



# DeKalb County Government

Manuel J. Maloof Center  
1300 Commerce Drive  
Decatur, Georgia 30030

## Minutes

### ERPS-Employee Relations & Public Safety Committee

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Tuesday, May 3, 2022

2:15 PM

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*This meeting will be conducted via teleconference (Zoom). Simultaneous public access to the meeting will be available*

*(1) via live stream on DCTV's webpage,*

*(2) on DCTVChannel23.TV*

Meeting Started At: 2:19 PM

Attendees: Commissioners Terry, Rader, Bradshaw, Cochran-Johnson

**Present**      3 - Commissioner Ted Terry, Commissioner Jeff Rader, and  
Commissioner Steve Bradshaw

#### I. MINUTES

**2022-1548**      Commission District(s): All  
Minutes for the April 19, 2022 Employee Relations and Public  
Safety Committee Meeting

**MOTION was made by Jeff Rader, seconded by Steve  
Bradshaw, that this agenda item be approved. The motion  
carried by the following vote:**

**Yes: 3 - Commissioner Terry, Commissioner Rader, and Commissioner  
Bradshaw**

#### II. AGENDA ITEM

*Previously Heard Items:*

[2022-1299](#)

Commission District(s): District 7

A Resolution Requesting The Governing Authority Of DeKalb County Amend Chapter 15 Of The Code Of DeKalb County, Georgia As Revised 1988; To Provide For The Mandatory Used Of Video Surveillance Systems at Convenience Stores, And For Other Purposes

**MOTION was made by Jeff Rader, seconded by Steve Bradshaw, that this agenda item be recommended for deferral to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 5/10/2022. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes: 3 - Commissioner Terry, Commissioner Rader, and Commissioner Bradshaw**

-information provided by Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

-information provided by Chief Ramos

-information provided by Attorney Phillips

-Question TT: regarding video surveillance of people dumping things, did we get to a place on the small box discount moratorium of requiring video surveillance?

LCJ: we have had two murders in recent memory at small box stores, and no other indications of violence at these locations. In my previous research, these small box stores fly under the radar of not having video surveillance; this would allow us to have video surveillance at those locations that become deemed as high-risk

-Question TT: could you share a story recently discussed on your recent rally that addresses this issue?

-information provided by Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

-Question TT: could Chief Ramos discuss how valuable it is to have high definition video footage for law enforcement purposes?

-additional information provided by Chief Ramos

-Question SB: how is this Fusus system similar and different from FLOCK?

-information provided by Chief Ramos

-Question SB: Regarding the live feed, will you have adequate manpower for monitoring?

M Ramos: The advantage to this is that there wouldn't be a need for a live crime center for this as this wouldn't necessarily be for day to day surveillance; remote review with the Fusus system will allow us to do more and keep our officers safe

-Question SB: how much are the 4 megapixel cameras?

LCJ: it will depend on the amount of gas pumps; anywhere from \$200 - \$2000. the average business might invest \$2000-\$3000 for these cameras. The bigger costs come from storage of footage

-Question RP: for high risk businesses, the primary focus is on violence. Would you consider human trafficking as something to add for review. Regarding timeline for compliance, what would be the timeframe for businesses to come into compliance? Staff has discussed the business license process, are there any additional resources needed to process business licenses in a more expeditious manner?

-LCJ: in terms of human trafficking that would be a friendly amendment; I would support a friendly amendment to include locations where there has been human trafficking; regarding compliance, once this is in effect, businesses would have to be in compliance by the time there is the renewal of the business license. For the first time, the business would require an inspection to ensure the business is properly monitored; once verified they would move forward with issuing the business license. This legislation also enforces mandatory fines if we should reach out for fines as it relates to criminal activity. If you are not in compliance you will not have the ability to renew your business license.

-Question RP: if something happens and they are not able to apply, I would like us to be cognitive of setting off chain reactions for businesses that may put them in issue with the state. Have you discussed with staff on additional resources in terms of having business licenses turned around in a timely manner?

LCJ: absolutely; Director Baker at this point feels he has the adequate staff to verify compliance. At this point he did not express the need to expand staff as it relates to this legislation

-TT: another thing to note is how we categorize businesses as high-risk. Are they always renewed at the same time of the year?

LCJ: in other cities business licenses are renewed the top of the year. Regarding the County's operations I will ask the Administration. Additional information provided by Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Z Williams:

-Question JR: we've spent around 2 years evaluating the characteristics of small box retail that correlates to crime. Is research like that done regarding convenience stores?

V Ernstes: Dr. Dabney did that research in a previous SLUP ordinance. I think there is evidence of that with connection of a zoning ordinance; I don't know that we need a study to have requirements with respect to business licenses.

-Question JR: do we have surveillance requirements for hotels?

V Ernstes: I will review that and respond in an email to everyone; I believe it is covered under regulations we put in place March 2018

-Question JR: is there a way to get off of the high-risk business list?

