

**HARRIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION**

July 18, 2017
7:00 P.M.

Commissioners Present: J. Harry Lange, Jim Woods, Susan Andrews, Martha Chewning, Becky Langston. Staff Present: Randy Dowling, County Manager; John Taylor, County Attorney; Nancy D. McMichael, County Clerk.

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Chairman Lange called the Regular Session to order.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** At the request of Chairman Lange, Commissioner Chewning led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **MINUTES.** The motion to approve the minutes of the July 5, 2017 Regular Session and of the July 12, 2017 Called Work Session was made by Commissioner Andrews and seconded by Commissioner Woods. The vote on the July 5 Regular Session was four in favor (Andrews, Woods, Chewning, Langston), no opposition, and one abstention (Lange, who was absent from the meeting), and the vote of the July 12 Called Work Session was unanimous.

4. **OLD BUSINESS**

- A. **Special Use Permit Application of Verizon Wireless of the East, L.P., c/o Baker Donaldson, for a telecommunications facility, located in Land Lots 3 & 35, Land Districts 3 & 4, Map 039, portion of Parcel 014, on 10,000 square feet of an 85.33 acre parcel; current use vacant land, agricultural; proposed use agricultural with telecommunications facility; property located on Georgia Highway 18, Pine Mountain, and owned by Henry and Alice Mullins Farms, LP.** Chairman Lange said that the Public Hearing had been held on May 2 with action regarding same tabled to this meeting. John Taylor, County Attorney, said that action was tabled to this meeting to clarify the response from the FAA regarding the location of the tower in relation to its location near the Airport; that the Board may have received an email from Amanda Hill, Airport Consultant, which was also provided to Alex Rotenstreich, attorney representing Verizon Wireless, who should be given an opportunity to comment on same. Mr. Rotenstreich said that the FAA response does not negate the determination of no hazard; that he was also provided with a copy of Ms. Hills email and has no objections to her suggestion that the tower be lit, which Verizon Wireless has agreed to do; that the tower will be no taller than 170', which is 160' monopole and a 10' lightning rod, as authorized by FAA. Discussion included the possibility of moving the tower 1,000 feet to the west, to which Mr. Rotenstreich said that Verizon would be agreeable to same, but that it would require starting over with FAA, which would take three or four months; that in making the move, the tower would still be on the same property but the topography may make a difference in the height, which the FAA would limit; that there is still a major concern regarding the safety for pilots; and that the tower will be lit regardless of its location.

Following discussion, the motion to approve the Special Use Permit with the conditions of (1) moving it out of the red and blue zones shown on the rendering, (2) height is limited to 160' for the monopole and 10' for the lightning rod, (3) it must be lit at all times, (4) moving it 1,000 feet west, for which the elevation can be no greater than the current site, was made by Commissioner Chewning and seconded by Commissioner Andrews. Chairman Lange reminded all that Commissioner Woods had recused himself from this subject and discussion during the May 2 meeting, and has, therefore, been absent during this discussion and would abstain from voting. Discussion included that the red and blue zones may be ambiguous and that while the FAA would make the determination regarding the tower site west, the tower will be no higher than at the proposed site. Following discussion, the vote on the motion to approve with conditions failed by a vote of two in favor (Chewning, Langston) and two opposed (Andrews, Lange), therefore, the motion failed.

Following more discussion, the motion to deny the Special Use Permit was made by Commissioner Andrews, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed by a vote of three in favor (Andrews, Chewning, Langston) and one opposed (Lange).

John Taylor, County Attorney said that with the motion to deny passing, the County has to enter the reasons in writing to give to the applicant, Verizon Wireless of the East, within thirty (30) days, and that he will draft the denial and findings to come

before the Board during the August 1 meeting for approval.

5. **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. **Appointment: Recreation Board.** Chairman Lange said that the term of Mark Parsley as representative for the Hamilton Youth Sports Association (HYSA) had expired and that the HYSA has recommended that Steve Felt be appointed as its representative on the Recreation Board for the term ending December 31, 2019. The motion to appoint Steve Felt to the Recreation Board as recommended was made by Commissioner Langston, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed unanimously.

