

**MINUTES OF MEETING
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA
SEPTEMBER 5, 2017
5:01 P.M.**

Proceedings of a special meeting of the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) of St. Johns County, Florida, held in the auditorium at the County Administration Building, 500 San Sebastian View, St. Augustine, Florida.

Proof of publication of the notice of a special meeting of the Board of County Commissioners was received, having been published in *The St. Augustine Record* on August 22, 2017.

Present: James K. Johns, District 1, Chair
Henry Dean, District 5, Vice Chair
Jeb S. Smith, District 2
Paul M. Waldron, District 3
Jay Morris, District 4
Michael Wanchick, County Administrator
Patrick McCormack, County Attorney
Bonnie Putman, Deputy Clerk

(09/05/17 - 1 - 5:01 p.m.)
CALL TO ORDER

Johns called the meeting to order.

(09/05/17 - 1 - 5:01 p.m.)

1. 5:01 P.M. PUBLIC HEARING - ADOPTION OF TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATES & BUDGET FOR FY 2018. IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTIONS 129.03 AND 200.065 OF THE FLORIDA STATUTES, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BCC) IS REQUIRED HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS TO ADOPT ITS MILLAGE RATES AND BUDGET FOR THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR (FY). SUCH HEARINGS MUST BE HELD AFTER 5:00 P.M. IF SCHEDULED ON A DAY OTHER THAN SATURDAY. IN THE RECENTLY MAILED NOTICES OF PROPOSED PROPERTY TAXES (TRIM) BY THE COUNTY'S PROPERTY APPRAISER, THE DATE AND TIME NOTICED FOR THE REQUIRED HEARINGS IS SEPTEMBER 5, 2017, AT 5:01 P.M. THE FLORIDA STATUTES FURTHER PRESCRIBE THE SPECIFIC ORDER FOR CONSIDERATION OF SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED DURING THE REQUIRED PUBLIC HEARINGS. THE FIRST SUBSTANTIVE ISSUE OF DISCUSSION MUST BE THE PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN THE COUNTY'S AGGREGATE MILLAGE RATE OVER THE ROLLED-BACK RATE NECESSARY TO FUND THE BUDGET. THE ROLLED-BACK RATE IS DEFINED AS THE AGGREGATE MILLAGE RATE THAT WOULD GENERATE THE SAME LEVEL OF PRIOR YEAR TAX REVENUES, LESS CERTAIN DEFINED ALLOWANCES (SUCH AS NEW CONSTRUCTION). DURING SUCH DISCUSSION, THE GENERAL PUBLIC SHALL BE ALLOWED TO SPEAK AND ASK QUESTIONS PRIOR TO THE ADOPTION OF ANY MEASURES BY THE BCC. THE BCC SHALL ADOPT BY RESOLUTION ITS TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATES PRIOR TO ADOPTING ITS TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR FY 2018. ADDITIONALLY, THE BCC IS REQUIRED TO ESTABLISH A DATE, TIME, AND PLACE TO CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARINGS ON THE FINAL MILLAGE AND BUDGET ADOPTION FOR FY 2018. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BCC ESTABLISH SEPTEMBER 19, 2017, AT 5:01 P.M. IN THE COUNTY AUDITORIUM, TO CONDUCT SUCH HEARINGS

Jesse Dunn, Director of the Office of Management and Budget, provided background on the budget process and presented a timeline, via PowerPoint. He explained the procedures prescribed by Florida Statute 200.65, which included the following:

1. DISCUSSION OF THE PERCENTAGE INCREASE OVER THE ROLLED-BACK RATE:

- The taxing authority was stated as St. Johns County.
- The rolled-back millage rate was stated as 6.9502 mils.
- The first substantive issue discussed was the percentage increase from the rolled back rate, which was 4.34%
- The proposed aggregate millage rate was stated as 7.2518 mils.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

(5:12 p.m.) Judy Padgett, 141 Pelican Reef Drive, spoke in support of funding for library services.

(5:14 p.m.) Gina Burrell, 27 Seminole Drive, spoke in support of funding for library services.

(5:15 p.m.) Lindsey Wooten, 24 Brook Hills Drive, Ponte Vedra, spoke in support of funding for parks and recreation.

(5:16 p.m.) Terrance Smith, 514 North Washington Street, Hastings, spoke in support of funding for the Hastings Branch Library.

(5:19 p.m.) Sandy Lenney, 33 San Carlos Avenue, spoke in support of funding for library services.

