



Cherokee County Board of Commissioners MINUTES

August 1, 2017

Regular Meeting

Cherokee County Admin Complex, 1130 Bluffs Parkway, Canton, GA 30114 6:00 PM

INVOCATION

Craig Mosgrove with Dwelling Place Church in Woodstock will give the invocation.

Craig Musgrove was unable to attend the meeting. Commissioner Gordon gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Ahrens led the Pledge of Allegiance.

"Veterans of U.S. military service may proudly salute the flag while not in uniform based on a change in the governing law on 25 July 2007"

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ahrens called the regular meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. Those present included Commissioner Steve West; Commissioner Raymond Gunnin; Commissioner Bob Kovacs; Commissioner Scott Gordon; County Manager Jerry Cooper; County Attorney Chris Hamilton; County Clerk Christy Black. Also present were Agency Directors/Department Heads; the media; and the public.

2. RATIFY CLOSURE OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Ahrens called for a motion to ratify closure of Executive Session at 5:40 p.m. where nothing will be brought forward to the agenda.

Scott Gordon made a motion to approve; Bob Kovacs seconded. The resulting vote was Passed, 5-0.

3. PRESENTATIONS / PROCLAMATIONS

4. AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

4.1. Add under Announcements, 5.2, Veteran's Park update.

4.2. Add item under Commissioner Kovacs' section, 10.5, Public Hearing on Golf Cart Ordinance.

Scott Gordon made a motion to approve; Bob Kovacs seconded. The resulting vote was Passed, 5-0.

5. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

5.1. Fund Raiser for Senior Center.

Mark your calendars for the Hotdog Lunch Fundraiser for the Senior Center!
Friday, August 18th from 11:30 to 1:00 at the Senior Center on Univeter Road.

5.2. Veteran's Park Update.

The new Veteran's Park will be open to the public on Monday, August 14, 2017. The 150 acre park is located on Highway 20, and its amenities include tennis courts, pickle ball court, skate park and more.

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

6.1. Approval of the Special Called meeting on July 18, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. for the Millage Rate Public Hearing as presented by the County Clerk.

Scott Gordon made a motion to approve; Bob Kovacs seconded. The resulting vote was Passed, 4-0. Absent: West

Steve West abstained due to being absent from the Special Called meeting.

6.2. Approval of Work Session, Executive Session and Regular Meeting Minutes from July 18, 2017.

Raymond Gunnin made a motion to approve; Bob Kovacs seconded. The resulting vote was Passed, 5-0.

7. **PUBLIC HEARING**

7.1. Public Hearing to consider an Appeal of the Zoning Board of Appeals affirmation of the Zoning Administrator's decision by Ms. Lydia Moll.

Conduct a Public Hearing to consider a request by Ms. Lydia Moll appealing the Zoning Board of Appeals affirmation of the Zoning Administrator's decision

Scott Gordon made a motion to open the Public Hearing at 6:07 p.m.; Bob Kovacs seconded. The resulting vote was Passed, 5-0.

Mr. Watkins stated that the Public Hearing stems from a case which was heard in March by the ZBA and it was a request for an appeal of the Zoning Administrator's decision by Ms. Lydia Moll where she was found to be operating a kennel on property zoned R-80. He stated that Ms. Moll believed she was a legal non-conforming case. Evidence was not presented that allowed the Zoning Administrator to establish that it had been a legal non-conforming. He stated that the kennel is operating on property zoned R-80 it is not a permitted use. Ms. Moll asked for an appeal and requested the Public Hearing for the Board of Commissioners to hear the denial of the decision. Mr. Watkins stated that it had been postponed several times.

The attorney for Ms. Moll, Mr. Mike Bray, came forward to speak on her behalf stating that she gets emotional discussing the case since she has been at the location for almost 50 years. He provided a photo of the property in 1973 when the kennel was built and described the gravel roads off of a two lane Hwy. 92. He provided photos and gave a description of the kennel facility. He stated that the facility has controlled temperatures with an outside exercising area. He stated that in the 1970's and 1980's, Ms. Moll received numerous awards from "showing" her cats and dogs. He stated that when Ms.

