

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
January 15, 2009

The Board met this date in Regular Session. Present were Chairman Eugene Hall, Commissioners Hines Boyd, Stephen Fulford, Felix "Skeet" Joyner and Danny Monroe III. County Coordinator Roy Schleicher, Clerk of Court Kirk Reams, and County Attorney T. Buckingham Bird.

1. On motion by Commissioner Monroe, seconded by Commissioner Fulford and unanimously carried, the consent agenda, consisting of the minutes from the January 6, 2009 regular session was approved.
2. County Coordinator Roy Schleicher presented his report, consisting of the department head reports, draft agenda for the retreat, a request for Beth Thorne to hire a supervisor position, and a request for an assistance position at the recreation park. These items were tabled for the February 5th meeting.
3. Cynthia Frazier, representing the Lamont Schoolhouse Project, was not present for the meeting.
4. On motion by Commissioner Monroe, seconded by Commissioner Boyd, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Sheriff's public official bond.

5. PUBLIC HEARING – IMPACT FEES

6. Citizen Chuck Sarkisian expressed his opinion that impact fees were not needed and presented hand-outs to the Board stating his position.
7. Citizen Clyde Payton stated he wanted to replace a mobile home on his property with a home and wanted a waiver of 6 months removal clause.
8. Citizen J.T. Surles stated that impact fees hurt real estate business and people are electing to live in Leon County rather than Jefferson.
9. Citizen Kent Bass requested the impact fees be abolished and stated they hurt his proposed RV camp project.
10. Citizen David Cash requested the impact fees be removed due to the present economic crisis.
11. Citizen Jamie Cospers requested the impact fees be abolished because they are a hardship for her daughter and son-in-law who are just getting started.
12. Citizen Mark Winchester spoke about how impact fees were hurting his desire to move a building onto his property for his ministry.
13. Citizen John Nelson stated that the impact fees have an impact on affordable housing and presented a signed letter for the commissioner.
14. Citizen Gary Gooch stated that surrounding counties either did not have impact fees or have eliminated them.
15. Citizen David Preisel stated that the impact fees hurt his business.
16. Citizen Judson Freeman stated he sold his business and that this is a slow growth community.
17. Citizen Steve Walker stated that lots were not selling as a result of the impact fees and presented a petition list.

18. Citizen C.P. Miller stated that the impact fees were not fair and stated there was no scale proportionate to the cost of home. He also mentioned the impact on churches.
19. Citizen Paul Michael presented a slideshow on the negative effects of the impact fees.
20. Citizen Al Hall stated that impact fees were more expensive than the down payment on mobile homes.
21. Commissioner Fulford stated that he understood the concerns of the people and said the he favored sunseting.
22. Commissioner Monroe stated that the impact fees needed adjusting and should be looked at more. He stated that there would be a need for them in the future.
23. Commissioner Boyd stated his concern about rampant growth and that he did not want to make a rash decision. He stated that he favored forming a task force.
24. Commissioner Joyner voted for the impact fees and is concerned about growth and being able to provide services. He stated that when these were implemented, there was little input from the public. He also stated that the county reduced the millage rate for the first time that he could remember. He recommended hiring a consulting firm to look at growth patterns and stated he would be willing to look at adjusting certain aspects.
25. Chairman Eugene Hall stated that growth must pay for itself and voted on it. He says he relied on the studies provided by the consultant and would be willing to take a look at these fees. He also stated he would like for Commissioner Boyd to start a task force.
26. Chairman Hall recommended the possibility of a public hearing for February 19th.
27. On motion by Commissioner Joyner, seconded by Commissioner Hall and unanimously carried, a workshop was set up for January 29th at 6:00 p.m.
28. Planning Attorney Scott Shirley stated that the commission would have to follow procedures if amending an ordinance.
29. Citizen Jerry Sutphin stated a 6 month moratorium would be appropriate and clarified that he voted against the two new impact fees while he was on the Board.
30. County Attorney Buck Bird stated his recommendation that the county avoid moratoriums due to issues stemming from lawsuits/refunds.
31. Citizen Chuck Sarkisian stated he wanted to see the legal opinions about use of the impact fees.
32. Sheriff David Hobbs stated that the impact fee has nothing to do with the crime rate.
33. Citizen Bud Wheeler stated his concerns about new road projects.
34. The warrant register was reviewed and bills ordered paid.
35. On motion by Commissioner Monroe, seconded by Commissioner Joyner, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.

Chairman

Attest: _____
Clerk