

January 17, 2023

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**STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF HENRY**

The Henry County Board of Commissioners held a Regular Public Meeting *in-person* on Tuesday, January 17, 2023, 6:30 p.m., at the Henry County Administration Building (Community Room), 140 Henry Parkway, McDonough GA. HenryTV also streamed this live online at its website, as well as Charter/Spectrum Channel 180 and Facebook Live.

Carlotta Harrell, Chair
Johnny Wilson, District I Commissioner
Dee Clemmons, District II Commissioner (Via Phone)
Dee Anglyn, III, District III Commissioner
Vivian Thomas, District IV Commissioner (Arrived after Pledge of Allegiance)
Kevin J. Lewis, Vice-Chair/ District V Commissioner

Also in attendance: Cheri Hobson-Matthews, County Manager; Nancy Rowan, County Attorney, Stephanie Braun, Clerk, Henry County; and Jasmin Head, Deputy County Clerk

HENRY COUNTY CODE OF CONDUCT

(Sec. 2-2-128: Conduct during public meetings)

INVOCATION

The Invocation was given.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge was recited.

CALL TO ORDER

Carlotta Harrell, Chair, called the Regular Meeting of the Henry County Board of Commissioners for Tuesday, January 17, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. to order.

Announcement from the Chair

Carlotta Harrell, Chair, added a **proclamation** for Michael Harris II of the Atlanta Braves. Recognition of 2022 National League Rookie of the Year.

Proclamation

Chair Harrell read the Proclamation as follows:

***In Recognition of Michael Harris II
2022 National League Rookie of the Year***

WHEREAS, Michael Harris II, outfielder for the Atlanta Braves, had a remarkable and successful season and was named the 2022 National League Rookie of the Year, capturing an incredible 22 of 30 first place votes; and

WHEREAS, A native of Henry County by way of Dekalb County, Harris is the son of Michael Harris Sr. and Dr. LaTaucha Harris. As a boy, Harris dreamed of one day suiting up for the Braves as he grew up near Turner Field. He attended Stockbridge High School in Stockbridge and was a star for the Tigers as an outfielder and pitcher, lead his team to a regional playoff qualifying berth and was named Georgia's 2019 Class-5A Player of the Year; and

WHEREAS, His hard work and dedication paid off and he was drafted with the 98th pick in the third round of the 2019 Major League Baseball Draft by none other than his home team, the Atlanta Braves. To begin the 2022 season, Harris was assigned to the Mississippi Braves of the Minor League and put on a show accumulating 5 homeruns, 33 runs batted in and 11 stolen bases in only 43 games before being called up to the Majors; and

WHEREAS, As a key contributor for the Braves during the 2022 season, Harris was named Rookie of the Month for the month of August. Exhibiting exceptional sportsmanship and talent, he netted 19 homeruns, 64 runs batted in and 20 stolen bases helping the Braves to clinch the National League East Division.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the Henry County Board of Commissioners wishes to congratulate Michael Harris II on his accomplishments, commend him on his impeccable talent and as the clock continues to press forward into the 2023 season and beyond, wish him great health and continued success.

PHOTOGRAPHS WERE TAKEN

Chair Harrell announced: The following Planning & Zoning items were postponed by the staff for the January 17, 2023, BOC meeting:

- **RZ-21-39** DRB Group of Fayetteville, GA requests a rezoning from RA (Residential-Agricultural) to R-2 (Single-Family Residence) (Sewer) for property located at 245 & 375 Locust Road in Land Lots 132, 133, and 156 of the 2nd District. The property consists of 215.25+/- acres, and the request is for a single-family residential subdivision. **District 1**

CONSENT AGENDA

Cheri Hobson-Matthews, County Manager, read the Consent Agenda as follows:

Facilities Maintenance

- A. Resolution awarding contract to Trane U.S Inc. (via Omni Partners state contract) for the replacement of five (5) water chilled air handler units in the amount of \$1,744,883 at the Henry County Jail. Funding will be made available from Fund Balance. (Presenter: Hutch Purvis, Cluster Leader) (Exhibit 1) *Resolution #23-41*

Fire Rescue

- Fire Rescue A. A Resolution of the Board of Commissioners approving the purchase of Heavy Apparatus Lifts from Mohawk Lifts in the amount of \$55,213 (Presenter: Jonathan Burnette, Fire Chief)(Exhibit 2) *Resolution #23-42*