Moll became aware that a permit was needed, she went to people that she had done business with and asked them to confirm that her operation began in 1978 and 1979, and they submitted documentation to the Zoning Administrator and Board. He stated that it was put in the deed that Ms. Moll could operate a beauty salon from her home which she does. He stated that in the 1990's she was basically working with the Yorkie and Maltese breed of dogs. He stated that on her tax assessment cards they refer to her property as being rural and farm, but she did not have a farm. He stated that there were not any complaints as to her having a kennel business during that time with the exception of a dog barking complaint, which they determined to be another residence. He stated that her activities were fully authorized in 1969 when Cherokee County first adopted a zoning ordinance, and now it is not permissible which is considered non-conforming use. He stated that Ms. Moll stated that she would limit the amount of dogs that she would keep in her kennel if that would be a concern.

Ms. Moll came forward to address the Board of Commissioners and present her appeal. She stated that she was requesting a variance in zoning and hoping that it would ensure her a kennel business license. She stated that she is not a backyard breeder and she works very hard with her dogs. She stated that she has been raising dogs since 1968 and she has hundreds of letters of happy customers. She listed the conditions of her breeding guarantee and stated that she has had only one complaint. She stated that the complaint came in March, 2016 from a competitor of her hair salon who reported that she abused and neglected her animals. She stated that the day the Marshal came out to inspect she had a sewage backup in her home. She stated that the Marshal's office took photos of cages that had fallen trees on them, but they were cages that were not being used in her kennel. She also stated that there was an accusation of dog feces in the grooming room. She stated that she does not buy poor quality pets, and she has bought dogs internationally to produce top quality dogs and cats. She stated that she chose to live in Cherokee County in the 60's because there was no zoning that would prevent her from having her kennel business and hair salon. She stated that she takes care of her property and her kennel and she spent \$6,000 on vet bills the previous month because she cares for her animals.

Chairman Ahrens reminded Ms. Moll and her attorney that 23 of the 30 minutes were used up and that there were 13 people signed up to speak.

1. Mr. Jim Hobbs came forward to speak in support of the appeal. He stated that he has known the applicant for 15 years, and he knows what she has invested in her facility. He stated that she has put \$30,000 in upgrades in her facility over the last four years and plans for another \$10,000. He stated that she has invested heavily in being able to purchase lines of grand champion animals worldwide. He stated that Ms. Moll purchased a high priced female Maltese for breeding which turned out to have a health condition and she then isolated the dog. He stated that she took the dog to several veterinarians before the dog was diagnosed with Demodicosis, which is an inherited illness causing an immune system deficiency. He stated that she cannot sell or breed the dog, but she takes care of the dog and pays the veterinary bills for its upkeep. He stated that she will not put the dog down.

2. Adeline Agan came forward to speak in support of the appeal. She stated that she has known the applicant since 1968 when she visited her hair salon. She stated that she was aware that Ms. Moll had large dogs outside. She stated that Ms. Moll will keep her mother dogs in playpens inside her home and stay up with the mother dogs until the babies are born. She stated that she takes care of them, loves the animals and she has never seen her be mean to any of them. She requested that the Board of Commissioners settle the appeal and allow Ms. Moll to continue on with her kennel business which is her life. She stated her concern for Ms.

3. Dan Moll came forward to speak in support of the appeal. He stated that he is Ms. Moll's son, and he stated that he was born in 1970, and that his entire life Ms. Moll has raised dogs and cats, and he used to help take care of them as a child. He stated that she has

never abused the animals and they have always been healthy.

4. Mr. Mike Moll came forward to speak in support of the appeal. He stated that he is the oldest son of Ms. Moll and as long as he can remember they have had cats and dogs.

