

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE GILCHRIST COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD JANUARY 21, 2021

The Gilchrist County Board of County Commissioners, in and for Gilchrist County, Florida, convened in a **Regular Meeting** on **Monday, January 21, 2021** at **4:00 pm**, in the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Facility, located at 210 South Main Street, Trenton, Florida, with the following members' present to-wit:

<i>District I</i>	<i>Commissioner Sharon A. Langford, Chairman</i>
<i>District II</i>	<i>Commissioner Bill Martin, Vice Chairman</i>
<i>District III</i>	<i>Commissioner Darrell Smith</i>
<i>District IV</i>	<i>Commissioner Marion Poitevint</i>
<i>District V</i>	<i>Commissioner Kenrick Thomas</i>

Others in Attendance

Todd Newton, Clerk of Court; Richard Romans, Finance Director; Terri Hilliard, Board Secretary/Deputy Clerk; David Lang, County Attorney, Donna Creamer, Administrative Assistant; Tracy Sanders, GCSD; Ralph Smith, EM Director; Chief James Campbell, GCFR; John Ayers, Gilchrist County Journal; Eddy Scott; John Rutledge; Michael & Karen Holbrook; Gene Stockman; Tammy Moore, HR Director; Lou Leone, Road Department Superintendent; Tara Howell, Zoning and Permitting Clerk;

Call to Order

Madam Chair, Sharon Langford called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm. Commissioner Darrell Smith delivered the invocation and Commissioner Bill Martin led the pledge of allegiance.

Agenda

- Agenda was presented to the Board

Motion made by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Marion Poitevint, to approve the Agenda, as presented. Commissioner Langford called for any further discussion, none noted. Motion passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda

- None

Public Participation

- None

Constitutional Officers

- None

County Administrator's Report

Mr. Crosby, County Administrator, presented the following documents, and/or addressed the following issues:

1. Community Development

- Recommendation of Building Official: Mr. Crosby stated that since May 2020, the County has been working with Universal Engineering Services, to do our building inspections and plan reviews. Mr. Gene Stockman has been working with Universal and doing the County Inspections for the last few months. He has a history in the building industry since 1985 and has been doing inspections since 1995. Mr. Crosby stated Mr. Stockman recently passed his State exam, which makes him a Building Official. Mr. Crosby stated that he would like to recommend for the Boards approval, the hiring of Mr. Gene Stockman as the new County Building Official. Mr. Crosby stated that this is not a position that posts a salary, but the salary is negotiated when they make an offer. After discussion with Mr. Stockman, the negotiated salary they agreed on would be \$80,000.00 plus full benefits. This position is budgeted at \$70,000.00, but thru discussions with other Building Officials, Mr. Crosby found that the going rate for this position is between \$80,000.00-\$85,000.00. With benefits and salary, the total cost of the offer would be \$101,949.00. Mr. Crosby stated that if we were to continue to use Universal Engineering, it would be at a cost of approximately \$225,000.00 this year. If the Board were to approve Mr. Stockman's hiring, his start date would be February 1st, 2021.

Motion made by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas and seconded by Commissioner Marion Poitevint to approve the hiring of Gene Stockman as the County Building Official, at a salary of \$80,000.00 plus full benefits. Commissioner Langford called for any further discussion, County Clerk, Mr. Todd Newton, wanted the Board to be aware that while he agrees with the County Administrators assessment, the proposed salary would be more than is budgeted for this position. Commissioner Langford confirmed the salary would be coming from the Building Department and not the fund balance? Mr. Crosby confirmed. Commissioner Langford called for any further discussion, Commissioner Smith stated he has heard back from builders in the county and they pleased with the work Mr. Stockman is doing. County Clerk clarified that with the hiring of Mr. Stockman, we would no longer be using Universal for their services, Mr. Crosby stated only in an emergency. Commissioner Langford called for any further discussion, none noted. Motion passed unanimously.

2. General

- County Service Technician: Mr. Crosby stated that the County has a County Service Technician position budgeted. He stated that while this position could do many things, they are primarily looking for utilize this position for Code Enforcement, Code violations and for assisting Animal Control with cruelty cases. Mr. Crosby stated that after researching,