



Minutes of Meeting
Board of County Commissioners
St. Johns County, Florida
Special Meeting
County Administration Building
500 San Sebastian View
St. Augustine, Florida 32084
September 17, 2024 - 5:01 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Arnold called the special meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

Present: Sarah Arnold, District 2, Chair
Roy Alaimo, District 3, Vice Chair
Christian Whitehurst, District 1
Krista Joseph, District 4
Henry Dean, District 5

Staff Present: Joy Andrews, County Administrator
Rich Komando, Interim County Attorney
Lex Taylor, Deputy County Attorney
Kealey West, Senior Assistant County Attorney
Artricia Allen, Deputy Clerk

ROLL CALL

The clerk called the roll. Commissioners Whitehurst, Arnold, Alaimo, Dean, and Joseph were present.

INVOCATION

Pastor Earl Glisson, Anchor Faith, gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Joseph (Mac) McDermott, United States Army Sergeant Major, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Public Hearing - 5:01 p.m. Public Hearing, St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners Adoption of Final Millage Rates and Budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025. 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 FY. Such hearings must be held after 5:00 p.m., if scheduled on a day other than Saturday. The September 17, 2024, 5:01 p.m., hearing date has been advertised in *The St. Augustine Record*. 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 final millage rates prior to adopting its final budget for FY 2025

Jesse Dunn, Director, Office of Management and Budget, presented the details of the budget.

Public Comment: Michael McDonald and Ed Slavin provided public comment.

Motion by Whitehurst, seconded by Dean, carried 4/1, with Joseph dissenting, to adopt Resolution No. 2024-394, approving the Fiscal Year 2025 Final Millage Rates as set by the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, for all property in St. Johns County, as of January 1, 2024.

Yea: Whitehurst, Dean, Arnold, Alaimo

Nay: Joseph

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-394

RESOLVED, that the following **FISCAL YEAR 2025 FINAL 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, 2024.

| | |
|--|---------------|
| General Fund | 4.6537 |
| County Transportation Trust Fund | 0.8444 |
| County Health Unit Trust Fund | 0.0160 |
| Fire District, Countywide, <i>Except City of St. Augustine</i> | 1.3813 |
| St. Augustine South Street Lighting District | 0.1350 |
| Vilano Street Lighting District | 0.0320 |
| Summerhaven M.S.T.U. | 7.3392 |
| Coastal Highway M.S.T.U. | 0.5000 |
| South Ponte Vedra Beach Dune & Beach Restoration M.S.T.U. | 2.0000 |
| Serenata Beach Dune & Beach Restoration M.S.T.U. | 0.5500 |
| Ponte Vedra Beach Dune & Beach Restoration M.S.T.U. | 0.0000 |
| | 6.8263 |

AGGREGATE MILLAGE RATE

Aggregate Rolled-back Rate 6.3766

Percentage increase in Property Taxes from rolled-back rate: 7.05%

Motion by Whitehurst, seconded by Alaimo, carried 4/1, with Joseph dissenting, to adopt Resolution No. 2024-395, approving the Fiscal Year 2025 Final Budget of the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, using the certified taxable value of \$53,893,811,532 generating an estimated \$367,893,353 in taxes, and resulting in a total budget of \$1,750,868,966.

Yea: Whitehurst, Alaimo, Arnold, Dean

Nay: Joseph

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-395

RESOLVED, that the following **FISCAL YEAR 2025 FINAL BUDGET** of the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, developed using the certified taxable value of \$53,893,811,532 generating an estimated \$367,893,353 in taxes, is hereby adopted, resulting in a total budget of \$1,750,868,966 as follows:

