



AGENDA
CITY OF CAMILLA COUNCIL MEETING
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
LIVE BROADCAST - CITY OF CAMILLA FACEBOOK PAGE
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2023 ~ 6:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order; Roll Call
2. Opening Prayer and Pledge
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Minutes: Called Meeting – September 16, 2022
Budget Hearing/Called Meeting – September 21, 2022
Regular Meeting – October 10, 2022
Regular Meeting – November 14, 2022
Regular Meeting – December 12, 2022
5. Speaker Appearances
6. Action Items:
 - a. Resolution No. 2023-02-13-1 – Black History Month
 - b. Resolution No. 2023-02-13-2 – GEFA Loan CW2021025 – Land Application System Upgrades
 - c. Perry Street Gym
 - d. Work Session Improvements
 - e. Resolution No. 2023-02-13-3 – MEAG Economic Development Fund
 - f. NLC Congressional Conference – Budget/Travel Policy Amendment
 - g. Ordinance No. 2023-02-13-1 – Defense and Indemnity
 - h. Resolution No. 2023-02-13-4 – Submission of FY 2023 Community Development Block Grant Application
 - i. Resolution No. 2023-02-13-5 – Fair Housing
 - j. Appointment of City Auditor – Valenti, Rackley & Associates Inc.
7. City Manager's Report
8. Mayor's Announcements
9. Adjourn

**MINUTES – CALLED MEETING
CITY OF CAMILLA, GEORGIA
SEPTEMBER 16, 2022**

The Called Meeting of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Camilla was called to order at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, September 16, 2022 by Mayor Owens. Mayor Owens stated for point of clarification they had a couple of public hearings and council meetings. In the City of Camilla when they have a meeting not scheduled (called or special meeting) two entities can call for a called meeting: the mayor or three councilmembers. The public is noticed and today's meeting was called by Councilmembers Tucker, Palmer, and Collins. He will turn the meeting over to them to talk about why they called the meeting.

Present at roll call: Councilmember Tucker, Councilman Burley, Councilman Morgan, Councilman Collins, and Councilman Palmer. Councilman Pollard was absent.

Acting City Clerk Melinda Knight and City Manager Dennis Stroud were also present.

OPENING PRAYER AND PLEDGE

Councilman Collins gave the invocation and the Mayor and Council led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

CITIZENS AND GUESTS

Sign-In Sheet Attached.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion by Councilman Collins, seconded by Councilmember Tucker, the motion to approve the Called Meeting agenda for September 16, 2022 passed by a 5-0.

**ROAD CLOSURE REQUEST – ELLIS STREET
SPEAKER APPEARANCES**

Renae Jenkins introduced herself and stated she is still in opposition of the closure of a portion of Ellis Street. It was brought to the Council a week or so ago and not voted on. A motion was made and not seconded. For someone to think they did not have an opportunity to vote on it is ludicrous. She still stands on the premise it will disrupt their flow of traffic, flow of living, and livelihood. The point was made they just want to close off a portion of the street. She does not think Golden Peanut really needs the road closure and for her personally thinks it is a political strategy. They know from all their conversations at the council meetings we are at a racial divide. After further comments, she stated she hopes this will not pass today. She thinks it is strange where persons that call a meeting don't live in the district or represent the district and does not see the point in closing the street. She does not think Golden Peanut needs the road closure and they stated it was for safety reasons because of the traffic. If you look back more accidents have happened on the premises, confined behind the walls, than in the street. Councilman Palmer asked Ms. Jenkins where she lived. Ms. Jenkins replied on MacArthur Drive but has property on Ellis Street area and Beacon

Street area she manages and owns. Mayor Owens commented for point of clarification today is a called meeting so it is not a public hearing. In a public hearing they can be a little more free in terms of dialogue which is why they had a public hearing the first time. Today is a called meeting so there won't be an opportunity from the gallery to question the speakers.

Mr. Joe Bostick introduced himself and stated he is chairman of the Economic Development Authority for Mitchell County, which includes Camilla. They are pro-business and he listened to a little of this. He doesn't have a dog in this fight and does not represent Golden Peanut Company. He does not do business with them but is pro-business and pro-safety. He was told about the street closing for part of the day. In other communities he has seen where they make decisions on streets about speed limits and during school hours speed limits are lowered and then go back to normal. Some streets are one-way during certain times of the day in some towns. He has seen that to accommodate businesses and the flow of traffic and for safety reasons. For all his life Golden Peanut used to be small trucks and now is semis. The streets beside Golden were not built for semi traffic. He thinks everybody in the room could agree the trucks can't maneuver and turn and it is very difficult. Golden is the second largest investment in town and he is sympathetic to their view and to the residents as well. He does not want anybody to be inconvenienced but it is for a short time. He thinks it would send a good signal to businesses you are willing to work with them on certain things. He commented he would like the Council to support from an economic development standpoint.

Michael Lamb, superintendent for Golden Peanut, introduced himself. He stated during harvest season they have eighty to one hundred semi-trucks crossing the road every day, twice a day. The potential partial closure they are talking about is between Twitty Street and Church Street. It would not be on both sides of the road so would not interfere with or block resident's driveways. After going back and listening to the public hearing several times they got good feedback from the community and citizens that live in the area. With every response they were able to respond with a solution that would take care of it. When they talked about emergency services, the city manager already talked to both chiefs who said they were on board and it would not delay response time. They talked about bus traffic and someone had already talked to them. He commented he had not seen any buses and did not recall seeing buses. Since that time he has watching and there is one school bus that travels the street in the morning between 6:55 and 6:58 a.m., right before 7:00 a.m. They are talking about potentially closing at 7:00 a.m. and would not affect the bus. There is a bus that drops off two or three children on Church Street in the afternoon. He watched the bus and it comes from Harney, goes north on Harney, and turns onto Church Street and drops kids off. That bus would not be hindered and the school said it would not be a problem. There was question about the contracted ambulance service and them not being able to find the homes. Whether the road is closed or not and if they are not going to show up at their home is a moot point and he understands the frustration with that. A lady stated concerns about the ambulance not being able to find her home and will wind up on the other side of Harney. Mayor Owens asked for unanimous consent from Council to give Mr. Lamb sixty seconds to wrap up. There was no objection and Mr. Lamb commented another question posed was how long of the closure and citizens were afraid it will become a permanent closure. He assured everyone it would not be a permanent closure and there

was not a need for permanent closure. There would not be a need for a closure for their second season. He had some conversations about why they did not need this last year. They did ask and talked to the city manager in place then and told it would never happen because they did not want to hear all the complaints. If it doesn't pass today, with all of their concessions and answers to the issues, that is what they are here for. Mayor Owens stated for the record, he [Mr. Lamb] said the previous city manager told him they did not want to hear all the complaints. He asked Mr. Lamb if he got an indication of who they were. Mr. Lamb replied no and assumed it was himself [city manager] and his receptionist. He did not get any specifics.

