The Board of Commissioners of Effingham County, Georgia, Mr. Wesley Corbitt, Mr. Forrest Floyd, Mr. Roger Burdette, Mr. Jamie Deloach, Mr. Reginald Loper and Mr. Phil Kieffer were present for the regular Commission meeting at 5:00 pm on Tuesday, October 6, 2020 in the Commissioners Meeting Room at the Effingham County Administrative Complex.

STAFF ATTENDING THE MEETING
Mr. Tim Callanan – County Administrator, Mr. Edward Newberry – County Attorney, Ms. Stephanie Johnson – County Clerk, Mr. Clint Hodges – Fire Chief & EMA Director, Mr. Charlie George – County Engineer, Mr. Mark Barnes – Finance Deputy Director, Mrs. Teresa Concannon – County Planner, Chris Reed, IT Director, Mrs. Vicki Dunn – Human Resources Director, Mrs. Alison Bruton – Purchasing Agent and Mr. Neal Groover – Chief Tax Appraiser

PERSONS ATTENDING THE MEETING
Mr. Tony Chiariello, Mr. Dave Burns, Mr. Wilson Burns and Mr. Travis Bazemore

PERSONS ATTENDING THE MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE
Mrs. Kristen Achtziger – EOM Operations, and Mrs. Donna Gwaltney

I - CALL TO ORDER
Chairman Corbitt called the meeting to order at 5:03 pm.

II – INVOCATION
Commissioner Deloach gave the invocation.

III – PLEDGE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG
The Pledge was sounded in unison.

IV - AGENDA APPROVAL
County Clerk Johnson stated that staff had requested that New Business Number 2 be removed from the agenda. Vice Chair Deloach made a motion to approve the agenda with the noted change. Commissioner Burdette seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
V - MINUTES
Commissioner Kieffer made a motion to approve the September 15, 2020 Regular Commission Meeting minutes as read. Vice Chair Deloach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

VI - PUBLIC COMMENTS
Chairman Corbitt stated public comment should be limited to agenda items only.

VII - CORRESPONDENCE
Chairman Corbitt explained all correspondence and documents from the meeting are located in the Clerk's office and on the Board of Commissioners' website.

VIII - CONSENT AGENDA
Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve the following Consent Agenda items: (1) Consideration to approve to ratify the submission of the ACCG Safety Discount Forms to receive insurance discounts. (2) Consideration to approve to accept a Grant Award from ACCG Group Health Promotion & Wellbeing Grants. Commissioner Floyd seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

IX - OLD BUSINESS
CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE SECOND READING OF RONALD O. DIEDERICH (01): Planning Board recommends approving an application by Ronald O. Diederich to rezone a 2-acre parcel and an adjacent 6.4-acre parcel located on U.S. Highway 80 from AR-1 to B-2 Map # 329 Parcel # 36, 37 in the First District.

Commissioner Floyd made a motion to approve the Second Reading. Vice Chair Deloach seconded the motion.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE SECOND READING OF KERN & CO., LLC AS AGENT FOR OLD PINES, LLC - PUBLIC HEARING (02): The Planning Board recommends denying an application by Kern & Co., LLC as agent for Old Pines, LLC to rezone 741.60 total acres located off of Old Augusta Road from
AR-1/R-1 to I-1 (Heavy Industrial) Map #465 Parcel #6 and Map #477 Parcel #15 in the Fifth District.

Vice Chair Deloach made a motion to approve the Second Reading. Commissioner Floyd seconded the motion. Commissioner Burdette and Commissioner Kieffer opposed the motion. Commissioner Deloach, Floyd and Loper approved the motion. The motion carried 3 to 2.

There was a brief discussion, after the motion, by the Board and Staff members about the stipulations permitted under the Heavy Industrial zoning.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 WITH MCLENDON ENTERPRISES RELATED TO THE PROJECTS UNDER LOCAL MAINTENANCE IMPROVEMENT GRANT (LMIG) 2020 PROJECTS (03):

County Engineer George and County Manager Callanan updated the Board on the revised project list. A request was made by Staff to exclude from the list portions of Pitts Road and for the Commission to approve the funding for project. Staff will also determine additional future roads.

The Board and Staff discussed the areas where roads are in most need of improvement and future funding.