General Fund \$446,817,063

Special Revenue Funds

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|--|---------------|
| - Transportation Trust | \$233,508,367 |
| - Fire District | 88,176,363 |
| - Health Department | 842,712 |
| - Building Services | 39,509,064 |
| - Tourist Development | 38,912,369 |
| - Impact Fees - Public Buildings | 35,446,277 |
| - Impact Fees - Police Services | 8,348,743 |
| - Impact Fees - Fire Rescue | 17,120,557 |
| - Impact Fees - Roads | 108,497,863 |
| - Impact Fees - Parks | 24,508,877 |
| - Beach Services | 5,967,075 |
| - County Pier | 1,421,727 |
| - Golf Course | 4,412,151 |
| - Alcohol & Drug Abuse Trust | 164,068 |
| - Community Based Care | 12,947,940 |
| - Transit System | 7,872,770 |
| - State Housing Initiative Partnership | 9,440,854 |
| - Tree Bank | 1,637,638 |
| - Sidewalk Mitigation | 153,861 |
| - E-911 Communications | 2,322,693 |
| - Law Enforcement Trust | 2,868 |
| - Crimes Prevention Trust | 97,850 |
| - Court Innovation | 187,434 |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| - Legal Aid | 370,038 |
| - Law Library | 70,248 |
| - Juvenile Alternative Programs | 55,898 |
| - Court Technology | 9,929,539 |
| - Communications Surcharge | 462,238 |
| - Florida Boating Improvement | 281,944 |
| - Northwest Tower | 502,587 |
| - Court Facilities Trust | 742,839 |
| - Driver's Safety Education | 103,047 |
| - American Recovery Plan | 25,956,168 |
| - Emergency Rental Assistance | 246,823 |
| - FEMA Emergency Disaster Relief | 9,847,121 |
| - Opioid Settlement Funds | 618,848 |
| - Equitable Sharing Justice | 3,927 |
| - Equitable Sharing Treasury | 9,173 |
| - Equitable Sharing Task Force | 98,355 |
| - West Augustine CRA | 1,703,633 |
| - Flagler Estates CRA | 1,099,696 |
| - Vilano CRA | 1,030,862 |
| - Vilano Street Lighting District | 47,553 |
| - Elkton Drainage District | 130,800 |

Special Revenue Funds Continued

| | |
|--|------------|
| - St. Aug. South St. Lighting District | \$ 138,054 |
| - Treasure Beach M.S.B.U. | 234,198 |
| - Summer Haven M.S.T.U. | 679,843 |
| - Durbin CTITF | 1,908,409 |
| - Coastal Hwy Dune & Beach M.S.T.U. | 38,501 |
| - SPV Blvd Dune & Beach M.S.T.U. | 629,883 |
| - Serenata Beach M.S.T.U. | 47,301 |

Debt Service Funds

| | |
|---|-----------|
| - Trane Capital Lease | \$241,561 |
| - Public Facility Note | 414,651 |
| - 15 Transportation Refunding Bonds | 1,657,494 |
| - 15 Sales Tax Refunding Bonds | 3,916,275 |
| - 19 CBA Refunding Bond | 1,446,750 |
| - 20 Special Obligation Revenue Note | 641,067 |
| - 21 Taxable Special Obligation Bonds | 5,019,232 |
| - 22 Special Obligation Bonds | 1,075,921 |
| - 22A Special Obligation Note | 2,893,827 |
| - 24 Special Obligation Refunding Bonds | 1,103,750 |
| - 24 HUD 108 Loan Note | 631,391 |

Capital Improvement Funds

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| - Beach Re-Nourishment Projects | \$4,137,337 |
| - SR 207 CIG Developers Projects | 4,823,176 |
| - 2019 Capital Projects | 6,742,641 |
| - Coastal Hwy Dune & Beach Project | 1,709,244 |
| - PV Beach Dune & Beach Project | 3,182,716 |
| - SPV Beach Dune & Berm Project | 225,000 |
| - LAMP | 5,309,420 |
| - County Capital Improvement Projects | 29,566,079 |
| - Hastings Community Center & Library | 9,639,106 |
| - Porpoise Point Stabilization | 2,000,000 |
| - FY 25 Capital Improvement Projects | 7,500,000 |

Enterprise Funds

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| - Solid Waste Management | \$58,327,599 |
| - Utility Services | 388,925,917 |

Internal Service Funds

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|---------------------------------|-------------|
| - Worker Compensation Insurance | \$3,953,411 |
| - Health Insurance | 53,973,106 |

Trust & Agency Funds

| | |
|-----------------|-----------|
| - FSA-Medical | \$995,721 |
| - FSA-Dependent | 210,864 |
| - OPEB Trust | 5,301,000 |

Joseph stated that she would be committed to working on a rollback for the County and the residents of St. Johns County in the following year.

With there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 5:22 p.m.

Approved _____ October 1 _____, 2024

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: _____
Sarah Arnold, Chair

ATTEST: BRANDON J. PATTY,
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT & COMPTROLLER

By: Crystal Smith
Deputy Clerk

