

**CAMDEN COUNTY, GEORGIA
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 19, 2021, 6:00 PM**

Present: Commissioner Gary Blount; Commissioner Ben L. Casey; Commissioner Lannie Brant; Commissioner Chuck Clark; Commissioner Trevor Readdick; Deputy County Administrator Shawn Boatright and Digital & Social Media Manager Claire Feazel.

Absent: County Clerk Katie Bishop

Attended Virtually: County Administrator Steve Howard and County Attorney John S. Myers

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

Commissioner Lannie Brant delivered the invocation.

Chairman Blount led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Amendments:

No agenda amendments were offered during this time.

Motion to Adopt the Agenda:

Commissioner Brant made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Clark to adopt the agendas presented.

The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes

- October 5, 2021 Regular Meeting minutes; October 7, 2021 Public Hearing minutes (10:00 AM); October 7, 2021 Public Hearing minutes (5:30 PM)

Commissioner Brant made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Clark to approve the October 5, 2021 Regular Meeting minutes; October 7, 2021 Public Hearing minutes (10:00 AM); October 7, 2021 Public Hearing minutes (5:30 PM)

The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments

No comments were offered during this time.

Commissioner Readdick made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Brant to adjourn the regular meeting and convene the public hearings at 6:02 PM.

The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Blount convened the public hearings at 6:02 PM.

Public Hearing (1)

To receive comments from the Public regarding the following item:

- Adoption of the Annual Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2021.

Josh Proctor, St. Marys

Mr. Proctor his concerns are regarding understanding what the millage rate is and explained that he wants to have rollbacks.

David Gregory, Woodbine

Mr. Gregory asked the Board about third parties, other programs and the possibility of outsourcing.

Gram Spivey, Kingsland

Mr. Spivey asked what services he is receiving from the City as opposed to the County.

Chairman Blount adjourned public hearing (1) and convened public hearing (2) at 6:31 PM.

Public Hearing (2)

- Request for a transfer of an alcohol license from Ronald Shamblin and Happy Kamping, LLC to Michael Botkins and Kampgrounds of America, Inc. for Retail Sales of Malt Beverages, Beer & Wine located at 2970 Scrubby Bluff Rd., Parcel 108 029.

No comments were offered during this time.

- FY2022 Capital Improvement Element (CIE) Draft of the Comprehensive Plan for Camden County by resolution.

No comments were offered during this time.

Commissioner Readdick 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 Blount reconvened the regular meeting at 6:33 PM.

Regular Agenda

1. Consideration of request for a transfer of an alcohol license from Ronald Shamblin and Happy Kamping, LLC to Michael Botkins and Kampgrounds of America, Inc. for Retail Sales of Malt Beverages, Beer & Wine located at 2970 Scrubby Bluff Rd., Parcel 108 029.

Vice-Chairman Casey made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Clark to approve the request for a transfer of an alcohol license from Ronald Shamblin and Happy Kamping, LLC to Michael Botkins and Kampgrounds of America, Inc. for Retail Sales of Malt Beverages, Beer & Wine located at 2970 Scrubby Bluff Rd., Parcel 108 029.

The motion carried unanimously.

2. Approval of the FY2022 Capital Improvement Element (CIE) Draft of the Comprehensive Plan for Camden County by resolution.

Commissioner Clark made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Casey to approve the FY2022 Capital Improvement Element (CIE) Draft of the Comprehensive Plan for Camden County by resolution.

The motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of Purchasing Policy Amendment: Authorization to utilize Cooperative Procurement and Cooperative Purchasing Programs: Joint Solicitation/Piggy Backing.

Commissioner Brant made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Clark to approve the Purchasing Policy Amendment: Authorization to utilize Cooperative Procurement and Cooperative Purchasing Programs: Joint Solicitation/Piggy Backing.

The motion carried unanimously.