Vice Chair Deloach made a motion to approve five of the six roads, excluding #3 (Pitts Road) and approve the project funding. Commissioner Floyd seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

X - NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A REFUND FOR OVERPAYMENT OF TAXES RELATED TO A PROPERTY AT 170 ROGERS STREET, RINCON MAP#459G-PARCEL #1 (01):

Chief Appraiser Groover explained there was an error made by the Assessor's office related to a garage on the property which was originally identified as heating living space. The enclosed porch in the front of the house was changed back to garage. The changes/errors were presented to the Board of Assessors for approval on October 5, 2020.

There were some questions and discussion by the Board. The applicant Darla Gwaltney participated in the discussion via teleconference.
Commissioner Floyd made a motion to approve the refund. Commissioner Burdette seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSIDERATION TO RENEW A CONTRACT WITH DEEN'S LLC TO PERFORM AUDITS FOR THE BOARD OF ASSESSOR'S OFFICE (02):**

Chief Appraiser Groover explained the business personal property contract is approved annually. The contract in the past was awarded to Traylor Business Solutions. Staff recommends approval of a contract with Deen's LLC to perform audits for the Board of Assessors.

Vice Chair Deloach made a motion to approve to accept the annual contract with Deen's LLC to preform audits for the Board of Assessor's office. Commissioner Burdette seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH SCHNEIDER GEOSPATIAL LLC/QPublic TO ALLOW FOR ONLINE FILING OF HOMESTEAD EXEMPTIONS (03):**

Chief Appraiser Groover explained the contract allows the Assessor's office to receive homestead applications online. The cost for one year is $2,120 (setup and hosting).

Commissioner Kieffer made a motion to approve the Professional Services Agreement with Schneider Geospatial, LLC/qPublic to allow for online filing of Homestead Applications. Commissioner Burdette seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE TO ACCEPT A CARES ACT CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND (CRF) AWARD FOR PHASE 1, PART II 70% IN THE AMOUNT OF $1,747,141.00 (04):**

County Manager Callanan explained the Title V of the CARES Act created the Coronavirus Relief Fund ("CRF") to provide financial resources to state and local governments. The U.S. Treasury Department after making the corresponding distribution based on the estimates of the Federal Census for the
year 2019 determined that Effingham County would receive funding for coronavirus relief.

Vice Chair Deloach made a motion to approve to accept the funds. Commissioner Burdette seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE TO ACCEPT THE US DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (HHS) CARES ACT PROVIDER RELIEF FUND PAYMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF $60,049.61 (05):**

County Manager Callanan explained this is a separate part of the CARES Act funding of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). This payment is a distribution of that relief fund related to EMS. Commissioner Burdette made a motion to approve to accept a HHS CARES Act Provider Relief Fund payment, in the amount of $60,049.61. Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2019-2020 BUDGET (06):**

County Manager Callanan explained this amendment reflects changes made related to end of year adjustments. Staff recommends approval of the resolution.

Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve the Resolution to amend the 2019-2020 Budget. Vice Chair Deloach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE EXECUTION OF THE UTILITY RELOCATION AGREEMENT WITH GEORGIA POWER FOR THE EFFINGHAM PARKWAY (07):**

County Engineer George explained as part of the Effingham Parkway project, Georgia Power will have relocation a number of their facilities. The total estimate for this agreement is $121,503.00, with the County being responsible for $98,398.00 (Reimbursable amount), or 80.98% (reimbursable percentage). Upon completion of the work, GA Power will calculate their actual costs, and the County will be responsible for the reimbursable percentage.
Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve the execution of the Utility Relocation Agreement with Georgia Power for the Effingham Parkway, total not to exceed $98,398.00. Commissioner Floyd seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE FIRST READING OF AN AMENDMENT TO PART II, CHAPTER 14, ARTICLE V - TELECOMMUNICATIONS REGULATIONS OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF EFFINGHAM COUNTY (08):
This item was postponed at agenda approval to the October 20, 2020 commission meeting.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE FIRST READING OF AN AMENDMENT TO PART II, APPENDIX C, ARTICLE V - USES PERMITTED IN DISTRICTS, SECTION 5.0 & 5.10 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF EFFINGHAM COUNTY (09):
This item was postponed at agenda approval to the October 20, 2020 commission meeting.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE FIRST READING OF AMENDMENTS TO PART II, APPENDIX C, ARTICLE V - USES PERMITTED IN DISTRICTS, SECTION 5.1 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF EFFINGHAM COUNTY (10):
This item was postponed at agenda approval to the October 20, 2020 commission meeting.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE FY2020 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT ELEMENT (CIE) ANNUAL UPDATE (11):
County Planner Concannon explained this document was approved by the Commission in September and submitted to the Coastal Regional Commission for review. The document has been approved by the Regional Commission and can now be adopted to ensure continuation of Qualified Local Government status.