5. Teresa Tormey came forward to speak in support of the appeal. She stated that she has known Ms. Moll for two years and the animals have always been in good health. She stated that she has been rescuing dogs and it can be deplorable. She stated that Ms. Moll's kennel is topnotch.

6. Katya Moll came forward to speak in support of the appeal. She stated that she is Ms. Moll's daughter-in-law. She stated that the dogs are Ms. Moll's life and she devotes many hours to caring for them. She stated that Ms. Moll loves her dogs very much. She requested that the Board please allow her to continue to work with her dogs.

7. Ms. Linda Nickelson came forward to speak in support of the appeal. She stated that she has lived across the street from Ms. Moll for 30 years and that she has been a friend of Ms. Moll for those 30 years. She stated that she finds it appalling what Ms. Moll is going through. She stated that Ms. Moll is one of the cleanest people she knows. She stated that Ms. Moll has done her hair for the years that she has known her, and the animals are always neat, clean and well taken care of and separate from her salon. She stated that the police and the Marshal's cars pull in and out of her property frequently and have hurt Ms. Moll greatly. She requested that the Board of Commissioners help Ms. Moll to get back to her life.

8. Harret Stockchase signed up to speak in support, but declined to speak when called.

9. Nicole Hilley came forward to speak in support of the appeal. She stated that Ms. Moll is a very good friend of hers and her father's companion. She stated that she has witnessed the struggles that Ms. Moll has gone through for a year. She stated that she helps Ms. Moll with all the animals. She stated that the accusations that people are making against Ms. Moll are not true. She stated that she witnesses Ms. Moll doting on the animals when she isn't aware that anyone is looking. She stated that Ms. Moll is a very good person, and she would just like for Ms. Moll to be able to continue on with her life and take care of her babies.

10. Krista Hilley signed up to speak in support, but declined to speak when called.

11. Mr. Robert Wassal came forward to speak in support of the appeal. He stated that he lives in Bridgemill. He stated that Cherokee County is always proud to have business come into the county. He stated that he would like to see Ms. Moll's business which is a reputable business and that has been in business for 50 years stay in business.

12. Shoki Hussin came forward to speak in support of the appeal. He stated that he has known Ms. Moll for a long time, and he has done repairs on her property. He stated that it is a very good establishment and she should be allowed to stay.

Chairman Ahrens stated that the application was filed June, 2016 and the applicant had requested to postpone it. He stated that the time factor to be moved to August 2017 is at the request of the applicant.

13. Tim Barnes asked to speak, stating that he did not realize you had to sign up.. He stated that he is the neighbor of Ms. Moll, and he has been at the property longer than Ms. Moll has been at hers. He stated that it would be in his best interest if the appeal was denied because he may want to sell some of his property at some point. He stated that in all of the years he has never heard a dog, smelled a dog or has a dog show up at his house.

He stated that he has been to her facility and it is fabulous and there have never been any issues.

Bob Kovacs made a motion to close the Public Hearing at 6:50 p.m.; Steve West seconded. The resulting vote was Passed, 5-0.

Chairman Ahrens stated that in December 2016, and based on reports that were received, there were 50 dogs and 17 cats on the premises. He inquired as to how many Ms. Moll has at the present time. Ms. Moll replied that she has 19 dogs and six cats.

Commissioner Gunnin stated that the case was in his district and that the case has been going on for quite a while. He stated that while Ms. Moll may be an excellent keeper of the animals, there are two issues; one being the zoning and one being the animals, and this evening meeting is to address the zoning issues. He stated that what he has been given, what he has seen and what he has heard, it is not in compliance with the zoning. He stated that he has inquired about the grandfathering in and that due to the evidence not being there as to how long the business has been there, and a lot of other issues that were not answered, and along with recommendation from legal counsel, his recommendation was to uphold the Zoning Board's recommendation. The motion failed to get a second.

