POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

MAY 07, 2024 6:15 PM

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Commissioners Ray Carter, Hal Floyd, Jordan Hubbard, Linda Liles, Gary Martin, and Chuck Thaxton.

OTHERS PRESENT:

County Manager Matt Denton, Assistant County Manager Connor Hooper, County Attorney Brad McFall, and County Clerk Jaime Armstrong.

MEDIA PRESENT:

Jeremy Stewart, Polk County Standard Journal, and Kevin Myrick, Polk.Today.

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Hal Floyd called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. **Consider approval of agenda for the Regular Meeting of May 07, 2024.**

   Chairman Floyd called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Thaxton to approve the agenda for the Regular Meeting of May 07, 2024 with the following amendments: remove "Planning and Zoning recommended approval" from item #5, remove item #8 authorizing de-annexation of parcel 060A-085, amend FY2024 to FY2025 on item #14, and addition of Executive Session for Personnel. Second by Commissioner Liles. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. **Consider approval of Minutes for the Regular Meeting of April 02, 2024.**

   Chairman Floyd called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Thaxton to approve the Minutes for the Regular Meeting of April 02, 2024. Second by Commissioner Hubbard. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Consider presentation of Badge and Glock 47 (Serial Number BZLV728) with Holosun SCS Optics (Serial Number MS069706) to Police Chief Kenny Dodd following 32 years of service to the citizens of Polk County.**

   Chairman Floyd called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Carter to approve the presentation of Badge and Glock 47 (Serial Number BZLV728) with Holosun SCS Optics (Serial Number MS069706) to Police Chief Kenny Dodd following 32 years of service to the citizens of Polk County. Second by Commissioner Liles. Motion passed unanimously.

2. **Consider application requesting Special Use Permit from Alex Potteiger for Tax Parcel 043-184B located at 1340 Stringer Road, Rockmart, Georgia, for Type B Business License for gunsmithing services and FFL permitted firearm sales. Planning and Zoning recommended approval.**

   The applicant was present at the Work Session to answer any questions the Commissioners may have prior to consideration of the requests at their Regular Meeting.

   Chairman Floyd called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Carter to approve the request for a Special Use Permit from Alex Potteiger for Tax Parcel 043-184B located at

1340 Stringer Road, Rockmart, Georgia, for Type B Business License for gunsmithing services and FFL permitted firearm sales. Second by Commissioner Hubbard. Motion passed unanimously.

3. **Consider application requesting zoning change from A-1 to R-1 from Jim Moore for Tax Parcel 070-009 located off Hills Creek Road at Cornerstone Baptist Church, Taylorsville, Georgia, to allow 1 acre of the 5.025-acre tract to be sold for construction of a single family home. Planning and Zoning recommended approval.**

   The applicant was present at the Work Session to answer any questions the Commissioners may have prior to consideration of the requests at their Regular Meeting.

   Chairman Floyd called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Carter to approve the request for zoning change from A-1 to R-1 from Jim Moore for Tax Parcel 070-009 located off Hills Creek Road at Cornerstone Baptist Church, Taylorsville, Georgia, to allow 1 acre of the 5.025-acre tract to be sold for construction of a single family home to include the stipulation for refund of application fees. Second by Commissioner Liles. Motion passed unanimously.

4. **Consider application requesting zoning change from A-1 to R-1 from Ramonda Jackson for Tax Parcel 049-035 located at 1098 Stringer Road, Rockmart, Georgia, to allow 1 acre of the 37-acre tract to be gifted for construction of a single family home. Planning and Zoning recommended approval.**

   The applicant was present at the Work Session to answer any questions the Commissioners may have prior to consideration of the requests at their Regular Meeting.

   Chairman Floyd called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Carter to approve the request for from A-1 to R-1 from Ramonda Jackson for Tax Parcel 049-035 located at 1098 Stringer Road, Rockmart, Georgia, to allow 1 acre of the 37-acre tract to be gifted for construction of a single family home to include the stipulation for refund of application fees. Second by Commissioner Thaxton. Motion passed unanimously.