Police Department

- A. Resolution accepting a fully equipped 2022 Dodge Durango from the Georgia Office of Highway Safety-Law Enforcement Services Division, Governor's Challenge Program (Presenter: Lt. W.Powell/HCPD)(Exhibit 3)*Resolution #23-43*

- B. Resolution approving application for the Highway Enforcement of Aggressive Traffic (H.E.A.T.) grant. GOHS grant will fund 40% of the salaries, training, travel, and regular operating expenses. The remaining 60% local match requirement will be allocated in the Henry County Police Department's fiscal year 2023-2024budget. (Presenter: Lt. William Powell/HCPD)(Exhibit 4)*Resolution #23-44*

- C. Resolution approving 50 Panasonic Toughbook's and 50 Docking Stations for the Henry County Police Department through CDW-G(Source well Contract) in the amount of \$199,850, utilizing the Small Equipment Funds account (Presenter: Lt. W.Powell/HCPD)(Exhibit 5)*Resolution #23-45*

- D. Resolution approving request from the Henry County Police Department to sell a K9 service animal for the amount of \$6,000to the Butts County Sheriff's Office (Presenter: Lt. W.Powell/HCPD)(Exhibit 6)*Resolution #23-46*

Planning & Zoning

- A. Resolution approving a request for a new streetlight district for Edinburgh Subdivision on Hampton Locust Grove Road. District 1 (Presenter: Kamau As-Salaam, Planner III)(Exhibit 7) *Resolution #23-47*
- B. Resolution approving a request for a new streetlight district for Rowland Place (Phase 2) Subdivision on Elliott Road. District 3 (Presenter: Kamau As-Salaam, Planner III)(Exhibit 8) *Resolution #23-48*

Stormwater

- A. A Resolution to approve an Annual Contract to inspect the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) and other required services for the County to comply with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit (NPDES) to Goodwyn Mills Cawood (GMC) in the amount of \$2,951,502.11 per the five year permit cycle 2023-2027 (Presenter: Francis Alomia, Civil Engineer)(Exhibit 9). *Resolution #23-49*

Transportation Planning

- A. Resolution requesting state grants for road projects in response to a solicitation from the Georgia Transportation Infrastructure Bank (Presenter: Sam Baker, Transportation Planning Director)(Exhibit 10) *Resolution #23-50*

This ends the Consent Agenda

Kevin J. Lewis, Vice-Chair/District 5 Commissioner, a motion to approve the Consent Agenda; **Dee Anglen III, District 3 Commissioner**, seconded the motion. Motion carried (6-0-0).

REGULAR AGENDA

Chair Harrell announced there will be a change to the regular agenda.

Chair Harrell ask that **Kevin Johnson, (EMA Department Head)**, **Mark Ammerman ,(Chief of Police)** , and **Jonathan Burnette (Fire Chief)** come forward to give an update about the disasters and relief efforts we have in Henry Country.

Cheri Hobson-Matthews, County Manager, introduced the speakers that will be coming forward to speak about the disaster that occurred on January 12,2023.

Jonathan Burnette, Fire Chief wanted to publicly thank the entire team and everyone who has helped out since Thursday night, January 12,2023. When he speaks of the entire team, he means the internal and external partners. The team has been working around the clock to assist. We also have a state representative from GEMA that will answering any questions.

Kevin Johnson, EMA Department Head, came forward to give facts about the tornado that occurred in Southern Henry County. He stated that we have worked directly with our state partners from Georgia Emergency Management, Homeland Security, Department of Public Health, Department of Transportation, Department of Corrections, Department of Forestry, and the private sector partners. The private sectors that have played a huge role includes Red Cross, the Salvation Army, Verizon, Chick-fil-a and a few churches. Relevant church has been a huge piece in this for us. There have been deployed teams out to assist as a result of our unified response working in coordination with the state and the federal partnerships. We've identified resources to be placed within our county for our citizens. In Locust Grove we've established a 100-bed shelter through American Red Cross. Additional resources include a mobile shower and bathroom unit. A laundry unit as well as a Verizon trailer that can supply wireless internet and phone charging stations. Chick-fil-a and salvation army are providing meals. The internal staff is passing out tarps, blankets, bottled water, and any resources they can gather. Moving forward they will beginning to establish a Red Cross Recovery Team and FEMA disaster response Center at the site. Its going to assist with the long-term recover. Financial assistance for the impacted citizens. The next mater is to address the aftermath of the tornado track itself. DOT is working

to clear the roads. Utility workers have been working none stop to get the power back on. We have a strike team that is isolating debris left from the tornado and placing the debris at the Henry County recycling center. The Recycling Center is also accepting debris from private citizen at no cost to the citizen. Anyone in need please utilize the resources that's being offered. Please call out 770-288-7894 for any assistance. Also please follow the Public Safety Facebook page and the EMA page for constant updates.

