STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF HENRY

The Henry County Board of Commissioners held a Regular Public Meeting ***in-person*** on Tuesday, February 6, 2024, 9 a.m. at the Henry County Administration Building (Community Room), 140 Henry Parkway, McDonough GA. Henry TV also streamed this live online at its website, as well as Charter/Spectrum Channel 180 and Facebook Live.

Carlotta Harrell, Chair
Johnny Wilson, Vice Chair/District 1 Commissioner
Neat Robinson, District 2 Commissioner
Dee Anglyn, III, District 3 Commissioner
Vivian Thomas, District 4 Commissioner
Kevin J. Lewis, District 5 Commissioner

Also in attendance: Cheri Hobson-Matthews, County Manager; Serena Nowell, County Attorney; and Stephanie Braun, 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, February 6, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. to order.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The following Planning and Zoning item was advertised for the February 6, 2024, Board of Commissioners meeting, but has been postponed by staff:

Andrea Daniels of McDonough GA appeals administrative interpretation of the Unified Land Development Code leading to a code enforcement citation for property located at 135 Watts Lake Road in Land Lot 49 of the 11th District. The property consists of 3.58 +/- acres and the request is for the parking and storage of commercial vehicles. **District 3**

PROCLAMATION

A. Henry County Fire Rescue - 50th Anniversary
The proclamation was read by Nicholas Ivey, Public Relations Specialist. Fire Chief Jonathan Burnette, Asst. Chief Pat Wilson and several fire personnel were present. Chief Burnette made remarks about the anniversary, noting that numerous personnel were present including one of the first fire chiefs to ever serve. Photos of Henry County Fire Rescue personnel were taken with the Board of Commission.
(Presenter: Nicholas Ivey, Public Relations Specialist)

B. Black History Month Proclamation (added)
The proclamation was read. A picture with the Commissioners and County Manager was taken.
Chair Harrell also wished Commissioner Johnny Wilson a happy birthday.
(Presenter: Nicholas Ivey, Public Relations Specialist)

PRESENTATIONS

A. Camp Fresh of Henry County & Second Chance Outreach Life Center - Unhoused Veteran Facility
(Presenter: Candy Saunders, New Beginning Global Outreach Center)

A video was presented, shedding light on the persistent challenges faced by the homeless population in the community. It highlighted New Beginning Global Outreach Center's strategy to acquire land and properties, aiming to construct homes for those in need. Additionally, it outlined the organization's ongoing mission and ways for individuals to offer support.

Reginald Jordan, representing Camp Fresh of Henry County, delivered an overview of their mission, the challenges they confront, and the proposed remedies. Their mission revolves around uplifting the lives of veterans and families experiencing homelessness, hunger, and life's hardships. Highlighting a staggering statistic, with over 50,000 homeless veterans nationwide and a significant concentration in the greater Atlanta area, they underscored the pressing need for action. Their proposed solution involves establishing transitional homes specifically for unhoused US veterans, offering them a secure and structured residential environment lasting 18 months or more. The program's central objective is to facilitate holistic rehabilitation by instilling a sense of purpose through a transformative shift in mindset. This 18-month initiative comprises five key components: Mental Health, Career Training, Civil Engagement, Life Skills, and Housing. Additionally, they outlined plans for a future tiny home community tailored to provide housing, training, and essential services to veterans. Mr. Jordan emphasized the deservingness of veterans for better circumstances, affirming the organization's unwavering focus on addressing their needs.

Commissioner Kevin Lewis inquired whether the land showcased in the presentation for the tiny homes was already owned by the organization or if they were in the process of acquiring it.

Candy Saunders stated it's land they are trying to acquire. They are working on the funding in grants.

Chair Harrell asked where the property is located. **Candy Saunders** stated they're looking at a couple properties in Henry County.

Realtor Kenyatta Franklin said the tiny home community is 2-5 years away. What they are looking for today is multi-family assisted living locations to house those in need now.

The Commissioners thank the groups for their work in the community.