Billy Benton commented if the audience has questions he would like to answer them. Mayor Owens stated if there is unanimous consent from the Council to suspend the rules to allow that back and forth he has no problem. Councilmember Tucker replied she does not have a problem with it but would like to ask a question first. She stated she wanted to make sure she is understanding Golden Peanut correctly. It was stated the other night at the public hearing Golden Peanut was very accommodating to concessions. Does that still remain where they are accommodating whatever District 1 needs in order for this to work for both District 1 and Golden Peanut. She saw a lot of concessions and wants to make sure. Mr. Lamb replied yes. She commented what he is saying is they want to work with citizens of District 1 to make this work for both. She appreciates that and hopes they can have a dialogue so they can. With respect to the meeting today would it be correct this meeting is being held because Golden Peanut wants a yes or no vote so they can move on. Mr. Lamb replied that was correct. Councilmember Tucker stated at the request of Golden Peanut three of them agreed to call the meeting so there could be a vote and everyone in District 1, the City of Camilla, and Golden Peanut can move forward. Mr. Lamb replied that was correct. Mr. Lamb stated they have started to have trucks trickle in and are about to start the ramp-up period so today is D-Day for them. Councilmember Tucker stated she had one more question for follow up. Mayor Owens requested to let Councilman Palmer speak. Councilman Palmer asked Mr. Lamb to go through the details of the flagmen, the times, and all detail what he would like to do. Mr. Lamb replied they would like to do, without concessions, is 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., seven days a week from today until November 1st. They would like to make concessions that will help both parties. Councilmember Tucker commented to follow up – today is September 16th and the next work session is October 3rd. That is two weeks and the next meeting will be October 10th. Would another potential concession be that he would agree for a closure of September 15th to October 10th, which is three weeks, and revisited by Council and was one of the concessions the Mayor offered. They never finished the discussion. She thinks he said thirty days and cutting it back shorter to three weeks so it falls on a regular meeting day. She is offering this as something to acknowledge or decline as a trial basis. On October 10th when they have the meeting if District 1 says it has been a problem it can be revisited. Mr. Lamb replied whether we call it a trial or not he would assume if there are problems they would already have that knowledge. Mayor Owens commented Golden Peanut (Mike, Billy, and superintendent-in-training) have been here each time for these meetings. It is important and as a point of clarification he wants to make sure they recall, because it was mentioned earlier by a councilmember, all Golden Peanut wants is a yes or no vote. He reminded everybody when a question is being asked, a councilmember has to make a motion and someone has to second the motion. The only thing a motion means is they

should discuss and someone else on Council has to agree. That is the purpose and wants to remind everyone they had a public hearing and through that called meeting he added a question. A motion was made to vote on it to have discussion and each of the councilmembers that called this meeting today were part of that meeting. No one seconded it to have the conversation and was an opportunity to have the vote. He commented Mike and his crew attended the Council meeting the other night. Anyone around the table could have asked to amend the agenda to add this item and that did not happen. We are here today off of that called meeting. Every one that could have made this happen, or do the up and down vote (or whatever the case may be) literally over the last ten days had two times to do that. He wants to make sure the record is clear and is not just speaking to Mike. He is letting them know this Council has tried to do its' due diligence. We have been extremely accommodating for Golden Peanut to make their case. He does not know why members around the table did not second when the motion was made. He does not know why members around the table did not ask to amend the agenda just four days ago when they had a meeting and wants this clear for the record.

Councilman Morgan commented on the concession (or solution) brought up at the public hearing. If the concern is safety, a solution was brought up instead of closing the road flagmen would be used to monitor the traffic and semis coming in and out of the facility. Mr. Lamb replied the thing with flagmen is they are an extra liability. If they are talking about barricades and allowing emergency vehicles that is a different story. But keeping the road open and having guys walk out to the road and flagging vehicles to go, he does not believe Golden would let him do that. Councilmember Tucker stated she had a question for the city manager about that concept. She too, like Councilman Morgan, thought this to be the perfect solution to leave the road open and only close when you have 200 semis a day going by. With respect to the City, she understands it increases Golden's liability in the fact they really have not been authorized to close the road but their employees stop traffic. She understands but does it jeopardize the City in terms of liability if we are letting citizens close a road. She asked if there was something with respect to the city where we would not be allowed to give them authority to open and close a road whenever they want. City Manager Stroud stated if he is hearing her correctly, what she is saying if we allowed them under our authority to monitor the road, yes - the liability shifts. Golden Peanut does not want the liability and he certainly does not want to expose the City to that. Councilmember Tucker replied that is her concern and a great solution, but thought about the liability the City would have if the road is open and we allow someone to temporarily close it, which is why it takes action by Council. Today what we are attempting to achieve is to let the voices be heard. We have two districts and these councilmembers (Burley, Morgan, and Pollard) represent District 1 and they need to represent their district. They (Tucker, Collins, and Palmer) represent District 2 and what we have is a corporate citizen asking us to do something. We have three councilmembers that serve District 1 and three councilmembers that serve District 2 and a mayor that serves the entire city. She thinks what they are asking for is to give them a yes or no. She apologized they (Golden Peanut) had to make so many trips back to Council and sorry they did not get the agenda amended as the Mayor brought up, which is a method to amend the agenda. Whether they would have had four votes to amend she is not sure. She revisited the video and Councilman Pollard made some discussion, which she agreed with, and a motion. She agreed with the city manager's presentation he checked

with both of the chiefs. When Councilman Pollard's motion failed for the lack of a second she attempted on two occasions to make another motion because she was trying to get it for a vote — whatever the vote is, it is. She attempted on two occasions to make a motion where she was going to reword Councilman Pollard's motion just slightly to see if it would make a difference and get the support of another councilmember to second the motion. Unfortunately, she was not allowed to make that motion. Hopefully today they will get an answer, whether no or yes, as Golden Peanut requested of the councilmembers from District 2.

