

UPSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
6:00 P.M. – Regular Commission Meeting
City/County Meeting Room – June 27, 2017

Attendance: Chairman Allen, Commissioner Spraggins, Commissioner R. Ellington, Commissioner J. Ellington, Commissioner Wilder, County Manager Jim Wheelless, Attorney Paschal English and County Clerk Jessica Jones

I. CALL TO ORDER
Chairman Norman Allen

II. INVOCATION
Rev. Michael Birdsong

III. PLEDGE

IV. A motion was made to amend the agenda to discuss the county website.

Motion: Commissioner Spraggins **Second:** Commissioner J. Ellington

 Commissioner J. Ellington – Yes Commissioner R. Ellington – Yes
 Commissioner Wilder – Yes Commissioner Spraggins – Yes

V. ADOPTION OF MINUTES
June 13, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion: Commissioner Spraggins **Second:** Commissioner R. Ellington

 Commissioner J. Ellington – Yes Commissioner R. Ellington – Yes
 Commissioner Wilder – Yes Commissioner Spraggins – Yes

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Henry Wilder, 1162 Hwy 80, Culloden GA, stated that when the Salem Community first got a park, several people from the community went worked with the state to help get funding to build the park. He gave the board the signed petition below.

Petition

We, the undersigned, are opposed to the county takeover of the Community Parks. We are demanding that the County of Upson hear and understand the need for community parks.

Most of the community parks of Upson County were built and are operated by the hard working members of the community for the use of the community. To remove these parks from the control of the respective communities will destroy the parks.

If you agree with us, please sign this petition in support of the effort to save our parks and for the parks to remain in the control of the local community.

Please sign your name below along with your mailing address, to include your phone number to be presented to the Upson County Commissioners.

Name	Address	Ph. #
Tommas Williams	702 Allen Rd Culloden Ga 31016	478-957-0135
Theresa Lee	7411 Hwy 19 So Culloden Ga 31016	478-836-2360
Cathy Latta	7411 Hwy 19 So Culloden Ga 31016	478-836-2360
Alma Long	6094 Hwy 19 South Culloden Ga 31016	706-647-5389
Att Long	6094 Hwy 19 South Culloden Ga 31016	706-647-5389
Jerry D. Wallis	414 Hollis Rd Yorkville Ga 31097	770-468-8088
Wanda Long	160 Kendall Rd Yorkville Ga 31097	706-741-4445
W. G. McCallum	6083 Hwy 19 South Culloden Ga 31016	706-647-7288
Marion	493 Old Salsburgh Rd. Sparta, Ga	706-647-9408
Billy Dochart	487 off Fallow Hts. W. Sparta, Ga	706-647-5473
Christina M. Long	149 Chatfield Rd, Culloden Ga 31016	478-957-2337
John	257 Murray Dr. Milledgeville Ga 31133	706-652-8377
Quetta Williams	500 W. Hwy 19, Culloden Ga 31016	478-836-4908

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Name	Address	Ph. #
Zorach Latta	73 Chatfield Rd.	478-836-5252
Diana Latta	73 Chatfield Rd.	478-836-5252
Bernice Wilder	623 Allen Rd	478-836-4697
Ernest Wilder	623 Allen Rd Culloden Ga	478-836-5671
Shirley Dilsom	92 Parkview Rd. Culloden Ga 31016	478-836-2620
Eddie Collins	228 Pershiew Rd. Thomaston Ga	706-648-2434
Velma Collins	228 Pershiew Rd. Thomaston Ga	
Henry Miller	1165 Hwy 20 Culloden Ga 31016	478-936-3620
Honey L. Wilder	1162 Hwy 20 Culloden, Ga 31016	478-960-1602
Martha Wright	454 Pleasant Hope Rd. Culloden 31016	
James Jones	141 Chatfield Rd. Culloden, Ga	
Alvin M. M. M.	141 Chatfield Rd. Culloden,	

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Name	Address	Ph. #
Regina Montgomery	547 US Hwy 80 Culloden GA	478-954-2615
Millicent Price	1568 US Hwy 80 Culloden Ga.	478-836-4011
John Zetterberg	1346 A Highway 80 Culloden Ga.	478-836-4594
Ch. J. ...	3749 Whitaker Rd Roberta Ga.	771-336-9821
Abner Lundy	1346 C US Hwy 80 Culloden, Ga 31016	478-836-4719
Bernie Wilder	1088 US Hwy 80 Culloden GA 31016	478 760 3733
William C. Sproun	5888 Indian Trail Thomaston 31086	706-647-4095
Charlotta Boyan	309 W. 900th Crossing Rd Thomaston 31086	706-648-9175
RICKY FAGAN	1121 Hwy 80 Culloden GA	478-836-4572