Mark Ammerman, Chief of Police, commended Public Safety on the great work.

Chair Harrell, asked who is the representative from GEMA? Sherry Russo came forward.

Sherry Russo, GEMA Representative, stated that the partners we have in Henry County have been great. In addition, any residence impacted by the tornado they can start applying for FEMA assistance now and they can call 1-800-621-FEMA, or they can go online to disasterassistance.gov and start the process. **Johnny Wilson, District I Commissioner**, wanted to thank everyone for their response and showing up for the people impacted by the storm. **Chair Harrell**, asked Mr. Johnson about the incoming calls that the 911 dispatchers were receiving from Spalding and Butts County. **Mr. Johnson** stated the storm took down Spalding County infrastructure. The 911 center was down which caused a lot of the calls to come to Henry County dispatchers. **Chair Harrell**, just wanted to thank everyone for all of the hard work that they have done for the citizens of Henry County.

There were no further questions or comments from the Board. *No action was taken.*

Presentation

Connecting Henry Update

Presentation by Connecting Henry and Grace Baptist Church(*Presenters; Barbara Coleman, Executive Director of Connecting Henry; and Executive Pastor TaMarlon Carter, Grace Baptist Church*)

Barbara Coleman, Executive Director, Connecting Henry, presented an update to the Board regarding the Homeless and Homelessness Prevention program They are still seeing a tremendous request for assistance. They have received a total of 7,000 calls requesting for assistance in the last quarter. If they can assist anyone with their mortgage/rent or utilities at this time the most they can give out is \$250.00. Their goal is to help families and to make sure they can be in a home where they can cook and not be on the streets.

TaMarlon Carter. Pastor, Grace Baptist Church, presented an updated to the Board regarding what Grace Baptist Church Essential Services provides to the public. They have been able to touch about 673 homes in the last two years. Able to provide mental wellness to the community.

Barbara Coleman, Executive Director, Connecting Henry, speaks about inspiring employment training. The training is to help individuals to retain a job. Henry County is at the top rate for rent in the state of Georgia. Citizen cannot afford their rent.

TaMarlon Carter. Pastor, Grace Baptist Church, stated they will remain committed to the county and thank the board for their time.

Chair Harrell: asked are these repeat customers that are requesting assistance? How do we help them to become more sustainable? What other things are in place to help these families? **Pastor Carter** responded that there is a limit we have a tracking system to keep track of the people receiving funds. **Ms. Coleman** stated when we offer our assistance, we do ask them how much they are have to put forth. We use a charity tracker to keep track of who all received assist. **Vivian Thomas, District IV Commissioner**

thanked them for the work that do. She also, asked them to describe the person they are helping. **Ms. Coleman** stated that she receives calls from the working poor, Henry County government employees, Henry County school system employees and people working in the warehouses. Majority of all calls are from single mother. If we cannot assist, we will send them to other organizations. **Commissioner Thomas** stated, these are our teachers, Henry County government employees and the people working at the plants. These are not people trying to beat down the system. The public needs to know there is help. Thank you for your help.

Ms. Coleman: stated they need to be a resident of Henry County at least for 6 months before they can apply for assistance. **Pastor Carter** thanked everyone who has showed up to assist.