Mayor Owens stated he wanted to make sure the record is clear in response to the opportunity to add another motion. In parliamentary procedure you have to have a main motion and thinks what was asked was to give a substitute motion. He thinks that is the word used and because the motion failed there was no main motion. You can't substitute something that doesn't exist. It is important when we come here we are making sure the information they are passing and relaying to the public is as accurate as it possibly can be.

Renae Jenkins commented they are saying this is for safety but Golden Peanut has not always used the Ellis Street entrance. They come up Harney and turned up Twitty with trucks on both sides of the road all the time, especially the peak season. The suggestion is for it to be safe they turn down Twitty Street, which is already a one-way street coming up, with big trucks up and down the street. That puts them in harms way entering traffic with big trucks already traveling toward them if they go down Twitty Street. It does not make any sense and they talk about liability. Who is liable for that? The street is twenty-feet wide and a semi-truck is eight. They have to go around trucks just to get to another street to get home. It does not make any sense.

Councilman Palmer stated he wanted to point out Golden Peanut is in an industrial zone, which mean what goes on there is industry. If you have a problem with trucks, tractors or whatever else his suggestion would be to avoid the area because it is an industrial zone. It has been that way probably a hundred years with all kinds of activity going on with trucks, tractors and everything else.

Mr. Lamb commented the trucks that come down Twitty Street are from outside buying points and they do not control those trucks. The process is their trucks enter the back where the semi-trailers are and they dry them. The reason they asked for the closure of that section of Ellis is they have to get the semis to back towards Walmart. The trucks that come in from Twitty are outside buying points and Southern Ag trucks they do not control and included in the 80 to 100 trucks, which is part of the volume. They only control the trucks and trailers that cross Ellis between Twitty and Church which they own and are responsible for. When their trucks cross Ellis they go to the scales and why he is only asking for that one section. Mayor Owens stated he wanted to reiterate in fairness to Golden Peanut, and also a point that was made by Ms. Jenkins and others, the reason we are having this conversation — he went to Golden Peanut to find out who owns the railroad tracks because it is time to get them fixed. This was random at best. While standing there to get the telephone number Mike was going in the building and saw him and came over and asked about this. What he wasn't going to do, and has not done to this point, is do what Mike reported happened

the last time he asked. As Mayor he does not care if you are a citizen or a corporate citizen. When you want to address something that deals with you, you are going to have an opportunity to do that. He had a corporate citizen come to him, random as could be, and ask a question. The best he could tell him is he can get them in front of the Council and will have to get input from the citizens. This can't be done unilaterally and wants to make sure the citizens know this was not something necessarily solicited directly on their part, it was totally random. Since then we had a public hearing, called council meeting, and council meeting. He wants to make sure, because they have an opportunity to vote on this, that long term (over the course of the next year) they will be able to have a conversation to work out some stuff. His concern, especially with this meeting happening at 11:00 a.m. on Friday morning when they had two prior times, is to make sure that the relationship stays intact. If the conversation is extended over the course of the next year, is that something that they would consider. If so, he would say to the three councilmembers that called the meeting that maybe this is something that needs to be tabled until there is a consensus of the Council that wants this to happen and an opportunity for the public to talk again. The way this was done considering there were opportunities to get this done, he is concerned the long-term solution may get messed up in having the vote today. It is not his decision to make and according to Councilmember Tucker, Golden Peanut requested it. But if there is room to table this to have a long-term discussion over the next year before harvest and the harvest seasons beyond that, is that something they are prepared to do. He asked them to be candid as they possibly could. Billy with Golden Peanut commented they came here and asked. The issue they had the last two times for him personally is he feels it got caught in the crossfire of what was going on that night. He is sure that is not the first time it was that way and in talking to some of the councilmembers that is exactly what they said - it was bad up here. They are willing to do what it takes to work with them. What he is hearing from the community is it is almost like Golden is an eyesore in their eyes and they push or do something and feel like they are Golden Peanut. They are big, bad, and we want to push you around. He is not sure about past management but they are not them. There is so much they put into this community with all their employees and everything else and are only going to get bigger at Golden Peanut. They want to hire more employees. To answer the question about it has always worked and they never needed to close it before, they are three times bigger than last year. They went from 30+ semis to 100 semis they run and own and those are the ones that have to cross the street and the ones they are worried about because employees are crossing the street. It is not just the drivers of the semis, their employees are going across with wagons and sometimes have four employees on them at a time. They care about someone getting hit and if you live over there you know people fly up and down that road. If you step out you better be looking. They are willing to try anything with the community to help even if it is not this. If there is something else they need to do that is what they are talking about. An audience member questioned if they close this street what is Golden going to do for the citizens. Billy replied what they are trying to do is get bigger so they can hire more people from the community. Mr. Lamb commented right now, what they call temp to hire (people starting out as temporary employment and going full-time), from District 1 there are two. From their current employees they have 13 that live within the city limits and six or seven that live in District 1. There are two going from temp to full and he would have to look at the roster but several live in District 1. As he mentioned earlier the children dropped off by the school bus on Church Street, their parent works for Golden. He can see the house from the

property and they have several people from District 1 working for Golden. Several of them ride bicycles to work and some walk. As far as scholarships, donations, or anything like that it would be up to the owners of the property. He told Billy when he started at Golden he wanted them to be involved in the community. ADM owns Golden Peanut and has programs worldwide and it would be a process to get it started. Bonita White introduced herself and stated she does not live in District 1 but was born and raised in District 1. Her son and cousins live there, her parents live there, her grandchildren, and her sister lives in District 1. They [Golden Peanut] already said the bus comes from Ellis Street. She asked about the folks they have to come from the hill and use the red lights where only one car can get by before the light changes. She works at the school board and would cut straight across when her mother would be sick and get there. If the road is closed from 7 to 7 and she comes to this light, only one car can go before it changes. The ambulance can get by because they have emergency lights but a family member cannot unless they break the law. After additional comments, she asked about speed bumps for the trucks. In District 1 on Palmer and Butler they put speed bumps down. On Ellis they put a 4-way stop flashing in the neighborhood to help cut down the speed. There are other ways to do this and they have to figure it out. She agrees with the Mayor's recommendation they need to work this out. Ms. White made additional comments about rats, roaches, snakes and the peanut blowers/dryers.

