

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Regular Session
May 6, 2021
6:00 P.M.

The Board met this date in regular session. Present were Chairman Stephen Walker, Commissioners Eugene Hall, JT Surles and Chris Tuten. Also present were County Attorneys Buck Bird and Scott Shirley and Clerk of Court Kirk Reams.

1. Chairman Walker called the meeting order. Commissioner Hall led the invocation and pledge of allegiance.
2. Chairman Walker informed the audience that masks were no longer required.
3. Citizen Bill Snider informed the Board that each Tuesday morning at 10 am there is a free video series at the Opera House being presented call “Constitution Alive.”
4. **On motion by Commissioner Surles, seconded by Commissioner Hall and unanimously carried, the consent agenda—consisting of the approval of the agenda, General Fund/Transportation Vouchers, minutes for 4/1/21 and 4/15/21 regular sessions and SHIP requested subordination for James A. Jones II—was approved.**
5. Christina Lang, with Langton Consulting, gave an overview of COVID-related funding opportunities.
6. Planning Official Shannon Metty introduced the Special Exemption application for events on private property. Several citizens expressed displeasure with not finalizing this issue. County Attorney Scott Shirley stated more work needed to be done on the rules/parameters within the exemption. He stated he would bring back a modified special exemption application to the next Board meeting.
7. Planning Official Shannon Metty discussed the scope of work at the Recreation Park and presented the contract to the Board. **On motion by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Tuten and unanimously carried, the Board approved the proposed improvements and contract at the Recreation Park.**
8. Solid Waste Director Beth Letchworth provided an update on the Solid Waste Department. She also requested that the Board allow her to contact the compactor vendor to get the compactors modified by cutting the lips from 62 inches to 48 inches, which will allow easier access. **On motion by Commissioner Surles, seconded by Commissioner Tuten and unanimously carried, the Board approved Mrs. Letchworth’s request to contact the vendor.**
9. Attorney Scott Shirley provided an update on the Santander Leasing versus Jefferson County lawsuit.
10. Commissioner Tuten introduced the independent sewer discussion. It was the consensus of the Board that Commissioner Tuten along with Clerk of Court Kirk Reams and County Engineer Josh Baxley (with Dewberry) put together a cost/benefit analysis of running an independent sewer in the Waukeelah and Lloyd communities.

11. Attorney Scott Shirley introduced the non-ad valorem special assessment for Valley View Trail. **On motion by Commissioner Surles, seconded by Commissioner Tuten and unanimously carried, the Board approved the special assessment, which included timelines/steps to move forward with the project.**
12. Citizen Paul Henry thanked law enforcement for everything they do, specifically for their role in apprehending the out-of-state fugitive in the last week. Citizen Richard Connell also praised law enforcement's efforts.
13. Commissioner Tuten stated that the city plans to workshop the gas tax issue (and whether or not they would like to be included in the next phase of the road bond), but stated his desire to move forward with the road bond regardless of their decision in order to take advantage of historically low interest rates.
14. Commissioner Hall inquired about the status of the concession stand at the Recreation Park. Commissioner Tuten stated that the plans were being redrawn to have them updated before moving forward.
15. Commissioner Surles stated there are issues with people utilizing the recreation park after sundown and leaving trash and debris. He stated his desire to see the park locked at night.
16. **On motion by Commissioner Surles, seconded by Commissioner Tuten and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.**

**Board of County Commissioners
Jefferson County, Florida**

Stephen Walker, Chairman

ATTEST:

Kirk Reams, Clerk of Court