

Minutes
Liberty County Board of Commissioners
April 4, 2023
Regular Meeting

1. Chairman Lovette opened the meeting with commissioners Stevens, Frasier, Gilliard, and Walden in attendance.
2. The Chairman certified compliance with the Georgia Open Meetings Act.
3. Bishop Kevin Betton offered prayer, and Pastor Richard Hayes led the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. The board considered the minutes of their March meetings. Commissioner Stevens made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard and approved by all commissioners in attendance.
5. The board adopted a proclamation in support of the national public safety communication week.
6. Departmental reports were presented:

A. Ms. Lori Parks presented the LCPC report.

Commissioner Frasier made a motion to adjourn to the public hearing for rezoning matters, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard, with all commissioners present voting in favor of the motion.

(1) The board considered rezoning petition 2023-016- LC, a request by Daybreak Industrial Inc. to rezone 10.12 acres from AR-1 and A-1 to I-1 for a storage warehouse. The property is located at 2873 South Coastal Hwy. and is further described as LCTM 190 – 022. Following the presentation of staff reports, the petitioner answered questions from the board and asked for consideration in support of the request. Mr. John D McIver, Ms. Gloria Cook Osborne, and Mr. Charlton Hargrove spoke in opposition to the proposal. Mr. Philip Collier and Mr. Ricky Phillips spoke in support of the request, and Mr. Charlton Williams stated he was not for or against the project, just concerned about the building in a residential area. Following discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Stevens to table the matter for 30 days, seconded by Commissioner Frasier, with all commissioners present voting in favor except Commissioner Walden, who was opposed.

(2) The board considered rezoning petition 2023-021- LC by JPC Design and Construction on behalf of Michael Lee Bryant life trust to rezone 5 acres from AR-1 to B-2 for hotels and additional parking for a travel center. The property is located on Highway 84, west of Interstate 95, and is further described as LCTM 265- 031. Mr. Jeremy Crosby, representing the proponent for the project, appeared before the board to answer questions. Following the presentation of staff reports, Commissioner Stevens made a motion to approve the rezoning petition, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard and approved by all commissioners in attendance.

Commissioner Stevens made a motion to adjourn the public hearing and return to regular session, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard, and approved by all commissioners in attendance.

B. The board considered bids received for grass mowing at outlying recreation parks. Commissioner Stevens made a motion to award the bid to 25th Hour Enterprises at a total cost of 17,425.00 per year, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard and approved by all commissioners in attendance.

C. The engineering report was presented by Mr. Trent Long.

(1) The board reviewed bids for the Gill Park walking trail. Commissioner Gilliard made a motion to award the bid to Swindell Construction Company at a total cost of \$109,085.50, second by Commissioner Stevens and approved by all commissioners in attendance.

(2) The board reviewed proposals received for the extension of the county water system in the Lewis Frasier Road area of Liberty County. Commissioner Stevens made a motion to award the bid to Palm Coast Utilities at a total cost of \$1,668,332.93 and to negotiate a change order to reduce the scope of the project to match available funding of \$1,029,468.75, seconded by Commissioner Frasier, and approved by all commissioners in attendance.

7. The board considered new business:

A. Mr. David Floyd appeared before the board to present an overview of the proposed summer food program for Liberty County. Commissioner Frasier made a motion to appoint Mr. Floyd as the coordinator for the summer food program in Liberty County and to authorize the application for a grant for these purposes, seconded by Commissioner Stevens and approved by all commissioners in attendance.

B. Mr. Bob Saville of Seville Public Entity reviewed a presentation with the board associated with property and casualty insurance renewal. Mr. Saville informed the board that he would meet with them again during the mid-month meeting to present the final figures associated with the renewal.

C. The board considered a resolution to participate in national class-action litigation involving prescription opiate use. Commissioner Frasier made a motion to adopt the resolution for participation, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard and approved by all commissioners in attendance.

D. The board reviewed language associated with House Bill 1443 of the Georgia legislative session involving licensing food trucks within jurisdictions. In addition, the county administrator informed the board that staff were preparing draft language associated with an ordinance for food truck operations in the county's unincorporated area.

E. The board considered a special event alcohol license for Mr. Hassett Patel associated with a benefit fundraiser for the Hinesville Rotary Club. Commissioner Stevens made a motion to approve the license request, seconded by Commissioner Frasier and approved by all commissioners in attendance.

8. Commissioner Frasier made a motion to adjourn to an executive session for a real estate matter, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard and approved by all commissioners in attendance.

9. Commissioner Frasier made a motion to adjourn the executive session and return to regular meetings, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard, and approved by all commissioners in attendance.

10. Commissioner Frasier made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting, seconded by Commissioner Stevens and approved by all commissioners in attendance.

Liberty County Board of Commissioners

SIGNED:

Donald L. Lovette, Chairman

Connie Thrift, Vice-Chairman

Marion Stevens, Sr., Commissioner

Justin Frasier, Commissioner

Maxie R. Jones, IV, Commissioner

Gary Gilliard, Commissioner

Eddie J. Walden, Commissioner

Attest:

Joseph W. Brown, County Administrator