There were no further questions or comments from the Board. *No action was taken.*

Financial Services

Monique Franklin, Grant Administrator, presented a resolution of the Board of Commissioners further amending Resolution #20-245 authorizing an amendment which changes the allocation of funds and approving additional transfer of funds in order to further assist non-profits due to COVID-19. The title V of cares ACT created the coronavirus fund to provide financial resources to state and local governments the U.S treasury provided Georgia with approximately 4.1 billion based on funding formula and determining 45% could be allocated to local governments on a criteria of public health emergency and Henry County will be eligible for 8.4 million dollars. Ms. Franklin continues to read resolution 23-51 that can be found on the website,

Johnny Wilson, District I Commissioner, asked as nonprofits they only conduit for citizens to get help for the rent assistance? **Ms. Franklin**, responded saying Our ERAP program actually does have rental assistance which we just received the 15 million dollars. The nonprofit will provide whatever wraparound services there currently providing and there is no stipulations on services. **Commissioner Wilson**, asked, when we had our cold weather event the weekend of Christmas how many nonprofits step forward to help us open up warming shelters? **County Manger Hobson-Matthews** stated we had confirmation from three churches that opened up. **Chair Harrell** stated there were four churches that opened up warming stations. **Chair Harrell** also stated she would like to see added on the non-profit criteria is that all applicants are current on their 990 forms. **Commissioner Thomas** asked do you have a process where they send in forms. **Ms. Franklin** answered yes that is required.

Chair Harrell called for a motion.

Commissioner Thomas made a motion to approve; **Commissioner Lewis** seconded. Motion carried (5-1-0).

(Chair Harrell, Commissioners Clemmons, Anglyn, Thomas and Lewis voted in favor; Commissioner Wilson voted in opposition.)

Resolution 23-51

Parks and Recreation

Jonathan "J.P." Penn, Cluster Leader, Henry County Leisure & Public Services, presented a resolution requesting approval of awarding RFP# 23-02 to Perez Planning + Design LLC (PP+D) for the Henry County Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Master Plan in the amount of \$265,500. The Master Plan for the county hasn't been updated since 1974. The county needs a new plan to move forward with updating the parks and recreation facilities. This plan will allow us to have a vision and prioritize our project. Also, this will allow us to prioritize the needs of the county. This plan will allow us to start our need for CAPRA. CAPRA is a national certification through the national recreation of parks association. This will provide us for additional funding opportunities, national recognitions and allow us to update our policies on a national level. This CAPRA certification is highly regarded amongst the nation. Out of the Georgia there is only thirteen other counties and municipalities that received this certification. So receiving this certification will put us at the top in the nation for what we're doing in parks and recreation. Once again this will help with planning financially for our projects. He explained what will be identified and how the plan will help with community research and analysis, inventory, conditions, community involvement, needs assessment, gap analysis, priority recommendations, staffing and funding needs and strategies. He stated the reason for having the plan will allow us to have justification for why changes are occurring in the community, why we have to pay for them and a justification can be pointed back to this plan as a fair and unbiased recommendation as what is needed and how we prioritize those needs in our community. Some may say this money can be used to improve the parks that we already have but a plan is needed for this county.

Vivian Thomas, District IV Commissioner, asked what are you trying to accomplish with this plan?

Mr. Penn: responded by saying to provide a comprehensive overview of the plan as far as needs and analysis for all communities within Henry County. Fill in our gaps, what land we need to purchase for future growth. What current facilities we need to bring them up to a national level of standard and prioritization of our capital projects as well how we are going to fund this plan moving forward in the next five to ten years as well as the staffing needs and the maintenance needs.

Commissioner Thomas, asked again what are you trying to accomplish with your plan? She stated she heard what he is saying but she isn't understanding what is needed from the plan. She got the information that was presented. She also heard what Mr. Penn said twice but she thinks he is missing something key there for her. Her next question was how did you select this particular company to this type of work?

Mr. Penn: explained it went through the normal procurement process. There was a panel that reviewed the submittals and they were graded and that's how the company was selected.

Commissioner Thomas, asked does this particular company have any experience on working with parks specifically? **Mr. Penn:** stated this company has extensive experience with working with parks and recreations. **Commissioner Thomas** stated it would be great if we had some sampling of their work or something they have accomplished because she doesn't feel comfortable what they're going to bring to the count. She would like to see more of their work in his presentation. She then asked how long do you think it would take this company to accomplish your master plan?

Mr. Penn responded by saying the timeline placed in the proposal was approximately 290 days. **Commissioner Thomas**, asked is they a company that does the actually planning and the final work or are they a company that does the planning and the plan is then put back out for bidding? **Mr. Penn**, responded by saying they will provide the plan and once completed we'll bring it back for adoption so that we can implement what's in that plan. **Commissioner Thomas** asked, so if this company is writing the plan they can also implement the plan as well? **Mr. Penn**, responded by saying no we'll do the implementation but the company will provide the steps we need to take to implement this plan with a capital project in five to ten years.