Deborah Robinson asked when Golden Peanut talks about getting bigger and bigger, who is going to control all the stuff once it gets bigger. She can't and the ones in the office can't. It falls to whoever has the money. They are the ones that need to fix it, not them, those who operate it. They have been there a long time and she lives on Railroad Street. When they started the fans blowing back there she found out what it was. If Golden Peanut is going to continue to grow it is not on them to fix their problems. It is up to the ones with the money and they have plenty of land and are the ones who have the money. They can do what they have to without upsetting their community. She cannot hear frogs or crickets anymore and the lightening bugs and everything has disappeared, which is one thing they also need to also think about.

Mayor Owens commented in this conversation we heard about environmental issues and some of the quality of life issues. The point the speaker just mentioned is the more business Golden Peanut does the bigger they get and we as a city get and is a good thing. The question is not just for 2022, but for 2023 and beyond because they want them here. They want their business and it is a force multiplier to have Golden Peanut in our city. He thinks, over an extended period of time and not in one day, worth having a serious conversation about how they can coexist. He can't demand it but worth considering asking the councilmembers that called the meeting today, this year it is what it is, and over the next ten months have a comprehensive conversation with this city to figure out what they can do going forward. He will leave that up to them [Golden Peanut]. Mr. Ladarius Yates commented he works for Golden Peanut and his concern is safety. If something happened right now would it be on them or the City. He has seen the trucks coming in and out on Ellis Street and people driving by on their phone. If someone is on their phone, trying to get to their mother, something could happen because they are trying to get there as fast as they can. If a semi is coming out carrying eight tons and a car comes with someone on their phone, something bad is going to happen. They understand the community and are there as humble as they can be. He wants to see

how they can work with everyone and make this better. He does not want to argue but just wants to see how this can worked out for both of them. Mayor Owens commented he wants them to understand he doesn't think anyone is negating or minimizing the potential issues. He thinks the problem they are dealing with, and a fairly constant one, is the dynamics in play takes more than a council meeting and three weeks to work out. That is the issue and he thinks they should start getting spun up and ready for what is coming after this year. This conversation started about a month ago and there are tremendous amounts of logistics involved to get this rolling, not only for the community but also Golden Peanut. He stressed the point the fact they are even having this conversation was as random as it could be. He suspects they probably would not have gotten this request if he wasn't at Golden Peanut that day. This year would have happened normally but now that they know about it, they know how important Golden Peanut is to our city and how important our citizens are to our city. This rates an extended, studied and compromised conversation of months, not hours. He asked Mike, Billy or Ladarius if it is was there for them, to work it out like they had been, and allow the Council, them, and the community to communicate over the next year or so, and talk the councilmembers that called the meeting to let them know that this may be a good time to table this. They can go for the vote but is a consideration for them, not a demand, but something for them to consider. Mr. Lamb asked if they vote today, yes or no, and it is no, will they have the opportunity to hash it out over the next year. Mayor Owens replied the issue is there was an opportunity for those that called the meeting to vote on it. If they want to get into the whether it passed or failed, his concern is the relationship. Mr. Lamb commented a yes or no will not alter their relationship with the City. Their footprint now is as big as it can and they are not going to try and push or anything like that. The goal is to provide safety and if they cannot work it out and if they can't work it out today, they are fine.

Councilman Morgan commented he would be remiss if he didn't call out some of the crap that is happening. He sees the signals from Golden Peanut signaling some of our council members to have this vote and wants to challenge the councilmembers to not bite that bait. What they are doing is a beautiful thing and they are inviting the community in to be inclusive. They have conversations all the time about creating a since of unity in the community and thinks this is (inaudible) time. They have a goal of providing safety and an option on the table to continue this conversation. This is a big issue for this community and over time people have not been brought to the table to actually be a part of the process and they had an opportunity to do this. When he votes, what is the vote for. The newspaper. He stated he wanted to put on the table for Councilwoman Tucker and Councilmen Collins and Palmer to table this and do what they have to do to make this happen. Mr. Lamb commented to answer the only conversation he has had – Councilman Morgan stated he was not talking about him. Billy commented they just want a yes or no. Even if it is yes, they don't know if it is going to work three weeks from now. If they say it is not working, is a nightmare, they can change it. If it works and they can do it better in the future, they will. After further comments, he stated there is no signaling and they want a vote. If it is no then it is no, and if yes and the Mayor pulls up three weeks from now, their doors are always open. This is their district (referring to Councilman Morgan) and if he pulls up and they are not in the office they can be reached on radio. If 7:00 is not working and something is going on, they can try to move it to 8:00. It isn't written in stone and they are willing to do anything. Councilwoman Tucker stated to

Councilman Morgan what she really would love to do is for them to have vote and let the people continue the dialogue because she thinks it is very good. They need to hear from people who reside in that area, people that travel that area, and they should have a voice. She thinks that is what they are doing today and they also need to extend that. She is not sure why they could not do both. To lead back to her alternative that got tossed out to Mr. Lamb, in consideration of rather than asking for a September 15th through November 1st, why don't they say a three-week trial basis continuing the dialogue. She fully has faith in the city manager he will be able to meet with the public and Golden Peanut and be able to work out what will work for both. Her fear is, and Ladarius just brought this up, the concern she had the other night when Councilman Pollard made the motion that she could not completely support. She wanted to offer another motion to see if it would pass. Ladarius was speaking about where we go from here if something tragic happens. Her only concern is someone getting hit by a semi and her only concern. Her only fear is the safety. When Ladarius was speaking about what do we do if something tragic happens, there is her concern. They have already put on the table the police chief, fire chief, and city manager have been out there on the spot and said an alternative is a one block detour and was an alternative offered up. Ms. White mentioned the traffic light and if that is a problem she thinks the city manager can help the citizens address that. It was an excellent point if there is only time for one and a half cars to make it through, and we are about to put a lot more traffic on that street. How can we as a city solve it and the solution is the city manager can do a traffic study. It would take a few days to determine with a traffic study and if the light needs to be extended. She thinks everything she heard from District 1 is the city manager, given the opportunity, can work with Golden Peanut and the citizens and reach some type of compromise. She completely agrees with Councilman Morgan the dialogue does not need to end when the vote is taken. Whether the vote is to allow or not allow, that is all Golden is asking for. To let the vote happen so they know what to do today with respect to closing or not. She is fully confident the city manager can sit down with citizens and work out a resolution that he can present to Council. Councilman Burley stated sitting on the Council he represents these folks and they are his concern. They brought some very valid points to them and he has heard their (councilmember) points. They put their trust in him and he is going to do everything he can for his constituents in District 1. It has nothing to do with a business deal. Secondly, the Mayor gave an interesting conversation. If the three councilmembers that called the meeting could table it and go to further dialogue, some constituents in his district in talking with them, were for working together on this. A vote is not a vote, like Mayor Pro Tem said, for the newspaper to say they voted against it. It doesn't solve anything and he is for safety too. He wants it to be safe and they want it to be safe. If they use common judgement, truckers and all, they know what time of the year it is and has been going on many years. They have traffic stop signs on Ellis Street and Beacon and need to be cautious no matter where you are. Agriculture is all over the city and with our own public works we have back hoes and tractors running up and down the streets and have to be mindful. He stated he is going to be with his constituents, they can call him, and he is going to work for them. It is nothing against Golden Peanut.

