

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
REGULAR SESSION
Tuesday, July 9, 2019

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Chairman Bill Slaughter
Vice Chairman Mark Wisenbaker
Commissioner Joyce E. Evans
Commissioner Scott Orenstein
Commissioner Demarcus Marshall

Commissioner Clay Griner was not in attendance.

Chairman Slaughter called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

INVOCATION

Commissioner Wisenbaker

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Commissioner Wisenbaker

MINUTES

The minutes were presented for the work session of June 24, 2019, and the regular session of June 25, 2019. Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Commissioner Evans second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS

Keep Lowndes Valdosta Beautiful (KLVB)

County Manager, Joe Pritchard, presented the appointment. Mr. Pritchard stated the seat currently held by Mr. Greg Powell expired June 30, 2019. Mr. Pritchard further stated both Mrs. Victoria O'steen and Mrs. Kelisa Brown have expressed an interest in serving. Commissioner Orenstein nominated Ms. Kelisa Brown. There being no other nominations, Ms. Brown was appointed by acclamation.

Valdosta-Lowndes County Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBOA)

County Manager, Joe Pritchard, presented the appointments. Mr. Pritchard stated the seat held by Mr. Paul Alvarado expired July 1, 2019, and the seat held by Mr. John McCall will expire on August 28, 2019. Mr. Pritchard stated both Mr. Alvarado and Mr. McCall have expressed a desire to continue to serve. Mr. Pritchard stated there was a question regarding the length of service of both appointees asked during the work session. Mr. Pritchard further stated Mr. Alvarado has served since 2007, and Mr. McCall since 2012.

Commissioner Orenstein stated he understands Mr. McCall currently serves as Chairman, to which Mr. Pritchard replied yes. Chairman Slaughter opened the floor for nominations for the seat held by Mr. Alvarado. Commissioner Orenstein nominated Mr. Alvarado for reappointment. Commissioner Marshall nominated Mr. John Hogan for consideration. Vice Chairman Wisenbaker and Commissioner Marshall voted for Mr. Hogan. Commissioners Orenstein and Evans voted for Mr. Alvarado. Chairman Slaughter voted for Mr. Hogan to break the tie. Mr. John Hogan was appointed. Vice Chairman Wisenbaker nominated Mr. John McCall for reappointment. There being no other nominations, Mr. McCall was appointed by acclamation.

Lowndes County Library Board

County Manager, Joe Pritchard, presented the appointment. Mr. Pritchard stated the seat held by Ms. Melinda Taylor has expired, adding Ms. Taylor does not wish to be considered for reappointment. Commissioner Evans nominated Dr. J. Elveta Miller. There being no other nominations, Dr. Miller was appointed by acclamation.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Rezoning Case REZ-2019-09 Mark Courson, 5761 Long Pond Rd. (0221A-063C) R-1 to R-10, County Water/Sewer, ~1.0 acre

Planning Representative, Molly Stevenson, presented the item. Mrs. Stevenson stated the applicant would like to rezone in order to divide a one acre lot into two residential lots. Mrs. Stevenson further stated R-10 already exists to east, north and west of the subject property. Mrs. Stevenson stated there were no objectionable comments from the TRC and the Planning Commission recommended approval with one condition. Kern Walcher, 5994 Dykes Pond Road, spoke against the request. Mr. Walcher stated there is already too many R-10 zoned parcels around the lakes, adding the area needs to be protected. Mark Courson, 281 Enterprise Drive, spoke in favor of the request as the applicant. Mr. Courson stated his intent is to develop two half acre lots which are bigger than most of the lots in the area. Mr. Courson further stated the drainage from the property runs away from the lakes. Vice Chairman Wisenbaker made a motion to approve the request with the condition no modular or mobile homes, no duplexes, and (the GLPC recommended condition): the lots not be divided past the proposed two lots requested by the applicant, Commissioner Marshall second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Rezoning Case REZ-2019-10 Ballard, Madison Hwy (0097-032) E-A to C-C and R-A, County Water and Septic, ~4.1 acres

Planning Representative, Molly Stevenson, presented the item. Mrs. Stevenson stated the applicant would like to rezone in order to establish a boat trailer business and build a home. Mrs. Stevenson further stated there is commercial development in the area, adding there were no objectionable comments from the TRC and the Planning Commission recommended approval. No one spoke for or against the request. Vice Chairman Wisenbaker made a motion to approve the request as presented, Commissioner Orenstein second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Rezoning Case REZ-2019-11 Stewart, 4151 Stewart Circle R-1 to C-H, County Water and Sewer, ~12.911 acres

Planning Representative, Molly Stevenson, presented the item. Mrs. Stevenson stated the applicant would like to develop a new metal panel and supply company. Mrs. Stevenson further stated the TRC had no objectionable comments and the Planning Commission recommended approval. No one spoke against the request. Mr. Chuck Smith, 5345 Bland Dairy Drive, spoke in favor of the request on behalf of the applicant. Mr. Smith stated the applicant would like to master plan the location similar to the Val North development, adding staff has been very helpful in the process. Commissioner Orenstein thanked Mr. Smith for his comments, adding it's always nice to hear an applicant speak favorable about the process. Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to approve the request as presented, Commissioners Evans and Marshall second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

FOR CONSIDERATION

Agreement with Cornerstone

County Manager, Joe Pritchard, presented the item. Mr. Pritchard stated Cornerstone will advise the County regarding proposed changes in federal law and regulations that may affect services Lowndes County provides to Moody Air Force Base, such as water and sewer utilities, county roads, planning and zoning. Cornerstone will also advise the County on proposed changes in federal law and regulations that may affect other county provided or funded services, such as elections. Commissioner Marshall made a motion to approve the agreement as presented, Commissioner Orenstein second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Reports - County Manager

No additional information was reported.

Chairman Slaughter recognized the presence of Leadership Lowndes class members and thanked them for their interest in local government.

Citizens Wishing To Be Heard - Please State Your Name and Address

There were no citizens to be heard.

Adjournment

Vice Chairman Wisenbaker made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Orenstein second. Chairman Slaughter adjourned the regular meeting at 5:52 p.m.