Commissioner Kovacs stated that he and his wife foster dogs and he is aware of the attachment to the dogs, as well as what it takes for the upkeep of the dogs. He stated that he has a half-inch thick stack of letters that were put on his desk regarding Ms. Moll, but his concern is the Marshal's inspection. He inquired if the Marshals were to show up again in a few months, what insurance would there be that they wouldn't find the same things. Commissioner Gordon stated that he would like the opportunity to think about what was heard and to go back through the Marshal's report. Commissioner Kovacs inquired if Ms. Moll would entertain the commissioners visiting the kennel and forming an opinion. Ms. Moll stated yes.

Bob Kovacs made a motion to table until the August 15 meeting; Scott Gordon seconded. Commissioner Gordon stated they would use the next two weeks to do additional review of the Marshal's report, and they would take into consideration everything that was presented at the meeting. The resulting vote to table was Passed, 5-0.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

One person signed up to speak in error, and spoke instead at the Public Hearing.

9. ZONING CASES

9.1. Case #16-12-045 Collett Family, LLC (BOC Dist. 1).

Note: Letter requesting a 90-day postponement was received on July 28, 2017.

Consider request by Collett Family, LLC to rezone 102.519 acres on East Cherokee Drive from AG to R-30 and R-20 for a single family residential development.

Mr. Watkins stated that the Public Hearing was July 11, 2017, and the Planning Commissioner's recommendation was for denial. He stated that the applicant sent a letter requesting a 90-day postponement in order to see if they can develop the property without having to rezone.

Steve West stated that it was in his district, and he made a motion to grant the 90-day postponement so that the applicant can look at other opportunities; Bob Kovacs seconded. The resulting vote was Passed, 5-0.

9.2. City of Holly Springs Annexation Notice - Holly Springs Pkwy.

Consider annexation request from the City of Holly Springs for approximately 8.9 acres on Holly Springs Parkway at the intersection with Riverside Way.

Ms. Stallings stated that the annexation and rezoning request is from R-40 to their TND ordinance for a townhouse development. She stated that it is at the intersection of Holly Springs Parkway and Riverside Way and across the street from Fox Creek which is another townhouse community in the City of Holly Springs. She stated that to the north and on the other side of Holly Springs Parkway is a Kroger Shopping Center at Toonigh. She stated that it will be parceled into a larger triangular piece at the top with a strip that will stay in the County in the middle and another section to the south that will be in the City of Holly Springs. She stated that the reason for the middle strip is that the piece of property at the intersection is not part of the rezoning and annexation and there are two additional pieces of property that are still in the County to the east of Riverside Way.

Ms. Stallings provided a zoning map that showed Holly Springs to the north, Holly Springs to the south and county to the west. She stated that there is GC, R-40, townhouses, single family detached, shopping center, light industrial, with a cemetery just to the north. She stated that the County's plan for the area was for it to be dense residential and suburban living character area from one unit an acre to three units an acre. She stated that there are other areas that are the townhouse density. She stated that there was previous discussion regarding buffers that would be placed around the area that will remain in the county.

Commissioner Gordon stated that it was a repeat of what was previously presented. He thanked the staff of the City of Holly Springs for correcting the application and for staff working with the City of Holly Springs. Ms. Stallings inquired if there were any thoughts on the development of the stormwater detention or stream buffer that will remain in the County. Commissioner Gordon stated that it was peculiar. Commissioner Kovacs stated that it would be more of a concern if building took place on that piece of property because it would be a question of who was responsible for what. He stated that being there is a stormwater management pond and walking trail on the property, he didn't see any issues with it. He stated that anything on the County property should be built to County standards and he didn't think there would be anything that would be impactful in a major way. He stated that a letter should be drafted stating the County buffer standards and recommendations.

Chairman Ahrens inquired as to who owned the piece of property in the middle. Ms. Stallings stated that Dobson Estates owns most of the property with the exception of the small corner piece at the intersection. She stated that the small corner piece cannot be annexed because it leaves the other areas as islands. Chairman Ahrens inquired as to how to articulate requests. Commissioner Kovacs recommended a letter listing recommendations. Ms. Stallings stated that it would be delivered the following morning after the meeting.