Mayor Owens stated everything they have heard today is a prime example of what the possibility could be. There are other dynamics at play and would probably be fairly inappropriate for him to expand on that statement. They are not saying this just to be saying it as it relates to is it worth

considering tabling this and getting to work to figure out how we are going to do this moving forward. No one here can demand that but is it worth the consideration and completely up to Golden Peanut and their leadership. He stated he wants them to know this city council recognizes the value of Golden Peanut and the value of our citizens. There is a solution in somewhere and it won't be solved in a council meeting and the point being made. The floor was opened for Mike, Billy, or Ladarius to request to have this tabled or voted on. Mr. Lamb stated as he said before, whatever it is will not stop them from rehashing it out in the future. He asked for a vote and moving forward, revisiting if necessary.

Councilman Collins stated he offers the same motion Councilman Pollard did on Tuesday to approve the request of Golden Peanut to close off a portion of Ellis Street from Church to Twitty contingent upon flagmen being there to direct and allow emergency vehicles and buses to pass through from September 15th to November 1st. Councilman Palmer seconded the motion. Mayor Owens commented the only thing he wanted to point out, and to make sure the record is clear, if you heard Councilman Collins he repeated the motion of Councilman Pollard a week ago. These are the type of dynamics he is talking about. They are talking about the exact same motion a week ago, why not address it then, why not make it this past Monday, why are we doing it Friday at 11:00 in the morning. This kind of stuff, and the Mayor Pro Tem touched on this in the right way, he hopes the people of Camilla are paying attention. We had to wait eight to ten days to answer the same question but the only difference now is somebody else is making the motion. Pay attention to what is happening and stay engaged with your government. These types of questions are extremely important. Councilmember Tucker offered an amendment to Councilman Collin's motion to add on to the motion there be a continuation of dialogue between the city and the residents of District 1 to resolve any types of traffic related problems. She offered the amendment to Councilman Collins if he would accept, to which he replied sure. Mayor Owens stated if she was offering a substitute motion to use that language. Councilmember Tucker replied she is asking for a friendly amendment if he [Councilman Collins] agreed. Mayor Owens asked Councilman Collins to amend his motion. Councilman Collins stated he is amending his motion to include continuing to study the traffic and keep in contact with the constituents of District 1 and let it be fluid where they can make it work as well as they can. Mayor Owens commented for the record this is not a substitute motion and Councilmember Tucker requested the motion be amended. Councilmember Tucker stated it is very unfortunate the timing, the way it worked out and will address Mr. Lamb's point. It was a very difficult meeting they had gone through the other night and she apologized and was prepared to second Councilman Pollard's motion so they could at least have a dialogue about it. Unfortunately it was a night filled with emotion and she did not hear Councilman Pollard at the moment he said it. She went back and reviewed the video and apologizes for that. All they are doing as three councilmembers representing District 2 is bringing the Golden Peanut request forward to be heard and voted on. Golden Peanut has said whatever the vote is, it is. She asked to please continue the dialogue so they can make this work and trusts the city manager to be able to do that. He has the expertise and experience to be able to work with citizens and Golden Peanut to get this done. Councilman Morgan commented he wants to state again, for the record, the members of this Council today by holding this have failed to seek out the unity in hearing from this community they so desperately asked for.

Voting in favor of the motion: Councilmember Tucker and Councilmen Collins and Palmer.
Voting in opposition of the motion: Councilmen Burley and Morgan. The motion failed by a 3-2 vote. [Clerk's Note: A majority vote of the Council is required to pass a motion, which is four votes.]

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m. on motion by Councilman Burley.

BY: _____
KELVIN M. OWENS, MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
CHERYL FORD, CLERK

**MINUTES – 3rd BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING
CALLED MEETING
CITY OF CAMILLA, GEORGIA
SEPTEMBER 21, 2022 ~ 5:00 P.M.**

Mayor Owens announced this is a combination of the third and final budget public hearing for the 2022/2023 budget and after the public hearing they will go to the Called Meeting. The primary purpose of the Called Meeting is for the Council to decide to adopt the budget as presented.

BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

City Manager Stroud stated the budget and position and classification pay plan go together. In the position and classification plan he made two small changes, one to change the title from Main Street Director to Downtown Camilla. He updated the customer service managers to bring both managers on par with one another and corrected the title change in the pay classification. Mayor Owens asked if they would also be adopting the position and classification plan as presented with the budget. City Manager Stroud replied yes. He stated in their packet the numbers changed about six million dollars from last time they met to account for the four million pulled down from MEAG and the \$1.5 million drawn down for the sprayfields. Mayor Owens stated the \$1.5 is inside of the four million in terms of the transfer. In terms of accounting the \$1.5 went to the general fund. Financial Consultant Roberts replied the \$1.5 is for the GEFA fund and the other four million is the drawdown. Mayor Owens stated when talking about the \$1.5 million it will be a little short of that and somewhere around nine hundred thousand to one million, not quite minus seven hundred thousand. What they are talking about is the anticipated GEFA sprayfield money. City Manager Stroud stated as they were building the budget they realized the top budget priority was to include a level of funding sufficient to pay our outstanding debt obligations, maintain the current level of service, and fund future projects. That meant providing funds for street resurfacing, water and sewer projects, and a retention incentive for all employees. The formula used is in their packet. Another priority for the budget was to retain sufficient funds for ‘just in case’ projects such as the reserves. On page 3, Funding Summary, they will see the increases from last time. The General Fund was about nine or ten million and we are now at about twelve million dollars and includes overdrafts, audits, and everything we possibly missed last time. They just went through a big audit and had items that were over and made sure they accounted for all those funds and this season will not have that issue. Water and sewer stayed the same with a slight increase. The biggest hiccup for this budget cycle is utilities and where we were hit the hardest. That is where we get the audits and tried to be careful. Utility rates continue to soar and we saw prices in gasoline and diesel go down slightly but per Council he made sure we were covered. Some of the budgets were getting really close in the fourth quarter so they went ahead and made sure everything was covered. The Airport budget had a slight increase and they continue to fund and keep the operation going. CNS will remain the same with some increase because of overruns from last year. Mayor Owens commented he wanted to make sure when the public is hearing this they understand what you are saying. When he is talking about prices in terms of the utility rates and electric rates he is talking about the

