

**MINUTES OF MEETING
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA
SEPTEMBER 12, 2019
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 to hold a public hearing to consider and adopt the tentative millage rates and FY 2020 budget was received, having been published in *The St. Augustine Record* on August 29, 2019

Present: Paul M. Waldron, District 3, Chair
Jeb S. Smith, District 2, Vice Chair
James K. Johns, District 1
Henry Dean, District 5
Jeremiah R. Blocker, District 4
Michael Wanchick, County Administrator
Patrick McCormack, County Attorney
Sindy Wiseman, Deputy Clerk

Also present: Darrell Locklear, Assistant County Administrator; Joy Andrews, Assistant County Administrator; Paolo Soria, Senior Assistant County Attorney; Regina Ross, Deputy County Attorney; and Rebecca Lavie, Assistant County Attorney

(09/12/19 - 1 - 5:08 p.m.)
CALL TO ORDER

Waldron called the meeting to order.

(09/12/19 - 1 - 5:08 p.m.)
ROLL CALL

The clerk called the roll, and all Board members were present.

(09/12/19 - 1 - 5:08 p.m.)

1. PUBLIC HEARING, 5:01 P.M. PUBLIC HEARING, ADOPTION OF TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATES AND BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2020. IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTIONS 129.03 AND 200.065 OF THE FLORIDA STATUTES, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BCC) IS REQUIRED TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS TO ADOPT ITS MILLAGE RATES AND BUDGET FOR THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR. 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 WAS SEPTEMBER 3, 2019, AT 5:01 P.M. WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF EMERGENCY ORDER NO. 19-190, IN RESPONSE TO HURRICANE DORIAN AND THE SUBSEQUENT DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE EMERGENCY ORDER NO. 19-001, THE TENTATIVE BUDGET HEARING FOR SEPTEMBER 3, 2019, WAS CANCELLED AND RESCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 12, 2019, 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 2020. 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 2020. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BCC ESTABLISH SEPTEMBER 24, 2019, AT 5:01 P.M. IN THE COUNTY AUDITORIUM, TO CONDUCT SUCH HEARINGS

Jesse Dunn, Director, Office of Management AND Budget, presented the details of the tentative budget, via PowerPoint.

(5:24 p.m.) Ed Slavin, P.O. Box 3084, spoke on the need for a budget committee, requiring budgets to be submitted by May 1, the use of body cameras for deputies, the \$15 living wage, and the length of public comment speaking time in a TRIM or budget hearing.

(5:28 p.m.) McCormack recommended that the Board follow the agenda schedule.

(5:29 p.m.) Dunn presented the percentage increase in millage over the rolled-back rate.

(5:31 p.m.) Blocker questioned the time limit for public comment. McCormack responded.

(5:31 p.m.) Beth Angelo, 1283 Ponte Vedra Boulevard, spoke on funding for North Ponte Vedra Beach renourishment.

(5:34 p.m.) Blocker voiced his equity concerns with requiring the North Ponte Vedra Restoration project to pay for a feasibility study that was not required by South Ponte Vedra or Vilano. Wanchick spoke on the County's beach renourishment efforts, including the process for beach renourishment. He said that the funding for the prescribed Federal Feasibility Study for North Ponte Vedra Beach would be addressed.

(5:40 p.m.) Dean stated that he supported Blocker's concerns with the equity issue. He also spoke on the ongoing beach renourishment issues.

(5:43 p.m.) Damon Douglas, Administrator Manager for Public Works, provided an update on the North Ponte Vedra Beach restoration project since the storms.

(5:48 p.m.) Diane Jacobson, 965 Spinnakers Reach, spoke on funding for the North Ponte Vedra Beach renourishment.

(5:51 p.m.) Mistie Eltrich, 1213 Ponte Vedra Boulevard, voiced her concern with the beach restoration plan process, and requested funding for the renourishment.

(5:54 p.m.) Dean spoke on federal law requirements for initiation of a beach restoration/renourishment program.

(5:55 p.m.) Tony Wanderon, 1135 Ponte Vedra Boulevard, spoke on the expansive growth in the County; and protecting the beaches.

(5:58 p.m.) Nancy Condron, 1049 Ponte Vedra Boulevard, spoke on turtle patrol and the negative effect of beach erosion on turtle nesting.

(6:01 p.m.) Roger Mintz, 952 Spinnakers Reach Drive, spoke on the County's obligation to the beaches.

(6:03 p.m.) David Moffett, 917 Ponte Vedra Boulevard, spoke on the critical need for beach renourishment for Ponte Vedra Beach.

(6:05 p.m.) Tom Rose, 123 Sea Hammock Way, voiced his concerns on beach erosion.

(6:08 p.m.) Blocker spoke on starting a reserved fund for the North Ponte Vedra Beach equity issue.

(6:10 p.m.) Wanchick spoke on the federal requirements regarding a critical beach erosion and funding the feasibility study for North Ponte Vedra Beach. Discussion ensued on starting a reserved fund and funding the feasibility study for Ponte Vedra.

(6:19 p.m.) Motion by Dean, seconded by Blocker, carried 4/1, with Johns dissenting, directing staff to adjust the aggregate tentative millage rate resolution, adjusting the Ponte Vedra Beach Dune and Beach Restoration millage to 0.0, and to adjust the aggregate millage rate and subsequent budget accordingly.

(6:21 p.m.) Discussion ensued on the millage rate for the Ponte Vedra Beach Restoration, whether the TDC Category IV could be allocated for beach renourishment, and using surplus funds for the feasibility study.

The Board recessed the meeting at 6:32 p.m. and reconvened at 6:45 p.m.

(6:46 p.m.) Dunn presented the requested changes to the proposed millage rates and budget resolutions.

