

GREENE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
OCTOBER 2023**

OCTOBER 10, 2023 MEETING:

Chairman Usry led the Pledge of Allegiance and the invocation.

Call to Order: Chairman Usry called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Commissioners Deering, Smith, Filice and Chairman Usry were present. Also present was County Manager Byron Lombard.

Minutes: The Chairman inquired with the Commissioners to determine if any corrections were necessary for the minutes under consideration for approval. Commissioner Smith motioned to approve the Minutes from the September 2023 Regular Monthly Meeting. Commissioner Filice seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Zoning & Subdivision Items:

Consideration of a Conditional Use Request – Private Family Cemetery at 1990 Farmington Road: The Commissioners reviewed a request seeking Conditional Use approval for a family cemetery to be located at 1990 Farmington Road on property zoned A1. The Zoning Ordinance allows for family cemeteries provided that only family members of one collateral line of descent are buried in the cemetery, the cemetery is surrounded by a perimeter fence, and a buffer is maintained. Commissioner Deering motioned to approve the Conditional Use request submitted by Alexandria Okon on behalf of Ernestine Atwater and Mattie Protheo as owners of parcel number 009-0-00-021-0 for a private cemetery subject to the installation of a minimum four-foot tall chain link fence and a ten-foot buffer around the burial site. Commissioner Smith seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of a Rezoning Request – Oconee Land Development Company, LLC, Renewal of the Short-Term Rental Overlay Districts: The Commissioners reviewed a request seeking to maintain the short-term rental overlay that was approved by the Board in October 2018. The Zoning ordinance affords the developer-initiated overlays to be enacted for five-year periods, so the initiated approved overlay is set to expire, and the developer seeks renewal of the overlay zoning. Commissioner Filice motioned to approve the Short Term Rental Overlay Zoning Districts for the areas in Reynolds Lake Oconee generally known as Marina Cove Village, The Village at Lake Club Pointe, and the National Club Cottages, and the area in Reynolds Landing generally known as The Village at The Landing, with the specific limits of the Zoning Districts to apply as specified in the application. Mark Shultz spoke against the request and the different application requirements required of a developer versus others seeking an overlay district. Commissioner Deering seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Business Items:

Consideration of a Resolution Establishing a Uniform Franchise Fee under O.C.G.A. § 36-76-6: The Board received background information regarding the County's lack of a uniform franchise fee and the reasons why the imposing the fee needed to be reconsidered. Commissioner Smith motioned to adopt Resolution Number 2023.10.10(a) implementing a uniform franchise fee on the provision of cable service or video service in unincorporated Greene County, and to waive the reading of the Resolution. Commissioner Filice seconded. Commissioner Smith clarified that the franchise fee would only apply in unincorporated Greene County, and there was general discussion as to the timing of cable providers' right-of-way work and when the fee would begin to be collected on bills. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of a Resolution Updating Security Arrangements for County Buildings in Response to the “Constitutional Carry Act”: The Board received background information that an update to the County’s policy regarding carrying of weapons was necessary due to State law changes. Commissioner Deering motioned to adopt Resolution Number 2023.10.10(b) amending current provisions relating to carrying of weapons in county buildings in response to the adoption of the ‘Constitutional Carry Act’ adopted by the General Assembly, and to waive the reading of the Resolution. Commissioner Filice seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding Mental Health Services in Georgia: The Board received background information regarding an effort by ACCG to call upon State leaders to reform and improve mental health services in Georgia. Commissioner Filice motioned to adopt Resolution Number 2023.10.10(c) encouraging the Georgia General Assembly to continue efforts to reform and improve mental health services throughout Georgia, and to waive the reading of the Resolution. Commissioner Deering seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of a Lease Renewal for the Department of Veterans Service: The Board received background information that a lease renewal was sought by the State for the Department of Veterans Services office in the Courthouse. Commissioner Filice motioned to approve the Rental Agreement between the Greene County Board of Commissioners and State Properties Commission for the Department of Veterans Services regarding the office space used on the first floor the Courthouse. Commissioner Deering seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of a Resolution Electing Not to Require Mobile Home Decals: The Board received background information that the State no longer requires the County to issue mobile home decals. Commissioner Smith motioned to adopt Resolution Number 2023.10.10(d) Electing Not to Require Mobile Home Decals in Greene County, and to waive the reading of the resolution. Commissioner Deering seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of an Addition to the Wrecker Rotation List: The Board received background information that the Sheriff met with the operator of Maurice’s Towing and discussed the circumstances leading to Maurice’s Towing’s removal from the Wrecker Rotation List earlier this year. The Sheriff expressed his support at giving Maurice another chance if the Board agreed. Commissioner Deering motioned to authorize the addition of Maurice Towing, LLC to the wrecker service rotation list for both small and heavy emergency wrecker services in Greene County. Commissioner Filice seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of the Airport Capital Improvement Program: The Board received background information that the Airport Advisory Committee helped develop and review the proposed Airport Capital Improvement Program with County staff and the contracted engineer. Commissioner Smith motioned to approve the Airport Capital Improvement Program for submission to the Georgia Department of Transportation. Commissioner Filice seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of a Revised Building Permit Fee Schedule: The Board received background information that staff recommends the Building Permit Fee Schedule be revised to add the fees required by the State for Land Disturbance Activities. Commissioner Filice motioned to adopt the revised permit fee schedule for the Building and Zoning Department to add the fee structure for land disturbance activities, making the revision effective upon adoption. Commissioner Smith seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Adoption of the FY2024 Organizational Chart: The Board received background information that the proposed organizational chart for the Board of Commissioners and its offices had been prepared based on the budgetary allocations approved for Fiscal Year 2024. Commissioner Deering motioned to approve the Fiscal

Year 2024 Organizational Chart. Commissioner Filice seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Budget Adjustments for FY2023 and FY2024: The Board received background information that a list of budget adjustments was compiled in preparation for the annual audit and address other issues. Commissioner Filice motioned to approve the budget adjustments for Fiscal Year 2023 and Fiscal Year 2024 as detailed on the budget adjustments forms to increase funding for the Development Authority, to provide for equipment for EMS, and to make end-of-year adjustments to balance accounts in Fiscal Year 2023. There was general discussion of EMS call volume increasing and how Hotel/Motel taxes are budgeted and expensed. Commissioner Deering seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of a SPLOST Expenditure: The Board received background information regarding the need to acquire equipment to keep the Firefly Trail sides mowed and the trail itself blown off from leaves and debris. Commissioner Smith motioned to approve to allocate up to \$30,000.00 from SPLOST VII Funding designated for Recreation to purchase maintenance equipment necessary for the Firefly Trail. Commissioner Filice seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session: None

Commissioner’s Reports:

Adjournment: Chairman Usry adjourned the meeting at 5:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sylvia V. Hill, County Clerk

The above minutes were adopted and approved this day 14th day of November, 2023.

Gary Usry, Chairman

Jeffery L. Smith, Vice-Chairman

Angela Walker Deering, Commissioner

Dee Lindsey, Commissioner

Ernie Filice, Commissioner