

THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

The Board of Commissioners of Effingham County, Georgia, Mr. C. D. Zeigler, Chairman, Mr. Reginald S. Loper, Sr., Vice-Chairman, Mr. Robert Brantley, Mrs. Vera Jones, Mr. Steve Mason, and Mr. Phil Kieffer met in a Workshop at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 5, 2011 in the Commissioners' Meeting Room at the Effingham County Administrative Complex.

PERSONS ATTENDING THE MEETING

Mr. Eric Gotwalt, County Attorney, Mr. David Crawley, County Administrator, Mr. Adam Kobek, Project Manager, Mr. George Shaw, Zoning Administrator, Mrs. Joanna Wright, Finance Director, and Mrs. Patrice Crawley, County Clerk.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Zeigler called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

Chairman Zeigler gave the invocation and led the Pledge to the American Flag.

WORKSHOP

IMPACT FEES (02): County Administrator Crawley explained that Effingham County has not been insulated from the decline in economic development due to the most recent economic recession. This recent downturn has led to discussions on how to best stimulate local development in turn increasing revenue to facilitate debt service for water and wastewater infrastructure. The County has been working through the process of updating the Capital Improvements Element & Development Impact Fees study to best address the needs of future economic development. Staff is still working to amend the study to best comply with the direction and plans of the Board of Commissioners. As an interim step to facilitate development, staff recommends amending the existing Development Impact Fee Schedules to \$0.00 for Parks, Public Safety, and Roads. Reuse water capacity requires the collection of a capital cost recovery fee for existing reuse infrastructure. Section 75-56 of the Official Code of Effingham County also allows for the reimbursement of system improvements made by developers for the

beneficial irrigation of reuse water and encourages through this fee structure the installation of reuse infrastructure within subdivisions. Currently 35% of the fee goes toward infrastructure and 65% toward reuse beneficial irrigation (disposal). For example in a single family residential detached unit, \$700 goes toward infrastructure and \$1,300 goes toward disposal. Currently developers that construct reuse irrigation within their subdivision receive a 65% reduction in the fee. It is recommended that the fee be amended and fees would only be collected from development that has not constructed reuse infrastructure. If the Board elects to move forward with amending the fee schedule for impact fees and reuse fees, staff will advertise the proposed ordinance amendments scheduling the first public hearing for the April 19th meeting and the second public hearing at the May 3rd meeting.

The Board directed staff to advertise the changes to the Development Impact Fee and Reuse Water Capacity Ordinance as presented.

GEFA (01): County Administrator Crawley explained that due to litigation the GEFA issue will have to be discussed in Executive Session.

REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

County Administrator Crawley discussed the following:

- ◆ Water and Sewer online payments will be tested April 11th – 15th and implemented with the next bill cycle of May 1
- ◆ House Counts should be reconciled
- ◆ Finance office working to setup service districts and review funding calculations with the cities
- ◆ Meeting needs to be set up to review the fire budges with Commissioner Loper, Brantley, and Mason
- ◆ RFQ for agent of records to be advertised in the next few weeks
- ◆ Meeting needs to be set up with the Infrastructure Committee to discuss jail proposals

Civil Engineer Toss Allen discussed the following:

- ◆ Shellie Helmey Road drainage issue
- ◆ Woodman of the World drainage issue

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:02 p.m., Chairman Zeigler made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

C. D. Zeigler, Chairman

Patrice R. Crawley, County Clerk