

**Workshop Meeting**  
**Lamar County Board of Commissioners**  
**12-10-2024**  
**9:15 A.M.**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at approximately 9:15 A.M. on December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Present for the meeting were Chairman Traylor, Vice-Chair Gilles, Commissioner Fletcher, Commissioner Lovett, Commissioner Thrash, County Administrator Townsend, County Clerk Davidson. Commissioner Gilles and County Attorney Mayfield joined the meeting via Teams.

**Workshop Meeting Items for Discussion**

**Capstone Fall Presentation**

Recreation Director Tiffany Lowe (Mrs. Lowe) presented the Capstone Fall Presentation Master Plan Development, which included discussions on various development plans for the county's recreational areas. The Background of the project includes, outdated recreational facilities, historical lack of planning, limited parking and traffic arrangements, assistance in delegating funding. The requested deliverable for the project is a comprehensive facility and a site master plan and opinion of probable cost.

**Current Conditions & Challenges:**

No records of past development in the park, Limited parking:(270 spaces; peak traffic around 1,000 cars), Visitors park on side of the road and on hills, Outdated lighting poses safety issues.

**Growing Issues:**

Growing population (influx from South of Atlanta), Community dissatisfaction with conditions of facilities, The need to modernize

**In Scope of Work**

Facility Assessment Construction Work, Site Improvements Detailed Architectural Design, New Facility Recommendations Operations and Maintenance Planning, Traffic and Parking Analysis Private Land Acquisition, Cost Estimation Legal and Regulatory Approvals and Community Feedback Programming and Event Planning

**Codes & Jurisdictions**

Local Jurisdictions: Lamar County, City of Barnesville, Lamar County Board of Commissioners, Lamar County Planning and Community Development Department, GA Environmental Protection Division

Site Codes: GA Stormwater Manual, GA Manual for Erosion and Sediment Control, GDOT Design Manuals and Guides

### **Site Concept Plan #1**

Discussion on the inclusion of walking trails and a dog park as part of the site concept plan.

#### **PROS**

Connectedness, Many new features, Utilizes existing development.

#### **CONS**

Some features are costly, Nonoptimal parking, Roundabout is large.

### **Parking County**

Four parking lots 540 parking spaces (473 Ed Taylor, 67 Soccer)

Soccer Complex and Indoor Training Facility

Concept #1: Add a field to the top area. Widen the two-way road for better access. Additional features: Handicap parking, Field walker for accessibility, Boardwalk around the creek.

### **Playground Location**

Discussed relocating the playground to the far end of the soccer complex. The current proposed location as less ideal.

### **Site Concept Plan # 2**

#### **PROS**

Playground location, Alternative exit to Ed Taylor Soccer Field, Sidewalks to access all soccer fields, Ample land to plant trees.

#### **CONS**

Large amount of concrete to be placed and removed, 1-ways can be confusing or messy if people ignore the traffic pattern.

### **PARKING COUNT**

Three parking lots, 760 parking spaces, (630 Ed Taylor, 130 Soccer)

### **Site Concept #3**

#### **PROS**

Tennis Pavillon and Central Concession, Secluded Grass and Play Area, Cost Effective

## **CONS**

No Alternative Access to the Neighborhood

## **PARKING COUNT**

Seven parking lots, 758 parking spaces, (570 Ed Taylor, 188 Soccer)

Concept #3 was deemed the least favorable.

Concept #2 was preferred for parking layout and ease of access.

Suggestion to align the additional car park north-south instead of east-west.

Connect parking to the football field's existing parking lot, Eliminate the side road, Proposed redesign for park exits, Include a turn lane and separate left and right exit options, Add an "exit-only" at the backside to improve traffic flow, not present in the current plan.

## **Skate Park and Multipurpose Court**

Concept #3 included additional parking closer to the skate park.

Proposal for a multipurpose court to support basketball, pickleball, tennis, and other activities beyond skateboarding.

## **Concession and Bathroom Facilities**

Proposal to move concession stands and bathrooms to a more central location.

Consider using the upstairs area of the facility for office space.

## **Football Parking**

Pull the car park closer to the field for better accessibility and increased space.

## **Finalizing Concepts**

Students refine concepts based on feedback and return in January for review.

Focus on developing a single concept for presentation in May.

## **Price Estimates**

**Option 1:** No changes; cost estimated at \$4,165,000 - \$7,940,000 00 for aesthetic improvements.

**Option 2:** \$3,351,000 - \$6,402,000.

**Option 3:** \$2,650,000 - \$4,825,000. Redesigning parking lot areas; cost to be determined.

### **Additional Suggestions**

Ensure netting or fencing is included in the plans (SPLOST funding).

Lighting improvements for safety and usability.

### **Land Acquisition and Expansion**

Discussion on acquiring private property near the softball field.