(6:48 p.m.) Motion by Dean, seconded by Smith, carried 5/0, to adopt Resolution No. 2019-302, establishing the tentative millage rates for FY 2020.

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-302

RESOLVED, THAT THE FOLLOWING TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATES ARE HEREBY SET BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA, FOR ALL PROPERTY IN ST. JOHNS COUNTY, AS OF JANUARY 1, 2019

General Fund millage rate	4.9500
County Transportation Trust Fund millage rate	0.9000
County Health Unit Trust Fund millage rate	0.0171
Fire District Fund Millage Rate	1.4700
Vilano Street Lighting District millage rate	0.0500
St. Augustine South Street Lighting millage rate	0.2100
Summerhaven MSTU millage rate	8.5000
Ponte Vedra Beach Dune and Beach Restoration millage rate	0.0000
The St. Johns County aggregate millage rate	7.2512

(6:50 p.m.) Motion by Dean, seconded by Smith, carried 5/0, to adopt Resolution No. 2019-303, approving the Tentative Fiscal Year 2020 budget of the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, using the certified taxable value of \$28,545,236,518, generating an estimated \$206,987,342 in taxes, and resulting in a total budget of \$917,082,424

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-303

RESOLVED, THAT THE FOLLOWING FISCAL YEAR 2020 TENTATIVE BUDGET OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA, DEVELOPED USING THE CERTIFIED TAXABLE VALUE OF \$28,545,236,518, GENERATING AN ESTIMATED \$207,704,673 IN TAXES, IS HEREBY ADOPTED, RESULTING IN A TOTAL BUDGET OF \$918,933,408 AS FOLLOWS:

General Fund	\$280,892,667
Special Revenue Funds	
- Transportation Trust	\$89,693,779
- Fire District	52,726,733
- Health Department	518,883
- Building Services	33,862,674
- State Housing Initiative Partnership	2,370,542
- Alcohol & Drug Abuse Trust	11,109
- Community Based Care	7,516,687
- Beach Services	3,131,452
- County Pier	536,372
- Tourist Development	17,539,390
- Cultural Events	18,105,498
- Tree Bank	1,729,307
- Impact Fees - Public Buildings	8,545,966
- Impact Fees - Law Enforcement	1,202,009
- Impact Fees - Fire Rescue	11,680,785
- Impact Fees - Roads	36,123,353
- Impact Fees - Parks	4,076,849
- E-911 Communications	1,404,574
- Law Enforcement Trust	89,262
- Crimes Prevention Trust	74,100
- Court Innovation	137,824
- Legal Aid	335,145
- Law Library	84,448
- Juvenile Alternative Programs	48,774
- Court Technology	6,376,873
- Communications Surcharge	564,135
- Florida Boating Improvement	499,223
- Northwest Tower	459,408
- Court Facilities Trust	538,552
- Driver's Safety Education	85,297
- West Augustine CRA	422,397
- Flagler Estates CRA	155,430
- Vilano CRA	464,944
- Sidewalk Mitigation	48,012
- Transit System	4,318,483
- Golf Course	1,852,209
- Vilano Street Lighting District	31,573
- Elkton Drainage District	37,047
- St. Aug. South St. Lighting District	87,480

- Treasure Beach M.S.B.U.	255,987
- Deerwood Lane M.S.B.U.	10,198
- Durbin CTITF	223,987
- Summer Haven M.S.T.U.	272,658
- PV Beach Dune & Beach M.S.T.U.	1,182,414
Special Revenue Funds - continued	
- Coastal Highway Dune & Beach M.S.T.U.	\$100,000
- SPV Blvd. Dune & Beach M.S.T.U.	449,186
- Water Access Management	507,009
Debt Service Funds	
- 19 CBA Refunding Bonds	\$1,450,000
- 12 Transportation Refunding Bonds	2,017,375
- 15 Transportation Refunding Bonds	1,661,494
- 12 Sales Tax Refunding Bonds	3,638,419
- 15 Sales Tax Refunding Bonds	3,926,525
- Ponte Vedra MSD Sewer Contract	1,622,456
- Commercial Paper	1,890,313
- Flagler Estates Loan	516,879
- 14 Revenue Sharing Refunding Bonds	1,163,907
- Trane Capital Lease	241,561
- HHS Facility Note	412,294
- Series 2012 Chase Note	1,279,456
Capital Improvement Funds	
- Beach Re-Nourishment Projects	\$4,017,325
- SR 207 CIG Developers Projects	162,441
- 15 Sales Tax Construction Projects	62,189
- 16 Public Facility Projects	4,156,416
- Sheriff Training Facility	17,459,255
Enterprise Funds	
- Solid Waste Management	\$42,600,485
- Utility Services	144,138,555
- Ponte Vedra Utility Services	40,795,472
- Convention Center	3,459,912
Internal Service/Trust & Agency Funds	
- FSA-Dependent	\$171,133
- FSA-Medical	1,030,560
- Health Insurance	42,550,758
- Worker Compensation Insurance	3,139,661
- OPEB Trust	3,987,883

(6:51 p.m.) Motion by Dean, seconded by Smith, carried 5/0, to set a Public Hearing on September 24, 2019, at 5:01 p.m., in the County Auditorium, to consider the adoption of the final FY 2020 millage rates and the FY 2020 budget, for the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida.

(09/12/19 - 6 - 6:51 p.m.)
ADJOURN

With there being no further business to come before the Board, Waldron adjourned the meeting at 6:51 p.m.

Approved _____ November 5 _____, 2019

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: Paul M. Waldron
Paul M. Waldron, Chair

ATTEST: HUNTER S. CONRAD, CLERK

By: Pam Halterman
Deputy Clerk

