

The Brooks County Board of Commissioners met for a Special Called Meeting/Work Session/Executive Session on Thursday, February 23, 2023, at 5:15 p.m., at the Brooks County Administration Building, in the Commissioners Meeting Room, located at 610 South Highland Road, Quitman, GA. Commissioners present were: Mr. Patrick Folsom, Chairman, Mr. James Maxwell, Vice Chairman, Ms. Myra Exum, Mr. Willie Cody; and Mr. Lee Larko. Others present were Ms. Jessica McKinney, County Administrator; Ms. Patricia Williams; County Clerk was not present; Ms. Kim Daniels, Human Resources; and Mr. Jason Kemp, County Attorney, and various residents.

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman called the meeting to order.

A. **Prayer/Pledge** – Mr. Jack Harrell led all in attendance in prayer and pledge of allegiance.

2. **SPECIAL CALLED MEETING**

A. **New Authority** – On the motion by Mr. Larko, seconded by Mr. Maxwell, the Board unanimously approved to move forward with the Resolution to create a Local Act for Public Facilities Authority to send to legislative delegates to be considered during this legislative session.

B. **Enterprise Fleet Management** – Mr. Jean R. Bordes, Enterprise Fleet Management, presented the proposal to separate the Sheriff's vehicles and County vehicles. He met with the Sheriff and Chief Wheeler last week to discuss it. We have previously purchased three vehicles per year. Ten vehicles were purchased last year (from grant funds issued); and Enterprise would like to keep that consistent. Mr. Bordes provided a snapshot of the fleet analysis explaining the frequency of fleet purchase. The proposal presented savings for year one pricing for 10 vehicles for the Sheriff's Department and five for the County. There is a cap of \$10,000 to outfit with equipment. The recommendation is for next fiscal year 2023-2024 and will be under a master lease, we are under contract only if we pen on paper and will not be penalized for not accepting recommended vehicles if the budget allows less. Mr. Maxwell made the motion to proceed with fleet management program for 10 vehicles for the Sheriff's Department and five for County vehicles for fiscal year 2023-2024, per proposal of price presented. Mr. Larko seconded. Vote was unanimous.

C. **Inert Landfill – City of Quitman** – City of Quitman approached the County regarding the use of the burn area inside the recycle center. The City contracts with Deep South, Deep South wants to dump materials at the landfill. The County Attorney has drafted an Intergovernmental Agreement that both parties can give notice of termination and is a flat monthly fee. The City is to give notice when they are bringing materials (leaves, limbs, etc.) and must be during business hours so it can be monitored by our employees at the landfill. The liability can be handled with indemnifying the appropriate party. The Board discussed competitive pricing. Mr. Maxwell motioned to table until the monthly meeting on March 6, 2023, Mr. Larko seconded. Vote was unanimous.

D. **Development Authority – Stephanie Williams & Jack Harrell** – Mrs. Williams presented the Development Authority's interest to purchase 50 acres from the County to meet demand of prospects. She stated the main consistent need is housing and warehouses. The project is housing that will be built by USDA grants. One project is titled Project FOX HOLE that will house 30 families for the workforce. Mrs. Williams stated they will have two more projects to follow. She emphasized the Development

Authority is asking humbly for the County assistance and will offer a fair and reasonable rate based on \$5000 per acre. The property in question for purchase is the farmland the County recently leased. The housing can be lived in by anyone, it is not limited to just the workers. No motion was needed. The Board needs additional information.

E. Brooks County Historical Society – Mr. Maxwell stated the Brooks County Historical Society is operating without any funds. The Development Authority has given \$1,000, but it must be given back because it was only given for 6 months. Mr. Maxwell commented the County funds other boards, the County needs to give the Historical Society a lump sum not a budget. The Historical Society needs a lump sum of \$10,000 for calendars being printed by Office Depot in Thomasville; and will resell the calendars to fund the Historical Board. The funds would have to come out of ARPA, contingency, or reserves, if it's during this budget year. The Historical Society need seed money to get started. Mr. Cody motioned to approve funding to the Historical Society by giving them \$5,000 from ARPA fund, Mr. Maxwell seconded. Mrs. Exum stated she wants to go on record that she is not against the Historical Board but would have liked to have seen the plan for the funds. Chairman called for the vote. Mr. Cody, Mr. Maxwell, Mr. Larko, and Chairman Folsom voted in favor. Mrs. Exum stated she is not in favor at this time. The vote was 4 to 1.

F. Roads/Culverts Contract RFQ – The Board discussed contracting out the Road Department. Mr. Cody commented that after 12 years the roads are in the same shape; the grading and culvert department needs attention. Why not contract out only the areas needed? Chairman explained different departments within the Road Department; stating we have been through three Road Superintendents due to lack of knowledge of equipment, we have increased salaries, have better equipment, better affordable insurance and have not seen consistent results. Materials are expensive, labor is expensive, and equipment is expensive. Mr. Larko made the motion to proceed with the RFQ for maintenance of the roads, grading, signage and culverts excluding maintenance shop and mowing, Mr. Cody seconded. Vote was unanimous.

G. Mowing Equipment Purchase Approval – A proposal was presented for the purchase of equipment for the County mowing project. Flint lowered their bid to the lowest bid at government pricing for total amount of \$118,500, the quote was extended to February 28, 2023. The tractors are available now and the mowers will be available within 45 days. The target date for starting mowing project is March 1, 2023. On the motion by Mr. Larko to accept the quote from Flint for \$118,500, funds will come from the Road Department budget, Mrs. Exum seconded. Vote was unanimous.

3. WORK SESSION

A. Regular Meeting Agenda Review – March 6, 2023 – The Board reviewed/discussed the agenda for the upcoming regular meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Added to Agenda: Referendum for Brooks County to become a wet county.

NOTES** Chairman Folsom will not be present at March 6, 2023, regular meeting, Vice Chair will lead the meeting.

- Chairman will not be at the Economic Development meeting on March 15th.

On motion by Mr. Larko, seconded by Mr. Maxwell, the Board went out of work session into executive session at 7:45 pm.

4. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – No action taken.

A. Personnel

5. **ADJOURNMENT**

The Board adjourned at 8:49 pm, on the motion by Mr. Maxwell, seconded by Mr. Larko.

Mr. Patrick Folsom, Chairman

Ms. Jessica McKinney, County Administrator