B. Henry County Bus Stops Creative Placemaking Plan *(Presenters: Taleim Salters, Transit Director; and Deanna Murphy, Sizemore Group)*

A presentation video was shown of an overview of the project to include scope, schedule, goals, and community outreach.

Commissioner Neat Robinson asked about a ride along of the bus routes. **Deanna Murphy** said yes, a tour is planned.

Chair Harrell thanked Ms. Murphy for her presentation.

<u>CONSENT AGENDA</u>

Item moved from consent to regular agenda, but then later removed from the regular agenda: Resolution adopting the annual update of the Capital Improvements Element. Note: This will come back to a future agenda.

County Manager Cheri Hobson-Matthews read the consent agenda as follows:

County Attorney

A. **(MOVED TO REGULAR AGENDA)** Resolution approving clarification language for the current Intergovernmental Agreement between Henry County, Georgia and the Henry County Development Authority regarding Mighty Hero Homes (*Presenter: Serena Nowell, County Attorney) (Exhibit 1)*

B. Resolution of the Board of Commissioners to renew an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Governmental Services Authority regarding property for the Neighborhood Stabilization Program *(Presenter: Serena Nowell, County Attorney) (Exhibit 2)*
Resolution 24-36

Courts

A.State Court: Resolution of the Board of Commissioners granting approval for the Henry County DUI/Drug Court to apply for a grant from the State of Georgia Office of the Governor/Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) for FY25. *(Presenter: Lisa King, DUI Coordinator) (Exhibit 3)*
Resolution 24-37

Elections and Registration

A. Resolution correcting scrivener's error regarding Resolution #24-27 setting 2024 Qualifying Fees for Elected County Offices (*Presenter: Serena Nowell, County Attorney) (Exhibit 4)*
Resolution 24-38

Fire Rescue

A. Resolution of the Board of Commissioners Awarding a Bid for the Purchase of Firefighter Turn-Out Gear and Accessories (at a discounted price contract with no fix quantities for one (1) year with two (2) mutually agreed upon renewals) from Bennett Fire Products Company, Inc. for Henry County Fire Rescue *(Presenter: Jonathan Burnette, Fire Chief) (Exhibit 5)*

Resolution 24-39

Financial Services

A. Resolution of the Board of Commissioners to declare three cameras, two drones, and one table for disposal through the online auction process via GovDeals.com *(Presenter: Susan Harris/ Lt. William Powell) (Exhibit 6)*
Resolution 24-40

B. **(MOVED TO REGULAR AGENDA)** Resolution approving the allocation of American Rescue Plan Act - Fiscal Recovery Funds (ARP-FRF) in the amount of $4,575,000 for economic development, and future activities that generate jobs and business in the community *(Presenter: Monique Franklin, Grants Administrator) (Exhibit 7)*

C. **(MOVED TO REGULAR AGENDA)** Resolution approving the allocation of American Rescue Plan Act - Fiscal Recovery Funds (ARP-FRF) in the amount of $4,230,453 for Community Development *(Presenter: Monique Franklin, Grants Administrator) (Exhibit 8)*

SPLOST

A. Resolution approving Condemnation on Burg Road - Parcel 38 (*Presenter: Serena Nowell, County Attorney) (Exhibit 9*)
Resolution 24-43

B. Resolution approving Condemnation on Burg Road - Parcel 42 *(Presenter: Serena Nowell, County Attorney) (Exhibit 10)*
Resolution 24-44

C. Resolution of the Board of Commissioners approving the funding of wetland credits for Flippen Road in the amount of $864,000. *(Presenter: Roque Romero, Cluster Lead) (Exhibit 11)*
Resolution 24-45

(This ends the consent agenda)

Chair Harrell called for a motion to approve the consent agent with items requested to be moved to the regular agenda. **Commissioner Lewis** made a motion to approve the consent agenda; **Commissioner Anglyn seconded.** The motion carried 6-0-0.

