

Hart County Board of Assessors P.O. Box 810 194 Cade Street Hartwell, GA 30643 (706) 376-3997

> Board Members: Amanda Brown, Chairman Kayla Segar, Vice Chairman Elaine Evans Morris Cleveland

The Hart County Board of Assessors met on Monday, April 10, 2023 for a called meeting. Those in attendance were Board of Assessor members Amanda Brown, Kayla Segars, Elaine Evans and Morris Cleveland. Interim Chief Appraiser Shane Hix, Nikki Graham and Kelly Seymour were present for the office staff. County Attorney, Kim Higginbotham, and Margaret Crosley from the public was also in attendance.

Kelly Seymour took minutes for the meeting.

Ms. Brown called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

Mr. Hix said the prayer.

Ms. Brown requested a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Cleveland made such motion. Ms. Evans seconded and the motion passed 4-0.

Ms. Brown requested a motion to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2023 meeting. Ms. Segars made the motion, and Mr. Cleveland made the second. The motion passed 4-0.

Ms. Graham presented the Board with the remaining CUVA parcels. There are ninety-nine that meet the criteria to approve, and one that does not. The parcel to deny was C35 100 005 in the ownership of Jeffery Milo. Mr. Milo does not meet the qualifications due to not having enough agriculture producing land, and he had no management plan or IRS Schedule F form included with his application. Ms. Segars made the motion to deny the parcel. Ms. Evans made the second. The motion passed 4-0.

Ms. Segars made the motion to approve the CUVA approval list. Mr. Cleveland made the second. The motion passed 3-0 with Ms. Brown abstaining from voting. Both lists are attached in the minutes.

Mr. Hix presented the Board with the list for approvals and removals for the 2023 Homestead applicants. There are 343 total homestead applicants. Those applicants include the coding of L1, for those over 65 years of age, S1, for those under 65 years of age, and S5, for those that are 100% disabled veterans. There are 30 applicants due to be removed due to death or other circumstances. Mr. Cleveland made the motion to approve the removal list. Ms. Evans made the second. The motion passed 4-0. Ms. Brown made the motion to approve all of the applicants with the exception of Mr. Cleveland's application, Ms. Brown's application, and Ms. Segar's mom, Carol Ashworth's, application. The motion was seconded by Ms. Evans. The motion passed 4-0.

Ms. Brown made the motion to accept Mr. Cleveland's application for Homestead at C42 162. Ms. Segars made the second. The motion passed 3-0 with Mr. Cleveland abstaining.

Ms. Segars made the motion to accept Ms. Brown's application for Homestead at C18 022 003. Mr. Cleveland made the second. The motion passed 3-0 with Ms. Brown abstaining.

Ms. Brown made the motion to accept Carol Ashworth's application for Homestead at C70D 003. Ms. Evans made the second. The motion passed 3-0 with Ms. Segars abstaining.

Mr. Hix gave his monthly Chief Appraiser's report. Mr. Hix gave updates on the current status of the staff. Mr. Hix stated that he will be subpoenaed for an upcoming Federal court case that he will need to travel to Miami, Fl around May 15, 2023. Mr. Hix also reported that the Mobile Assessor program should be arriving soon. Mr. Hix also recommended to the Board that he will need their permission to sign all Homestead, CUVA, and Freeport exemption applications.

Ms. Segars made the motion to allow Mr. Hix to sign the Freeport exemption applications. Mr. Cleveland made the second. The motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Cleveland made the motion to allow Mr. Hix to sign the Homestead applications. Ms. Evans made the second. The motion passed 4-0.

Ms. Evans made the motion to allow Mr. Hix to sign the CUVA applications. Mr. Cleveland made the second. The motion passed 4-0.

There were no assessor reports.

There was no new business.

There was no old business.

There was no public comment.

Ms. Evans made the motion to go into executive session to discuss ongoing litigation and personnel. Mr. Cleveland made the second. The motion passed 4-0. The meeting went into executive session at 9:19am.

Ms. Segars made the motion to reenter the public meeting. Mr. Cleveland made the second. The motion passed 4-0. The meeting reconvened at 10:14am.

Ms. Segars made the motion to allow Ms. Brown to sign the Aaron's settlement statement when it becomes available. Ms. Evans made the second. The motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Cleveland made the motion to appoint Mr. Kenneth Shane Hix as our new Chief Appraiser. Ms. Evans made the second. The motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Hix gathered the appraisal staff to announce the news. Mr. Hix addressed the staff of his expectations. Ms. Brown thanked each appraiser for a job well done.

Ms. Evans made the motion to adjourn the meeting, and Mr. Cleveland made the second. The motion passed 4-0.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Amanda Brown, Chairman

Var

Elaine Evans

1

Kayla Segars, Vice Chairman

Morris Cleveland

* Documents are attached to the original minutes in the Tax Assessors Office.