

**CAMDEN COUNTY, GEORGIA  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
JUNE 13, 2017, 6:00 PM**

**Present: Chairman James H. Starline; Vice-Chairman Chuck Clark; Commissioner Gary Blount; Commissioner Lannie E. Brant; Commissioner Ben L. Casey; County Administrator Steve Howard; County Attorney John S. Myers; and County Clerk Kathryn A. Bishop**

Chairman Starline called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioner Lannie Brant delivered the invocation.

Chairman Starline led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Agenda Amendments:**

No agenda amendments were offered during this time.

**Motion to Adopt the Agenda:**

Commissioner Blount made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Brant to adopt the agenda as presented.

**The motion carried unanimously .**

**Approval of the Minutes**

- May 16, 2017 Public Hearing (2) & Regular Meeting minutes; June 1, 2017 Special Called Meeting, June 1, 2013 Public Hearing minutes

Commissioner Brant made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Clark to approve the May 16, 2017 Public Hearing (2) & Regular Meeting minutes; June 1, 2017 Special Called Meeting, June 1, 2013 Public Hearing minutes.

**The motion carried unanimously .**

**Presentation**

- Certificate of Recognition presented to Gwendolyn Edenfield.

County Administrator Steve Howard presented the Certificate of Recognition to Gwendolyn Edenfield for her efforts in organizing the strategic partnership with Plimoth Plantation, a 501(c) 3 not-for-profit museum, to repurpose a selection of live oak trees located along the Kingsland Bypass Project.

- Recognition of years of service of Camden County Poll Worker Eloise Massey presented by the Board of Registrars.

Chief Registrar Robin Mainor presented Camden County Poll Worker Eloise Massey with a Certificate of Recognition of years of service. She thanked Ms. Massey for her dedication and service over the years, and congratulated her on her retirement as a poll worker. Chairman Starline presented Ms. Massey with a plaque and letter from Secretary of State Brian Kemp.

## **Public Comments**

### **Donald Pace, Kingsland**

Mr. Pace submitted the following written comment via the online Speaker Request Form:

I am having comments read here tonight to show support for my current and former brothers and sisters in arms. I strongly urge the Commissioners to consider the issues that have been going on in the public View in recent weeks and to not take them lightly. The citizen should know that since the former fire chief has left, employees have been leaving at a rate of one employee every 20 days. This equates to decades and decades and decades of experience walking out the door for one reason and one reason only. This means less and less experience on the trucks protecting the citizens every day. With officers also leaving the department for this same reason you have in experienced officers and firefighters leading the newcomers, a lot of which aren't certified yet. I was traveling to work a few weeks ago when there was a car fire on I-95. I watched as these firefighters struggle to get the truck into pump to put the fire out. The man on the nozzle had to drop the hose and go back to assist. I don't put this on the firefighters themselves I put it on the fact that there is no experience, and no training due to not being able to leave the fire stations in train with their fellow firefighters. I heard you commissioners to look at the reasons why this is happening and why in the last few years Camden County fire rescue has gone from a once-proud and Progressive Department to what it is now. It almost seems as though it was designed to happen like this. Whether you want to believe it or not the morale is at a low that can get no lower career firefighters are leaving the job for other departments or leaving the service altogether, and because the real reason is not listed on any public record I can assure you this is all due to one thing. The public deserves the truth as to what is going on. Not half truths that are skewed in favor of positivity. Employees are not able to speak up because they have seen what happens when you do. Many over the last few years have been made examples of as to what happens when you speak your mind, so this is the heads up, the fire department needs help, and not the kind it's had the last few years. Lastly, these are not stepping stone employees you are losing, these are firemen with years upon years of experience no longer taking care of your constituents. I pray you help get the department turned around by making changes where it is needed. Please Make Camden Fire Rescue Great Again. Thank you. God Bless.

### **Bob Nutter, on behalf of the St. Marys EarthKeepers**

Mr. Nutter expressed his opposition of the rezoning of private land on Cumberland Island. He encouraged the Board to allow the National Park Service to have time to negotiate with the landowners as requested.

### **Steve Weinkle, Harriett 's Bluff**

Mr. Weinkle presented a PowerPoint presentation regarding his opposition to the rezoning of private land on Cumberland Island.

### **Tom Canning, St. Marys**

Mr. Canning expressed his opposition of the rezoning of private land on Cumberland Island. He read excerpts of a letter from the Cumberland Island National Park Superintendent Gary Ingram to the Board.

**Carl Miller, St. Marys**

Mr. Miller expressed his opposition of the rezoning of private land on Cumberland Island.

**Ed Gushen, Kingsland**

Mr. Gushen stated expressed his opposition of the rezoning of private land on Cumberland Island.

Commissioner Blount made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Casey to adjourn the Regular Meeting and convene a Public Hearing at 6:28 PM.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

Chairman Starline convened the Public Hearing at 6:28 PM.

