

**JONES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
Jones County Government Center  
Charlotte C. Wilson Conference Room  
Planning and Zoning / First Tuesday Meeting 6:00 PM  
December 1, 2009  
**Summary Agenda**

The First Tuesday Business Meeting of the Jones County Board of Commissioners was held at 6:00 p.m. December 1, 2009, in the Charlotte C. Wilson Conference Room at the Jones County Government Center.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Members present representing a quorum of the board was:

Preston Hawkins-Chairman  
Larry Childs - Vice-Chairman  
David Gault – District Two Commissioner  
Tommy Robinson - District Three Commissioner  
Bert Liston – District Four Commissioner

County Attorney Frank Childs was present.

Chairman Hawkins exercises his voting rights in the case of a tie or to constitute a quorum. Attachments to the minutes are filed separately from the minutes in clasp envelopes labeled by meeting in the commissioner vault.

**AGENDA:**

Call to Order: Chairman Hawkins **called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m.**

Invocation: Frank Childs, County Attorney

Pledge: Frank Childs, County Attorney

*We do not have any Planning and Zoning Items for the agenda tonight.*

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

1. Minutes: Third Tuesday Meeting November 17, 2009

**Motion:** Motion by Liston, second by Gault to approve the minutes.  
**Vote:** Approved unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Acceptance of roads in Phase 2 Hampton Lakes – Tim Pitrowski.  
Tim Pitrowski, Director of Planning & Zoning recommended acceptance of the roads. The bond was sufficient to cover expenses on the sidewalks.

**Motion:** Motion by Liston, second by Gault to accept the roads in Phase Two of Hampton Lakes Subdivision.

**Vote:** Approved unanimously.

2. Macon Water Authority fees – Comm. Childs. Mr. Underwood distributed a copy of a letter from Macon Water Authority announcing an increase in their rates/fees charged to customers. A copy is attached to the minutes.

**Consensus of the Board:** was to have Mike Underwood, County Administrator work out a date for the Board of Commissioners to meet with the Macon Water Authority Board.

**Motion:** Motion by Childs, second by Robinson to table this until we have a date for a future meeting with the MWA Board.

**Vote:** Approved unanimously.

3. Appointment of Recreation Director

**Motion:** Motion by Gault, second by Liston to table the appointment and have a call meeting at a later date.

**Vote:** Approved unanimously.

4. Budget Amendments – Mike Underwood. Mike Underwood distributed an amended budget and accompanying resolution. After reading the resolution aloud, he requested a motion to adopt the resolution presented. Copies of both are attached to the minutes.

**Motion:** So moved by Gault, dually seconded by Liston and Childs.

**Vote:** Approved unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Second Reading of the Parks and Recreation Hours of Operation Ordinance. County Attorney Frank Childs read the ordinance aloud. The ordinance includes the addition of the pauper's cemetery. A copy is attached to the minutes.

2. Adoption of the Parks and Recreation Ordinance.

**Motion:** Motion by Liston, second by Gault to approve the Ordinance as read.

**Vote:** Approved unanimously.

**Effective Date:** The effective date for this ordinance shall be immediate as enactment is deemed an emergency by the Board.

**Commissioner Childs** requested a legal opinion on offering a reward with the frequency of break-ins and vandalism of county property we have experienced.

**Legal Opinion:** County Attorney Frank Childs rendered an opinion that legally it would be acceptable for the Board to offer a reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for theft and/or damage at any county property.

**Motion:** Motion by Childs, second by Gault to fund a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for theft and/or damage at any county property now and in the future.

**Vote:** Approved unanimously.

3. G-RAMP Project – request for funding from the City of Warner Robins – tabled from 11-17-09 Meeting

**Motion:** Motion by Childs, second by Gault to go ahead and

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support this GRAMP Project with a fee of \$1,444.00.

**Vote:** Approved 3 -1. (Childs, Gault, Robinson in favor).

**Opposed:** Liston.

4. Approval of Proclamation for Volunteer Fire and Rescue Appreciation Day. A copy of the Proclamation is attached to the minutes.

**Consensus:** of the Board was for Bill Wright, Deputy Director of EMA, to poll the fire chiefs and get back with Mike Underwood in 3-4 days with a date that would be good for volunteers to attend a meeting for the presentation of the Proclamation.

**Motion:** Motion by Childs, second by Gault to hold off on handing out the resolution to the Fire & Rescue personnel until we have a meeting scheduled and invite all the volunteers to attend.

**Vote:** Approved unanimously.

Comm. Gault requested that the County Clerk change the Proclamation to arrange the Commissioners' signatures around the Chairman's signature in the middle.

**Motion:** Motion by Childs, second by Gault to adopt the resolution and change the date of adoption to December 1, 2009.

