

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2022

NOTE: If any person decides to appeal any decision made with respect to any matter considered at this meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record for the proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record is made.

PRESIDING: Chairman Ryan Perez

RECORDING: Pamela Woodington, Finance Director

ATTENDING: Vice-Chairman Dobbs; Commissioner Willie Croft; Commissioner Mac Johns; Commissioner James Tallman; Jimmy Williams, County Coordinator; Dianne Hannon, Board Secretary; Russ Wade, County Attorney

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Perez called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Commissioner Dobbs offered the invocation and led Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Perez welcomed the public and called for public comments.

JR Davis brought to the attention of the Board, properties that have RV's and are not complying with the County's LDR plans, which do not pay the proper Special Assessment fees but use the services provided by the County. Chairman Perez indicated that they have ask Mr. Wade to contact Attorney David Theriaque, to review and fortify the County's LDR. Mr. Williams interjected that the particular lots Mr. Davis mentioned are vacant lots that have RVs parked and are not currently building a new home.

Tracey Tate stated that a program is being provided through the Woman's Club which is giving stuffed animals to children for Christmas. Noon to 4 on Friday, December 23rd. She is trying to spread the news.

Chair Perez closed the floor to public comments

The Finance report was presented, **Commissioner Croft moved to accept with Commissioner Dobbs seconding. The vote was unanimous.**

Addendum Agenda was presented by County Coordinator with the addition of two items.

First item to consider award of professional services for the Brownfields Program. Mr. Williams recommends PPM. **Commissioner Tallman moved to accept PPM as the professional service company for the Brownfields Program, Commissioner Johns seconded the motion passed unanimously.**

Agricultural Educational Building, Phase III Mr. Williams' recommendation is to continue services with Union La-Steel who presented a sealed bid of \$290,915.00. Which includes the enclosed building, pavilion with lean-tos. A drawing was provided at the workshop held on December 15, 2022. **Commissioner Tallman moved to accept bid and continue using La-Steel Metal Building services for Phase III of the Agricultural Education Building. Commissioner Johns seconded. The Board voted unanimously to accept bid and continued services.**

Mr. Williams requested consideration of the services for the oversight and construction of the Public Safety Complex. Committee reviewed companies who submitted qualifications. AJAX Building Corporation was chosen by the committee based on their qualifications. After discussion of the advertisement Mr. Williams stepped out of meeting to confirm specifics with Sheriff Whitehead.

Consideration of second reading of Ordinance 22-05 to amend Comprehensive Plan. Chairman Perez ask if there was a motion to accept Ordinance 22-05. **Vice-Chairman Dobbs moved with Commissioner Johns providing second. Ordinance 22-05 was passed unanimously.**

Ordinance 22-06 second reading for consideration for Ridge Point Structures, LLC to change Land Use Classification. **Vice-Chair Dobbs moved to accept Ordinance 22-06 and Commissioner Croft seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Consideration of Ordinance 22-07 in favor of Bergsma of land use change. **Vice-Chair Dobbs moved to accept Ordinance 22-07 with Commissioner Johns providing the second. The Board approved unanimously.**

Consideration of Ordinance 22-08 to rezone land from Agricultural 4 to light industrial. **Commissioner Tallman moved to accept Ordinance 22-08 with Commissioner Johns providing the second. Motion passed unanimously.**

Consideration of Ordinance 22-09 relating to rezoning. Providing to rezone from Agricultural to light industrial. **Commissioner Johns moved to accept Ordinance 22-09 with Commissioner Croft seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Advertising CEI services for road projects 229N and 149th required due to grant amount. **Vice-Chair Dobbs moved to advertise; Commissioner Croft seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Consideration of Compression schedule raises presented by Mr. Williams at the December 15, 2022 workshop. **Commissioner Croft moved, with Commissioner Tallman seconded. Compression schedule raises passed unanimously.**

Mr. Williams confirmed with Sheriff Whitehead that AJAX Building Corporation will stay within the parameters of the grant requirements and oversee the Public Safety Complex. **Commissioner Tallman moved to accept AJAX Building Corporation with Commissioner Croft second. Passed unanimously.**

Mr. Williams updated the Board on the demolition project of the New River Public Library Coop, making room for the future Public Safety Complex. Mr. Davis, Mr. Arnold and Mrs. Hayes along with their staff moved quickly and very efficiently. Mr. Davis also notated the items for repurposing. Mr. Davis also offered compliments of the efforts from the Road Department and Solid Waste Departments.