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Name	Address	Ph. #
Dobbin H. Hulse	4270 Whitaker Rd., Roberta, GA	478-957-8028
Draine Davis	4188 Whitaker Rd., Roberta, GA	478-973-9846
Ray ...	50 Allen Rd, d. Culloden Ga 31016	478 836 2371
Latelya Raines	162 Salem Drive Culloden Ga. 31016	706-570-1768
Linda Wilder	1354 Allen Rd Culloden, Ga 31016	478-836-4441
Spa Wilder	406 Ward Dr. Barnevillie, Ga 30204	470-259-5525
Cora Walker	1219 Allen Rd, Culloden GA 31016	478-836-3388
Milton Wilder	1354 Allen Rd. Culloden Ga.	478-836-4441
Alisha Green	229 Roberts St. Thomaston, GA	706-648-4309
Lynn Green	229 Roberts St. Thomaston, GA	706-648-4309
Lina Appleberry	229 Roberts St. Thomaston, GA	706-648-4309
Augusta Green	165 Kennedy St. Thomaston, Ga.	706-648-6062
Merky A. Green	165 Kennedy St. Thomaston, Ga.	706-648-6062
Ray G. Green	229 Roberts St. Thomaston, Ga.	706-648-4309
Pauline Hensley Jr.	1345 Thomas Miller Rd Thomaston Ga 30286	706-648-2133
Alvin Alexander Jr.	250 Maicey Rd Thomaston Ga 30286	706-648-8651
Kath Alexander Jr.	250 Maicey Rd Thomaston Ga 30286	706-648-8651
Willa Clea Green	229 Roberts St. Thomaston GA 30286	706-741-4408
Angela S. Raines	1141 Hwy 80, Culloden GA 31016	478-836-2371
Debbie D. Peaches	1404 Courtyard Road, Thomaston Ga	706-648-2512
James M. Ormel	1336 Whiting Drive, Thomaston, Ga. 30286	
Jimmie Cuthbert	636 Indian Hill, Thomaston, Ga. 30286	

VII. NEW BUSINESS

a. Discussion of the county website.

I.T. Director Robert Haney told the board that he has been looking at different options for a new website. His recommendation would be Civic Plus. This option will also allow the automation of agendas and minutes. The cost if paid in full is \$15,500 with an option to break it into three payments for \$6800. The maintenance cost for years 2-4 is \$2500 which is included if the payment plan is chosen. The board discussed the possibility of reallocating funds in the 2011 SPLOST. The process to get the new website up and running could take 4-6 months.

A motion was made to accept the bid with Civic Plus for a new county website for a total of \$23,125 with the 3 year payment plan option for \$6,833 for the first 3 years and the last 2 years for \$2500.

Motion: Commissioner R. Ellington **Second:** Commissioner Wilder
Commissioner J. Ellington – Yes Commissioner R. Ellington – Yes
Commissioner Wilder – Yes Commissioner Spraggins – Yes

b. Discussion of making electronic signatures on checks

Commissioner Wilder discussed the option to have electronic signatures printed on the checks instead of the Commissioners having to sign so many checks weekly. He added that there could be some up-front cost to have this done. With this process two Commissioner's names would be printed on the checks and a check proof would be printed for review and approval with every check run. Chairman Allen explained that with we are currently working on a procurement policy with new credit cards and e-payables. He believes they need to have more discussion in a work session.

A motion was made to table the electronic signatures for further discussion.

Motion: Commissioner Chairman Allen **Second:** Commissioner J. Ellington

Commissioner J. Ellington – Yes Commissioner R. Ellington – Yes
Commissioner Wilder – No Commissioner Spraggins – No
Chairman Allen – Yes

c. Discussion and appointment to Sprewell Bluff Advisory Board

A motion was made to appoint the following people to the Sprewell Bluff Advisory Board:

Layne McLendon
Richard Hickmon
Larry Dawson

Motion: Commissioner J. Ellington **Second:** Commissioner Spraggins

Commissioner J. Ellington – Yes Commissioner R. Ellington – Yes
Commissioner Wilder – Yes Commissioner Spraggins – Yes

d. Review/approve operation plan on county parks and centers

County Manager Jim Wheelless stated that the plan is not ready for approval. He gave the board a confidential draft for their review and feedback. Mrs. Mindy Daniel has been involved with tournaments and they have not had many opportunities to meet.