(5:21 p.m.) Mary Cobb, 258 Wisteria Road, spoke in support of funding for body cameras, to be included in the Sheriff's Budget.

(5:22 p.m.) Pam Linder, 11 Pine Street, spoke in support of body cameras, noting incidents in Daytona Beach, and read the names from petitions, *Exhibit A*.

(5:25 p.m.) Sharyn Brooks, 2824 Kings Road, spoke in support of funding for library services.

(5:28 p.m.) Lisa Lloyd, 132 Surfside Avenue, spoke in support of funding for body cameras.

(5:30 p.m.) Nicole Sparrow, 28 Masters Drive, spoke in support of funding for body cameras and library services.

(5:32 p.m.) Irene Flynn, 3436 Carmel Road, spoke in support of funding for library services.

(5:34 p.m.) Morris spoke on the budget process, including a timeline of events; a summary of the Board's decisions; the utilization of reserves; and noted specific details and ramifications of those decisions.

3. ADOPT PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE RESOLUTION

(5:45 p.m.) Motion by Smith, seconded by Johns, carried 5/0, to adopt Resolution 2017-294, approving the proposed millage rates for Fiscal Year 2018, of the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, as follows:

- General Fund millage rate of 5.1000
- County Transportation Trust Fund millage rate of 0.7500
- County Health Unit Trust Fund millage rate of 0.0171
- Fire District Fund millage rate of 1.4700
- Vilano Street Lighting District millage rate of 0.0500
- St. Augustine South Street Lighting District millage rate of 0.2100
- Summerhaven MSTU millage rate of 8.5000
- The St. Johns County aggregate millage of 7.2518

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-294

RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE IS HEREBY SET BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA, FOR ALL PROPERTY IN ST. JOHNS COUNTY, AS OF JANUARY 1, 2017.

GENERAL FUND	5.1000
COUNTY TRANSPORTATION TRUST FUND	0.7500
COUNTY HEALTH UNIT TRUST FUND	0.0171
FIRE DISTRICT, COUNTYWIDE, EXCEPT CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE	1.4700
VILANO STREET LIGHTING DISTRICT	0.0500
ST. AUGUSTINE SOUTH STREET LIGHTING DISTRICT	0.2100
SUMMERHAVEN M.S.T.U.	8.5000
AGGREGATE MILLAGE RATE	7.2518
ROLLED-BACK RATE	6.9502
PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN PROPERTY TAXES FROM ROLLED-BACK RATE	4.34%

(5:47 p.m.) Johns referenced page 15 of tentative budget book, noting that the library services' budget had increased from the FY17 budget and spoke to the misinformation regarding the library's budget and hours being cut. Additionally, he stated that the Board does not have authority to change the library hours, the decision to cut hours would be made by the Director of Library Services, and there had been no directive as to how the money, hours, or manpower was managed. Dunn responded that the FY18 proposed budget did not show a reduction in funding for Library Services.

(5:50 p.m.) Debra Rhodes Gibson, Director of Library Services, stated that the users of the library were passionate and that there were no anticipated reductions in hours. She mentioned the need to restore the hours that were lacking at the Main Branch and the Bartram Trail Branch, and that additional staff had been requested, which had not

been included in the proposed budget, which led to the misinformation. Johns requested the directors, who have more details than that of the Board, correct the misinformation. He noted it was the department director's responsibility to convey accurate information to the people in which they were providing services.

(5:54 p.m.) Morris continued with the budget timeline, his view on the recommended budget, and a bottom-up approach. Discussion ensued on the increase in funding for library services, the utilization of reserves, and the estimated amount of revenue from taxes.

4. ADOPT PROPOSED BUDGET RESOLUTION

(6:01 p.m.) **Motion by Smith, seconded by Dean, carried 5/0, to adopt Resolution No. 2017-295, approving the proposed Fiscal Year 2018 budget of the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, using the certified taxable value of \$23,858,170,140, generating an estimated \$173,014,806 in taxes, and resulting in a total budget of \$731,567,800**

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-295

RESOLVED, THAT THE FOLLOWING FISCAL YEAR 2018 PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA, DEVELOPED USING THE CERTIFIED TAXABLE VALUE OF \$23,858,170,140, GENERATING AN ESTIMATED \$173,014,806 IN TAXES, IS HEREBY ADOPTED, RESULTING IN A TOTAL BUDGET OF \$731,567,800 AS FOLLOWS:

GENERAL FUND	\$217,631,693
SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	
-TRANSPORTATION TRUST	\$75,379,002
-FIRE DISTRICT	44,095,796
-HEALTH DEPARTMENT	419,250
-BUILDING SERVICES	23,008,472
-STATE HOUSING INITIATIVE PARTNERSHIP	3,255,793
-ALCOHOL & DRUG ABUSE TRUST	15,050
-COMMUNITY BASED CARE	6,356,594
-BEACH SERVICES	1,971,489
-COUNTY PIER	481,687
-TOURIST DEVELOPMENT	12,408,142
-CULTURAL EVENTS	16,134,796
-TREE BANK	3,501,284
-IMPACT FEES - PUBLIC BUILDINGS	4,584,157
-IMPACT FEES - POLICE SERVICES	889,154
-IMPACT FEES - FIRE RESCUE	6,772,843
-IMPACT FEES - ROADS	16,930,151
-IMPACT FEES - PARKS	2,194,346
-E-911 COMMUNICATIONS	1,674,979
-LAW ENFORCEMENT TRUST	74,257
-CRIMES PREVENTION TRUST	66,510
-COURT INNOVATION	118,293
-LEGAL AID	322,132
-LAW LIBRARY	66,786
-JUVENILE ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS	41,562
-COURT TECHNOLOGY	5,520,309

-COMMUNICATIONS SURCHARGE	391,349
-FLORIDA BOATING IMPROVEMENT	550,763
-NORTHWEST TOWER	410,492
-COURT FACILITIES TRUST	514,316
-DRIVER'S SAFETY EDUCATION	70,564
-WEST AUGUSTINE CRA	42,374
-FLAGLER ESTATES CRA	112,872
-VILANO CRA	377,044
-SIDEWALK MITIGATION	33,024
-TRANSIT SYSTEM	3,251,933
-GOLF COURSE	2,426,681
-VILANO STREET LIGHTING DISTRICT	21,403
-ELKTON DRAINAGE DISTRICT	37,142
-ST. AUGUSTINE S. LIGHTING DISTRICT	59,789
-TREASURE BEACH M.S.B.U.	258,267
-C.H. ARNOLD ROAD GRADING M.S.B.U.	8,514
-DEERWOOD LANE M.S.B.U.	10,198
-DURBIN CTITF	117
-SUMMER HAVEN M.S.B.U.	238,751

DEBT SERVICE FUNDS

-12 TRANSPORTATION REFUNDING BONDS	\$2,016,575
-15 TRANSPORTATION REFUNDING BONDS	1,660,794
-09 SALES TAX BONDS	3,823,426
-09A SALES TAX REFUNDING BONDS	1,571,963
-12 SALES TAX REFUNDING BONDS	1,918,419
-15 SALES TAX REFUNDING BONDS	3,925,025
-PONTE VEDRA MSD SEWER CONTRACT	1,597,177
-COMMERCIAL PAPER	2,084,590
-FLAGLER ESTATES LOAN	508,226
-14 REVENUE SHARING REFUNDING BONDS	1,166,907
-TRANE CAPITAL LEASE	241,561
-HHS FACILITY NOTE	414,239
-SERIES 2012 CHASE NOTE	1,279,354

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUNDS

-BEACH RE-NOURISHMENT PROJECTS	\$2,545,901
-SR 207 CIG DEVELOPERS PROJECTS	156,509
-15 SALES TAX CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS	10,620,100
-16 PUBLIC FACILITIES PROJECTS	4,663,962

ENTERPRISE FUNDS

-SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT	\$39,990,922
-UTILITY SERVICES	118,872,877
-PONTE VEDRA UTILITY SERVICES	31,381,372
-CONVENTION CENTER	3,440,073

INTERNAL SERVICE/TRUST & AGENCY FUNDS

-FSA - DEPENDENT	\$131,169
-FSA - MEDICAL	997,084
-HRA - DEPENDENT	1,191,653
-HEALTH INSURANCE	36,193,727
-WORKER COMPENSATION INSURANCE	2,150,157
-OPEB TRUST	3,993,918

5. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DATE, TIME, AND PLACE OF THE FINAL HEARING

(6:03 p.m.) Motion by Dean, seconded by Smith, carried 5/0, to set a Public Hearing on September 19, 2017, at 5:01 p.m. in the County Auditorium, to consider the adoption of the final fiscal millage rates and budget for Fiscal Year 2018, the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida.

(09/05/17 - 6 - 6:05 p.m.)
ADJOURN

With there being no further business to come before the Board, Johns adjourned the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

Approved ____October 17_____, 2017

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: _____
James K. Johns, Chair

ATTEST: HUNTER S. CONRAD, CLERK

By: _____
Deputy Clerk