Potential land swap or purchase to expand areas near Highway 36.

Develop trails connecting soccer fields to other areas.

### **Master Plan Development**

Redesign Field 1 into three fields to maximize space.

A 10-year master plan to address space constraints and future needs.

Final concept presentation scheduled for May.

### **Regular Meeting Discussion**

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Invocation- Major Leslie Holmes
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Minutes Approval
  1. Public Hearing-October 15th, 2024
  2. Budget Workshop Meeting-November 4th, 2024
  3. Special Called Meeting-November 4th, 2024
  4. Budget Workshop-November 5th, 2024
  5. Workshop Meeting Minutes-November 12th, 2024
  6. Public Hearing Minutes-November 19th, 2024
  7. Regular Business Meeting Minutes-November 19th, 2024
6. Board Appointments
  1. Barnesville-Lamar County Library Board Appointments  
Two Term Period beginning January 1st, 2025 and expiring December 31, 2026  
Pippa Lee Davis

Dr. E. H. Harris

Britt Lifsey

Bill Lindsey

April Mason

Stacey Tenney

## 7. Old Business

### 1. 2nd Reader Ordinance 2024-11 Animal Shelter

Animal Shelter Director Tyler White ( Mr. White) addressed the board with a few changes to Ordinance 2024-11. Mr. White said After questions, comments, and concerns, he removed Sec. 2.4.24. “Maximum Animals Allowed; the original purpose of that section was to regulate the number of animals allowed outside on two (2) acre tracts within Lamar County. After debate, conversation, and consideration, Sec. 2.4.24. has been replaced with a new ordinance named Prohibition on Rehoming Stray Animals Without Notification, and it’s intended purpose is to identify Lamar County Animal Shelter as the lost and found center for stray animals, mandating that any animal picked up from the side of the road or private property be reported to Lamar County Animal Shelter, and microchip checked at either the shelter or local veterinary clinic to increase the chance of pet owner’s reunification with their pets, and to protect pet owners’ rights while also ensuring stray animals are properly identified before rehoming a stray animal.”

Mr. White shared with the board that he had a discussion with Mrs. Norma Greenwood about barking dogs in the neighborhood. He stated Mrs. Greenwood has a leading role with Dolly Goodpuppy.

Commissioner Gilles addressed Mr. White via Commissioner Lovett’s phone. She said she had concerns with the care of the animals versus how many animals and requested that this part be taken out of the Ordinance. Mr. White said he removed and added in a section regarding re-homing animals without notification. The purpose being to recentralize the Lamar County Animal Shelter as a lost and found service. He said if someone picks up an animal on the side of the road it is there duty by Ordinance to report it to Animal Control that the animal was found and work with the local animal clinics to identity the animal in case someone comes looking for the animal at the Animal Shelter so it can be reunited with its owner. Commissioner Gilles stated she appreciated all of the hard work Mr. Tyler has been doing with the Animal Shelter.

## 8. New Business

1. Resolution 2024-09 2025 Budget
2. Resolution 2024-10 Budget Amendment
3. Resolution 2024-11 Animal Shelter Fee Schedule
4. Surplus Vehicles-Sheriff’s Office

Vin# 8075 2010 Ford Fusion

This vehicle was hit by a by a client of State Farm and will be totaled. Not the fault of

Lamar County. State Farm will pay the County for the damages. The vehicle will be surplus.

Vin # 3764 2021 Ford F-150 XL Super Crew 4WDT

This vehicle was hit by a client of State Farm and was totaled. This vehicle will go into surplus and the funds received from State Farm will go towards the replacement.

No one was injured in either of the incidents.

5. Purchase of Two New Trucks for the Animal Control Department

Animal Shelter Director Tyler White obtained three bids for two new Dodge trucks. The funds for the vehicles will come from SPLOST.

- 1) Countryside \$84,681.00
- 2) Chronic \$86,701.75
- 3) Ginn \$ 84,988.00

The plan was to contact Countryside to see if they could beat Ginn's quote. Commissioner Fletcher suggested that they contact Chronic and see if they could match the bid from Ginn.

9. Administrator's Report

10. Public Comment

11. Round Table

Chairman Traylor thanked Mr. White for joining the team and what he plans to do with the Animal Shelter. He encouraged Mr. White to move to Lamar County.

12. Executive Session

1. Real Estate
2. Litigation
3. Personnel

13. Adjournment

**Adjournment**

Commissioner Fletcher made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:52 a.m. Commissioner Lovett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

THE LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Ryran Traylor, Chairman

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Ashley Gilles, Vice-Chair

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Jarrold Fletcher, Commissioner

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Jason Lovett, Commissioner

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Nancy Thrash, Commissioner

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ Carlette Davidson, County Clerk