



DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF MONROE COUNTY

199 East Main Street

Regular Board Meeting
Sept. 14, 2021, 8:30 a.m.
Forsyth, Georgia 31029

Minutes

The Development Authority of Monroe County (“the Authority”) regular board meeting was held at 199 East Main Street, Forsyth, Georgia on September 14, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. Notice of the time, place, and purpose of said meeting was duly given to all Authority members and to the public, as provided in the Authority by-laws and by law.

The meeting was open to the public.

Development Authority Board members present were Tom Baugh, Chairman, Jim Cole, Vice Chairman, Greg Head – Assistant Secretary/Treasurer, Larry Evans, Secretary/Treasurer, Board Members Phil Ham, Craig Craddock, Michael Leverett, and George Emami. Also present were Joyce White, Executive Director, Bob Harris, Attorney and Brandy Boynton, Admin. Assistant.

Meeting Called to Order

Chairman Tom Baugh called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m. and declared there was a quorum.

Review and Approval of Agenda

Chairman Tom Baugh called for a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Phil Ham made a motion to approve, and Mr. Greg Head seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Review and Approval of Minutes

Chairman Tom Baugh called for a motion to approve to approve the minutes from the August meeting. Mr. Larry Evans asked to amend the minutes from the August meeting by adding the word “deal” to the 3rd page, paragraph 3 regarding the Swint Manufacturing Company. Mr. Greg head moved to approve the August minutes with recommended correction. Mr. George Emami seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Review and Approval of Financials

Chairman Tom Baugh called for a motion to approve the financials for August. Mr. Phil Ham made a motion to approve the financials. Mr. Greg Head seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business/Old Business

Nothing to report.

Executive Director's Report

Joyce White thanked everyone for their participation in the MEAG Tour. There was a total of around 46 attendees. Ms. White informed the board that she met with management at French Market to discuss the poor service that was received. The group also visited Fox City Brewing to close out the evening where they all had a good time. Ms. White thanked George Emami for making this possible.

Ms. White informed the Board of her recent meetings/visits beginning with meeting with the Georgia Public Safety Training Center (GPSTC) Director, Chris Wiggington and Deputy Director, Tony Hightower. During the GPSTC meeting, the railroad crossing and roundabout were discussed. She will also be invited to attend upcoming events and award presentations at GPSTC.

Ms. White met with Don Daniel of the Monroe County Reporter and felt the meeting went well.

Ms. White informed the board of a great meeting she had with Tim Ward, Commissioner of Corrections. The Department of Corrections will be issuing her a badge to come onto their property at anytime she would like and will also be inviting her to upcoming events. She also mentioned the possible use of one of their large, state of the art, conference rooms located on the DOC property.

Executive Director White met with Brandon Stooksbury and Blake Holmes of the Central Georgia EMC about placing power poles and guy wires underground at the Hwy 18 property. She is waiting on a quote from them.

Charles Stallsworth of the Southern Company sent Director White her first request for information. The request was for information on the Smith-Zellner property. The information was gathered and returned immediately.

A few of the other meetings Ms. White has conducted are with David Curry who is running for U.S. Congress and Burt Jones who is running for Lt. Governor. She has introduced herself and swapped e-mails with Jennifer Nelson of the Carl Vinson Institute and Kevin Shea of the Georgia Economic Developers Association. She has e-mailed back and forth with Laura Mathis, Executive Director of the Middle Georgia Regional Commission and will be meeting with her in person.

Executive Director White has spoken and e-mailed with Tim Golden of the GDOT Board and he put her in touch with Tyler Peek, the GDOT engineer for Monroe. She has only met with Tyler Peek via phone on several occasions, but will plan to meet with him in person at some point.

Executive Director White attended 8 hours of training through Seyfarth. This training was conducted by Kevin Brown and Dan McCrae. Ms. White also spent an hour in training with Cathy Becker of GIS Recruit to learn more features that are available on the DAOMC website. Ms. White plans on taking a required Development Authority Training Course sponsored by the Carl Vinson Institute in December. The cost is \$250. Mr. Greg Head made a motion to approve the expense of \$250 and Mr. Mike Leverett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. White reported on and the board discussed the roundabout/railroad crossing. This will be expensive but is most likely the best solution. Mr. Larry Evans mentioned it may be time to look at and discuss with the DOT a bypass from Hwy 41 N. to Collier/Smith Road. He stated this was discussed some years ago. Mr. Jim Cole stated that he believes the DAOMC needs more firm information to present to DOT regarding costs and contributions. He also suggested talking with Russell McMurray, GDOT commissioner to see exactly what is needed to get this project moving forward. Ms. White stated that she is awaiting on information from GDOT engineer Tyler Peek.

Executive Session

Started at 9:01 a.m. Motion to begin executive session was made by Mr. Jim Cole and seconded by Mr. Phil Ham. The motion passed unanimously.

Ended at 9:27 a.m. Motion to exit executive session was made by Mr. Greg Head and George Emami seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Other Business

The board briefly discussed solar power and Plant Scherer.

Adjournment

Chairman Tom Baugh called for a motion to adjourn at 9:33 a.m. Mr Larry Evans made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Greg Head seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandy Boynton
Joyce White