4. Adoption of the Annual 2021 Countywide, Unincorporated Tax Service District, and Incorporated Woodbine Millage Rates.

Commissioner Brant made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Casey to adopt the Annual 2021 Countywide, Unincorporated Tax Service District, and Incorporated Woodbine Millage Rates.

General Fund Countywide millage rate.

1. 15.562 mills for the general operating budget for the County.

Tax Service District millage rate.

1. 1.361 mills for the Incorporated Service District.
2. 1.350 mills for the Unincorporated Service District.

So voted:

Chairman Blount – Yes

Vice-Chairman Casey – Yes

Commissioner Readdick – No

Commissioner Brant – Yes

Commissioner Clark - Yes

The motion carried 4 - 1. Commissioner Readdick voted no.

5. Adoption of the Annual 2021 Countywide School Millage Rate.

Commissioner Clark made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Casey to adopt the Annual 2021 Countywide School Millage Rate.

In accordance with the Camden County School Board, the following millage was adopted at their October 12, 2021 meeting.

1. 15.36 mills for the maintenance and operations budget

So voted:

Chairman Blount – Yes

Vice-Chairman Casey – Yes

Commissioner Readdick – No

Commissioner Brant – Yes

Commissioner Clark - Yes

The motion carried 4 - 1. Commissioner Readdick voted no.

6. Certification of the Annual 2021 Millage Rates.

Commissioner Clark made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Casey to approve the Certification of the Annual 2021 Millage Rates.

So voted:

Chairman Blount – Yes

Vice-Chairman Casey – Yes

Commissioner Readdick – No

Commissioner Brant – Yes

Commissioner Clark - Yes

The motion carried 4 - 1. Commissioner Readdick voted no.

7. Authorize staff to negotiate a Curbside Collection Contract with the top-ranked firm; should negotiations fail, staff will notify the Board of Commissioners and begin negotiating with the 2nd ranked firm.

Commissioner Brant made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Clark to authorize staff to negotiate a Curbside Collection Contract with the top-ranked firm; should negotiations fail, staff will notify the Board of Commissioners and begin negotiating with the 2nd ranked firm.

The motion carried unanimously.

8. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with Florida State College and Camden County Fire Rescue.

Commissioner Brant made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Casey to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Florida State College and Camden County Fire Rescue.

The motion carried unanimously.

9. Approval of Agreement for Professional Services between Dr. Amir Wind and Camden County Fire Rescue.

Commissioner Brant made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Clark to approve the Professional Services between Dr. Amir Wind and Camden County Fire Rescue.

So voted:

Chairman Blount – Yes

Vice-Chairman Casey – Yes

Commissioner Readdick – Abstain

Commissioner Brant – Yes

Commissioner Clark - Yes

The motion carried 4 - 0. Commissioner Readdick abstained from the motion.

10. Approval to replace aging fuel dispensers in Woodbine and Kingsland.

Vice-Chairman Casey made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Brant to approve the purchase of four (4) dual nozzle Gas Boy fuel dispensers from Guardian Fuel Technologies in the amount of \$44,246.66.

The motion carried unanimously.

11. Board of Commissioners authorization to request a proposal from the Carl Vinson Institute of Government at UGA on completing a Compensation & Classification Study for employees funded by the CCBOC

Commissioner Clark made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Casey to authorize staff to request a proposal from the Carl Vinson Institute of Government at UGA on completing a Compensation and Classification Study for employees funded by the Board of County Commissioners.

The motion carried unanimously.

Reports

- **Calendar - October & November**

Digital & Social Media Manager Claire Feazel reported there were no changes to the calendar at this time.

- **County Administrator Comments**

No comments were offered during this time.

Additional Public Comments

Benn Goff, Harriett's Bluff

Mr. Goff read the following comment for the record:

A look at Camden Public Service finances from 07 2019-- 06 2020
(a complete audit has not been completed) These financials are readily available and subject to change ... (*No SPLOST WAS INJURED OR HARMED DURING THIS REVIEW AND NONE INCLUDED*)

\$2,263,841 Intergovernmental funds, 3 cities and BOCC

\$624,000 charges for services ---**22%** of total income "THE CORE"

\$2,890,958 Total Income as shown

\$1,061,000 of the total is from funding by the county

Includes ROW mowing, mosquito control and Recreation

\$846,403 or 80% of county funding from unincorporated tax (US !)