City's cost, not the customers cost. City Manager Stroud replied it is the City's cost. Mayor Owens stated for our customers listening we are talking about what the City pays and has not passed on to the customer. City Manager Stroud stated we are at \$47,504,320 and they are also working on policy updates which be come back with after the budget hearing. He commented he also increased the Fire Department by two members. The chief had been asking for three but they could not stretch it and he is happy with two. The Police Chief got another vehicle he needed a couple of weeks ago and he is continuing to improve police officers. Mayor Owens commented he saw the increase in Planning and Zoning by 1.25 and happy to see that. City Manager Stroud commented the department has a director, an admin, and a couple other people in the field. If they intend to really enforce our code there needs to be another body to do that. Mayor Owens stated he really appreciates that and the way this city is trying to grow they are going to need more folks in the field, making sure the buildings and roads, all of this stuff, are in good working order so we can actually grow. Councilman Morgan asked about the policy pieces mentioned. City Manager Stroud replied he thinks we need to have a bona fide travel policy and debt policy. He has started some of the policies but wanted to get past the budget before bring the policies.

Mayor Owens opened the floor to the public for questions. There were no questions or comments from the public.

He recognized Lisa Rigsby, executive director of our local library, and part of the budget hearing. He stated he made some recommended changes regarding the budget as it relates to the library. Ms. Rigsby addressed the Mayor and Council and stated she came to let them know what is going on at the library. She was asked to explain where the money is going and even though she can't tell them precisely where the money is going, she can tell them what they do with local money. They have three local funders: City of Camilla, the County, and the Board of Education. They check out books and currently have 4,080 patrons in Camilla and does not include users in Sale City or Pelham. They put on a lot of programs for children and families during the year. During the past fiscal year, which ends June 30th, they had sixty-seven program between July of last year and June 30th of this year. They had 971 children and parents attend and does not include their summer program. The summer program is separate and they have two programs per week for eight weeks. They had an average of 125 people per program on Wednesdays and an average of 10 for story hour on Thursdays. They had four programs that were offered off site and will do that if people call and ask. They started a monthly program to read to children at Head Start and will do off site for the Mitchell County Training Center. They offer off site for any not-for-profit group that requests and put on programs or read to the children. Computer usage for this past fiscal year was 5,497. Anytime help is provided to someone verbally or otherwise it is counted as reference and that number is a little over 14,000 per year. They have 24 public computers with fast internet access and 3 dedicated computers for children. The majority of the money given to them locally is spent on the service desk, which is local staff. The reason they asked for an increase this year is because they did not give the staff any raises for fiscal year 22 and they want to give everyone a 4% raise. The Board of Education committed to it so they gave a 2% raise the first of July. No one else has confirmed and they are waiting for the Mitchell County Board of Commissioners and the City to meet. If they get more money they are going to

give an additional 2% increase in January, a total of 4% for the year. If they get a third one they will get another 2% raise in July because they don't necessarily get that money until the last part of the year. Local money also pays the light bill and if they did not have the local money they would not have lights or air. They would not have anything because the state primarily sends them technology, give them money for the full-time salaries since they are a three county system, and send money for materials. That money is tracked very easily because it three specific areas and the rest is all local money.

Mayor Owens commented he hopes everyone understands why he asked Lisa to be here and he recommended they do not include the \$3,000 increase. He believes the work, and in his position as Mayor sits on the Board, sees firsthand the good work the library does. The City of Camilla, right now, gives \$40,000 per year to the library. Some of the stuff we are doing is transitioning to STEAM type products for our youth and direct technology with our overall population is the reason he is recommending to the Council not to commit to the full \$3,000 per year as a permanent deal. Instead of \$3,000 this year, grant the library \$5,000.00 in ARPA funds to help with programming and what is done with the balance is up to her. This this time next year they will probably have another conversation to see where they are. So everyone understands, the library is asking for a \$3,000 increase from \$40,000 to \$43,000 this year and beyond. Because the City of Camilla is currently engaged in a few different things as it relates to our youth. They had a conversation about STEAM and a new resource center for the Boys and Girls Club, enhancing those products locally for our youth and general public is something the City is working on. He wants to make sure the library has the resources it needs for FY 23. Instead of \$3,000 he is recommending they use \$5,000.00 in ARPA funds this year and this time next year have another conversation.

Susan Jamerson from Stitches addressed the Mayor and Council and stated she came to give a report on the animals. For Camilla they had a slight uptick in the number of grown dogs and the numbers have gone up, but not nearly as much as elsewhere in the county. She thanked the Camilla Police Department, commenting they are really good about trying to find the owner when they see a dog. The problem in Camilla is cats and two healthy cats can make over 200,000 cats in seven years and it has the potential of getting completely out of control. The money the City gives goes to food and vet bills, their two biggest expenditures. They stay with the medium range dog food which solves a lot of the vet problems. The Department of Agriculture stays on them constantly about the facility. They want it to look like Moultrie or Thomasville and she tries to explain our county does not have plantations or the industry so they have fundraisers because they can't take it out of money the City gives to update the building. Each time the Department of Ag inspects they can say they have done this and with the support of the community they put in new lighting, new plumbing, new wiring, and new doors. With their next fundraiser they will be trying to put heating and cooling in the main building for small breed dogs and dogs with puppies. They are all over the place picking up animals. She commended Camilla for their ordinances regarding animal welfare and a lot of what their law enforcement agency, working together with them, are on top of it except for the cats and she does not know of any way to control the cats. The City funds go towards gas for animal control trucks, food for the animals, and vet bills. They try to save money by vetting the animals as much as they can and