Bob Kovacs made a motion that internal staff sends a letter to the City of Holly Springs with recommendations for the project with no official contest of the annexation; Steve West seconded. The resulting vote was Passed, 5-0.

10. COMMISSION BUSINESS

10.1. Chairman Ahrens: Ratify Planning Department letter template.

Consider ratification of Planning Department template and project fact list to be used by applicant for Public Participation Meeting notifications.

Chairman Ahrens stated that the request is for the Board of Commissioners to ratify the current Planning Department's template and project fact list that applicants use when they notify public participation meetings. He stated that it is a template from the applicant to those who are contiguous 750 feet or are on a notify list. He stated that it includes the date of meeting, time of meeting, location of meeting, address, description of the project, scope and proposed development, etc. If residential, indicate number of dwelling units, type of units, units per acre. If commercial, indicate square footage, parking, number of buildings, etc., current property owner's name, acres proposed and current zoning, current use, proposed use, future development map, designation, copy of the proposed site plan, project fact sheet, etc. He stated that it is what the staff uses at the present time, but not all applicants are complying with it.

He stated that it is suggested that the Board of Commissioners with public vote ratify the notification process and the content knowing that Article 18 will be amended.

Chairman Ahrens stated that it will be consistent and can be further changed, but it at least validates and makes official the County's expectations. He stated that if they do not comply with the expectations, then they haven't had the public participation meeting as required by the rezoning request.

Commissioner Gordon stated that due to the fact that more of the current public participation meetings that are coming out are absent of the data, and therefore meaningless to allow people to understand what is actually being invited for public participate, he stated that drawing the document out now and getting that expectation of what is coming with the other changes to Chapter 18 is absolutely necessary. He stated that normally he would want the Planning Commission's input on rolling something like this out, but he stated that it has been seen in draft form two or three times by the Planning Commission and they have had extreme input. Commissioner Gordon stated that it is not something that cannot be changed in the final draft. He stated that to try to rectify what he feels is one of the weaknesses of the current Article 18, he is in favor of ratifying it at the evening's meeting and getting it on the books and setting expectations.

Scott Gordon made a motion to approve the ratification; Bob Kovacs stated that the form was already in place so to give it teeth there should be a consequence such as deemed incomplete. Scott Gordon amended the motion to state that the new form needs to be filled out accordingly, and if it is not, it will be deemed incomplete and it will not move forward to the Planning Commission. The resulting vote was Passed, 5-0.

10.2. District 2 - Commissioner Gunnin: Request to consider an appeal of the Zoning Board of Appeals denial.

Consider a request by Mr. Alan Miller, representing the Anchor Christian Academy, to hear an appeal of a denial by the ZBA on July 20, 2017.

Commissioner Gunnin stated that it was his district and a lot of discussion has taken place. He stated that he would like to do as much as he can to help the school, but the way the ordinance is construed makes him believe for the County's best interest and for legal reasons to recommend to not having a Public Hearing to overturn the ZBA's decision.

Raymond Gunnin stated that his motion was to not hold a public hearing and to not overturn the Zoning Board's decision; Bob Kovacs seconded. Scott Gordon stated that he agreed with Commissioner Gunnin and that it is not anything against Christian schools but a straight up zoning condition, land use and certain safety concerns. He stated that a lot of discussion went into safety concerns, and he stated that the applicant acknowledged it as well by putting traffic control there to direct traffic away from the areas that generate safety concerns. Chairman Ahrens stated that the ordinance is clear and Commissioner Gordon agreed. The resulting vote was Passed, 5-0.

10.3. District 2 - Commissioner Gunnin: Request to consider an appeal of the Zoning Board of Appeals decision.

Consider a request by Ms. Jo Anne Eggleston to hear an appeal to the decision by the Zoning Board of Appeals at the July 6, 2017 public hearing.

