

**LEE COUNTY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING
AUGUST 11, 2020, 9:30 A.M.
LEE COUNTY COURTHOUSE**

“Due to the Corona-COVID19 crisis, the public was not allowed to attend this public hearing and meeting. The meeting was conducted by phone and was also broadcast live on Face Book: Lee County Government.

Roll call of Councilmembers present: Travis Windham, Chairman; Gordon Eckley, Vice-Chairman; Charles A. Beasley, member; Jackie Josey, member; Johnette Caughman, member; Ron Fountain, member.

Others present were Alan Watkins, Administrator; Julie Stokes, Assistant Administrator/Clerk to Council, Dwayne Huggins.

FOIA

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, all individuals requesting notifications were so notified.

PUBLIC HEARING

A. SALE OF COUNTY PROPERTY

The public hearing opened at 9:31 a.m. on a motion made by Vice-Chairman Eckley, seconded by Councilperson Caughman.

Mr. Watkins said that although the hearing is closed to the public, the ad was advertised in the paper and anyone who wanted to be heard could be included but no one contacted the County. He said that if anyone wants to email Mrs. Stokes, they can do so and be given the opportunity to be included and she will forward any comments to the Council.

Mr. Watkins said the County was selling a 1.55 acre lot to Hog Slat, which is one of the largest construction contractor and manufacturer of hog equipment with 1000 employees, who deal in turkey, swine and poultry units. He said they sell equipment packages to farmers. He said they have 80 retail locations in the US and they want to build a retail outlet to sell parts and

equipment to poultry and hog farmers. He said this company will be located adjacent to James Industrial Park along

Highway 341 on the 1.55 acre lot. He said the company was paying the County \$30,000 per acre, which makes the total \$46,500. Mr. Watkins said the zoning is in place, but the lot is not included in the James Industrial Park and is not a part of the park. He said it was zoned commercial and the lot measures 225 x 300 feet deep, and they are planning to have a 6,000 square foot building with paved parking.

Mr. Watkins said that Jim McLeod, a realtor from Camden, approached the County regarding the location of this business.

There were no questions from Council.

B. EASEMENT FOR CITY OF BISHOPVILLE SEWER LINE ON COUNTY PROPERTY ADJACENT TO LEVY PARK

Mr. Watkins said that the ad for the public hearing was advertised in the paper with the information that anyone could call in and no one responded.

Mr. Watkins said the County owns Levy Park, which is located on Church Street and runs along the existing fence line and the City is doing a major upgrade on their sewer lines. He said this will increase the capacity in the County, including the industrial park and business at Exit 116. He said the easement that runs along the fence line will be 30 feet wide. He said the City will handle all survey cost.

There were no questions from Council.

The public hearing was closed at 9:40 a.m. on a motion made by Councilperson Josey, seconded by Councilman Beasley.

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 11, 2020
LEE COUNTY COURTHOUSE**

OPEN MEETING AND INVOCATION

Chairman Windham welcomed everyone and thanked the Council as well as the people watching on Face Book. Vice-Chairman Eckley gave the invocation.

REQUEST FOR MOTION TO APPROVE RECOMMENDED AGENDA

Councilman Beasley made the motion to approve the agenda as mailed. Councilperson Caughman seconded the motion. Chairman Windham called for the vote, and motion carried. All voted in favor.

REQUEST FOR MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES FROM REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF JULY 14, 2020

Councilman Beasley made the motion to approve the minutes from the regular council meeting of July 14, 2020 as mailed. Councilperson Josey seconded the motion. Chairman Windham called for the vote, and motion carried. All voted in favor.

REQUEST FOR MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES FROM REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF JULY 14, 2020

Councilman Beasley made the motion to approve the minutes from regular council meeting of July 14, 2020 as mailed. Councilperson Josey seconded the motion. Chairman Windham called for the vote, and motion carried. All voted in favor.

REQUEST FOR MOTION ON SECOND READING APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE

A. SALE OF COUNTY PROPERTY

Councilperson Caughman made the motion to approve for second reading approval of ordinance. Councilman Fountain seconded the motion. Chairman Windham called for the vote, and motion carried.

A. EASEMENT FOR CITY OF BISHOPVILLE SEWER LINE ON COUNTY PROPERTY ADJACENT TO LEVY PARK

Vice-Chairman Eckley made the motion to approve for second reading. Councilperson Caughman seconded the motion. Chairman Windham called for the vote, and motion carried. All voted in favor.

PROCLAMATION TO RECOGNIZE AUGUST 2-8, 2020 AS LEE COUNTY FARM MARKET WEEK

Mr. Watkins read the proclamation, which was requested by the local Farm Market committee. Chairman Windham thanked all of the committee members for their efforts in this endeavor.

Councilperson Caughman made the motion to approve the proclamation to recognize August 2-8,, 2020 as Lee County Farm Market Week. Councilman Beasley seconded the motion. Chairman Windham called for the vote, and motion carried. All voted in favor.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT FOR THE DETENTION OF JUVENILES

Mr. Watkins said that this is an annual agreement that the Administrator signs and has to do with the daily rate of juvenile detention per day. He said that all counties renew this agreement every year. The current daily rate is \$50.00 per day.

Councilperson Josey made the motion to approve the Resolution of the Memorandum of Agreement of Detention of Juveniles. Councilperson Caughman seconded the motion. Chairman Windham called for the vote, and motion carried. All voted in favor.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Mr. Watkins said that as of July 13, the County had 334 cases with 32 deaths and as of August 10, 2020, the County had 566 cases with 36 deaths.

He said the Courthouse is open and the County offices are providing services to the citizens.

He said that Chief Justice Donald Beatty ordered temp checks and face masks effective August 12, 2020.

He said that Magistrate’s Office adjusted their hours so anyone needing them should call 803-484-6463.

He also said that testing is still taking place at CareSouth. He said that he will continue to monitor the situation. He did say that masks are not required in individual offices. Mr. Watkins said that plexiglass has been installed in offices to help protect our employees.

Chairman Windham said that he could poll Council in regards to moving forward with Council meetings. He said that currently Lee County is the second highest county with virus cases. He did add that he and Mr. Watkins are staying on top of this situation.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 9:56 a.m. on a motion made by Vice-Chairman Eckley, seconded by Councilman Beasley.

CHAIRMAN

VICE-CHAIRMAN

CLERK TO COUNCIL

MINUTES APPROVED