5. **Consider application requesting major subdivision of land from Dempsey Auction for Ruth Harris Estate for Tax Parcel 066-027 located at 981 Hills Creek Road, Taylorsville, Georgia, for the creation of 11 tracts.**

   Chairman Floyd called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Thaxton to approve the request for major subdivision of land from Dempsey Auction for Ruth Harris Estate for Tax Parcel 066-027 located at 981 Hills Creek Road, Taylorsville, Georgia, for the creation of 11 tracts. Second by Commissioner Hubbard. Motion passed unanimously.

6. **Consider resolution amending the adopted FY2024 Capital Fund 340 Budget to include an allocation of $80,000.00 funding for the paving necessary to provide access to the Rocky Hollow Tower site.**

   Paving necessary to access the Rocky Hollow Tower Site was included in the approved FY2024 CIP, but was not officially added to the adopted Capital Fund 340 Budget. This paving was previously agreed upon as part of the tower construction and land acquisition to pave the driveway from Rocky Hollow Road to the tower site, which is 12’ wide lane.

   Chairman Floyd called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Martin to approve the resolution amending the adopted FY2024 Capital Fund 340 Budget to include an allocation of $80,000.00 funding for the paving necessary to provide access to the Rocky Hollow Tower site. Second by Commissioner Liles. Motion passed unanimously.

7. **Consider recommendation from the Bid Committee to award the bid for twenty (20) AR-15 Patrol Rifles for the Police Department to Ed’s Public Safety, Inc. in the amount of $30,040.00. (Tabled April 02, 2024)**

   Bids were received for the purchase of twenty (20) AR-15 Patrol Rifles and accessories for the Police Department. The rifles will be purchased using Drug Seizure Funds. The lowest of the four bids received was from Smyrna Police Distributors in the amount of $29,525.00. Though the recommendation from the Bid Committee was to award the bid to Smyrna Police

Distributors, the Police Department requested further review to ensure that the bids submitted met specifications. Following that review, it was determined that Smyrna Police Distributors and AmChar Wholesale Inc. did not meet the specifications. The lowest of the two bids meeting those specifications was Ed's Public Safety, Inc. in the amount of $30,040.00. Based on this information, the Bid Committee amended their recommendation to award the bid to Ed's Public Safety, Inc. in the amount of $30,040.00.

Chairman Floyd stated the Motion as recommended by the Bid Committee is to award the bid for twenty (20) AR-15 Patrol Rifles for the Police Department to Ed's Public Safety, Inc. in the amount of $30,040.00. Motion passed unanimously.

8. **Consider a Resolution adopting the Fiscal Year 2023 Final General Fund Amendments.**

   Chairman Floyd called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Martin to approve the Resolution adopting the Fiscal Year 2023 Final General Fund Amendments. Second by Commissioner Hubbard. Motion passed unanimously.

9. **Consider a recommendation from the Finance Committee allocating funds from the landfill fund balance in a not to exceed amount of $1,500,000.00 to complete renovations to the jail cells in the Polk County Jail.**

   The proposal for jail cell renovations came from a sole source provider, SteelCo Services. Their proposal is a not to exceed amount of $194,037.00 to renovate a pod of eight cells. Being that there are seven cells, the not to exceed amount requested equates to $1,358,259.00. The balance of the funding will cover the cost of work that will be the County's responsibility (i.e., utility connections, etc.). Jail personnel are also looking for cheaper lighting and shower curtain products that could reduce the costs.

   Chairman Floyd stated the Motion as recommended by the Finance Committee is to Committee allocate funds from the landfill fund balance in a not to exceed amount of $1,500,000.00 to complete renovations to the jail cells in the Polk County Jail. Motion passed unanimously.