REGULAR AGENDA

Financial Services

A. Resolution approving FY24 Proposed Midyear Budget Adjustment *(Presenter: Bernita Campbell, Budget Director)(Exhibit 12)*
Resolution 24-46

Bernita Campbell, Budget Director, presented the mid-year budget amendments for Fiscal Year 2024, encompassing the General Fund, CDBG Fund, Grant Fund, CARES, and Airport Fund. The objective of these adjustments is to realign our spending levels with actual tax collections, which were unknown when the original budget was formulated. This amendment allows the county to allocate funds for one-time expenses and priorities that were not initially accounted for in the budgeting process. It also enables additional funding for departments to address new program initiatives or operating expenses that were either omitted or underfunded. This year, during the mid-year budget review, the County received approximately $4.5 million in additional departmental budget requests. To manage expectations, departments have been asked to utilize their current budgets, reclassify expenditures, or fill around 190 general fund vacancies, either immediately or in the upcoming FY25 budget cycle. An additional $9.6 million in revenue is projected as a surplus in the general fund. Financial Services proposes allocating $2.1 million to augment the FY24 general fund departmental midyear budgets, while setting aside $7.5 million for future capital and public facility authority bond payments. Additionally, $1.1 million in interdepartmental transfers are slated for recording. This includes transferring small business restart funds to Community Development ($779,000) and cotton fuel funds to Parks and Recreation ($307,000). The proposed departmental budget increase of $2.1 million and interdepartmental transfers of $1.1 million would raise the FY24 general fund budget from $232 million to $235.2 million. Ms. Campbell showcased a slide detailing some of these departmental adjustments during the presentation.

Vice Chair Wilson inquired about whether the STEP increases were included in the original budget**. Ms. Campbell** clarified that they are not; instead, STEP increases occur twice a year, in October and April. However, the requested increase from the County will account for the anticipated rise in April.

Commissioner Lewis followed up with a question regarding what would have transpired if the additional revenue had not been collected. Specifically, he asked how STEP increases would have been funded in such a scenario. **Ms. Campbell** responded by explaining that in the absence of the additional revenue, the increase would have been deferred. They would have needed to assess the current revenue situation and make decisions accordingly.

Commissioner Lewis also inquired about the additional $100,000 budgeted for the summer concert series. It was clarified that the concerts would be offered free of charge to the public this summer.

Chair Harrell asked **Jonathon Penn, Cluster Lead,** to come forward and explain the concert series.

Mr. Penn mentioned that the concert series is potentially an initiative the County is considering for our 50th Anniversary. The series would span three months during the summer: July, August, and September. The allocated $100,000 would contribute to funding these concerts, which are likely to take place at Heritage Park and would be open to the public free of charge.

Commissioner Lewis pointed out that each district has numerous pressing needs, such as pothole repairs and traffic improvements, that currently lack funding. He emphasized the importance of allocating money to address tangible community needs, especially considering the rise in property taxes resulting from increased property values.

Chair Harrell requested **Financial Services Director David Smith,** to elaborate on the capital bond repayments. **Mr. Smith ex**plained the necessity of allocating funds to cover projects identified as immediate needs in previous years. He highlighted that the milage rate hasn't been raised in nearly six years. Consequently, any surplus at the end of the fiscal year has been earmarked to address these previously identified urgent needs. This plan aims to address those needs as they arise. Mr. Smith also noted that many of our roads are funded through the Department of Transportation budget.

Roque Romero, Cluster Lead, stepped forward to discuss road patching and resurfacing. Mr. Romero highlighted that the considerable amount of rain has resulted in challenges with patching and allocating $1 million dollars may not significantly improve road conditions. Regarding resurfacing, he explained that the County employs Full Depth Reclamation (FDR), which costs close to $1 million per mile.
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Commissioner Lewis mentioned that there are projects that have been identified and funded but have not yet commenced. **Mr. Romero** responded by explaining that these projects are currently in the bidding process, and they anticipate being able to initiate some of them by late March.