Chairman Allen add that he wants everyone to understated that the board wants to make sure that these facilities that belong to the county are in the capital improvement plan and that they county is taking care of them.

A motion was made by to table the operation plan for county parks and centers for further discussion.

Motion: Commissioner J. Ellington **Second:** Commissioner Wilder
Commissioner J. Ellington – Yes Commissioner R. Ellington – Yes
Commissioner Wilder – Yes Commissioner Spraggins – Yes

e. Discussion and approval of the proposal for general liability/worker's comp insurance

County Manager Jim Wheelless stated that they receive bids on Liability and workers comp insurance from BB& T and liability coverage from ACCG, they didn't bid on workers comp. BB&T will put the liability and workers comp coverage under Travelers Insurance. Chairman Allen explained there will be savings of 11.3% decrease in liability and about \$40,000 savings on the worker comp portion. County Manager's recommendation is to stay with BB& T because there is only a \$468 difference.

A motion was made to accept the bid from BB&T for \$381,051 for general liability and workers comp insurance.

Motion: Commissioner R. Ellington **Second:** Commissioner Spraggins
Commissioner J. Ellington – Yes Commissioner R. Ellington – Yes
Commissioner Wilder – Yes Commissioner Spraggins – Yes

f. Discussion and approval of resolution for compensation for Planning Commission members

Mr. Doug Currier verified the following:

- If the scheduled meeting is cancelled does the board member still receive pay?

Commissioner J. Ellington recommends they still receive the pay.

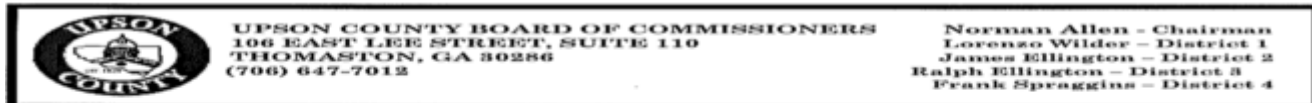
- If the member attends the regular meeting, but does don't attend a called meeting will they still receive their pay.

Commissioner J. Ellington recommends that it be considered a monthly supplement and they must attend the regular meeting.

- If a member has to serve as Chairman in his/her absence will they receive Chairman's pay?

The recommendation is they receive their regular pay, only the Chairman will receive the Chairman's pay.

- Mr. Currier asked for the wording to be changed in the last sentence to say regular meeting instead of called meeting.



RESOLUTION

TO AMEND CHAPTER 66 - PLANNING, ARTICLE II. - PLANNING COMMISSION, SECTION 66-34. - COMPENSATION.

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Upson County, Georgia is desirous of amending Chapter 66, Article II, Section 66-34 of the Code of Upson County, Georgia by striking said provision in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof the following:

"Planning Commission members will receive compensation for their services in accordance with this Resolution. The Planning Commission Chairman shall be compensated at a sum of twenty-five (\$25) dollars per month. All other members of the Planning Commission shall be compensated at a sum of twenty (\$20) dollars per month. Provided no member shall receive compensation unless present at the normal and customary monthly called meeting."

BE IT SO RESOLVED, THIS ____ DAY OF JUNE, 2017.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UPSON COUNTY

NORMAN ALLEN, CHAIRMAN

RALPH ELLINGTON, DISTRICT 3

LORENZO WILDER, DISTRICT 1

FRANK SPRAGGINS, DISTRICT 4

JAMES ELLINGTON, DISTRICT 2

ATTEST: JESSICA JONES
COUNTY CLERK

A motion was made to approve the resolution with the one word change.

Motion: Commissioner Spraggins

Second: Commissioner Wilder

Commissioner J. Ellington – Yes

Commissioner R. Ellington – Yes

Commissioner Wilder – Yes

Commissioner Spraggins – Yes

- g. Discussion and approval of resolution for Tax Commissioner to waive Penalties/Fees

A motion was made to approve the resolution to give the Tax Commissioner permission to adjust fees and penalties.

