

The Brooks County Board of Commissioners met for a Special Called Meeting/Approve the FY2023-2024 Budget and Set the Millage Rate and fees on Thursday, August 31, 2023, at 5:00 p.m., at the Brooks County Brooks County Courthouse in the Court room, located at 100 East Screven Street, Quitman, GA. Commissioners present were: Mr. Patrick Folsom, Chairman; Mr. James Maxwell, Vice Chairman, Ms. Myra Exum, Mr. Willie Cody; and Mr. Lee Larko. Others present were Ms. Jessica McKinney, County Administrator; Ms. Kim Daniels, Human Resources, and Jason Kemp, County Attorney; and various residents.

1. Call to Order – Chairman called the meeting to order at 5:05pm.

A. Prayer/Pledge – Vice Chairman led all in attendance in prayer and the pledge of allegiance.

Amend Agenda - At the request of the Chairman, the agenda was amended on the motion by Mr. Larko, to Adopt the Budget, Open the Bid for the Road Maintenance and Support Team, and Declaration of State of Emergency Due to Hurricane Idalia, Mrs. Exum seconded, vote was unanimous.

B. Open Bids – Road Department Contract for Services

County Administrator opened the sealed bid for contract services at the Road Department from the only bidder, Clearwater Solutions, the bid amount is \$2,140,246.82.

C. Adopt FY2023-2024 Budget - County Attorney, Mr. Jason Kemp, read the Resolution to Adopt the Budget with projected revenues of \$15,517,368.00. Mr. Maxwell made the motion and Mr. Cody seconded. Mr. Larko had discussion regarding the discrepancies in the three budgets presented; and commented he would not vote for this budget. Chairman called for the vote. Mr. Maxwell, Mr. Cody, and Chairman voted yes in favor. Mrs. Exum and Mr. Larko opposed. The vote was 3 to 2.

D. Adopt the Millage Rate and Fees for 2023 - County Attorney read the Resolution to adopt the Millage Rate, which embodies the full roll back. Mr. Maxwell motioned to approve the following millage rates and fees for 2023; Mr. Cody seconded.

Incorporated	14.2426
Unincorporated	12.4747
Development Authority Millage	.300
Briggs Fire District	0

Mr. Larko commented that we did not increase the Development Authority; and feel they would benefit from an increase of one-half mill. Chairman stated he has not seen

anything happen in the Development Authority to justify and support an increase. Chairman called for the vote. Mr. Maxwell, Mr. Cody, and the Chairman voted in favor. Mrs. Exum and Mr. Larko voted no. The vote was 3 to 2.

The Resolution to adopt Solid Waste and the Fire Fee was read by County Attorney Jason Kemp. Solid Waste has not increased, will remain at \$216.00 per year. Mrs. Exum made the motion to approve the following fees for Solid Waste and the Fire Fee, Mr. Maxwell seconded. Vote was unanimous. Mrs. Exum commented to make a note to reassess how we assess the fire fees in the future.

Curbside Trash Service	\$216.00 Annually Per Can
Fire Service Fee:	
Land	\$40.00
Prebill Mobile Homes	
Commercial	\$200.00
Homestead	\$90.00
Non-Homestead	\$130.00

Administrator McKinney provided an update from the weather briefing at the EOC earlier in the day concerning damage to the roads and homes from Hurricane Idalia. Chairman and Mrs. Exum also gave updates on roads.

County Attorney, Mr. Jason Kemp, recommended that Brooks County declare a state of emergency and allow the Administrator to approve necessary repairs and purchases associated with Hurricane Idalia. Mr. Larko made the motion to adopt the declaration, Mrs. Exum seconded. Vote was unanimous.

2. Adjournment

On the motion by Mr. Maxwell, seconded by Mr. Larko, the Board adjourned the special called meeting at 5:44 p.m.

Mr. Patrick Folsom, Chairman
Ms. Jessica McKinney, County Administrator