

**Upson County Board of Commissioners
May 26, 2015 Meeting Minutes**

Call to Order

Chairman Blackston calls the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. All Commissioners are in attendance. County Attorney Paschal English is also in attendance. The Invocation was led by Commissioner Wilder and Pledge of Allegiance is led by Chairman Blackston.

Minutes

Chairman Blackston stated that the date on the minutes for May 12, 2015 regular meeting minutes be changed from March 24, 2015.

A motion is made by Comm. Spraggins, with a second from Comm. Ellington, to adopt the May 6, 2015 work session minutes and May 12, 2015 regular meeting minutes. The motion carries.

Commissioner Wilder – Yes Commissioner Ellington – Yes
Chairman Blackston – Yes Commissioner Hudson – Yes
Commissioner Spraggins – Yes

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

New Business

- a. Bill Powell from GA Rural Water stated that it is a requirement by the state that the water department have a business plan. He stated that he had work with Dwight Smith and they had submitted a plan. He added that the water rates are not where they should be and they also worked on a rate increase for water usage and sewer.
The board decided to have a work session on June 2, 2015 at 9:00 am to discuss water rates.

WATER AND SEWER RATE COMPARISON FOR UPSON COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY								
	OLD RATES			NEW RATES				
	Water	Total		Water	Total	% Increase		
Zero Gallons	\$ 17.50	\$ 17.50		Zero Gallons	\$ 19.07	\$ 19.07	8.97%	
1,000 Gallons	\$ 17.50	\$ 17.50		1,000 Gallons	\$ 23.57	\$ 23.57	34.69%	
2,000 Gallons	\$ 17.50	\$ 17.50		2,000 Gallons	\$ 28.07	\$ 28.07	60.40%	
3,000 Gallons	\$ 22.66	\$ 22.66		3,000 Gallons	\$ 32.82	\$ 32.82	44.84%	
4,000 Gallons	\$ 27.82	\$ 27.82		4,000 Gallons	\$ 37.57	\$ 37.57	35.05%	
5,000 Gallons	\$ 32.98	\$ 32.98		5,000 Gallons	\$ 42.32	\$ 42.32	28.32%	
6,000 Gallons	\$ 38.14	\$ 38.14		6,000 Gallons	\$ 47.32	\$ 47.32	24.07%	
7,000 Gallons	\$ 43.30	\$ 43.30		7,000 Gallons	\$ 52.32	\$ 52.32	20.83%	
8,000 Gallons	\$ 48.46	\$ 48.46		8,000 Gallons	\$ 57.32	\$ 57.32	18.28%	
9,000 Gallons	\$ 53.62	\$ 53.62		9,000 Gallons	\$ 62.32	\$ 62.32	16.23%	
10,000 Gallons	\$ 58.78	\$ 58.78		10,000 Gallons	\$ 67.32	\$ 67.32	14.53%	
	OLD RATES			NEW RATES				
	Water	Sewer	Total	Water	Sewer	Total	% Increase	
Zero Gallons	\$ 17.50	\$ 6.50	\$ 24.00	Zero Gallons	\$ 19.07	\$ 4.20	\$ 23.27	-3.04%
1,000 Gallons	\$ 17.50	\$ 6.50	\$ 24.00	1,000 Gallons	\$ 23.57	\$ 10.50	\$ 34.07	41.96%
2,000 Gallons	\$ 17.50	\$ 10.19	\$ 27.69	2,000 Gallons	\$ 28.07	\$ 16.80	\$ 44.87	62.04%
3,000 Gallons	\$ 22.66	\$ 13.88	\$ 36.54	3,000 Gallons	\$ 32.82	\$ 23.45	\$ 56.27	54.00%
4,000 Gallons	\$ 27.82	\$ 17.57	\$ 45.39	4,000 Gallons	\$ 37.57	\$ 30.10	\$ 67.67	49.09%
5,000 Gallons	\$ 32.98	\$ 21.26	\$ 54.24	5,000 Gallons	\$ 42.32	\$ 36.75	\$ 79.07	45.78%
6,000 Gallons	\$ 38.14	\$ 24.95	\$ 63.09	6,000 Gallons	\$ 47.32	\$ 43.75	\$ 91.07	44.35%
7,000 Gallons	\$ 43.30	\$ 28.64	\$ 71.94	7,000 Gallons	\$ 52.32	\$ 50.75	\$ 103.07	43.27%
8,000 Gallons	\$ 48.46	\$ 32.33	\$ 80.79	8,000 Gallons	\$ 57.32	\$ 57.75	\$ 115.07	42.43%
9,000 Gallons	\$ 53.62	\$ 36.02	\$ 89.64	9,000 Gallons	\$ 62.32	\$ 64.75	\$ 127.07	41.76%
10,000 Gallons	\$ 58.78	\$ 39.71	\$ 98.49	10,000 Gallons	\$ 67.32	\$ 71.75	\$ 139.07	41.20%

- b. The board had the second reading for the ordinance to amend Code Section 504.B.16. This amendment changes the set back distance from 200ft to 100ft from all property lines.