6. **COUNTY MANAGER**

- A. **Project Updates.** Randy Dowling, County Manager, brought the Board up to date on various projects, as follows:

- (1) **IT Manager.** Position is currently being advertised with a deadline date of July 28.
- (2) **Radio System Evaluation.** Currently underway with expectations of the report being presented to the Board during the August 1 meeting, or possibly the August 15 meeting.
- (3) **911 Telephone & CAD System.** Proposal award during tonight's meeting for the telephone system with the RFP for the CAD system currently being advertised.
- (4) **LMIG 2016 & 2017.** Project currently underway with resurfacing and improvements expected by late September or October.
- (5) **Hardage Road.** Project currently underway with completion expected by year's end.
- (6) **Library.** Project is currently underway, and is on time and on budget.
- (7) **Kings Gap CDBG.** Project close to being closed out with final paperwork recently submitted.
- (8) **Five-Year Capital Improvement Program.** Draft has been prepared and email to the Board.
- (9) **SPLOST Continuation.** Draft has been prepared of projects to be considered for the upcoming SPLOST referendum scheduled for May 2018.
- (10) **Fee Schedules.** Preparation of draft underway with input by appropriate departments.
- (11) **Sign Ordinance.** In response to a question from Commissioner Langston, John Taylor, County Attorney, said that he expects to conclude his review of the Sign Ordinance draft by mid to late August.

- B. **LMIG 2018 Road List.** Randy Dowling, County Manager, said that GDOT is accepting application for the 2018 LMIG program from July 1 through December 31; that the County's share is estimated to be \$753,663.13, which would require a match of \$75,366.31, for a total of \$829,029.44 for resurfacing needs; that the Public Works Director has determined there are four roads (Cold Springs Road, David Lake Road, Goat Rock Road, and Waterford Drive) in dire need of resurfacing and restriping; that it is proposed that the four roads be submitted to GDOT for the upcoming 2018 LMIG distribution; and that any overage that may result from the project will come from 2009 SPLOST. The motion to approve the LMIG 2018 list was made by Commissioner Woods, seconded by Commissioner Langston, and passed unanimously.

- C. **Proposal Award: NG 9-1-1 Results Evaluation.** Randy Dowling, County Manager, said that proposals were requested and nine proposals were received on June 23; that the top three companies, as evaluated by TUSA Consulting, presented demonstrations on July 7; and that TUSA representative Wendy Bradford is present to review the recommendation. Proposals were received from: Carousel, EZ911, Motorola Solutions, RPSS Solacom, RPSS Vesta, West, WestTel, Williams, and

Zuercher. The top three companies: RPSS Solacom, West, and Motorola. Ms. Bradford made a PowerPoint presentation and concluded by saying the recommendation is to authorize TUSA to negotiate with RPSS Solacom in the amount of \$197,190. Discussion included that the system would be in place by January 1, 2018; that the option to text to 911 and for 911 to respond is included; and that once everything is approved by the State, the option to be able to send photos and videos to 911 can be added, as can the option for 911 to be able to initiate texts. Following discussion, the motion to award the proposal to RPSS Solacom was made by Commissioner Woods, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed unanimously.

7. **COUNTY ATTORNEY**

- A. **Agreement w/Charter Spectrum: Internet & Telephone Service for Community Center**. John Taylor, County Attorney, said that the agreement is for internet and telephone service for the Community Center, but that due to the number of questions and possible changes to the document, he recommends the Board table approval until negotiations can take place, after which the document will be brought back to the Board for approval. Following discussion, Chairman Lange tabled action pending negotiations to be undertaken by the County Attorney with the final document to be presented to the Board during the August 1 or August 15 meeting.
8. **RECESS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**. Chairman Lange made the motion at 8:35 PM to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Langston and passed unanimously. Chairman Lange said that neither the County Clerk nor the County Attorney need attend the Executive Session.
9. **RESUME REGULAR SESSION**. The motion to go back into Regular Session was made by Chairman Lange, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed unanimously.
10. **ADJOURNMENT**. There being no further business to discuss, the motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Woods, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed unanimously.

J> Harry Lange, Chairman

Attest:

Nancy D. McMichael, County Clerk