

**CAMDEN COUNTY, GEORGIA
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 20, 2009, 6:00 PM**

A regular meeting of the Camden County Board of County Commissioners was held at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 20, 2009, in the Board of Commissioners' Meeting Chambers of the Government Services Building, Woodbine, Georgia.

Chair Rainer called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Chair Rainer recessed the meeting at 6:06 p.m.

Chair Rainer reconvened the meeting at 6:12 p.m.

Reverend James L. Ham, Jr. introduced local Pastor Julian Ammons who led a moment of silence for a Camden County employee who is having a hard time and then proceeded with the invocation.

Chair Rainer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Chair David L. Rainer; Vice-Chair Katherine Nisi Zell; Commissioner Willis R. Keene, Jr.; Commissioner Stephen L. Berry; Commissioner Charlene Sears; County Administrator Steve Howard; County Attorney Brent Green, County Clerk Jodi Gregory, and Deputy Clerk Katie Bishop.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS:

None.

MOTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA:

Vice-Chair Zell made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sears, to adopt the agenda with the offered amendments.

The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Sears made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Zell, to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2009 Special Called Meeting, Public Hearing and Regular Meeting as well as the January 13, 2009 Public Hearing and Special Called Meeting.

The motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS:

- ***Proclamation recognizing Denise Stickman as Employee of the Quarter for the 2nd Quarter of the Fiscal Year 2009.***

WHEREAS, the Employee Recognition Committee is please to announce that Denise Stickman is named our Employee of the Quarter for the 2nd Quarter of the Fiscal Year 2009; and,

WHEREAS, Denise has been employed with Camden County's Office of Finance & Budget since June 2005; and,

WHEREAS, she performs the job of Senior Accountant where some of her responsibilities include the processing of accounts receivable, performing journal entries, and balancing bank statements as well as performing the back up duties of the accounts payable and payroll functions; and,

WHEREAS, she also assists with the audit and budget processes and gladly takes on additional projects whenever asked; and,

WHEREAS, she is an honest and hard working employee that is always willing to help others; stepping up and going above and beyond the call of duty is second nature to her; and,

WHEREAS, she is an extremely dedicated employee, a team player, and a tremendous asset to both the Finance Department and Camden County Government; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge Denise Stickman's dedication to service, and express our appreciation for her dedication;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE CAMDEN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS that this body recognizes,

Denise Stickman

as **Employee of the Quarter for Camden County Government**, and we hereby express our gratitude for her efforts and commitment to Camden County.

PROCLAIMED this 20th day of January, 2009.

- Mid-Year Budget Report (***presented by Mike Fender***)

Finance Director Mike Fender presented the Mid-Year Budget Report to the Board of County Commissioners.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Peter Speck, St. Marys

Mr. Speck thanked the Board for allowing him to address them, he then stated that he commends Sheriff Gregory for the level of service that the Sheriff's Office provided him in resolving an issue he had. He described Sheriff Gregory as a man of reason that knows where he wants to go. Mr. Speck explained some issues he has with the budget allocated to the Sheriff's Office.

Jay Moreno, St. Marys

Mr. Moreno stated that the hiring of a new Executive Director at the Joint Development Authority should turn over a new leaf if done properly. He explained his experience in sales and further explained his concerns with the previous Director, whom he believes may not have even brought Express Scripts to this area.

Rachel Baldwin, Kingsland

Ms. Baldwin stated that the new Executive Director needs to be versed in sales, but also in technical training. She explained some of the many programs Camden County High School offers students in technical training. She then provided the Board of County commissioners with an article from Georgia Trend Magazine.

Reverend James L. Ham, Jr., Kingsland

Reverend Hamm invited the Board of County Commissioners to attend a monthly meeting of local Ministries and leaders of Camden County held at Camden Medical Center in the conference room next to the cafeteria at 10:00 a.m. on January 26, 2009. He explained that the time is now for everyone to come together as a joint effort, and talk about fighting crime in our area. He explained the program and how it will enable families to feel safe in our area.

Randall Morris, White Oak

Mr. Morris stated that he has been in this type of business for many years and he has an understanding of what the joint Development authority is setting out to accomplish. He shared his thoughts on the Camden County Joint Development Authority and explained some processes involved with bringing business to our area. He explained that the economic development initiative is a great foundation for bringing business to our area and to stimulate the economy in Camden County.

