McDuffie County Board of Commissioners held a Work Session
February 1, 2021, 6:30 PM
Government Center Meeting Room

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:
Charles Newton, IV, Chairman
Wm. "Bill" M. Jopling, Commissioner
Sammie Wilson, Vice Chairman
Gloria Thompson, Commissioner
Frederick Favors, Commissioner

COUNTY REPRESENTATION:
David Crawley, County Manager
Pam Workman, Finance Director
Nikki Milburn, County Clerk
Stephen Sewell, Fire/EMS

Media: Erin Burditt, McDuffie Progress

Other:

COMMISSIONERS' WORK SESSION

All agenda items are for discussion only. No action was taken during the meeting.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. **Discussion Concerning Relocation Agreement with Georgia Power.**
   David advised the board that there was a relocation agreement approved previously in 2018 for the west bypass project. But in the terms of the agreement, it's only good for 1 year. So this is a new agreement with Georgia Power for the same relocation of utilities. The price did change from $189,760.00 to $210,251.00, which is budgeted into the total project.

   This item will be added to the next meeting agenda.

2. **Discussion Concerning RLF Review for Thomson Plastics.**
   David advised that this is a revolving loan fund review for Thomson Plastics. They are looking at a $2 million expansion at their current location. This expansion would create 44 full time jobs and bring producing that is currently overseas but to the local plant. The request is for $125,000.00 from the county.

   This item will be added to the next meeting agenda.

3. **Discussion Concerning Broadband Ordinance.**
   David advised that this ordinance is one that was a modal provided by the state and ACCG. This would allow for the county to be labeled as a broadband ready community and therefore eligible for broadband grant funding. Only communities that have the broadband ready recognition will be eligible for the grant funding provided by the state. David would like to get this ordinance approved and ready to be sent to DCA for approval at the same time as the joint comprehensive plan since broadband is a part of the updated joint comprehensive plan.

This item will be added to the next agenda for 1st reading.

4. **Discussion Concerning Service Delivery Strategy.**
David presented the updated service delivery strategy and advised that it's ready to be approved. There were only a few additions, broadband being the major update.

This item will be added to the next meeting agenda.

5. **Discussion Concerning Joint Comprehensive Plan.**
David advised that as long as no one has any other questions or concerns, the joint comprehensive plan and ready to move forward with DCA. There were 2 public hearings held and everything has been updated. The completed plan will be turned in at the end of this month for approval by DCA.

6. **Discussion Concerning Budget Amendments.**
Pam presented several departments that have budget amendments that need approval in order to balance the budget and prepare for the annual audits.

This item will be added to the next meeting agenda.

7. **Discussion Concerning Time & Attendance System.**
Pam advised the board that a committee consisting of staff from the county and city have been working diligently regarding upgrades to the time and attendance system. The system that they are looking at would be touchless and the system would allow employees and department heads to look at their current vacation and sick leave in real time in order to help with staff requesting time off and also help better prepare for overtime needs. The new city administrator asked for some time to review everything since he came in on the tail end of this project. The startup cost would be around $28,000.00, the budget allowed for $30,000.00.

This item will be continued until further information is available.

8. **Discussion Concerning Solid Waste.**
David advised that the city has pulled their bid package for trash service. The idea is for the new proposal to be made that would allow for the city and county to both receive proposals for service. The new package would be 3 proposals from companies; 1 for just service to the city, 1 for city and county and the last for city and county plus option to run transfer station. Once the proposals are received everyone will have an opportunity to review all proposal and determine the best fit. The city is in need of service in the immediate future so there would be an understanding that their change of service would start prior to the county wide service.

This item will be continued until further information is available.

9. **Discussion Concerning Land Bank.**
David asked if the board would add this additional item. He would like for the board to consider looking into starting the land bank back in order to get some of the many tax delinquent properties and blighted properties cleaned up and turned into revenue. He advised that the city and county will have to appoint 2 representatives from each to serve

on the reinstated committee. After the committee is established, then we can move forward with how to proceed with getting these properties cleaned and turned over.

ADJOURNMENT- 7:32 pm

MCDUFFIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Charles G. Newton, IV, Chairman

ATTEST: Nikki Milburn

Nikki Milburn, County Clerk