allowed to by law. They can give some of the vaccinations and do the worming but there are things that have to be done because it is registered with the State. She thanked them for their support over the years they have been doing this and stated they have been awesome to work with. Mayor Owens commented he asked the city manager to reach out to Susan to come and talk to them for a couple of reasons. The City of Camilla contributes about \$25,000 per year to Stitches for this service and his concern is the enforcement side of the house in terms of the animals being picked up. As mentioned, the bulk of what they contribute goes toward maintaining the facility and the animals. Susan was asked in terms of their current mission and picking up aggressive dogs and that type of thing, where they were. She replied with regard to truly aggressive dogs, if the police department shows up and are apprehensive, they call them. They go there and if the dog does not need to be loose in the public the Correctional Institute is called to pick up the dog. She cannot have aggressive dogs at the shelter where the public comes in and out. It is just too much of a liability. If she catches a dog in the trap she takes it back to the shelter and if it turns out to be aggressive she will keep it because the less you handle them the less risk you have of somebody getting hurt. They are left in a kennel with food and water and after a while you do what you have to. You can't put that dog in a home, especially with a child, and she is not going to. They try to vet the animals and their first mission is getting them in a home, either through adoption or to a rescue that will take the dog to another part of the country. Every rescue in the south is packed out and are not taking anymore. Dogs in the south have been sent as far as New York, Canada and California. People will not spay and neuter and sort of heartbreaking when you are working as hard as you can to get them in a home and there is no home for them to go to. Mayor Owens stated that is one of the concerns for him. We have law enforcement officers, to a certain degree, augmented to this particular mission to some degree. Ms. Jamerson stated she does not think law enforcement (police officers) are aware of things they can charge homeowners with. They can be charged for not having a rabies vaccination tag, which is a state law. Every animal, cat or dog, is supposed to have a rabies tag. If females are roaming and in heat, they can be charged and is our ordinance. You can take the owners to task because she believes it is the only way to stop what is going on, hitting them in the pocketbook. City Manager Stroud asked if she was saying the animals being collected many have tags and we are not following up and charging them. She replied a lot of what they pick up people never claim. By law she has five days but Health Director Jeffrey Avery asked her to keep them for 10 days just to make sure they don't break with rabies. Normally they are kept for 10 days before she starts trying to get them rescued and out to homes. After additional discussion, Mayor Owens commented his concern is on the enforcement side, that the calls are increasing for the aggressive or other type dogs that roam the community, and space is becoming an issue where they are housed. What he is suggesting in about six months to have a larger conversation about what they are going to do to help on the enforcement side. Ms. Jamerson asked if they could include in the ordinance if a female dog is in heat and roaming the owner can be charged a fee and should apply to male dogs also. People breeding dogs need a business license and if they do not meet the requirements and not zoned for that they don't get the license. She is trying to put options before them so they can sort of bring this under control. City Manager Stroud stated he would give her a call and together strategize. Councilman Burley thanked her and commented they appreciate her efforts and work with Stitches and working with the City of Camilla. His concern

is rabies and vicious dogs. He knows nine out of ten times if a dog is vicious something is wrong and may have rabies. He asked her how they detect if these dogs or cats have rabies. Ms. Jamerson replied that is why they hold them for so many days because immediately you may not know but in ten days you would see the signs and symptoms. When they see it they are instructed to take the animal straight to the vets office and they will put the animal, remove the head, and send to the State's vet office. At least they will know and can put out information if someone was near the dog. All it takes is a scratch and she did not realize how many bites are reported to our health department. There are usually 2 to 3 bites per week. As a county and a city we have the possibility of somebody's child getting bit. Mom is going to say it is just a little bite and ten days later the child dies. If a human exhibits the symptoms there is nothing they can do. They keep a separate area at the shelter where stray dogs are put for 10 days to make sure and if they pass and do not show signs or symptoms of rabies they are placed in the general population. Mayor Owens stated he liked the idea of the city manager meeting up with her in the next week or so. He wants to make sure it gets on the record six months from now and will ask the city manager. The Board of Health meets quarterly but the bites and these types of things are reported daily or weekly, to integrate the bite information directly from the Board of Health on a weekly or bi-weekly basis. In addition they are covered under the police department report as it relates to dog calls and start tracking that over the course of the next six months. Year over year it is becoming an issue and thinks at some point for the general safety of the public they may have to do something that we may have to do something about dogs on the street bothering folks. If our police officers are responding to multiple calls that way, they will have to change course. Around March they can start tracking and in October come back and see what we are looking like. Whatever conversations the city manager has with Susan can be incorporated.

Mayor Owens asked if there were any questions or comments related to this year's budget. There being none, the public hearing for the FY 2022/2023 budget was closed.

**MINUTES – CALLED MEETING
CITY OF CAMILLA, GEORGIA
SEPTEMBER 21, 2022**

Mayor Owens called the Called Meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

Present at Rollcall: Councilmember Tucker, Councilman Burley, Councilman Morgan, Councilman Collins and Councilman Palmer (via phone). Councilman Pollard was absent.

City Manager Stroud and Clerk Ford were also present.

OPENING PRAYER AND PLEDGE

City Manager Stroud gave the invocation and the Mayor and Council led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

CITIZENS AND GUESTS

Sign-In Sheet Attached.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion by Councilman Burley, seconded by Councilman Morgan, the motion to approve the Called Meeting agenda for September 21, 2022 passed by a 5-0.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-09-21-1 – ADOPTION OF 2022/2023 FY BUDGET

Mayor Owens stated the item for today is consideration for adoption of fiscal year 2022-2023 budget. He read Resolution No. 2022-09-21-1 and asked for a motion to adopt the 2022-2023 fiscal year budget at departmental levels with authorization for the Mayor to sign the Resolution. Councilmember Tucker stated she would like to make a motion to table in consideration they received the budget twelve minutes before the meeting today. She feels it is her responsibility as a city councilmember to review it thoroughly and would like to make a motion to table it. She is open to any date they need to meet before October 1st. Mayor Owens stated they have a motion to table the item to until a date to be determined. Councilman Collins seconded the motion. He asked if there was any discussion. Councilman Morgan asked if any member of Council had sat down with the city manager to go over the budget. City Manager Stroud replied yes, that he and Councilmember Tucker went through the budget almost line by line. Councilmember Tucker stated there were a number of areas where she was concerned that they were over in expenses from last fiscal year but under budget in terms of this fiscal year. Since the meeting she sees there are a number of them changed. She personally feels it is her responsibility, realizing we are about to adopt a budget that is over 9 million dollars higher than last year, to review the changes whether it is 24 or 48 hours to review the changes. Mayor Owens asked the city manager to correct him if wrong, beyond the four million drawdown the majority, if not all, of the changes were discussed in the second public hearing and what we are dealing with. He is not sure the concept of receiving it 12 minutes ago and this is the same budget addressed for about a month now, minus some of the minor changes. He pointed out and stated he thinks the record will reflect no questions were relayed to the city manager from the folks making this motion, seconding it, or discussing it. If there were any questions related to the budget itself surely there would have been questions for the city manager and the chief financial consultant. Councilmember Palmer stated he asked for a copy after the first meeting of the changes since they were changed all the way through and you could not tell what was changed or not changed and he has not received that. Mayor Owens commented they are operating off the same budget that they have had hearings about for the last month or so. As the city manager has mentioned the councilmember that made the motion sat down with the city manager and had conversations directly related to this budget.

