

Workshop Meeting
Lamar County Board of Commissioners
9-12-2024
12:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at approximately 12:30 p.m. on August 15th, 2024. Present for the meeting were Chairman Traylor, Vice-Chair Gilles, Commissioner Fletcher, Commissioner Lovett, Commissioner Thrash, County Administrator Townsend, and County Clerk Davidson. County Attorney Mayfield was absent for the meeting.

Workshop Meeting Items for Discussion

There were no topics for discussion.

The Board Reviewed the Regular Business Meeting Agenda.

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Invocation- Pastor Ann Mann of the Barnesville First United Methodist Church
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Proclamations
 1. Drug and Alcohol Awareness Month
 2. 12 U Girls Fast Pitch Softball Allstar Team
 3. 8U Girl's Coach Pitch Softball Allstar Team
6. Minutes Approval
 1. Mid-Year Review Budget Workshop - July 17th, 2024
 2. Workshop Minutes-August 15th, 2024
 3. Regular Business Meeting-August 20th, 2024
7. Old Business
8. New Business

Planning and Community Development Director Buice addressed the board about the upcoming Public Hearing to be held at 6:00 p.m. on September 17th, 2024. There was not a quorum but unofficially the Joint Planning Commission recommended approval.

Rezoning Request by Irene King and Richard Brown-Agriculture-Residential to Residential 1; 432 Jones Road (Tax Map 069-076)

Rezoning Application by Sam Brooks, Agriculture-Residential to Residential-1, Bush Road (Tax Map 079-010B)

Rezoning Request: Manufacturing 2 to Agriculture-Residential 3.75 Acres 131 Wilmot Road (Tax Map 050-121). This is a Lamar County rezoning application that will be seen over the next several years. These are areas that have been rezoned for whatever reason in the past that no longer need this type of zoning. A 1 acre square was rezoned back in the 1980's and the property has been sold, surveyed and divided. The manner in which it is zoned now is not what it was originally zoned so they are asking to re-zoned it back to Agriculture-Residential.

1. Ordinance 2024-07-Sam Brooks initiated an application to change the zoning classification of the within described property from AR (Agricultural Residential) to R-1 (Residential -1)
2. Ordinance 2024-08- Irene King initiated an application to change the zoning classification of the within described property from AR (Agricultural Residential) to R-1 (Residential -1)
3. Ordinance 2024-09-Lamar County initiated an application to change the zoning classification of the within described property from Manufacturing 2 (M2) to Agricultural Residential (AR)
4. Recreation Lighting Project from SPLOST IV Remove from Agenda in light of getting the Capstone project - study move back irrigation drainage change the layout of the fields. Hate to put up lights and then have to spend more money. Lock in the pricing.
5. Malt Beverage Package License-Lucky Sam LLC-Shezan Battiwala-919 Veterans Parkway
Planning and Community Development Director Buice explained that this is a new application. The owner is a relative of the owner of the Hot Shot. The applicant meets all of the requirements and regulations. This property used to be a convenient store called the Magic Market and they are going to use the same name.

Legacy I-75 Development

Planning and Community Development Director Buice explained that there would be a meeting for Question and Answers (Q&A) tonight at 5:30 p.m. in the Lamar County Commissioner meeting room. The developer of a very large property along I-75 will be there with a short presentation. It will be an informal and open time for specific questions for the developer and the staff and not for Public Hearing type of comments. The developers will also be available after the Q&A to answer any one on one questions.

6. Recreation Lighting

County Administrator Townsend requested to remove this item from the agenda in light of the Capstone Project from the University of Georgia. The students will be working on irrigation, drainage and changing the layouts of the fields. If they put the lights up and then have to take them down due to re-arrangements they would have to spend more money. County Administrator Townsend said he was going to work with Recreation Director Lowe about locking in the quote for the recreation lighting. The quote is for 1.2 million dollars so they want to make sure that it is done properly.

9. Administrator's Report

10. Public Comment

11. Round Table

12. Executive Session and Adjournment

Public Comments

Elaine Hallada of 131 Steeple Chase addressed the Board of Commissioners. Mrs. Hallada made a few comments.

- Requested to have an update on the Solid Waste Authority Engineering Audit and how is it going and whether or not it has been done at the Regular Business Meeting. She requested to have it added to the Regular Business Meeting agenda.

Donald Hartman of 507 Old Milner Road addressed the Board of Commissioners. Mr. Hartman made a few comments.

- Congratulated Chief Matthews on getting the grant for the two new Fire Trucks.
- Congratulated EMA Director Martin for getting the grant money for the two new weather sirens.
- Requested an update on the audit.
- Requested an update from GDOT regards to the projects and their timelines.
- Ask for information on the bridge and wanted to know if it is going to be torn down or where they are going to spend money to fix it. County Administrator responded that it would have to be torn down since it is on the County right of way. Stated that the installation of the red lights is scheduled for some time in the fall or into the winter and he would have to check into the timeline for the other projects.

Diane Perry of 101 Maple Drive addressed the Board of Commissioners. Mrs. Perry made a few comments.

- Recognized the Fire Department for the new fire trucks and the new equipment clothing they were able to obtain with grant money.
- Inquired about where the County Commissioners stand on applying for grants and working with a grant writer. Are they looking at grants and do they have someone assigned to them and is there an outside source that is going to write them.
- Requested to see updates on the Animal Shelter, the traffic problems on Hwy 36, the gravel that was donated from Vulcan and a source to deliver it to the County where it is needed.
- Requested where they stood on the engineering audit of the Solid Waste Authority.
- Requested to have updates on the questions that have been stated at previous meetings so the citizens know because no one is putting it in the paper or putting it online.
- Requested for updates at the Regular Business Meeting.

7) **Round Table**

Commissioner Fletcher encouraged everyone to come out to the I-75 Development at 5:30 p.m. to ask questions regarding the good and the bad stuff they have heard.

Commissioner Lovett announced that a fund raiser sign for the donations has been installed at the new Animal Shelter. The current percentage of donations is at 90 percent. Tom Wellner is instrumental in the fund raising.

Commissioner Thrash wished Major Leslie Holmes a Happy Birthday.

County Administrator Townsend stated that the windows, doors and a roll up door in the back of the new Animal Shelter were installed in August.

Chairman Traylor said the new Animal Shelter is one of the top projects according to the State. The model that Lamar County has used for the Animal Shelter will be what is used in the future.

and especially in the smaller rural counties. There is no deadline on when the County has to pick up the rock from Vulcan and they can even wait 10 years if they need too. They have a dump truck that they use in house to get the rock so they do not have an outside company pick up the rock. Chairman Traylor said there is no update for the engineering audit. He thanked Planning and Community Develop Director Buice for hosting the I-75 Development Q&A at 5:30 p.m. tonight. He said this will be a great opportunity for the community. He said that transparency is only in the opportunity to provide information when they can and this Q&A is one that they can. Typically, this would be handled in a Public Hearing. Chairman Traylor encouraged everyone to invite their neighbors because this will be a time to provide some answers to some of the questions they are all being asked.

8) Adjournment

Vice-Chair Gilles made a motion to adjourn the meeting to go into Executive Session approximately 12:51 p.m. Commissioner Fletcher seconded the motion. The board came out of Executive Session at approximately 1:33 p.m. Commissioner Thrash made a motion to adjourn the Workshop Meeting. Vice-Chair Gilles seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Lamar County Board of Commissioners

Ryran Traylor, Chairman

Ashley Gilles, Vice-Chair

Jarrold Fletcher, Commissioner

Jason Lovett, Commissioner

Nancy Thrash, Commissioner

Attest: _____ Carlette Davidson, County Clerk