Commissioner Thomas, asked so the other parts of the plan you will be bidding out as needed?

Mr. Penn responded no we're not bidding out any other parts of the plan we'll have a comprehensive plan that we will be using as we move forward with planning improvements to our park and how we move forward with our park plan. **Commissioner Thomas**, asked is the company just going to do the actual plan itself and those elements of the plan or will you bring this back out for other bidding that's needed? **Mr. Penn**, responded yes we will have to identify the any type of funding and acquire the funding for any capital projects in the plan.

Commissioner Thomas stated she wish she had more information about what the company has actually done. She then asked for counties they have delivered on. **Mr. Penn**, responded by saying City of Atlanta, Cherokee County, Gwinnett County the City of Roswell and a host of other cities. **Commissioner Thomas**, asked are these the one that you have been able to filter through and do you feel comfortable with this company? **Mr. Penn**, responded yes as well as they worked extensively on the planning and major beltline project with the City of Atlanta. **Commissioner Thomas** asked will this plan also encompass adding additional green spaces to the county. **Mr. Penn** responded yes we will identify what space is needed based on the national standards. **Commissioner Thomas**, asked will walking trails also be apart of the plan? **Mr. Penn**, stated we will look at the plan Sam from (Transit) has done which will incorporate into this plan **Commissioner Thomas**, thanked Mr. Penn.

Commissioner Wilson stated What concerns me is that we are going to spend \$265,000 on a plan they are going to implement. How are we going to pay for what they recommend? Where does the funding come from bases on their recommendations?

Mr. Penn, responded by saying that's the conversation we will have to have based on the recommendations. We as a county will have to come up with the funding and the board will have to approve where that funding will come from.

Commissioner Wilson stated the problem he would have approving the \$265,000 then come back for additional funding to follow the plan. Then it may cause a mileage rate increase or we have to bond money and he wouldn't want to do that to the taxpayers when we have other needs for these type of monies.

County Manger Hobson-Matthews explained that this has been brought to the board before. What we are bringing to you all is based on us wanting to prioritize what the needs of the counties are right now. It's a hazard running from one park priority to another park priority and because we are doing that we are not able to identify funding sources. One thing this board has to

remember there are various funding sources that we have. She also states if this plan identifies new items, then that what the impact fees are for. She states, we continue to grow as a county we have to fund what those needs are and she doesn't want the public to believe that because we are doing a plan we have to increase the millage rate, because that's not what the plan will do. She explained we need this plan so that we will know our priorities and where we need to invest our priorities. This plan will help us to identify what those needs are and the plan may come back that we may not be able to afford all at once but part of what this team will do is priority what the needs are. If we don't start here we will continue to keep putting band aids on the problem.

Dee Clemmons, District II Commissioner (Via Phone) agreed that we are over spending when we don't have a plan. She would love to see a strategic plan for the park and she would like to see community engagement. Plus, this will give staff direction of how to spend money. That's the biggest thing that we are spending money where money is supposed to go. She is in full support of a comprehensive plan for all of the parks in our county.

Dee Anglyn, III, District III Commissioner Stated in September 2020 there was a proposal for 100,000 dollars that was tabled and now we are sitting at a proposal that sits at \$265,000. That time has cost us a lot of money and accountability is the key word. This pass the buck on to us to be accountable to the plan they want for this county also it lets us know what we need to be spending our money on and anything of value has a price. A plan is extremely important and he challenges folks to change their view points on how they change the plan.

There being no further questions or comments from the Board, **Commissioner Clemmons** made a motion to approve; **Commissioner Thomas** seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0-0. Resolution 23-52

Sheriff's Office

Chief Ammerman presented a resolution requesting funding from ARPA Funds to purchase and installation of Avigilon Surveillance Camera Systems from ComTech Communications of Georgia, Inc. for the Superior Court, State Court Judicial Center, and Henry County Jail to provide COVID detection abilities in the amount of \$871,541.33. **Chief Ammerman**, stated these cameras will allow us to provide better safety within the court system and within our jail structure. These cameras will help with the covid outbreak as well. They will help mitigate the spread of the virus and our contraction. This funding will be split across to the State Court Judicial Center the Superior Court building as well as the Henry County jail for a total of \$871,541.33.

