

HARALSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARCH 19, 2024
WORK SESSION MINUTES

Chairman Ridley called the meeting to order. Commissioners Tarpley, Elsberry, Daniel, and Farmer were present along with County Attorney Avery Jackson.

Item #1 – Public Hearing – Rezoning Request – Haralson County Tax Map 0099-0037, located on Rockmart Road. The present zoning is A-1, agricultural. Proposed zoning is R-2, with conditional use for a residential home with a bakery. Requested by Debra Long. Ms. Long stated that her sister owns the property and previously operated a beauty shop out of the home. Ms. Long would like to open a bakery. There was no opposition to the request and the Planning and Zoning Board recommended approval 3-0.

Item #2 – Public Works request to Purchase a 5710 Massey Ferguson Bush Hog Tractor. Public Works Director Terry Edwards stated that he has received 3 quotes for comparable tractors.

Massey Ferguson - \$57,343

Kubota - \$60,551

John Deere - \$62,085

The Massey Ferguson is like the one that will be replaced and is available now. The others will take 6-12 months to receive. He stated that the current one owned by the county is out of warranty and is beginning to have some mechanical problems.

The commissioners gave consensus for the tractor to be purchased now while it is available and this will be officially voted on at the April 2, 2024, meeting.

Item #3 – Haralson County Veterans Association

Tommy Patterson, from the Haralson County Veterans Association, stated that he was in attendance to request that the county give \$20,000 for the West Georgia Military Museum and Education Center. Attorney Jackson stated he will look into the Gratuities Clause and give the commissioners some direction. This will be on the April 2, 2024, Agenda.

Item #4 – Hotel/Motel Tax Ordinance

Chairman Ridley stated this would cover Airbnb, VRBO, RV Parks, and campsites in the unincorporated part of the county.

Attorney Avery Jackson said the county can start a tax up to 5% by Ordinance. 3% would be for the county to use, 2% must be used for Tourism and Economic Development. Then, we can ask for Local Legislation to increase this up to a total of 8%. Chairman Ridley stated this will help the county fund the operations of the Development Authority. This will also be on the April 2, 2024, Agenda.

Chairman Ridley adjourned the work session.

Submitted by Alison Palmer
Certified County Clerk, CPM