EFFINGHAM CO. BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

EFFINGHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA

WORK SESSION MINUTES
September 17, 2024

The Board of Commissioners of Effingham County, Georgia, Mr. Forrest Floyd, Mr. Roger Burdette, Mr. Jamie Deloach, and Mr. Phil Kieffer met in a Work Session at 4:00 pm on Tuesday, September 17, 2024 in the Commissioners Meeting Chambers at the Effingham County Administrative Complex located at 804 South Laurel Street Springfield, Georgia 31329.

STAFF PARTICIPATION

Mr. Tim Callanan – County Manager, Ms. Stephanie Johnson – County Clerk, Ms. Tasheena Shiggs – Deputy County Clerk, Ms. Marie Todd – Executive Assistant, Mr. Steve Candler – Development Services Director, Mrs. Sarah Mausolf – HR & Risk Management Director, Ms. Kim Barlett – Planner I, Mrs. Samantha Easton – Planner II, Ms. Maraya Durham – IT Specialist, and Mr. Ashley Kessler – Building Official.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Rich Wills

I- CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Burdette called the session to order at 4:03pm

II – WORK SESSION

WORK SESSION TOPICS

DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE IV, SECTION 4.2 - ZONING MAP (1):

As the discussion began, Development Services Director Candler, assisted by County Manager Callanan, explained that the zoning map and the ordinance describing it needed updating. The new map shows the current zoning, and the future land use map is one of the components of the comprehensive plan amendment. There will be a workshop with the planning board to gather their input regarding the zoning map, and in the future, conditional uses will be illustrated in red to inform attorneys of potential restrictions. Our county has 4.9% of land zoned industrial.

DISCUSSION TO PUBLISH A VOLUNTEER PAID TIME OFF POLICY AS PART OF THE HUMAN RESOURCES STANDARDS OF PRACTICE (2):

HR and Risk Management Director Mausolf provided an overview of the volunteer PTO process. Depending on how we proceed, there are two (2) possible directions. The operation can be limited to nonprofits within our own county, or we could extend it to Chatham and Bulloch, since we employ workers from the surrounding counties.

There would be a request form to complete for the employees and organization. Employees would be able to request and take two days off per month to volunteer.

DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE V, 5.8 R-6 SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT OF THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES (3):

Development Services Director Candler explained as we continue to receive requests for variances for cul-de-sac lots, we have decided to change the entire ordinance to 50 feet instead of 60 feet. Six (6) active subdivisions are located in Longleaf Village, Buckingham Plantation, The North Tract, and Laurel Grove, all of which are 60 feet wide. Since some of the cul-de-sacs present an issue, the board is considering allowing them to shave 10 feet off the lots to create more lots.

DISCUSSION OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE CODE OF ORDINANCES PART II, ARTICLE VII, PLANNING BOARD AND SECTION 3.15A - RESIDENTIAL BUSINESS (4):

Development Services Director Candler explained there was discussion regarding more efficiency in the process. This ordinance was presented and approved by the planning board. Rezonings will be handled by the planning board, while conditional uses, variances, and text amendments will be handled by the commissioner. 3.15A residential business was only handled by the Planning Board at the Planning Board level, and we have changed that to say County Commissioner, as well as the appointment of the Planning Board and the Clerk.

DISCUSSION OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE CODE OF ORDINANCES PART II, CHAPTER 38 HEALTH AND SANITATION RELATED TO BODY ART (5):

Development Services Director Candler introduced Department of Environmental Health representatives to provide a presentation on a legislation passed by the state legislature last year relating to body art and all the associated services that accompany it.

Stephen Andrews and Brett Phelps with the Department Environmental Health stated that this statute was passed by the state of Georgia in March 2023. The request is to approve it on a local level, so that the rules may be enforce locally.

DISCUSSION OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE CODE OF ORDINANCES PART II, CHAPTER 38 HEALTH AND SANITATION, SECTION 38.1 AND 38.2. (6):

Development Services Director Candler explained currently, our ordinance forbids tattoos and body art of any kind. To make this change, most of chapter 38 must be eliminated.

DISCUSSION OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE CODE OF ORDINANCES PART II, APPENDIX F OVERLAY DISTRICTS, SECTION 1 COMMERCIAL CORRIDORS (7):

Development Services Director Candler explained as part of the corridor overlay district, Inspire was hired to do the work. It covers the east side of Hodgeville, Effingham Parkway 21 from the county line to Rincon, and then from Rincon to Springfield on the other side. The overlay corridor for Effingham Parkway has

received a lot of positive feedback. A request was made to table for about 30 days to incorporate some of the feedback and provide a revised version.

Murray Marshall suggested the property owners that are affected be notified and have a chance to meet with Staff.

III – ADJOURNMENT

At 4:30pm, being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned.

Roger Burdette, Vice Chairman

Stephanie D. Johnson, County Clerk