REGULAR AGENDA:

- 1. Second reading and adoption of an ordinance by Camden County, Georgia, to delete from the Official Code of Camden County, Georgia, Chapter 6, Alcoholic Beverages; and to adopt the Camden County Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance in lieu thereof.**

County Clerk Jodi Gregory presented a power point presentation regarding the proposed changes to the alcohol ordinance.

Commissioner Berry made a motion to raise the fees of the Alcohol Ordinance to be in line with the City of Kingsland. There was no second.

The motion failed.

Commissioner Sears made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Zell, to waive the second reading and to adopt the ordinance as proposed.

Commissioner Berry objected to raising the license fees only by 25%, and that the fees should be comparable to those of charged by Kingsland. He further stated that the cost of alcohol related public safety calls, as outlined in the documentation provided by staff, should be born by those who consume or sell alcoholic beverages.

So voted,

Chairman Rainer - yea

Vice-Chair Zell - yea

Commissioner Berry - nay

Commissioner Keene - yea

Commissioner Sears - yea

The motion carried 4 - 1.

2. Grant Easement to the Public Service Authority (PSA) for the Rails to Trails project. (Diana Smith)

Vice-Chair Zell made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sears to grant an easement of approximately 60 feet along the abandoned rail way running from the Tabby Ruins in St. Marys to Howard Peeples Park in Kingsland to the Public Service Authority (PSA) for the Rails to Trails project.

The motion carried unanimously.

3. Request of Refund in penalties, interest, and fees by Thomas and Kelly Stofflet for 2007 tax bill relating to 607 Kings Way (135N 077). (Adam Kabasakalian)

Commissioner Sears made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Keene to refund \$113.44 in penalties, interest, and fees by Thomas and Kelly Stofflet for a 2007 tax bill relating to 607 Kings Way (135N 077).

The motion carried unanimously.

4. SU-006-008 Al Chapman - Special Use Permit located at 734 Waverly Farms Road to allow a pole barn.

Planning & Development Director Mike Tuller presented the Board with a power point presentation regarding this request.

Commissioner Keene made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Zell to approve the

request by Al Chapman for a Special Use Permit located at 734 Waverly Farms Road to allow a pole barn.

The motion carried unanimously.

- 5. R-004-08 - Pamela Wooten - Rezone from Medium Density Multifamily Residential (R-2) to Agricultural Residential (A-R) to combine two (2) parcels into one (1) located on Pine Drive in Harriett's Bluff.**

Planning & Development Director Mike Tuller presented the Board with a power point presentation regarding this request.

Commissioner Sears made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Keene to approve the request by Pamela Wooten for rezoning from Medium Density Multifamily Residential (R -2) to Agricultural Residential (A-R) to combine two (2) parcels into one (1) located on Pine Drive in Harriett's Bluff.

The motion carried unanimously.

- 6. R-15-08 - Betty Drury - Rezone from Agricultural Forestry (A-F) to Agricultural Residential (A-R) 2.58 acres located at 721 Providence Church Road.**

Planning & Development Director Mike Tuller presented the Board with a power point presentation regarding this request.

Commissioner Keene made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Zell to approve the request by Betty Drury for rezoning from Agricultural Forestry (A-F) to Agricultural Residential (A-R) 2.58 acres located at 721 Providence Church Road.

The motion carried unanimously.

Reports

- Calendar - January/February

County Clerk Jodi Gregory read the January and February calendars

- County Administrator's Report

Mr. Howard reported the following:

- He would like to inform everyone that the spotlight on a department for this meeting is Camden County's Fire Rescue department and they have several demonstrations & displays out in the Government Services Complex. He stated that he will also reach out to the Constitutional Officers as well to spotlight.

- He would like to inform the Commissioners that he will be attending a conference in Jekyll Island.
- He would like to inform the Commissioners that the latest legislative update was emailed to them.
- He would like to inform the Commissioners that the Governor has confirmed that the Homestead Exemption Relief grants have been eliminated for next year as well and he will present several options and actions Camden County will have to make at the next regular meeting. He stated that this could be the most stressful financial situation Camden County has seen in years.
- He would like to inform the Commissioners that the Washington Fly-In is coming up, due to the cost of this program and the current financial situation there is not funding budgeted at this time. He offered the Commissioners the option to pay on their own if they chose to attend in April. He reminded the Board that the deadline to reserve a place is January 30, 2009 and the cost is approximately \$1000.00 a person.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Vice-Chair Zell made a motion, seconded by Chair Rainer, to adjourn the January 20, 2009, meeting. The vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David L. Rainer, Chair

Kathryn A. Bishop, Acting County Clerk