Chair Harrell expressed that the County is experiencing growth, with ongoing approvals for developments, which in turn increases the demands on the County. She emphasized the importance of maintaining fiscal responsibility to uphold the AAA bonding status. Chair Harrell thanked the staff, acknowledging their commendable efforts in prioritizing and formulating plans to present to the committee.

Commissioner Vivian Thomas emphasized the importance of utilizing surplus funds creatively to benefit the community. She highlighted the need for upgrades to senior citizens' facilities and emphasized the potential for maximizing the impact of parks and recreation to generate returns for the County. Commissioner Thomas stressed the importance of land acquisition, noting that the County is falling behind in this regard, and advocated for purchasing land to reserve for future County use. Furthermore, she raised questions about public safety, particularly regarding police officer overtime costs. Commissioner Thomas inquired whether there had been a decrease in costs due to the City of Stockbridge Police Department and the County no longer needing to cover additional territory, as well as whether there had been cost reductions due to annexations by other cities**. Ms. Campbell** responded that there had been no noticeable difference in costs as a result of these factors.

Chair Harrell noted that despite the City of Stockbridge establishing its own police department, the call volume in the County continues to rise, necessitating officers to respond and work overtime**.**

Commissioner Thomas expressed understanding of the situation but voiced concern that the County has not experienced any relief despite the creation of the City of Stockbridge Police Department and the annexation of properties by the City. She then inquired about the Toastmasters membership and which department is covering the costs. **Ms. Campbell** clarified that the membership is funded by the Communications Department and is utilized for employee development purposes. It serves as an effective training tool for individuals seeking to enhance their public speaking or leadership skills.

Melissa Robinson, Communications Director, stepped forward to provide an explanation about Toastmasters. She emphasized that Toastmasters is an internationally recognized organization renowned for its focus on public speaking and leadership development. Ms. Robinson highlighted its value as a powerful training tool, particularly beneficial for individuals seeking to enhance their speaking abilities or improve their leadership skills.

Jonathon Penn, Parks and Recreation Director, stepped forward to provide an update on the projects underway and recently completed by the Parks and Recreation Department. He highlighted the department's ongoing efforts to explore new avenues for expansion and improvement. Penn mentioned the recent addition of a fitness facility at Heritage Park, describing it as a phenomenal addition to the Senior Center.

Chair Harrell inquired about the enhancements planned for the Hidden Valley Senior Center and Bear Creek Center. **Mr. Penn** explained that while Bear Creek is one of the newer senior centers, they are considering adding outdoor amenities for seniors, such as a pickleball court in the rear area. These proposed changes will be part of the Comprehensive Park Master Plan, which will offer recommendations based on both the County's needs and the community's desires. Regarding Hidden Valley, the focus is on potential improvements to the interior of the facility.

Commissioner Anglyn posed a question to Mr. David Smith regarding recommendations for addressing the challenges posed by the frozen homestead exemption, considering the projected widening gap. He also sought insights into how the plans outlined during the retreat, particularly those deemed important, could be effectively implemented in light of these constraints. Commissioner Anglyn acknowledged the complexity of these questions but expressed a desire to address them individually to aid the staff in finding solutions. Finally, he expressed gratitude to the staff for their hard work and dedication.

Vice Chair Wilson, who has held his position since 2017, noted that the County has allocated $26 million for transportation improvements in District One. He emphasized the need to prioritize immediate transportation needs, suggesting an increase in on-call services beyond just pothole patching. He relayed receiving numerous complaints from residents who struggle to navigate poorly striped roads, particularly at night, due to visibility issues caused by insufficient striping and RPMs. Vice Chair Wilson proposed enhancing on-call services to address shoulder maintenance and road striping concerns, suggesting a potential increase in the budget for on-call services within the Department of Transportation's budget.

Commissioner Robinson expressed her desire to focus on road improvements, emphasizing the importance of ensuring that the work done on the roads goes beyond minimal patching. She stressed the need for quality in road repairs and voiced her support for the See Click Fix system, stating her intention to place trust in it. Commissioner Robinson acknowledged that some individuals lack faith in the system but indicated her willingness to rely on it. She then inquired about the specific budgetary needs of the department to address these issues effectively.