\$2,950,419 Total expenses

-\$59,460 Loss or total net income for the period.

A REVIEW OF EXPENSES

\$2,950,419 Total expenses

\$1,985,919 Salaries and benefits **67%**

\$1,645,444 Salaries **56%** of total expenses

\$1,063,013 BOCC funds= **36%** of total income

\$1,202,841 CITY (3) funds= **42%** of total income

\$ 624,000 CORE Services=22% of total income

36% of total funded expenses of PSA = BOCC (**29%** UNINCORPORATED) US !

41 % of total funded expenses of PSA = 3 CITYYS

23% of total funded expenses of PSA "CORE" services REC CENTER

Use your own judgment, but it seems that from a financial standpoint, Public service Authority is a losing proposition, and unjustly funded by the unincorporated tax areas for the service rendered

Someone told me yesterday that they were afraid of losing support for county parks if the county withdrew funding from PSA. Lets take a look at that scenario, and this is speculation. It could wind up looking like social security funds. PSA asks for and has been furnished \$548,000 for recreation alone, roughly \$358,000 of that goes to salaries and benefits, leaving \$190,000 to go to the 11 county parks, 4 of which have buildings, and to support the rec center.

As only trivial work has been done at any park buildings, it seems through valid calculations that approximately \$50,000 is spent on mowing for the 11 county parks, leaving \$90,000 to support the unincorporated citizens using the rec center for which a paid membership is required. Stop funding the PSA with \$548,000 and let's see what happens. Earlier in the year, supervision of maintenance of county buildings (excepting 4 county park buildings) was taken away from PSA and a permanent facilities manager Mr. Zink, was hired by the county.

Mr Zink recently reached an "understanding" with PSA to continue with mowing of grass around the 28 county buildings for \$90,000, and he probably could get the 11 county parks mowed for the \$50,000 that they SHOULD be receiving now. So \$548,000 minus \$50,000 leaves \$498,000, in unincorporated tax dollars for county parks and recreation. Let's budget \$20,000 for mulch in the 4 parks with playground equipment, leaves \$470,000. Lets budget \$60,000 for painting and rescreening the 4 park buildings, leaves \$410,000. Lets budget \$40,000 for cameras and security signage, leaves \$370,000. Let's budget WiFi for the 4 park locations to allow operation for doors and monitor security cameras, \$2000 annually, leaves \$350,000 Lets budget \$40,000 for replacing doors and adding programmable locks and closers, leaves \$310,000. Let's budget \$100,000 for adding swings and or paint tennis courts and basketball courts, leaves \$210,000. Let's budget \$100,000 for 2 employees to operate reserving park facilities and liaison for the parks.

Amazingly enough with the remaining \$110,000 we might be able to fund new stuff for the parks in the first year and keep in mind most of these items are not annual needs, so doing away with the \$358,000 for salaries and benefits paid to the PSA allows for drastic improvements in the county parks. Mr. Casey is concerned that fees for use of facilities by unincorporated citizens would go up, but none can tell us how many, issue vouchers for the?? Number of folks involved, enough funds available. The original intent for the PSA was probably a good idea because you could expect economies of scale, but the best ideas often have fallacies and PSA is a big one.

Robert Bauer, Harriett's Bluff

Mr. Bauer made statements regarding paying the garbage bill annually. He stated that the Board should provide candy and/or food for everyone in attendance. He stated that he wants the aluminum tables returned to the Harriett's Bluff Park.

Adjournment:

Commissioner Clark made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Readdick to adjourn the October 19, 2021 regular meeting. The vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 PM.

The motion carried unanimously.