10. **Consider a recommendation from the Finance Committee to authorize the Chairman to sign an agreement acceptable to the Chairman and County Administration, with SteelCo Services in a not to exceed amount of $1,358,259.00 to complete renovations to seven (7) pods in the Polk County Jail based upon a sole source per pod proposal.**

    The per pod proposal is $194,037.00. Administration will develop an acceptable agreement that contains all of the county's required language and documentation prior to the Chairman's Signature. This is a sole source provider due to its proprietary paint and primer formula for which is guaranteed. The amount of requested funding is based upon a worst case scenario. Administration is working with the company to craft an agreement that will provide potential savings back to the County based upon the actual amount of work required for each pod.

    Chairman Floyd stated the Motion as recommended by the Finance Committee is to authorize the Chairman to sign an agreement acceptable to the Chairman and County Administration, with SteelCo Services in a not to exceed amount of $1,358,259.00 to complete renovations to seven (7) pods in the Polk County Jail based upon a sole source per pod proposal. Motion passed unanimously.

11. **Consider a recommendation from the Finance Committee to purchase one 2024 Ford Explorer (Police Package) from Prater Ford in the amount of 39,838.94.**

    This vehicle in on the lot ready for delivery and is being held pending Board approval. Model year 2024 vehicles are currently hard to find. The 2025 vehicles will be in production later this year and will cost over $45,000.00. Administration is working on the County's 2025 CIP and will present it as soon as it is complete.

    Chairman Floyd stated the Motion as recommended by the Finance Committee is to purchase one 2024 Ford Explorer (Police Package) from Prater Ford in the amount of 39,838.94 to be covered by 2020 SPLOST funds. Motion passed unanimously.

12. **Consider a recommendation from the Finance Committee to accept a donation of one surplus ambulance from Advent Health for use by EMA as a Mobile Command Post.**

    Chairman Floyd stated the Motion as recommended by the Finance Committee is to accept a donation of one surplus ambulance from Advent Health for use by EMA as a Mobile Command Post. Motion passed unanimously.

13. **Consider a recommendation from the Finance Committee to renew the County's Health Insurance with Aetna for Fiscal Year 2025.**

    Aetna is offering a credit of $114,000.00 on the second bill, and a premium reduction of 2.5% off of their proposed total premium for combining our Vision and Dental insurance under their policy. Their proposed premium will increase our total premium by 6.1% above our 2024 premium through Cigna prior to the 2.5% reduction. The 2.5% reduction would result in an estimated total annual premium of $739,010.00 for employees, and $3,693,134 for the County. Last year the Board returned all of a one-time $175,000.00 renewal credit from Cigna to the employees in the form of employee premium reductions. This year the employees will realize a substantial increase for not having the $175,000.00 plus the increase from the renewal.

    Chairman Floyd stated the Motion as recommended by the Finance Committee is to renew the County's Health Insurance with Aetna for Fiscal Year 2025. Motion passed unanimously.

14. **Consider recommendation from the Finance Committee amending the Polk County Classification and Compensation Plan to add the position of Maintenance Director within the Sheriff's Department at grade 20.**

    The current starting pay for Grade 20 is $54,531.00 and with 5 years' experience is $57,869.00 plus overhead and benefits. This position will be responsible for completing all maintenance and repair needs at the Sheriff's Office and Jail.

    Chairman Floyd stated the Motion as recommended by the Finance Committee is to amend the Polk County Classification and Compensation Plan to add the position of Maintenance Director within the Sheriff's Department at grade 20. Motion passed unanimously.

15. **Consider recommendation from the Finance Committee to amend the Code of Polk County, Chapter 2, Sections 2-282 and 2-283, Purchasing Procedures and Purchasing Requirements.**

    The proposed amendments to the purchasing procedures and requirements pertaining to bids/quotes and expenditure amounts are due to the current situation with inflation.

    Chairman Floyd stated the Motion as recommended by the Finance Committee is to amend the Code of Polk County, Chapter 2, Sections 2-282 and 2-283, Purchasing Procedures and Purchasing Requirements. Motion passed unanimously.