Motion: Commissioner R. Ellington

Second: Commissioner Spraggins

Commissioner J. Ellington – Yes

Commissioner R. Ellington – Yes

Commissioner Wilder – Yes

Commissioner Spraggins – Yes

RESOLUTION
A RESOLUTION REGARDING CORRECTIONS TO THE TAX DIGEST, EXEMPTIONS, ADJUSTMENTS TO PROPERTY TAX BILLS AND THE PROCESSING OF REFUNDS FOR TAXES, INTEREST, PENALTY AND FEES

WHEREAS, the law of the State of Georgia provides (O.C.G.A. Sections 9-12-93, 48-3-21, 48-3-21.1, 48-3-22, 48-3-23, 48-5-7.1, 48-5-7.2, 48-5-7.3, 48-5-7.4, 48-5-49, 48-5-51, 48-5-129, 48-5-154, 48-5-168, 48-5-241, 48-5-242, 48-5-299, 48-5-303, 48-5-311, 48-5-380, 53-3-4 and others) that the governing authority of a county is required from time to time to authorize that a correction or adjustment be made to the county tax digest;

WHEREAS, a correction or adjustment in the county tax digest may result in a change in the county tax bill resulting in an additional billing or a refund for taxes, interest, penalty or other fees;

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Upson County, Georgia determines that it is in the best interests of the taxpayers or Upson County, Georgia to delegate the authority to make such adjustments and process such refunds to the Tax Commissioner of Upson County, Georgia;

THEREFORE, BE IT SO RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Upson County, Georgia, that it hereby grants authority to the Tax Commissioner of Upson County, Georgia, as follows:

1. In the case of additional billing, the tax commissioner shall mail the taxpayer a recalculated tax bill indicating any additional taxes, interest, penalty or fees now owed and shall proceed to collect such bill as required by law.
2. In the case of a reduction in the tax bill, the tax commissioner shall refund to the taxpayer any and all taxes, interest, penalty or fees owed to such taxpayer as required by law.
3. The tax commissioner shall correct the digest and adjust the tax bill as above prescribed only after the request for the change has been approved by the tax assessor the tax commissioner and the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of Upson County, Georgia.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any resolution in conflict with this resolution is hereby repealed.

IN WITNESS HEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted by the BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UPSON COUNTY, GEORGIA, this ___ day of _____, 2017.

NORMAN ALLEN, CHAIRMAN

RALPH ELLINGTON, DISTRICT 3

LORENZO WILDER, DISTRICT 1

FRANK SPRAGGINS, DISTRICT 4

JAMES ELLINGTON, DISTRICT 2

ATTEST: _____
JESSICA JONES
COUNTY CLERK

- h. Discussion and approval of resolution for schoolhouse on Andrews Chapel Road
A motion was made to table the resolution for the schoolhouse on Andrews Chapel Road.

Motion: Commissioner J. Ellington **Second:** Commissioner Spraggins

Commissioner J. Ellington – Yes
Commissioner Wilder – Yes

Commissioner R. Ellington – Yes
Commissioner Spraggins – Yes

- i. Financial Report

Mr. Wheelless explained that the budget is about 3.7% down from where it should be at the end of 5 months. He added that revenues are coming in the way they should; they have increased over the past 3 years. Some departments are slightly ahead and this could be due to expenditures that happen early in the year but should equal out.

County Manager, Commissioners and County Attorney Comments

County Manager Jim had no comments.

Commissioner Spraggins had no comments.

Commissioner J. Ellington stated that they got a lot done, but he wished they could have gotten a lot more done, because there is a lot more to do.

Commissioner R. Ellington had no comments.

Commissioner Wilder had no comments.

County Attorney Paschal English had no comments.

Chairman Allen stated that they have a lot going on and he sent an email to the board and he hope they have taken the time to look at it. He added that he is concerned about the cost of the employee retirement. The recreation department worked really hard of the past weekends for tournament. He thanked them for all their hard work.

ADJOURNMENT

Comm. Spraggins made a motion to adjourn, with a second by Comm. J. Ellington to adjourn the meeting at 7:15.

Chairman Norman Allen

Commissioner James Ellington

Commissioner Frank Spraggins

Commissioner Lorenzo Wilder

Commissioner Ralph Ellington

Jim Wheelless, County Manager