

CHARLTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2019
BOC CONFERENCE ROOM
6:00 P.M.

4/4/2019 - Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

Those present were: Chairman James Everett, along with Commissioners Alpha Benefield, and Jesse Crews; County Administrator Hampton Raulerson; County Clerk Jenifer Nobles; HR Clerk Becky Harden; County Attorney John Adams; and visitors as recorded hereafter. Commissioner Luke Gowen was absent.

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Chairman Everett led the Invocation and Pledge to the Flag.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Benefield made motion to amend agenda to include the following:

Consider approval to pay balance of \$25,000.00 to GA DOT for Old Dixie Highway Paving - SPLOST account - (City of Homeland will reimburse SPLOST account)

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Crews, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Crews made motion to adopt the agenda to include amendment. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Commissioner Crews made motion to approve March 21, 2019 Minutes. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

5. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF VARIANCE FOR NEW LIFE BAPTIST CHURCH, ST. GEORGE

Commissioner Crews made motion to approve variance for New Life Baptist Church, St. George - to allow variance of 15' setback away from the right of way for construction of new sanctuary. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

6. HEAR WESLEY GREEN, PUBLIC SAFETY

Wesley Green was present and expressed concerns of Easter Sunday.

Chief Green informed the Board that eight (8) people were shot over the weekend. "I came before the Board several years ago. The Board voted to stop the Easter activities, and for two (2) years there were no shootings and fights. But, now they are back. The Board of Commissioners sets policy, and procedures. We need to stop pointing fingers! If you vote to have these activities, be there to see what's going on! Local law enforcement is putting lives on the line for the community".

EMS personnel felt for their lives over the weekend.

Chief Green asked about the county opening concession stand on Easter. County Administrator Raulerson stated that if there is a ballgame on Easter Sunday the concession stand will not be open.

7. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF E&R SPREADSHEET

Commissioner Crews made motion to approve 3/19 E & R Spreadsheet. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS: (PLEASE LIMIT TO 3 MINUTES)

AMENDMENT TO AGENDA - Commissioner Crews made motion to approve payment of \$25,000.00 (SPLOST funds) to DOT for the paving of Homeland Highway (will be reimbursed by City of Homeland). Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

Bruce Young, as concerned citizen who lives in Sticks, expressed concerns of Easter activities at Chatman Mobley Park. "I have lived in area for 23 years and nothing good has come out of activities. Senior Citizens live in the area around the park and feel like hostages when this is going on. This needs to be stopped".

Drew Jones, in support of Chief Green's comments, voiced concerns, and stated a very serious situation when people die, "In the name of common sense my recommendation- Do not allow this".

Donald Glover, Code Enforcement Officer, stated that building across the street from the Park has been condemned and working to shut this building down.

9. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Benefield stated that she has said the same things that Wesley Green and Bruce Young are saying, but no one would listen. I am in support of District 1, I live in that community. I don't support anything people are doing that is degrading. I have never said I am in support of Easter Festivities that are being referred to.

The Board asked that decision to close Parks be on the next agenda.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF REQUIRED)

None.

11. NEXT BOC MEETING, 6:00 P.M. THURSDAY, APRIL 18. 2019 - BOC CONFERENCE ROOM

12. ADJOURN

Commissioner Crews made motion to adjourn meeting at 7:03 p.m. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

James E. Everett, Chairman

Jenifer Nobles, County Clerk