, which will come from impact fees. Stowers/Bruce

Consideration of Memorandum of Agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation to Install Lighting on State Route 9 at the Middle School

Motion passed 3-0 to authorize the chairman to execute a Memorandum of Agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation to Install Lighting on State Route 9 at the Middle School. Dooley/Stowers

Consideration of FY 2025 Legacy Link Contract

Motion passed 3-0 to approve a FY 2025 Legacy Link Contract in the amount of \$171,338. Stowers/Bruce

Consideration of Purchasing Policy Ordinance Exception Request Concerning Government Center Air Duct Cleaning

Motion passed 3-0 to approve a Purchasing Policy Ordinance Exception Request Concerning Government Center Air Duct Cleaning and to approve a purchase order to Stanley Steemer in the amount of \$47,300. Dooley/Stowers

Consideration Recommendation for Budget Reallocation of Remaining American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds to be Utilized to Support Emergency Shelters and Community Warming Centers

Motion passed 3-0 to approve a Recommendation for Budget Reallocation of Remaining American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds, up to \$50,000, to be Utilized to Support Emergency Shelters and Community Warming Centers. Bruce/Stowers

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

APPROVE:

ATTEST:

Billy Thurmond, Chairman

Kristen Cloud, County Clerk