Mr. Williams reported on the status of the FRDAP grant at OJ Phillips. Ballfield grounds are close to completion prepped to install chain link fence. Mr. Williams stated his calculations of completion, the project should come well under his original estimate. Mr. Jenkins is currently on site completing one field with all LED lights, 2nd field partially with LED lights saving enough monies to place 4 LED lights on first and third base of every field. Hopefully saving the Rec Board monies in electricity bills. Mr. Williams also stated project should be completed in a month.

Kim Hayes – Thankful for the wage increase for her staff, excited to share the news in the morning.

Shelton Arnold – Thankful for the pay increase

Mary Brown – Merry Christmas

Toby Witt –stated that he is proud to report that we are contributing as much mutual aid as we requested. Also working with well with Lake Butler Hospital. Revenue increase came from Lake Butler Hospital. Thank you for the increase in wages over the past year which was instrumental in recruiting new employees.

Mrs. Woodington – to pay JR Davis when invoice presented, but total monies of work not available for tonight's meeting. **Commissioner Tallman moved to pay Mr. Davis and Commissioner Johns second. Motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Wade has been made aware along with Mr. Maines the City attorney that Mr. Walker on behalf of the City of Lake Butler had sent notice to terminate the interlocal agreement effective December 31, 2022. The Board, upon receipt of notification formed a committee to discuss with City officials the agreement, however the Committee was not able to meet to resolve the issues. The problem is that effective December 31, 2022 the interlocal agreement would terminate along with the special assessments which would then revert to the City and the City would then be responsible for their own Garbage and Emergency Medical Services. Council for both the City and the County do not think this is the intent and recommend that the interlocal agreement continue as currently proposed on a one year term to be reviewed and addressed. December 31, 2022 is important due to Bruce Dukes,

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Property Appraiser, preparing to disburse TRIM notices to be sent to taxpayers. Mr. Wade ask for permission from the Board to convey the message that the County Board will continue the interlocal agreement with the city. **Vice Chair Dobbs moved to continue the Interlocal Agreement with the City of Lake Butler with permission given to Attorney Wade to convey the message to Attorney Maines.** Commissioner Tallman ask if the Board has been provided with the letter of termination. County Coordinator Williams stated that it had and he believes it was discussed in the June 2022 board meeting. Commissioner Perez stated that the intent of the city when speaking with Mayor Schenck was to strengthen the relationship between the County and the City and that a letter of termination might assist with a timeline to remedy questions from both the city and the County. Healthy discussions were had in reference to the CRA district and improvements that could be made. Commissioner Perez stated that the letter to terminate was not made with any ill intent. **Commissioner Tallman stated that the thought process of a letter of termination to create more healthy discussion was confusing to him but he would second the motion to assist with creating a better working relationship with the City. Vice Chair Dobbs amended motion to state to continue with all interlocal agreements on identical terms with the City and Mr. Wade to convey message to Mr. Maines. Motion passed unanimously.**

Chair Perez ask reports from Commissioners. Vice Chair Dobbs ask for Chairman Perez to begin who wished everyone a Merry Christmas. Vice Chair Dobbs also continued with Merry Christmas and thanks Department Heads and their staff for the work they do. Commissioner Tallman wished everyone a Merry Christmas. Commissioner Johns also wished everyone a Merry Christmas and considers it an honor to be able to provide raises and wishes more could be done. Commissioner Croft thanked all employees for their work all year and appreciates everything employees do and wishes all a very Merry Christmas.

The meeting adjourned by general consent at 6:39 p.m.

Adopted by vote of the Board, February 20, 2023 regular meeting