Vicki Taylor-Lee stated that she spoke with Ms. Eggleston, and she is going to withdraw her request. She stated that one of her sons was in a serious traffic accident, and the appeal doesn't compare. She stated that Ms. Eggleston is going to withdraw the request.

Raymond Gunnin made a motion to accept the withdrawal without prejudice; Scott Gordon seconded. The resulting vote was Passed 5-0.

10.4. District 4 -Commissioner Gordon: Request to consider hearing an appeal to the denial by the Zoning Board of Appeals to a variance petition heard July 6, 2017.

Consider a request by Dennis Smith on behalf of Mirramont Community Association to hear his appeal of the denial of his petition by the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Commissioner Gordon stated that if he had his preference he would table a decision to hear the appeal until he had the opportunity to speak to Mr. Smith. He stated that Mr. Smith reached out to him and he was out of town with his family. He stated that he is not in the habit of calling for Public Hearings for unanimous denials that come out of the ZBA. He stated that Counsel told him that the only option he has to hear what Mr. Smith has to say is to move forward with the Public Hearing to allow the opportunity to speak to him without violating the ordinance or messing up the timing.

Scott Gordon made a motion to call for a Public Hearing to allow him the opportunity to speak to Mr. Smith; Bob Kovacs seconded. Chairman Ahrens stated that there are a lot of pieces to the appeal. Commissioner Gordon stated that he was out of time when the request came in, and he needs time to talk to the ZBA and have an opportunity to look through the case one more time. He stated that he needs all the facts, and he is not ready. The resulting vote to call for a Public Hearing was Passed, 5-0.

10.5. Amendment: District 3 - Bob Kovacs. Call for Public Hearing.

Consideration to call a Public Hearing related to establishing a Golf Cart ordinance.

Commissioner Kovacs stated that he attended one of the Sheriff's precinct meetings in the Bridgemill area and there was a lot of discussion about the use of golf carts. He stated that the Georgia State Patrol has started patrolling golf cart usage in Bridgemill and other areas. He stated that a lot of it has to do with state ordinances that govern what can and cannot be done with regard to golf carts. He stated that it has to be adopted by the city or the county and an ordinance has to be written with regard to that and where it will apply. He stated that he has been asked to look at it and there have been some discussions with [Mr. Bowen](#) about drafting an ordinance.

Bob Kovacs made a motion to call a Public Hearing to discuss the topic at the September 19th meeting which gives six weeks to get prepared; Scott Gordon seconded. Commissioner Gordon stated that he agrees with what Commissioner Kovacs is trying to do, and he feels that it needs to start with what the State requires adding only what is absolutely necessary at the County level so that regulations are not put upon regulations. Commissioner Kovacs stated that there are some towns that will require licensing or registration of the carts which would require someone to register small payments. He stated that the law just needs to be put into the book so that people know what they can and cannot do. Commissioner Gordon stated that he liked the idea of engaging individual neighborhood's HOAs so that they can determine what is right for the community like they do on other issues. The resulting vote was Passed, 5-0.

11. CONSENTAGENDA

11.1. Purchase of twenty-five (25) TASERs.

Consider approval to purchase twenty-five (25) TASERs, along with holsters, cartridges, and battery packs, for the Cherokee Sheriff's Office in the amount of \$34,897.56.

11.2. Sheriff Budget Amendment.

Consider authorizing a Budget Amendment in the amount of \$70,600 to the SPLOST 2012 for the Sheriff Office to increase allocated revenues and expenses.

11.3. Veteran's Park Easements.

Consider granting easements and perpetual rights-of-ways to Cherokee County Water & Sewerage Authority (CCWSA) for domestic and irrigation water services meters for Veterans Park located at 7345 Cumming Highway.

Bob Kovacs made a motion to approve; Steve West seconded. The resulting vote was Passed, 5-0.