**Convene Public Hearing**

To receive comments from the public regarding the following Planning and Zoning items:

- Consideration of the proposed amendment for Section 303 of the Unified Development Code.
- Consideration of the request for a transfer of an alcohol license for retail of malt beverages, beer, and wine for the OM Food Mart, from Pankaj Kumar Patel to Sanatan Inc. and Mahesh B. Patel.
- Consideration of the Request (RZ2017-06) to Rezone 10 acres to A-F and a Future Land Use Map Amendment (FLU2017-05) to “Rural”, Tax Map 094 020G, 279 Jimmy Lane. **District 2 - Vice-Chairman Chuck Clark**
- Consideration of request (RZ2017-05) to Rezone 13.24 acres, from C-I to A-F, and Future Land Use Map Amendment (FLU2017-04) from “Commercial” to “Rural”, Tax Map 093 035, 11 Holzendorf Lane. **District 2 - Vice-Chairman Chuck Clark**
- Consideration of request (RZ2017-04) to Rezone 2.24 acres, from A-F to A-R, and Future Land Use Map Amendment (FLU2017-06) from “Residential” to “Rural Residential”. Tax Map 106 001A, 378 Sheffield Island Road. **District 2 - Vice-Chairman Chuck Clark**

**Public Hearing Comments In favor / In opposition:**

**Mahesh B. Patel, OM Food Mart, Waverly**

Mr. Patel stated that his license to see alcohol is good and he hope the Board will approve the transfer.

No further comments were offered during this time.

Vice-Chairman Clark made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Brant to adjourn the Public Hearing, and reconvene the Regular Meeting at 6:33 PM.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

Chairman Starline reconvened the regular meeting at 6:33 PM.

## **Regular Agenda**

1. Consideration of the proposed amendment for Section 303 of the Unified Development Code.

Vice-Chairman Clark made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Blount to approve the proposed amendment for Section 303 of the Unified Development Code.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

2. Consideration of the request for a transfer of an alcohol license for retail of malt beverages, beer, and wine for the OM Food Mart, from Pankaj Kumar Patel to Sanatan Inc. and Mahesh B. Patel.

Commissioner Brant made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Clark to approve the request for a transfer of an alcohol license for retail of malt beverages, beer, and wine for the OM Food Mart, from Pankaj Kumar Patel to Sanatan Inc. and Mahesh B. Patel

**The motion carried unanimously.**

3. Consideration of the Request (RZ2017-06) to Rezone 10 acres to A-F and a Future Land Use Map Amendment (FLU2017-05) to "Rural", Tax Map 094 020G, 279 Jimmy Lane. **District 2 - Vice-Chairman Chuck Clark**

Vice-Chairman Clark made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Brant to approve the approve the Request to Rezone 10 acres to A-F and a Future Land Use Map Amendment FLU2017-05 to "Rural", Tax Map 094 020G, 279 Jimmy Lane.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

4. Consideration of request (RZ2017-05) to Rezone 13.24 acres, from C-I to A-F, and Future Land Use Map Amendment (FLU2017-04) from "Commercial" to "Rural", Tax Map 093 035, 11 Holzendorf Lane.  
**District 2 - Vice-Chairman Chuck Clark**

Vice-Chairman Clark made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Blount to 1.approve the request to rezone 13.24 acres, from C-I to A-F, and Future Land Use Map Amendment FLU2017-04 from "Commercial" to "Rural". Tax Map 093 035, 11 Holzendorf Lane.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

5. Consideration of request (RZ2017-04) to Rezone 2.24 acres, from A-F to A-R, and Future Land Use Map Amendment (FLU2017-06) from “Residential” to “Rural Residential”. Tax Map 106 001A, 378 Sheffield Island Road. **District 2 - Vice-Chairman Chuck Clark**

Vice-Chairman Clark made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Blount to approve the request to rezone 2.24 acres, from A-F to A-R, and Future Land Use Map Amendment FLU2017-06 from “Residential” to “Rural Residential”. Tax Map 106 001A, 378 Sheffield Island Road.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

6. Update regarding Cumberland Island and direction from the Board to proceed.

County Attorney John Myers presented an update regarding Cumberland Island and asked for direction from the Board to proceed.

Chairman Starline made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Clark to proceed with the staff recommendation, option 3, to allow time for negotiations between the National Park Service and the landowners to proceed.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

7. Approval of Fiscal Year 2018 Budget.

Chairman Starline made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Clark to approve the Fiscal Year 2018 County Budget.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

8. Approval of E - 911 Agreement between Sheriff James K. Proctor and the Board of County Commissioners.

Chairman Starline made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Blount to approve the E - 911 Agreement between Sheriff James K. Proctor and the Board of County Commissioners.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

9. Approval of Fiscal Year 2018 Employment Contract for Magistrate and Probate Court Public Defender Services with Attorney Clyde Urquhart.

Chairman Starline made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Blount to approve the Fiscal Year 2018 Employment Contract for Magistrate and Probate Court Public Defender Services with Attorney Clyde Urquhart.

10. Approval of Fiscal Year 2018 Humane Society Agreement.

Chairman Starline made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Blount to approve the Fiscal Year 2018 Humane Society Agreement with the three percent (3 %) in the amount of \$160, 748.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

## **Reports**

- **Calendar - May & June 2017**

County Clerk Katie Bishop stated there were no changes to the calendar at this time.

- **County Administrator Comments**

County Administrator Steve Howard asked Chief Mark Crews to provide an update to the Board regarding Camden County Fire Rescue.

Chief Crews presented a brief update in a PowerPoint presentation to the Board regarding recent activity in the Fire Rescue department.

## **Additional Public Comments**

Tom Canning, St. Marys

Mr. Canning stated that he appreciated the Board's decision regarding Cumberland Island, but in the approval a timeline was not provided. He asked the Board to consider setting a timeline.

## **Adjournment:**

Vice-Chairman Clark made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Blount to adjourn the June 13, 2017 regular meeting. The vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 PM.

**The motion carried unanimously.**