16. **Consider recommendation from the Bid Committee to award the bid for equipment and installation for four (4) 2024 Ford Explorers for the Police Department to Coosa Valley Communications Inc. in the amount of $49,412.00.**

    The request indicated the county is seeking bids for purchase and installation of emergency equipment for four (4) 2024 Explorer Patrol Vehicles. Of the three bids received, the lowest bid was received from Coosa Valley Communications in the amount of $49,412.00. Following a thorough review to ensure the low bidder met the required specifications, the Committee's recommendation is to award the bid to Coosa Valley Communications.

    Chairman Floyd stated the Motion as recommended by the Bid Committee is to award the bid for equipment and installation for four (4) 2024 Ford Explorers for the Police Department to Coosa Valley Communications Inc. in the amount of $49,412.00. Motion passed unanimously.

17. **Consider recommendation from the Bid Committee to award the bid for equipment and installation for one (1) 2023 Ford Explorer and three (3) 2024 Ford Explorers for the Sheriff's Office to Coosa Valley Communications Inc. in the amount of $38,360.00.**

The request indicated the county is seeking bids for purchase and installation of emergency equipment for one (1) 2023 Ford Explorer Admin Unit and three (3) 2024 Explorer Interceptor Patrol Vehicles. Of the five bids received, the lowest bid was received from Coosa Valley Communications in the amount of $38,360.00. Following a thorough review to ensure the low bidder met the required specifications, the Committee's recommendation is to award the bid to Coosa Valley Communications.

Chairman Floyd stated the Motion as recommended by the Bid Committee is to award the bid for equipment and installation for one (1) 2023 Ford Explorer and three (3) 2024 Ford Explorers for the Sheriff's Office to Coosa Valley Communications Inc. in the amount of $38,360.00. Motion passed unanimously.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

1. April 2024 Finance Report.

County Manager Denton reviewed the April2024 Finance Report. He reported that Revenues were at 79%, Expenses were at 74.5%, and Agency Allocations were at 85.6% though the report does not reflect salaries from ADP.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Thaxton had no comments.

Commissioner Liles reminded everyone that Mother's Day is coming up and also expressed her appreciation for her fellow Commissioners.

Commissioner Hubbard expressed his appreciation to the Department Heads for taking what they have and making it work stating the Commissioners always get the credit for the numbers coming in like they do, but it is because the Department Heads work so well with their employees to save the county as much money as possible. He also requested to have some discussions for the allocations to the cities to possibly help offset some of their costs.

Commissioner Carter congratulated Polk School District athletic students for making it to State playoffs. He stated our schools are being very successful and he is proud of what they are accomplishing. He is also very proud of all of the students and their accomplishments.

Commissioner Martin wished all the mothers everywhere a Happy Mother's Day. He congratulated Chief Kenny Dodd on his well-earned retirement and thanked him for his thirty plus years of public service to the county. He echoed Commissioner Hubbard on his request for discussions pertaining to allocations to the cities. He also mentioned an issue on Piedmont Highway with the Carter's pond that he feels needs to be addressed and suggested meeting to discuss resolving that issue.

Commissioner Floyd expressed his appreciation for his fellow Commissioners for their hard work on Chairing the Committees and for all that is being accomplished through those Committees.

EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR PERSONNEL

Chairman Floyd called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Thaxton to enter into Executive Session for Personnel. Second by Commissioner Liles. Motion passed with Commissioners Carter, Hubbard, Liles and Thaxton voting in favor; Commissioner Martin voted against.

RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING

Chairman Floyd called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Thaxton to reconvene the Regular Meeting. Second by Commissioner Martin. Motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURN

Chairman Floyd called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Thaxton to adjourn. Second by Commissioner Liles. Motion passed unanimously.

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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HAL FLOYD, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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JAIME ARMSTRONG, COUNTY CLERK