Commissioner Wilson, asked how will the camera be monitored? **Chief Billi Akins, Chief of Staff**, responded by saying the courthouse has a monitoring station that is already set up that has various big screen that already paid for through the Henry county sheriff budget and we have the same set up at the jail.

Commissioner Anglyn stated he wanted to make sure the information he has in front of him is the correct information before they make the motion. It says COVID detection capabilities.

Chair Harrell asked is the covid protection on all of the cameras or is it certain cameras? **Chief Akin**, stated it's on all of the cameras, it will be able to identify someone that has a heightened temperature the system is the same in all three buildings that allows us to monitor.

Chair Harrell, asked are we replacing old cameras? **Chief Akins** responded that it's not a replacement of all cameras lot of them don't need to be replaced this will be an enhancement and it allows the new system to dictate some of the covid protocols some of them will have to be replaced some of them are just upgraded.

Commissioner Clemmons (Via Phone) asked what is the warranty on the camera? **Chief Akins** stated, there is a maintenance contract that goes along with it that cannot be covered under our budget. We're going to request that in our budget. **Chair Harrell** asked is there a separate contract for maintenance? **Chief Akins** responded yes but it cannot be covered under ARAP funding. **Commissioner Clemmons** asked was this already in the budget to do the maintenance plan every year? **Chief Akins** responded no its not but they are going to ask for an increase and if not then they will have to try to figure out how to work the funds into their budget in order to maintain the maintenance because its going to cost us more money to deal with medical and other issues if we don't do something to protect us, our inmates and the community.

There was no further questions or comments discussions from the board; Commissioner Thomas made a motion to approve; **Vice-Chair Lewis seconded** the motion. Motion carried 6-0-0. Resolution 23-53

Chief Ammerman presented a resolution approving the purchase of a Sprung Structure constructed by JT2 Engineering & Construction for emergency housing at the Henry County Jail for the amount of \$4,220,669. This purchase will be made utilizing Fund Balance. **Chief Ammerman**, stated the structure will be built in 25 weeks or less to be able to answer to overpopulation problem they have at the jail now. This structure will allow them to have less staff overview. The average day to day population has been a problem for the jail. Currently the jail is completely over its capacity. The jail capacity is 892 but they have 930 inmates being housed. The structure will help with the housing for our mental health inmates as well.

Commissioner Wilson asked is the structure stable because it looks like a tent?

Trey Thomason (Sprung Structure Corporation) responded by saying it's an exterior membrane structure, which basically consist of an aluminum beam substructure with an improved fabric membrane on the exterior. It's a tension fabric that has a 25-year warranty with a 30-year lifespan on it. Its designed and engineered to meet the building code requirement for wind, snow, and fire. It's a very strong heavy engineered long-lasting building that can be built quickly and cost effectively. There are structures that are build in South Florida that are required to meet 192 mile an hour wind. There are numerous of our structures that have been through hurricanes.

Commissioner Thomas asked Hutch Purvis (Cluster Leader/Facilities Maintenance) to approach and asked him how much land does the Annex building sit on? **Mr. Purvis** stated the Annex sits on 2.5 acres.

Commissioner Thomas asked if we could build a structure with two or maybe three floors on it? **Mr. Purvis** responded you could. **Commissioner Thomas** asked are there areas we can actually build on or go up on? **Commissioner Thomas** stated she is concerned about the sprung structure its not something we can build on and it takes up a lot of land. What are the options there? **Mr. Purvis** states we can add another pod next to pod D, it will require that a retainer wall be built before we can use that space and behind the building addition to where they want to put the sprung structure there is a undeveloped area that we could potentially utilize. That would give us right at 60,000 square feet.

Commissioner Thomas asked if we could take some of the land we have now and build something or build on it? So that we can build up because soon this entire area will be on land lock. But these are options we on how we can use the land. She then asked Mr. Thomason what do you do when the sprung no longer has a need what do y'all do with the structure?.

Mr. Thomason said its relocatable it can be used for whatever the county needs if its no longer needed for an inmate facility.

Chief Ammerman stated that he will look forward to strategic plan on moving forward with a pod or multi floored pods when we do that and our capacity is under control and we're able to grow. The structure can also be repurposed for the sheriff department as well. As far as a athletic facility for inmates. Also, to an entire mental health facility it's all sorts of options that the structure could be used for.

Commissioner Thomas, asked who is responsible for the upkeep of the buildings?

