Board of Commissioners
Wilkinson County

COMMISSION MEETING
January 2, 2019
5:00 PM

The Wilkinson County Board of Commissioners met in a Regular Session at 9:00 AM on January 2, 2019 at the Commission Chambers in the Courthouse. The following Commissioners were present: Chairman Michael Gotell, Commissioner Glenn Kester, Commissioner James Hagins, and Commissioner John Williams.

The following staff was present: County Manager Joseph Mosley, County Attorney DuBose Porter, and Sr. Account Tech I Deborah Osborne.

Invocation

Chairman Gotell asked Commissioner James Hagins-District 2 to lead the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Gotell asked Commissioner Glenn Kester-District 1 to lead the pledge.

Agenda

Chairman Gotell asked for a motion to approve the Agenda. Moved by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Hagins to approve the Agenda. Commissioner Hagins voted yes; Chairman Gotell voted yes; Commissioner Kester voted yes; and Commissioner Williams voted yes. Motion carried; there were none opposed.

Minutes

Chairman Gotell entertained a motion to approve the Regular Session Minutes of the January 2, 2018. Moved by Commissioner Hagins and seconded by Commissioner Williams to approve the Minutes of the Regular Session. Commissioner Hagins voted yes; Chairman Gotell voted yes; Commissioner Kester voted yes; and Commissioner Williams voted yes. Motion carried; there were none opposed.

Visitors’ Present

Marty Dominy, Karen Kester and Jan Adair and her sister
Recognition of Visitors / Presentations

a. None

Old Business

a. There was no old business.

New Business

a. Motion to approve or deny a request by Mr. Steve Whipple to grant exemption to tax property at 146 Irwinton Road, Toomsboro, GA. County Attorney DuBose Porter advised the Board of Commissioners that in the past the Commissioners have denied any tax exemption request. If the Board of Commissioners were to do so, they would be setting precedence. The County Manager stated that according to the Tax Commissioner, all of the sales were done according to law. Moved by Commissioner John Williams and seconded by Commissioner James Hagins to deny the exemption. Commissioner Hagins voted yes; Chairman Gotell voted yes; Commissioner Kester voted yes; and Commissioner Williams voted yes. Motion carried; there were none opposed.

b. Motion to elect a Commissioner as Vice-Chair. Commissioner Williams stated in the past they would just follow the districts 1, 2, 3 and 4. This year, it was the Commissioner from District 1’s turn to be Vice-Chair. Commissioner Kester passed on the position of Vice-Chair, as he was a newly elected and was trying to get a feel for things. Commissioner Hagins agreed to serve as Vice-Chairman this calendar year. Moved by Commissioner Williams to appoint James Hagins District – 2 as Vice-Chair seconded by Commissioner Hagins. Commissioner Hagins voted yes; Chairman Gotell voted yes; Commissioner Kester voted yes; and Commissioner Williams voted yes. Motion carried; there were none opposed.

c. Discuss the status of District – 3 seat formerly held by the late Commissioner J.M. Howell.

After a brief discussion the County Attorney and County Manager informed the Commissioner’s that there were several ways to proceed. A special election could be held 4 different times during the year. Since the SPLOST is due to run out next year, it would be cost effective to appoint someone to fill District – 3 position until November and combine the SPLOST vote with a special election together. Presently, it would cost the County approximately $4,000.00 to hold the elections just for District-4. Chairman Gotell said he would like to see the position advertised so that they could see who would be interested if filling the District-3 seat. Commissioners have agreed to see who would be interested in the position by placing an advertisement in the Wilkinson County Post. A decision would then be made to appoint someone to fill the position until an election could be held.
County Managers Report:

Mr. Mosley reported “No report”, but there was a prepared report.

1. **EMA & Fire Departments**
   a. Reminder that the Hazardous Mitigation Plan is underway. The monthly meeting is scheduled the fourth Thursday of the month at 6p.m. at the EMA’s office.
   b. Reminder of EMA dinner on Tuesday, December 18th @ 6:00p.m.

2. **GDOT Projects**
   a. Completed Title 6 Document and submitted to GDOT.
   b. GDOT Transit Representative came and discussed reimbursements.
   c. Talked to Kevin Mullis about reimbursement of County Funds.

3. **Budget & Finance**
   a. The auditor continues to work.

4. **Courthouse Updates**
   a. We experienced some leaking; reported to contractor and architect.
   b. Reviewed dedication marker to determine what we need to erect.

5. **Updates & Reminders**
   a. Completed EPD Document online.

**Visitors Comments**

a. None

**Closing Prayer**

Chairman Gotell asked Commissioner Williams to led us in a closing prayer.

**Adjournment**

Moved by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Hagins to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Williams voted yes, Chairman Gotell voted yes, Commissioner Hagins voted yes and Commissioner Kester voted yes. Motion carried there were none opposed.
Notice to Visitors

The Board of Commissioners welcomes you to our meeting. We ask that you do not talk during the meeting to allow us to hear all discussion between Commissioners. If you would like to be placed on the agenda, please contact the Board of Commissioners Office at 946-2236 no later than the Thursday prior to meeting.