Mr. Smith responded by indicating that the planning for the fiscal year 2025 budget will begin shortly. He encouraged Mr. Romero department to include whatever resources they deem necessary in their budget requests for the upcoming fiscal year.

Commissioner Lewis stated he knows we can do immediate things and prepare for the future at the same time. He thinks there is some room to have some funding to have district improvements. **Commissioner Lewis** made a motion to approve the item with additional language stating that 50% of the $7.5 million designated for fund balance be divided equally between six commissioners.

Ms. Hobson-Matthews, County Manager, stepped forward to address concerns regarding the midyear budget and the quality of work performed by staff. While acknowledging a commissioner's critique, she stressed that the gist of the issue is the perception that staff isn't completing projects effectively. Ms. Hobson-Matthews clarified that the county has a road rating system in place, but adherence to this system by the board is essential. She highlighted that many problematic roads are rated low, and distributing funds based on districts rather than needs exacerbates road issues. She emphasized that the budget constraints mean not all needs can be met, and decisions on project priorities must be made. Ms. Hobson-Matthews noted that some projects mentioned weren't initially budgeted for, yet efforts were made to accommodate requests; however, this often results in other projects being delayed. She highlighted inherited problems and the necessity to prioritize projects based on needs.

Ms. Hobson-Matthews emphasized the importance of shifting focus from district-based allocations to prioritizing projects based on their importance. She emphasized the commitment to completing projects and the necessity of setting aside capital funds for this purpose. Additionally, she mentioned the Public Authority's role in financing County projects. While expressing agreement with Commissioner Lewis on many issues, Ms. Hobson-Matthews disagreed with a 50% fund split, urging exploration of alternative options. She emphasized the need to identify projects that may not be completed if funds are diverted.

Chair Harrell inquired about the practicality of splitting half of the $7.5 million, which would amount to $625,000 per commissioner, for road paving. She questioned what extent of road could be paved with that amount. Chair Harrell then requested Mr. Romero to provide clarification on the matter. **Mr. Romero**

responded, explaining that with $625,000, they might be able to pave approximately one mile of road. He emphasized that the allocated funds would not stretch far given the current cost of road paving.

Chair Harrell raised a question regarding the allocation of funds to each district member in the last SPLOST, noting that each member received $19 million, excluding the Chair. She recalled previous discussions about setting aside $10 million for each commissioner to use within their districts, acknowledging that similar conversations have occurred in the current SPLOST negotiations. This approach aligns with how allocations have been handled in the past.

Commissioner Lewis acknowledged the current budget constraints, noting that with only $625,000 available, they can only address one road. However, he mentioned that they are expecting to receive an additional LMIG from the State soon, which would provide another $625,000. This would amount to $1.2 million for each commissioner's district. He emphasized that his concerns are not a criticism of the staff's efforts, as he believes they do excellent work; however, Commissioner Lewis stressed the importance of addressing the needs of their constituents, who cannot afford to wait for improvements. He highlighted the constant stream of calls from constituents, emphasizing their urgency for action rather than delay.

Commissioner Robinson expressed understanding that the budget numbers discussed may have been accurate several months ago, but conditions have since changed, with potholes worsening over time. She directed a question to Mr. Smith regarding the frequency of re-evaluating budget numbers, as she believes this is where part of the problem lies. Commissioner Robinson emphasized the importance of responding promptly to road maintenance needs as they arise, asking if, with sufficient funding, if they could expedite repairs by directly contacting the relevant departments. Addressing Mr. Romero, she sought to understand what resources his department requires to address current road maintenance issues effectively. Commissioner Robinson highlighted her focus on addressing present concerns and finding solutions to rectify them promptly.

Mr. Smith proposed a plan of action, recommending the allocation of $7.5 million for the capital plan and bond payments. He emphasized the importance of setting aside this amount to ensure the County has sufficient funds available for upcoming bond payments, as analysts assess the County's ability to fund these payments in the future. Mr. Smith advised against splitting this amount and suggested working with various programs while evaluating the budget for fiscal year 2025.