County Manger Hobson-Matthews stated the sheriff has his only maintenance team because he is responsible for the jail. **Commissioner Thomas** asked will the Spung structure fall under the Sheriff budget for maintenance and the care?

County Manger Hobson-Matthews reminded the board that the resolution and the request Infront of them today is for the 4.2 million to come out of the county's fund balance. Then any maintenance fees that's associated will come out of the sheriff budget. **Commissioner Thomas**, thanks everyone she wanted to see what other options are available.

Chair Harrell asked, if we were to put out a bid for the pod what are we looking at general?

Mr. Purvis estimates that we looking at 8 months to a year to design the building and will cost about 10 million dollars and if its multi-level then it would be 16 million. It would take at least two years including the design to get things done.

Chief Ammerman stated a pod houses around 128 people so were talking about a 16 person difference. The pod is necessary and moving forward in whatever perspective we look strategically we are looking at a 4.2 million dollar solution immediately as opposed to a

minimum of 10 million dollars with only a 16 person difference outside of going to multiple floors.

Vice-Chair Lewis asked if we don't take action today what are the risk to the county and jail and what do we do until then?

Chief Ammerman responded by saying the high-risk communicable diseases are much more likely within the structure we're having to buy more BOATS which is bedding solutions within the structure within our jail. The closer you get to inmates the more violent risk we have. There will be more complaints. What we can do now is buy more boats that's the immediate solution, continue to work with our partnerships across the state to try to identify any space available and again we have found limited to none.

Commissioner Clemmons asked in reference to the ARPA money are there other projects this will take a way from? Are we at jeopardy for any lawsuits and have any of the commissioners been over to visit the conditions of the jail to see if it's something we need to do now and what's the time frame of us getting the temporary structure build?

Chair Harrell responded to Commissioner Clemmons to let her know it will take anywhere between 6 weeks to 6 months to build the temporary structure. In regard to ARPA we cannot utilize the funds for that. **County Manger Hobson-Matthews** confirmed that this will be a capital expense. This will come strictly out of the funds balance account.

Commissioner Anglny asked how does this fall on our plan for structures that the county needs?

Chair Harrell responded saying this will fall under our capital improvement plan we need fire facility we need a new 911 center we are in need of a whole lot of things that's why we need to have a plan in place so we can prioritize it makes a difference.

County Manger Hobson-Matthews stated each year we have been very strategic in terms of identifying our priorities. Our funds balance are for the emergency items that just come up beyond our control. When you talk about priorities, the emergency operation center is one of them. The cold weather we had exposed a lot of to what needs to be done. We need a maintenance plans in place to take care of what we have everything is a priority.

Commission Anglyn wants the Sherriff and his team to know that the request are not going on death ears and that he is aware of the cover crowding and other issues. He just can't pull from the fund balance if there is somewhere we can pull from but not the fund balance account we have worked so hard to get the fund balance.

Reginald Scandrett, Sheriff, Henry County Sheriff Department stated the preputial quagmire is that he is sitting on after the audit that they just finished with over 7,000 warrant that needs to be served. They postponed the initial task force county wide and metro Atlanta wide task that they wanted to do but it is going to move forward in February. They cannot stop that. He stated that he just wanted to specify that they will be in a very tight place for inmates but they

are going to continue to bring them in with respect to the warrant task force. The sheriff is constitutionally bound to ensure that we bring these people into custody. There needs to be some type of overall master strategic plan moving forward in terms of how we can identify what to do across the board and what the priorities are

Commissioner Thomas asked if the warrants that you are referring to can they be postponed until we try to figure this thing out?

Sheriff Scandrett indicated that task force to serve warrants has been postponed twice. They have been working with the judges to try to come up with alternative plans that we can sort to make sure that we do not go over an extended amount of time or room. In a constitutional perspective it will be very difficult for me not to move forward on those warrants that have been outstanding prior to me taking office. It's been an overall build up of warrants in our county.

Commissioner Thomas stated that one of the things we have talked about is technology to help sheriff Scandrett with that. She is hoping that he is able to find what he needs to assist him with the issue at the jail referring to space.

Sheriff Scrandette stated the challenge here becomes that this is not the initial conversation that happened this actually precedes him. This conversation was had in 2013 and 2019 it was tabled or postponed for another direction to be taken. We are going to do everything possible to because we are not trying to flood the jail with inmates overnight. However, when we go out to the task force the jail may fill up pretty quickly.