A motion is made by Comm. Hudson, with a second from Comm. Ellington, to approve the ordinance changing the code section. The motion carries.

Chairman Blackston – Yes Commissioner Hudson – Yes
Commissioner Spraggins – Yes Commissioner Ellington – Yes
Commissioner Wilder – Yes

AN ORDINANCE OF UPSON COUNTY, GEORGIA,
TO AMEND ARTICLE 5, SECTION 504B.16 OF APPENDIX A (ZONING) OF THE CODE OF UPSON COUNTY

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UPSON COUNTY, GEORGIA, AND IT IS
HEREBY ORDAINED AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION ONE

In adopting this Ordinance, the Upson County Board of Commissioners hereby specifically amends Article 5,
Section 504B.16 of Appendix A. (Zoning) of the Code of Upson County, Georgia.

SECTION TWO

This Ordinance is adopted to amend Article 5, Section 504B.16 of Appendix A (Zoning) of the Code of Upson County
by striking said provision in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof the following:

**"Chicken houses, providing that all structures and facilities must be set back a distance of 100 feet from
all property lines."**

SECTION THREE

This Ordinance shall take effect on _____ May, 2015.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UPSON COUNTY

By: _____
RUSTY BLACKSTON, Chairman

By: _____
FRANK SPRAGGINS, Vice-Chairman

1
By: _____
STEVE HUDSON, Commissioner

By: _____
RALPH ELLINGTON, Commissioner

By: _____
LORENZO WILDER, Commissioner

ATTEST:

COUNTY CLERK
(Seal)

- c. Commissioner Wilder stated that Old Swifton Road was in a bad condition and he had spoken with James Melton about Resurfacing it. The only planned road to resurface this year is Delray Road and that would be under contract. Mr. Melton stated that Old Swifton Road is 1.4 miles long, 18 ft wide and it will take about 997.92 tons of topping, 406.56 tons of leveling and 1300 gals of tack. An estimated cost of \$95,125.20. The board discussed that the money could come from the 2011 SPLOST.

A motion was made by Comm.Wilder with a second from Comm. Spraggins approving the resurfacing of Old Swifton Road.

Commissioner Hudson – Yes Commissioner Spraggins – Yes
Commissioner Ellington – Yes Commissioner Wilder – Yes
Chairman Blackston – Yes

- d. Comm. Ellington stated that he along with Comm. Hudson and County Attorney Paschal English met with the Volunteer Fire Departments. The Volunteer Fire Departments would work on list of equipment needed that could possibly be paid for through the 2011 SPLOST. All the Volunteer Fire Departments agreed that radio equipment is need for communication with each other. Currently Yatesville and Salem can't communication with anyone and depending on the location in the county Thurston can't communicate with anyone. RCE of Macon can put repeaters in Yatesville, Salem and Thruston for \$11,000-\$15,000. They also discussed extrication equipment. They would need four because Northside and Thurston already have the equipment that is certified. The retail value is \$23,000, currently they can get the equipment for \$17,500. Yatesville fire truck is in need of a pump. If the county does purchase this equipment they will amend the currnet contract with the county and the Volunteer Fire Departments to lease the equipment to the Volunteer Fire Departments from the county.

A motion was made by Comm. Hudson with a second from Comm. Wilder approving the purchases up to \$100,000.

Commissioner Hudson – Yes Commissioner Ellington – Yes
Chairman Blackston – Yes Commissioner Wilder – Yes
Commissioner Spraggins – Yes

- e. Chairman Blackston asked the board to look at Code Section 38-61 and consider amending it so the Sheriff Department can enforce it when they are called about loud music or nuisance to the neighbors. Currently the Sheriff's Dept. is not allowed to give citations until 10 days after the complaint is filed.
- f. A motion was made by Comm. Spraggins with a second from Comm. Ellington to appoint Glenda VanHouten to the Board of Health
 - Chairman Blackston – Yes Commissioner Hudson – Yes
 - Commissioner Spraggins – Yes Commissioner Wilder – Yes
 - Commissioner Ellington – Yes

County Manager, Commissioners and County Attorney Comments

County Manager Jim Wheeless was not in attendance.

Commissioner Spraggins had no comments.

Commissioner Hudson stated that they had a good weekend at Sprewell Bluff.

Commissioner Wilder stated that on Thursday May 7th he was able to tour schools and it was very informative and thinks it would be good if all the commissioners could go when other tours come up. He also invited everyone to participate in the Emancipation festivities on May 23.

Commissioner Ellington thanked the board for their support on the Volunteer Fire Departments.

County Attorney Heath English had no comments.

Chairman Blackston stated that he had a meeting with the Department of Agriculture and there are some upgrades needed at the Animal Shelter and they may need to add an employee.

Adjournment

Comm. Spraggins made a motion to adjourn at 7:10 pm, with a second by Comm. Ellington to adjourn the meeting.

Chairman Rusty Blackston

Commissioner Steve Hudson

Commissioner Frank Spraggins

Commissioner Lorenzo Wilder

Commissioner Ralph Ellington

NOT IN ATTENDANCE
Jim Wheeless, County Manager