**Vote:** Approved unanimously.

5. First reading of the Open Container Ordinance – Comm. Gault/Frank Childs. A copy of the ordinance is attached to the minutes. County Attorney Frank Childs presented the Ordinance to the Board. He suggested a list be comprised of public areas that would be sanctioned such as the golf course, the clubhouse, the cafeteria and gym. Additional security is already required when renting county facilities when alcohol will be consumed. Mr. Childs read the ordinance aloud.
6. First reading/vote to approve changing the local legislation to reflect the acceptance of competitive bids with advertisement to be published in the legal organ with costs in the excess of \$25,000. The current amount is \$18,000. Action as required pursuant to

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Home Rule. A copy of the change that is being advertised in the legal organ is attached to the minutes and was distributed at the meeting.

County Attorney explained the change to the local legislation.

**Motion:** Motion by Liston, second by Robinson to approve.

**Vote:** Approved unanimously.

7. First reading/vote to approve changing the local legislation to reflect the annual appointment of Vice-Chairman of the Board of Commissioners pursuant to Home Rule. A copy of the change that is being advertised in the legal organ is attached to the minutes and was distributed at the meeting.

County Attorney explained the change to the local legislation.

**Motion:** Motion by Gault, second by Liston to approve.

**Vote:** Approved unanimously.

#### **COMMISSIONER COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

1. Water Committee

Chairman Larry Childs reported to the Board discussions at their meeting held November 23, 2009.

Motion: Motion by Childs, second by Robinson to make the two million gallon storage tank a priority and to proceed with the funding of that project.

**Vote:** Approved unanimously.

2. Recreation Committee

Chairman Bert Liston discussed their meeting that was held November 23, 2009 in which they reviewed applications for the director position.

**Consensus of the Board:** was to hold a Call Meeting in the next two weeks.

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**DEPARTMENT HEADS:** (Action items only)

John Lowe discussed the ditch work in front of Chuck Baker's place.

**Consensus of the Board:** was for Mike Underwood, County Administrator to send Mr. Baker a letter with the state's decision prior to any work being done.

**COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:** (Action items only)

**Commissioner Childs:** discussed Liberty Park on Upper River Road.

**Motion:** Motion by Childs, second by Gault to transfer \$10,000 from the 2004 SPLOST and move it towards the costs of the new construction of walkways and sign at the entrance of the park.

**Vote:** Approved unanimously.

**Commissioner Gault:** discussed the need for signage on state Highway 129 where school buses stop in a dangerous curve. He requested a legal opinion from County Attorney Frank Childs on the repair of a private driveway used by the school bus to turn around.

**Legal Opinion:** Mr. Childs rendered an opinion that the county could repair only the section that is used by the bus and not to perform any work past the point that the bus utilizes.

**Consensus of the Board:** was for Mike Underwood to draft a letter to Mike England with the Georgia Department of Transportation to request signage and possible changes to the speed limit in the section discussed.

**ADJOURNMENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION:** The meeting adjourned to go into executive session for personnel at 7:11 p.m.

**Motion:** Motion by Liston, second by Childs.

**Vote:** Approved unanimously.

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**RECONVENE:** The meeting reconvened at 7:24 p.m.

**Motion:** Motion by Childs, second by Gault.

**Vote:** Approved unanimously.

**Chairman Hawkins** announced the resignation of Laten Boniol, Public Works Director and the Promotion of John Lowe, Assistant Director of Public to the position of Director effective January 15, 2010.

**Motion:** Motion by Childs, second by Gault to promote John Lowe to Public Works Director effective January 15, 2010 at a starting salary of \$45,000 for six months; a \$3,000 increase to \$48,000 July 15, 2010; and an additional increase of \$2,000 bringing his salary to \$50,000 December 15, 2010. Mr. Lowe will receive any cost of living increases that may be given to the county employees in the next budget year in addition to the amounts listed above.

**Vote:** Approved unanimously.

**Commissioner Robinson** discussed the August realignment of duties with no salary increase until Mrs. Thompson was certified. It will take two years for certification.

**Motion:** Motion by Robinson, second by Childs to give Jill Thompson, Human Resource Director, a salary adjustment to \$16.00 per hour effective now.

**Vote:** Approved 3-1. (Childs, Liston, Robinson approved).

**Opposed:** Commissioner Gault.

**County Clerk Leila Brittain** requested a motion to address the salary of the Assistant Director of Public Works that will be hired by Mr. Lowe.

**Motion:** Motion by Gault, dually seconded by Liston and Childs to set the salary of the Assistant Director of Public Works at \$40,000 to be reviewed in six months.

**Vote:** Approved unanimously.

**Howard Lancaster:** addressed issues with the county web site.

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**Consensus of the Board:** was for County Clerk, Leila Brittain to assist the IT Director, Will Harp with the maintenance of the County Clerk's page of the web site.

**Motion:** Motion by Childs, second by Gault to do upgrades to the Laserfiche software as needed up to \$1,900.00.

**Vote:** Approved unanimously.

**Motion:** Motion by Gault, second by Childs to get Leila Brittain a new color copier/scanner under the lease purchase plan.

**Vote:** Approved unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

**Motion:** Motion by Robinson, second by Liston to adjourn.

**Vote:** Approved unanimously.