



The Commission
of the Unified Government of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County, Georgia

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Charles Coffey, Chairman
Timothy Biddle, Vice Chairman
Gerald Douglas
Damon Hoyte
Jason Frost

Kenneth Riner, County Manager
Lisa Bickel, County Clerk
Bin Minter, County Attorney

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY WORK SESSION

October 23, 2023

215 McNaughton St.

PRESENT:

Commissioner Coffey
Vice-Chairman Biddle
Commissioner Douglas
Commissioner Hoyte
Commissioner Frost

Kenneth Riner, County Manager
Lisa Bickel, County Clerk

Chairman Coffey called the Monthly Work Session of the *Commission of the Unified Government of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County, Georgia* to order at 6:00 p.m., with all other Commissioners present, and live streaming on our Facebook page.

COUNTY MANAGER UPDATES:

County Manager informed the Commission that he tried to get ahold of the landowner of the Firetower Rd. property with the drainage issue, from the previous meeting. He could not get an answer by phone and voicemail was full, he will ride by the owner's home and see if he can make contact with them. He also informed the Commission that back when Covid hit, the software company Tyler refunded us \$56,000.00. So we aren't sure if we what we may or may not owe, they did us a bill for \$18,000.00. If we stay with our current software Caselle, it will cost us \$10,000.00 to get us where we need to be with the updates we need. No objections from the Commission on stopping Tyler and staying with Caselle. Chairman Coffey said we need to reach out to ABM and see if a vote is required, we can add to the agenda so we can move forward with staying with Caselle. The County Manager also informed the Commission that a company would be coming out to break the beaver dams off of Firetower Rd. in the next two weeks.

COUNTY ATTORNEY UPDATES:

None at this time, the Attorney wasn't present he will be at our regular meeting.

Department Head Updates:

Mordie Askew was absent, he left update for Commission for the Recreation Department, in which Chairman Coffey read out loud.

Samantha Hedgecote gave updates for Community Development and gave updates for **Lou Beck** in her absence as well for FT Moore ACO.

Daniel Keith gave updates for the Water Dept.

James Tate gave updates for Public Works, one of his updates was about speed tables in which Chairman Coffey informed the public no where has the Commission gave permission for speed tables to be placed anywhere in the county. They have only asked for research to be done on the costs of them.

SPEAKERS:

Tom Bickel spoke to the Commission on speed tables, he said he is a firm believer against them, he doesn't think they belong here, they are a hindrance and will slow down response times for EMS, among other things. If the county does decide to get them to please get a traffic engineer to design them. Because the County will be held liable for any issues that will arise after they are installed. He believes other things can be done to help with traffic control and speeding. He feels that the sheriff department should get out and do their job, he does not buy into the radar excuse.

Isiah Lewis spoke on his issues with Friendship Rd., he first wanted to thank the county for all the good he has seen happening with the abandoned houses coming down and being cleaned up. He is thankful for the county letting him use the Old City Hall for AA meetings, it is very helpful for the community. His issue with the road however there are two or three spots that are bad that need widening and have no white paint so you cannot see the actual road, buses come through and there is not enough room. He has heard about the LMIG grant and he would like to see the road paved again because it has not been paved in years. The county workers do a good job. But he would like to see the road widened, and paved. Commissioner Biddle did mention that the road could possibly be clipped which could help with the widening of the road, and they can also get fog lines painted on them. Mr. Lewis replied that Mickey Smith has come and clipped the roads, but anything the county can come out to do and look at will be appreciated. Chairman Coffey mentioned having someone come out to survey all the county roads. Mr. Tate stated he has a meeting with Phenix Paving to come out and survey all the county roads in the next few days.

Debbie Hart, is wanting to move a manufactured home onto a lot that already contains a home. The property is located on Hwy 26. The Commission informed Ms. Hart that she would need to go in front of Planning & Zoning to request a conditional use permit and then come back to the Board of Commission for approval or denial.

Agenda Items:

The following items were discussed as to their relevance for appearance on the November 7, 2023, regular meeting agenda:

Appointing the County Clerk as open records request custodian, Chairman Coffey stated that this would basically mean that we would have one point of contact for the departments for all records request to send an open records request to. Each department would still be responsible for gathering their own documents and the clerk would be the one to respond to the request. The Commission would like to reach out to the other Elected officials and see what each office would like to do but have no objection as far as the clerk being appointed as the custodian for all offices for the Board of Commission.

Splost 2025 will continue over until the next Work Session, the departments and Elected Officials will have some proposed ideas and amounts to add and present to the Commission. We have received a letter informing us that our current Splost will be ending March 1, 2025.

Box Springs Rd giving easement to landowners at the end where the paved part ends, Chairman Coffey stated last we heard they wanted to grant the easement from the corner of their property to the other corner of their property and there is more where the road ends., however who would be paying for it. One quote just to clear and get gravel was over \$20,000.00. This will need to be added to the agenda as a voting item.

Serveline Water Insurance Chairman Coffey stated that he wanted to bring this up to see if we still needed this or not. It is an optional insurance for the customer. He said the insurance covers a lot of various

leaks and was looking at keeping it or going in house. No further discussion was needed with the insurance. Everyone is in agreement to keep with what we have.

TWO Rivers Chairman Coffey informed the board that they need another member for the board, Russell Rhodes was a member, he will need to be replaced. If we have a name by the next meeting, we can put on the agenda.

Health Dept. Reappointment Chairman Coffey stated that Rev. Andrew Thomas is up for reappointment and would like to continue to serve, they also have another opening coming up in December and we have started to advertise.

2021 Audit Chairman Coffey asked if anyone was there to brief us on the audit, Ms. Bickel replied no, he asked to have our County Attorney send an invite to Mr. Will Geer one more time, put on the agenda as voting item to closeout. Commissioner Frost and Hoyte both spoke to a couple of different auditors that can give us prices with future audits. Commissioner Frost said the auditor he spoke with gave him a quote of \$1500.00.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A Motion was made to go into executive session at 7:17 p.m. **Commissioner Frost** made the Motion, seconded by **Commissioner Hoyte**. The vote to enter executive session was unanimous.

Regular meeting reconvened:

The regular meeting reconvened at 7:43 p.m. **Chairman Coffey** made the statement that the subjects discussed during the closed meetings were within the legal exceptions to the open meetings law and that no votes were cast within the session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be conducted by and with the Commission of the Unified Government of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County, Georgia, Chairman Coffey declared the Monthly Work Session of the Board of Commissioners adjourned at 7:45 pm on Monday, October 23, 2023.



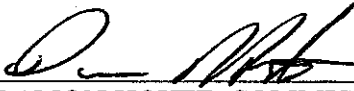
CHARLES COFFEY, CHAIRMAN



TIMOTHY BIDDLE, VICE CHAIRMAN



GERALD DOUGLAS, COMMISSIONER



DAMON HOYTE, COMMISSIONER




JASON FROST, COMMISSIONER

November 7, 2023
DATE APPROVED

I hereby certify that the foregoing documentation, the Minutes of the October 23, 2023, Work Session, was approved via majority vote by the Board of Commissioners in its Nov. 7, 2023 regular meeting.

ATTESTED BY:



KENNETH RINER, COUNTY MANAGER
UNIFIED GOVERNMENT OF
CUSSETA-CHATTAHOOCHEE COUNTY

Seal:

