

The Banks County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on October 14, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. in the board room of the Banks County Courthouse Annex with Chairman Gene Hart, Commissioner Joe Barefoot and Commissioner Rickey Cain present. County Attorney Randall Frost, Finance Officer Randy Failyer and Administrative Officer Angela Sheppard were also present.

1. Call to Order

Chairman Gene Hart called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of Agenda

Comm. Barefoot made a motion to amend the agenda by deleting item #8 Volunteer Firefighter Pay per Call and removing 5c. Water/Sewer Rates from the Consent Agenda and placing it in the regular agenda as #8. Comm. Cain seconded. Two aye votes and motion carried.

3. Moment of Silence

Ch. Hart asked for a moment of silence.

4. Pledge to the American Flag

Comm. Cain led the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. Consent Agenda:

a. Approval of Invoices

b. Approval of Minutes – 8/12, 8/12, 8/14, 8/26, 9/23

Comm. Cain made a motion to approve the items listed on the consent agenda. Comm. Barefoot seconded. Two aye votes and motion carried.

6. Public Comment: NONE

7. Public Hearings to Consider Planning Commission Recommendations:

a. V-08-03 – Premier Hotel Group, Inc. – Application for a variance for an advertising sign to exceed 40 feet in height at 30484 Hwy 441S.

Ch. Hart closed the meeting and asked Atty Frost to conduct the public hearing. Atty Frost opened the public hearing and asked Code Enforcement Officer to present the application. Officer Covington stated this was for a variance for a sign to exceed 40 ft in height and that the Planning Commission recommended denial of the application on September 2, 2008. Mr. Patel spoke in favor of the application by stating this would allow visibility to 441 as well as I85. He stated this was because of other signs being allowed to go higher than the allowed 40 ft height. He also said it would not block any other sign. Bobby Caudell also spoke in favor of the application by stating he had no problem with the proposed sign height. Gordon Eanes spoke in opposition to the variance because he felt the sign ordinance should be protected. Atty. Frost closed the public hearing. Ch. Hart reopened the meeting and called for a vote on the application. Comm. Cain made a motion to approve the application. Comm. Barefoot seconded. Two aye votes and motion carried.

b. CU-08-06 – Premier Hotel Group, Inc. – Application for a conditional use for a four-story hotel on Frontage Rd.

Ch. Hart asked Atty Frost to conduct the public hearing. Atty Frost opened the public hearing and asked Code Enforcement Officer Covington to present the application. Officer Covington stated the applicant was Paul Patel. He said the current use was vacant property at the location that T-Bones was located at 137 Frontage Rd. He stated the proposed use was for a four story hotel. The property was shown on Tax Map/Parcel is B54D-12 and consists of 1.4 acres. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the application on August 5, 2008. Mr. Patel spoke in favor of the application by stating this hotel would appeal to a different clientele than existing motels and the old shopping center in front of the location would be demolished if the hotel is approved. Bobby Caudell also spoke in favor of the application by stating he did not have a

problem with the new hotel. Gordon Eanes spoke in opposition of the hotel by stating it would cause excessive competition to the existing motels and could potentially force them to rent on an extended stay basis. He also stated it would cause an adverse reaction on the property values. Atty Frost closed the public hearing. Ch. Hart reopened the meeting and called for a vote on the application. Comm. Barefoot made a motion to approve the application. Comm. Cain seconded. Two aye votes and motion carried.

8. Water/Sewer Rates

Ch. Hart stated a work session had been held prior to this meeting to discuss proposed new water/sewer rates as follows:

Banks County Water Rates Tap and Connection Fees

Sewer Rates: 110% of Water bill

	<u>Water Rates: Residential</u>	<u>Water Rates: Commercial</u>
Includes First 2,000 gallons	\$17.50 Minimum	\$25.00 Minimum
2,001 to 6,000 gallons	\$4.85 per thousand	\$5.00 per thousand
6,001 to 10,000 gallons	\$5.05 per thousand	\$5.20 per thousand
10,001 to 15,000 gallons	\$5.20 per thousand	\$5.40 per thousand
15,001 to 25,000 gallons	\$5.40 per thousand	\$5.60 per thousand
Over 25,000 gallons	\$5.60 per thousand	\$5.80 per thousand

Tap/Connection Fee:

Water - Residential

<u>Meter Size</u>	<u>Proposed Tap Fee</u>	<u>Deposit</u>	<u>Connection Fee</u>	<u>Total</u>
3/4"	\$850.00	\$100.00	\$525.00	\$1,475.00
1"	\$900.00	\$100.00	\$700.00	\$1,700.00
2"	\$2,500.00	\$200.00	\$1,500.00	\$4,200.00

Water - Commercial

3/4"	See Note 1	\$100.00	\$2,225.00	\$2,325.00
1"	See Note 1	\$100.00	\$3,850.00	\$3,950.00
2"	See Note 1	\$200.00	\$12,150.00	\$12,350.00
3"	See Note 1	\$300.00	\$26,500.00	\$26,800.00
4"	See Note 1	\$400.00	\$47,750.00	\$48,150.00
6"	See Note 1	\$600.00	\$106,100.00	\$106,700.00
8"	See Note 1	\$800.00	\$181,700.00	\$182,500.00
Fire Service Meter	See Note 1	NA	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00

Sewer

<u>Water Meter Size</u>	<u>Proposed Tap Fee</u>	<u>Deposit</u>	<u>Connection Fee</u>	<u>Total</u>
3/4"	See Note 1	\$100	\$3,600	\$3,700
1"	See Note 1	\$100	\$6,250	\$6,350
2"	See Note 1	\$200	\$19,700	\$19,900
3"	See Note 1	\$300	\$42,950	\$43,250
4"	See Note 1	\$400	\$77,300	\$77,700
6"	See Note 1	\$600	\$171,600	\$172,200
8"	See Note 1	\$800	\$294,000	\$294,800

Account Re-establishment: \$115.00 (100.00 Deposit/\$15.00 Cut on)

Hydrant Meter:

Monthly Rental Fee	\$30.00
\$25.00 Base Rate	Includes First 2,000 gallons
\$5.00 per thousand	2,001 to 6,000 gallons
\$5.20 per thousand	6,001 to 10,000 gallons
\$5.40 per thousand	10,001 to 15,000 gallons
\$5.60 per thousand	15,001 to 25,000 gallons
\$5.80 per thousand	Over 25,000 gallons

Notes:

1. Developer required to furnish and install all taps and meters for commercial water and sewer services. Work to be inspected and approved by Banks County.
2. Tap fees for all meters greater than 8" shall be calculated by the County Engineer, based on usage and calculated to residential use (ERU) of 350 GPD.
3. For master meters serving more than one unit, the fee shall be the larger of the rate shown or the equivalent of a 3/4" tap for each unit served by such meter.

Comm. Barefoot made a motion to approve the new rates as listed to become effective November 1, 2008

and stated Agricultural Rates would be reviewed and considered at a future meeting. Comm. Cain seconded. Two aye votes and motion carried.

9. Department of Transportation Barn Consolidation and Privatization of Road Maintenance Functions

Ch. Hart stated the Senate was considering under Senate Bill 1047, consolidation of DOT county barns and privatization of road maintenance or placing maintenance as a county responsibility and recommended that the Commission Board draft a letter and approve a resolution to the legislators in support of keeping the DOT barn and DOT road maintenance in Banks County. Comm. Barefoot made a motion to approve the support resolution and to authorize the Chairman to draft the letter to the legislators. Comm. Cain seconded. Two aye votes and motion carried. *(Copy of resolution filed in Attachment to Minutes Book #9) 2008-27*

10. Boards & Authorities:

- a. Planning Commission – 4 year term** **Albert Ward**
- b. Planning Commission – 4 year term** **Sammy Reese**
- c. Georgia Community Services Board–3 year term** **Vacant**

Comm. Barefoot made a motion to postpone all three board appointments to the October 28, 2008 meeting. Comm. Cain seconded. Two aye votes and motion carried.

11. Resolutions:

a. Credit Card Fees

Ch. Hart stated due to increases in credit card company fees it would be necessary to increase the credit card fee charged by the various county departments who accept credit card payments. The proposed fee adjustment would be from 2% to 3% effective October 21, 2008. Comm. Barefoot made a motion to approve the resolution. Comm. Cain seconded. Two aye votes and motion carried. *(Copy of resolution filed in Attachment to Minutes Book #9) 2008-28*

12. Development Authority – Industrial Development Funds **Postponed: 9/23/08**

Comm. Cain made a motion to postpone this item until the October 28, 2008 meeting. Comm. Barefoot seconded. Two aye votes and motion carried.

13. Adjournment

With no further business, Comm. Cain made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ch. Hart seconded. Two aye votes and meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Chairman

County Clerk