Commissioner Lewis made a motion to approve the item with additional language stating that 50% of the $7.5 million designated for fund balance be divided equally between six commissioners; **Vice Chair Wilson seconded**. The motion carried 4-2-0 with Chair Harrell and Commissioner Dee Anglyn voting in opposition. Resolution 24-46

> **B**. Ordinance Amendment, re: Purchasing Policy *(Presenter: Susan Harris, Purchasing Administrator (Exhibit 13)* Ordinance 24-01

Susan Harris, Purchasing Administrator, presented a PowerPoint that was answering questions posed by the Board of Commission during the January 16, 2024, meeting about the Disparity Study. Rodney Strong, CEO and Cofounder of Griffin & Strong, who conducted the disparity study, addressed the board to answer questions.

Commissioner Robinson made a motion to approve; **Commissioner Lewis** seconded. The motion carried 6-0-0.

C. Resolution of the Board of Commissioners authorizing to establish a Local Sheltered Market Program ("LSMP") to reserve certain contracts for goods and services for bidding by Local Small Businesses with the Henry County and Local Geographical Area (Presenter: Susan Harris, Purchasing Administrator) (Exhibit14) Resolution 24-47

Susan Harris, Purchasing Administrator, stated the local businesses who sign up for the program will have the opportunity to bid for projects between $7,500 and $100,000. This program is in response to correcting items found in the disparity study. It will enhance opportunities from small businesses and veteran-owned businesses eligible to register under the program. They need to be certified and make less than $10 million annually. They will be given first opportunity at any good or service the county puts out for bid between $7,500 and $100,000. There will be no bond requirements that have been restrictive in the past.

Commissioner Anglyn made a motion to approve; **Commissioner Robinson** seconded. The motion carried 6-0-0.

Planning & Zoning

A. RZ-23-20 (Public Hearing)
Meredith Homes, Inc. of McDonough, GA requests a rezoning from RA (Residential-Agricultural) to R-2 (Single-Family Residence) for property located at 1800 McGarity Road in Land Lot 117 of the 7th District. The property consists of 1.713 +/- acres, and the request is for two single-family residential lots served by individual septic systems. District 3 (Presented by Kenta Lanham, Planner III)(Exhibit 15) Resolution 24-48

Kenta Lanham, Planner III, stated the property at 1800 McGarity Road is currently zoned Residential-Agricultural (RA). The Future Land Use Map allows for two dwelling units per acre. The request was approved by the Board of Commissioner in July 2023, but due to an error in the application staff is bringing it back to perfect the record. The request is to split the property into two lots. On January 11, 2024 the Zoning Advisory Board recommended approval with five conditions which were discussed in the July 2023 meeting.

Chair Harrell opened the floor for Public Hearing. Persons wishing to speak in favor of the request, including the applicant, will have a collective total of ten (10) minutes to address the Board. Anyone wishing to speak in favor of this request is to come forward and state their name.

Public Hearing
No one spoke during the public hearing.

Commissioner Anglyn made a motion to approve with the Zoning Advisory Board's recommendations; **Commissioner Lewis** seconded. The motion carried 6-0-0.

Financial Services

D. **(MOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA)**
Resolution approving the allocation of American Rescue Plan Act - Fiscal Recovery Funds (ARP-FRF) in the amount of $4,575,000 for economic development, and future activities that will generate jobs and business in the community *(Presenter: Monique Franklin, Grants Administrator)(Exhibit 7)*

Monique Franklin, Grants Administrator presented the resolution requesting the board approval to allocate $4.75 million in American Rescue Plan Act funds to economic development, and future activities that will generate jobs and businesses in the community. This is a resolution recommended during the Board of Commission Workshop on how to allocate the funds (this is the airport property funding.)

Chair Harrell asked are there any questions from the board because this is the airport property.

Commissioner Thomas asked who has access to this pool of money?

