



HABERSHAM COUNTY

GEORGIA | Est. 1818

HABERSHAM COUNTY

Board of Tax Assessors

130 Jacobs Way, Suite 201, Clarkesville, GA 30523

706-839-0100

Fax: 706-754-8079

Tuesday, November 19, 2024, 2:00 p.m.

A G E N D A

- I. Update on Reappraisal Project
- II. Executive Session: Personnel

Next Meeting: December 10, 2024



HABERSHAM COUNTY

Board of Tax Assessors

130 Jacob's Way Suite 201, Clarkesville, GA
30523

Tuesday, November 19, 2024 2:00 P.M.

The Board of Assessors held a called meeting on Tuesday, November 19, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. in the Conference Room on the 3rd floor located at 130 Jacob's Way, Clarkesville, in Habersham County, Georgia.

Present: Bill Terry, Chairman; Jimmy Dean, Vice-Chairman; John King, Member; Sonya Turgeon, Member; Denise York, Member; Joan Church, Chief Appraiser; Amy Garmon, Secretary; Alicia Vaughn, County Manager; Donnie Hunt, County Attorney; Hannah Caldwell, Northeast Georgian Newspaper; Brian Wellmeier, Now Habersham.

Absent: None

Bill Terry, Chairman called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Bill Terry, Chairman delivered the invocation.

Update on Reappraisal Project

Chairman Terry asked Joan Church to give an update with the Conversion of Bi-Tek to WinGap. Ms. Church indicated that she had received an update from Terry McCormick and the Board had received a copy of that update via email. Office staff has been entering data into Bi-Tek for the 2025 Tax Year and will stop when we receive word to do so from Gregg Reese with WinGap. Mr. Reese is scheduled to be here on Monday, November 25th.

Alicia Vaughn, County Manager mentioned House Bill 581 and how she met with the ACCG regarding this new bill. This bill will put extra burden on the Tax

Assessors office. Ms. Vaughn does feel like we are in good shape. Ms. Vaughn says the ACCG is looking to clean up HB 581. The school system may not opt out but it makes total sense if the county opts out because of the current freeze exemption already in place in Habersham. This HB changes the assessment notices as well.

John King wanted to know why we only have 2 years of previous years data. Ms. Church explained that she had spoken with Gwen from Bi-Tek and we should be able to review data for previous years as long as IT doesn't tell us we can't use that server anymore. Bill Terry spoke up that Ms. Church is responsible for the entire project and she should be speaking with Ms. Vaughn should anything arise that is a concern for Ms. Church.

Ms. Vaughn indicated that Sonya Turgeon should not have been in the interviews because she is a Board member. The Board is responsible for creating policies and make sure they are followed. They are not responsible for staff as that is Ms. Church's position only.

Ms. Vaughn recommends the Board have their own attorney. Donnie Hunt spoke out in regards to Executive Sessions.

Chairman Terry asked Joan to give an overview of the work McCormick has completed so far. Ms. Church informed them she has given them approximately a fourth of the Property Record Cards for the county. To Ms. Church's understanding, all of those have been visited but information can not be entered until WinGap is completed. Denise York asked if Commercial had been completed and at this time they have not been reviewed. No sketches are added into WinGap for Commercial properties at this time.

According to state law assessment notices have to be in the mail by July 1st. Sonya Turgeon feels that McCormick will be able to fly through entering the data as soon as WinGap is up since they are very familiar with the program. Mr. King wants to be sure Joan keeps up with the schedule of their work.

The Board asked Ms. Vaughn when the county needed numbers. Ms. Vaughn indicated the county would love to have preliminary numbers by May. Kelly McCormick had informed Ms. Vaughn previously that finance could go into

WinGap to obtain the preliminary numbers. Mr. King would like Kelly McComick to come to their January Meeting.

Executive Session

Motion made by Jimmy Dean to enter executive session; seconded by Denise York; voted unanimously to enter executive session at 2:49 p.m.

Motion made by Jimmy Dean to exit executive session; seconded by Sonya Turgeon; voted unanimously to exit executive session at 3:50 p.m.

Motion made by Denise York to approve Resolution; seconded by Jimmy Dean; voted unanimously to approve motion.

Adjournment

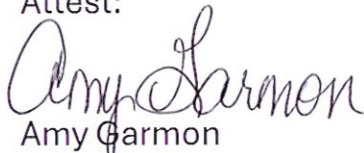
Motion made by Jimmy Dean to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Sonya Turgeon; voted unanimously to approve motion. The meeting was adjourned at 3:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Bill Terry, Chairman

Attest:



Amy Garmon

Secretary to the Board of
Assessors/Deputy Chief Appraiser