Commissioner Burdette made a motion to approve the Resolution adopting the FY 2020 CIE annual update. Vice Chair Deloach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A FINAL PLAT FOR S.D. CLYDE SUBDIVISION LOCATED AT THE CORNER OF CLYDE AND COURTHOUSE ROADS, CONSISTING OF FIVE LOTS MAP# 390 PARCEL# 2 (12):
County Planner Concannon explained the rezoning was previously approved. The lots all have road frontage and will be served by well and septic systems. The property is within the City of Springfield service area however the services have not been extended to this location. Staff has reviewed the final plat and recommends approval of the subdivision.

Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve the Final Plat for Clyde Road subdivision. Vice Chair Deloach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A CONTRACT WITH SAVANNAH CONSTRUCTION TO BUILD THE HODGEVILLE ROAD FIRE STATION (13):
County Engineer George explained after a second round of bids, new construction bids were received from 9 contractors to construct the fire station on Hodgeville Road station. The low construction bid received was from Savannah Construction with a bid of $472,019.00. County Engineering recommends approval of the award of the Construction Contract to Savannah Construction for the contract price of $472,019.00.

Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve the Construction Contract to Savannah Construction for $472,019.00. Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A CONTRACT WITH SAVANNAH CONSTRUCTION TO BUILD THE HODGEVILLE ROAD FIRE STATION (14):
County Engineer George explained the civil work was re-scoped and advertised separately. New construction bids were received from 7 site contractors to perform the site improvements on Hodgeville Road consisting of Clearing, Grading, Storm Drainage Improvements, Pavement Installation and all necessary site work for the new fire station. The low construction bid received was from Marsh Construction with a bid of $215,097.34.
Commissioner Burdette made a motion to approve the construction Contract with Marsh Construction for $215,097.34. Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**ADDITION TO THE AGENDA**

**CONSIDERATION TO AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN A PETITION REQUESTING ANNEXATION OF APPROXIMATELY 111.5 ACRES INTO THE CITY OF GUYTON, OWNED BY LUVERN VANDIVER LOCATED ON HIGHWAY 17 NEAR HIGHWAY 119 MAP# 295 PARCEL# 53**

County Clerk Johnson explained we received a petition from the City of Guyton. This parcel is contiguous with other properties within the city limits. The City of Guyton will hold public hearings for annexation upon approval by the Board of Commissioners. Staff recommended approval of this item. Mr. Travis Bazemore with EMC Engineering was present for questions on behalf of the city.

Commissioner Kieffer made a motion to authorize the Chairman to sign the Petition Requesting Annexation. Vice Chair Deloach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**X– REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF & COMMISSIONERS**

County Manager Callanan discussed the following:

1. **Census 2020**
   
   Effingham County is at 66.7%, ranked 22nd in the State

2. **Effingham Parkway**

   The right of way has been certified.

County Clerk Johnson discussed the following:

1. **Cobbleton Speed Bumps**

   County Clerk Johnson discussed the request of a resident who inquired about installing speed bumps within the development. The Board discussed alternatives and directed staff to confer with Sheriff McDuffie on other alternatives to speed bumps.
Commissioner Burdette discussed the following:

1. **McCall Park Improvements Meeting**
   A meeting was held with OMNI Trax, the funds ($75,000) for the improvements have been received; possible dog park, mini soccer field and walking trails.

2. **Highland Drive**
   Truck traffic continues to travel this route; County Manager Callanan stated he would make sure the Google update to remedy the matter has been complete.

Commissioner Kieffer discussed the following:

1. **CEM Park Concession Stand**
   Followed up on previous email sent regarding the improvements needed; County Manager Callanan stated a cashless system is currently being tested.

**XI – ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, at 6:10 pm, Vice Chair Deloach made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Burdette seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Jamie Deloach, Vice Chair
Stephanie D. Johnson, County Clerk