12. COUNTY MANAGER

12.1. Canton Road Sidewalk Project - Supplemental Design Services Agreement.

Consider a request from Moreland-Altobelli Associates, Inc. for additional design services for the Canton Road Sidewalk Project in the amount of \$29,881.14.

Bob Kovacs made a motion to approve; Scott Gordon seconded. The resulting vote was Passed, 5-0.

12.2. 2017 Resurfacing Contract - Supplemental Agreement No. 1.

Consider approval of Supplemental Agreement No. 1 for the 2017 Resurfacing Program to include resurfacing of additional five (5) roadways totaling 2.5 miles, to CW Matthews Contracting Company, Inc. in the amount of \$416,036.55.

Bob Kovacs made a motion to approve; Steve West seconded. The resulting vote was Passed, 5-0.

12.3. East Cherokee Drive at Holly Springs Parkway/Old Highway 5 Intersection Improvement Project - Supplemental Agreement No. 3.

Consider Supplemental Agreement No. 3 from CMES, Inc. in the amount of \$37,500.00, for the East Cherokee Drive at Holly Springs Parkway/Old Highway 5 Intersection Improvement Project.

Bob Kovacs made a motion to approve; Scott Gordon seconded. The resulting vote was Passed, 5-0.

12.4. Fire Station 21 Kitchen and Bathroom Remodel.

Consider approval to award the County's standard construction services agreement to Blueland Services, LLC in the amount of \$59,355.84 to remodel the kitchen and men's bathroom at Fire Station 21.

Bob Kovacs made a motion to approve; Steve West seconded. The resulting vote was Passed, 5-0.

12.5. Purchase of Three (3) Battalion Chief Vehicles and Equipment.

Consider approval to purchase three (3) Chevrolet 2500 trucks from the low bidder, Auto Nation Chevrolet for a total cost of \$131,133.00. Additionally, consider approval to equip each truck with radios from the state contract holder, Motorola for a total cost of \$18,603.87 and consider approval to equip each vehicle with lights from the low bidder, 144th Marketing Group for a total cost of \$20,295.00.

Bob Kovacs made a motion to approve; Steve West seconded. The resulting vote was Passed, 5-0.

13. COUNTY ATTORNEY

13.1. Referendum Resolution - SPLOST 2018.

Consider approval of Referendum Resolution for SPLOST 2018.

County Attorney Chris Hamilton stated there is a Resolution before the Board to re-impose a Special-Purpose Local-Option sales tax, also known as the penny tax. He stated that the last one was in 2012 and will expire at the end of 2017. He stated that the vote on the Resolution will allow it to go forward to the Board of Elections the next day for a vote to call the election which will take place on November 7, 2017. He stated that an Intergovernmental Agreement is already in place with the participating municipalities within the County. He stated that the Resolution is before the Board to re-impose the SPLOST for another six years.

Steve West made a motion to approve the resolution; Bob Kovacs seconded. Scott Gordon stated that he had something that he needed to get clarified from counsel. He stated that his firm, an architectural engineering company, purchased projects and inherited an open ended contract with the City of Woodstock. He stated that although the SPLOST items for the City of Woodstock are not specifically in his company's defined scope it is conceivable that there is potential for it to be there. He inquired if he should be advised to recuse himself and avoid the appearance of impropriety. Mr. Hamilton stated that if there is even the appearance of impropriety then he is allowed to recuse himself. Commissioner Gordon stated through an inherited contract there is a relationship with the City of Woodstock and they have projects on the list. He stated that he has not been engaged to work on the projects but because it is an open ended contract there is that potential.

Having a motion an second, the Chairman called for the vote. The resulting vote was Passed, 4-0-1 with Scott Gordon abstaining.

ADJOURN

Hearing nothing further to come before the Board, Bob Kovacs made a motion to adjourn at 7:29 p.m.;

Scott Gordon seconded. The resulting vote was Passed, 5-0.