LCJ: once you are identified as a high risk business, this legislation makes no reference for them to come off of the list. Once the cameras are in place I don't see why a business may want to come off this list

JR: I'm thinking in terms of relocation or other circumstances for consideration. Is there any provision with the lighting requirement to regulate spillover lighting?

-LCJ: as a general rule regarding convenience stores and retail businesses, they will be in a retail district. If a business should move and relocate, once they leave that location, I can understand us not enforcing the high risk business standard if they move. In terms of spillover lighting, I haven't seen a convenience store located next to a residential or multi-family units

A Baker: the zoning code does have standards for lighting code of commercial; there are shields to minimize impact to nearby residential communities. I will take a look into unintended consequences

-Question JR: we're talking about surveillance that is ultimately on private property; is there any issue with that in terms of privacy? Are these areas sufficiently a public place?

T Phillips: regarding the lighting concern, one of the requirements for the technical ability of the camera is that it can record without lights/infrared; regarding the privacy, there is a notice requirement that business has to place a sign stating the cameras are in use. The County and law enforcement would have the opportunity to obtain a copy within 72 hours

-TT: it seems there are tweaks to this legislation coming in terms of a substitute

-LCJ: I would ask Attorney Phillips the time needed for deferral on this research

-T Phillips: I think a 30 day deferral is reasonable; I would hope to speak to Chief Ramos as early as this week to make the changes needed

JR: motion to defer 30 days

2022-1377

Commission District(s): County Wide  
Speed Zone Order/Radar Permit Application

**MOTION was made by Jeff Rader, seconded by Steve Bradshaw, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 5/10/2022. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes: 3 - Commissioner Terry, Commissioner Rader, and Commissioner Bradshaw**

-JR: I'm not sure if the committee would have a regulation, or if the administration develop a SOP, but going forward there needs to be a recommendation from the Board of Commissioners prior to moving forward on changes like this. Mr. Williams if you would like to formalize that process that would be great. The other option is for the commission to adopt a more formal regulation process.

-Z Williams: absolutely; Directors Lemke, Allen and I will circle around how to put that in place

-RP: I did have a request for countywide traffic counts; there may be a potential for overlap of resources there

*New Agenda Items:*

2022-1452

Commission District(s): ALL  
RFP - Request for Proposals No. 21-500591 Media Services (Multi-year): for use by the Department of Fire Rescue (FR). Consists of Integrated Marketing Services, Communications, and Training. Recommend award to the sole responsive and responsible proposer: CATMEDIA, Inc. Annual Amount Not To Exceed: \$100,000.00.

**MOTION was made by Jeff Rader, seconded by Steve Bradshaw, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 5/10/2022. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes: 3 - Commissioner Terry, Commissioner Rader, and Commissioner Bradshaw**

- C Horner: the actual amount will be \$300,000 as it is \$100,000 annually; a substitute item will be provided
- additional information provided by Chief Fullum
- Question JR: regarding marketing and branding concerning recruitment, is the focus on recruiting or are there other areas of outreach and retention?
- D Fullum: it relates to our public education unit; we need to move to more of a video medium; we currently do classes but the last 2 years have demonstrated there are different ways to reach our residents. This will be in different languages that can be shared. Regarding recruitment a physical agility test is an assessment for new hires that must be completed. That's the video I was speaking to.
- JR: so this is a general video that may be used for recruitment and training but also the public
- TT: regarding the videos this may be an opportunity to educate new residents on fire safety
- JR: motion to approve pending additional information

**2022-1601** Commission District(s): All  
To Appropriate \$1,000,000 for Community-based Programs to Reduce Violent Crime  
**MOTION was made by Jeff Rader, seconded by Steve Bradshaw, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 5/10/2022. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes: 3 - Commissioner Terry, Commissioner Rader, and Commissioner Bradshaw**

- information provided by COO Williams
- Question TT: will this go through Police, Community Services?
- presentation by Director Scott of Human Services
- Question TT: that is a quick turnaround for a MOA
- Question JR: is this ineligible for ARP funding?
- Z Williams: I can check
- JR: I would appreciate you all looking it that; we are going into the fund balance unless there is ARP funding this could be used for
- Question JR: is this a general fund eligible use?
- Z Williams: as it relates to the reserve, we would use the appropriate funding source. First we would look to ARP if it is available and eligible; once that is eliminated then we would go to General Fund reserves.
- JR: another question is - is this a Public Safety or Human Services expense?
- JR: motion to recommend approval upon review of the most appropriate funding source, with preferred funding source of American Rescue Plan funds if eligible
- JR: motion to approve pending additional information

Meeting Ended At: 3:50 PM

**MOTION was made by Jeff Rader, seconded by Steve Bradshaw, that this agenda item be adjourned meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes: 3 - Commissioner Terry, Commissioner Rader, and Commissioner Bradshaw**

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Barbara H. Sanders-Norwood CCC, CMC