Chair Harrell called for a motion.

Commissioner Thomas made a motion to table this item for tonight; She needs more information in order to make a decision.

Commissioner Clemmons says believes that the sheriff has giving them a lot of information. He has given us that there is a need. The need that is being presented is not an option that the board is ready to move on, so we need to come up with a better option. She agrees there needs to be a pod built even if it takes eight, twelve, or sixteen months. We need to move on building the pod. It was something that was on the capital plan she thinks second tier. We need an update from our staff about what our capital plan are so we can add them to be an emergency on the plan as well.

Vice Chair Lewis if we don't vote for the sprung structure today the fact is that we are still going to spend 3 million dollars per year for the overage of inmates or at least 3 million dollars is that correct sheriff. Sheriff said that is only correct if we have another sheriff department that will embrace us and have the room to do that. After the sheriff conference he attended last week, he spoke to 20 other Sheriffs, and they have the same issues that we are having as well. but there is know where to send them but if we did then yes it will be about 3.1 million dollars a year. **Vice Chair Lewis** asked so are we still going to spend the money? **Sheriff Scandrett** stated that is correct.

Chair Harrell repeated that Commissioner Thomas but a motion on the floor to table this item. **Vice Chair Lewis** seconded.

Commissioner Clemmons said she really want to vote to bring it back with the capital budget. A whole capital plan but if you're not going to allow us to have another motion on the floor then she guess she will table it. But it needs to come back with the entire Capital plan.

Chair Harrell stated that's something that has to be brought back at a later time because that's the discussion we have to have later with staff. **Commissioner Clemmons** stated she motion to table the item. **Chair Harrell** stated it was motioned by Commissioner Thomas and seconded by Vice Chair Lewis she asked Commissioner Clemmons is she in favor of tabling this item.

Commissioner Clemmons said she is voting in favor to table the item. **Motion carried 6-0-0.**

Commissioners Thomas asked to place a motion on the table after the BOC retreat that were having, and we're going to prioritize and put some type of strategic plan together for funding.

County Manger Hobson-Matthews stated at this point of order an motion has already been made. Y'all have taken action on it. If commissioner Thomas wants to rescind her approval, then she can enter a new motion but y'all have already taken motion on this action.

Commissioner Thomas asked that can't have another motion to bring it back? **County Manger Hobson-Matthews** stated no because you've already motioned to table it. If you would like to you can ask **Chair Harrell** to open it back up so that you can rescind your motion then Commissioner Lewis will need to rescind his second then put another motion on the floor but she stated she don't think we can; the County Attorney Nancey Rowman advise her that we can certainly ask staff to bring it back at a later date and that date will be at the retreat. She will make sure this item is on our retreat agenda.

Commissioner Thomas and the **County Manger Hobson-Matthews** understood there was no motion needed to move forward.

There were no further questions or comments from the Board.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

We welcome citizens to voice their county-related concerns and opinions regarding items which are listed on this agenda or on the previous regular meeting agenda. All persons wishing to speak during Public Comment must pre-register with the County Clerk in writing or via email: sbraun@co.henry.ga.us no later than 12:00 p.m. on the day immediately prior to the meeting. Each speaker will have three (3) minutes to speak. No member of the public shall be permitted to make personal, impertinent, slanderous or profane remarks to any member of the board, staff or general public. Any person who makes such remarks, or who utters loud, threatening, personal or abusive language, or engages in any other disorderly conduct which disrupts, disturbs or otherwise impedes the orderly conduct of any board meeting shall, at

the discretion of the chair or a majority of the council, be barred from further audience before the board during that meeting.

1. *Robert Kolpeck spoke about impact fees for 3 minutes.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Anglyn made a motion to approve the Minutes; **Vice Chair Lewis** seconded. The motion carried 5-0-1 (*Note: Commissioner Clemmons did not vote due to technical difficulties*)

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

- A. February 7, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. is a regularly scheduled BOC Meeting
- B. February 7, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. will be a Called BOC Meeting for Planning & Zoning items.
- C. February 21, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. is a regularly scheduled BOC

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Henry County Board of Commissioners at this time **Chair Harrell** adjourned the meeting. *Meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.*

Carlotta Harrell, Chair

Stephanie Braun, County Clerk