Chair Harrell stated that nobody has access, and explained that this is used for the purchase of the airport property.

Commissioner Thomas stated this is written generally here, but the presentation needs to state the purchase of airport property specifically.

Vice Chair Wilson made the motion to approve; **Commissioner Anglyn** seconded. The motion carried 6-0-0.

E. **(MOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA)**
Resolution approving the allocation of American Rescue Plan Act - Fiscal Recovery Funds (ARP-FRF) in the amount of $4,230,453 for Community Development *(Presenter: Monique Franklin, Grants Administrator)(Exhibit 8) Resolution #24-42*

Monique Franklin, Grants Administrator presented the resolution requesting to allocate $4.230,453 for community development activities specifically assistance to community activities, grants to local nonprofits, individuals and households to include but not limited to rent, mortgage, and utility assistance, food banks, existing shelter operations, other homeless services, services for veterans, families, youth and etc.
Chair Harrell asked Shannon Sagnot to come forward.

Shannon Sagnot, Cluster Leader, clarified that the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds will be used to offer assistance to the entire community. However, individual households must meet specified income limits to qualify for this aid. She outlined that there will be an application process in place for households to apply for assistance.

Commissioner Thomas asked are these reserved funds for public safety individuals to use these funds.

Ms. Sagnot explained she does remember at a previous meeting that public safety could apply but they are not setting aside funds just for them.

Commissioner Thomas stated that her request was specifically for a certain amount to be set aside specifically for our public safety, and EMS individuals to have access to those funds.

Chair Harrell stated we cannot do that based on the federal guidelines of the grant funding. You cannot exclude or be exclusive to any particular group with this type of funding. These are ARPA funds, and the guidelines are very restrictive. She noted we discussed this in the meeting.

Commissioner Robinson made a motion to approve; **Commissioner Anglyn** seconded. The motion carried 6-0-0.

County Attorney

> **A.** Resolution approving clarification language for the current Intergovernmental Agreement between Henry County, Georgia and the Henry County Development Authority regarding Mighty Hero Homes (Presenter: Serena Nowell, County Attorney)(Exhibit1)Resolution # 24-35

Serena Nowell, County Attorney came forward and presented a resolution to approve an amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement which covers a ground lease between the county and the Development Authority. The project is the Mighty Hero Homes Project for veterans housing. There was a need to clarify the language so it was clear none of the land could be sold by Mighty Hero Homes or any successor.

Commissioner Thomas asked if they can only lease the land is that correct?

County Attorney Nowell responded yes.

Commissioner Anglyn made a motion to approve; **Commissioner Robinson** seconded. The motion carried 5-1-0 with **Commissioner Thomas** opposing.

PUBLIC COMMENT
No one signed up for public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of minutes for Nov. 7, 2023, Nov. 28, 2023 (called meeting), Nov. 28, 2023 (regular meeting), Dec. 5, 2023, Dec. 14, 2023, and Jan. 3, 2024 meetings.

Commissioner Anglyn made the motion to approve the minutes; **Commissioner Lewis** seconded. The motion carried 6-0-0.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS
- February 20, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. is a regularly scheduled BOC meeting
- March 5, 2024, at 9 a.m. is a regularly scheduled BOC meeting

EXECUTIVE SESSION (11:40 a.m.)
Commissioner Anglyn made a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss litigation and public safety; **Vice Chair Wilson** seconded. Motion carried 6-0-0.

RECONVENE FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION (2 p.m.)
Commissioner Anglyn made the motion to reconvene; **Commissioner Lewis** seconded. Motion carried 6-0-0.

APPROVAL OF AN AFFIDAVIT AND RESOLUTION PERTAINING TO EXECUTIVE SESSION
Commissioner Anglyn made the motion to approve the affidavit and resolution; **Commissioner Lewis** seconded. Motion carried 6-0-0.

ADJOURNMENT
Meeting adjourned at 2:03 p.m.

Carlotta Harrell, Chair

Stephanie Braun, County Clerk