The motion on the table is to table this item and it is properly seconded. After further comments and discussion, voting in favor of tabling the item: Councilmember Tucker and Councilmen Collins and Palmer. Voting in opposition: Councilmen Burley and Morgan. With a 3-2 vote, Mayor Owens stated it takes four votes to pass and the motion failed.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-09-21-1 – ADOPTION OF 2022/2023 FY BUDGET (cont.)

The original motion is to approve Resolution No. 2020-09-14-1 adopting the 2022-2023 fiscal year budget. A motion was made by Councilman Morgan and seconded by Councilman Burley. Voting in favor of the motion: Councilmen Burley and Morgan. Voting in opposition: Councilmember Tucker and Councilmen Collins and Palmer. With a 2-3 vote the motion failed. Mayor Owens stated at this time we will schedule a meeting to get this back on the agenda and notify the public when that will happen. The way our charter is designed is if we do not meet again before the 1st (of October) to get this done, we will continue to operate off the budget we had last year. He wants the people to understand the City of Camilla will continue to run and use the budget they have. They will be working hard between now and October 1st to get this started.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Morgan and the meeting was adjourned.

BY: _____
KELVIN M. OWENS, MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
CHERYL FORD, CLERK

**MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
CITY OF CAMILLA, GEORGIA
OCTOBER 10, 2022**

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Camilla was called to order at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, October 10, 2022 by Mayor Owens.

Present at roll call: Councilmember Tucker, Councilman Burley, Councilman Morgan, Councilman Collins, Councilman Pollard, and Councilman Palmer.

City Manager Stroud, City Attorney Coleman, and Clerk Ford were also present.

OPENING PRAYER AND PLEDGE

City Manager Stroud gave the invocation and the Mayor and Council led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

CITIZENS AND GUESTS

Sign-in Sheet Attached.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilmember Tucker and seconded by Councilman Burley to approve the October 10, 2022 agenda and move Item 1 – Perry Street Gym to the beginning of the Action Items section of the agenda. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Owens asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the August 18, 2022 Called Meeting. A motion was made by Councilman Pollard, seconded by Councilman Burley, and passed by a unanimous vote.

SPEAKER APPEARANCES

Bryant Campbell, Jerome Jester, Wallace Williams, Tom Williams, and Walter Anderson.

PUBLIC HEARING – PERRY STREET GYM

Mayor Owens opened the public hearing related to the potential closing of the Perry Street Gym. An email received by him and the city manager from Gary Rice, County Administrator, was read into the record regarding the gym and the upcoming basketball season. A photo slideshow was provided displaying the current condition of the gym. The following citizens spoke on the potential closing of the gym: Jerome Jester, Tom Williams, Michael Broome, Joshua Baggs, and Shonterrium Anderson.

PERRY STREET GYM

The Mayor and Council held a public hearing to discuss and receive citizen feedback and comments on the closure of the Perry Street Gym due to safety, sanitation, and environmental concerns. A motion was made by Councilman Pollard and seconded by Councilman Morgan to close the Perry Street Gym until further notice. Councilmember Tucker made comments with

PERRY STREET GYM (cont.)

regard to the creation of a county-wide recreation authority, more dialogue, and working together with everyone coming to the table. Councilman Palmer commented he agreed with Councilmember Tucker's comments and without the gym the youth has nothing and it needs to be fixed. After additional discussion from the Mayor, Councilman Burley, Councilman Morgan, and City Manager Stroud, a roll vote was taken. The following voted in favor of closing the gym until further notice: Councilmen Burley, Morgan, and Pollard. Voting in opposition: Councilmember Tucker and Councilmen Collins and Palmer. Mayor Owens broke the tie with a yes vote and the motion passed by a 4-3 vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-10-10-1 – ADOPTION OF MITCHELL COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The Mayor and Council reviewed Resolution No. 2022-10-10-1 to update the City's joint comprehensive plan as part of the requirements to maintain its' qualified local government status. The City Council recommends approval of Resolution No. 2022-10-10-1 along with the accompanying Report of Accomplishments and the 2022-2026 Community Work Program and authorizes the Mayor to sign. On motion by Councilmember Tucker, seconded by Councilman Palmer, the motion to approve Resolution No. 2022-10-10-1 with authorization for the Mayor to sign passed by a unanimous vote.

FILM PRODUCTION POLICY

The Mayor and Council reviewed a film production policy to invite and encourage film production in Camilla utilizing City property and facilities. The policy has been reviewed and approved by the city attorney and the Council recommends approval of the policy. A motion was made by Councilmember Tucker and seconded by Councilman Burley. Mayor Owens commented on the film industry in Georgia, stating it was a \$4 billion industry. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

HOUSE OF HOPE CONTRACT – UTILITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Mayor and Council discussed a partnership with the House of Hope to administer the Utility Assistance Program. The program was approved for additional funding on September 12, 2022 and provides financial assistance to City of Camilla utility customers meeting established participation criteria. The Council recommends approval to enter into a contract with the House of Hope to administer the program and authorizes the Mayor to sign. A motion was made by Councilmember Tucker and seconded by Councilman Morgan. Mayor Owens commented the program was funded a couple months ago in the amount of \$10,000 of ARPA funds and this funding is for another \$10,000 of ARPA funds along with a House of Hope partnership. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

AUTHORIZATION FOR CITY SCAPE ANALYSIS

The Mayor and Council discussed authorizing City Manager Stroud to seek a third-party company to provide a cityscape analysis/plan for the downtown area. The Council recommends approval to authorize the city manager to move forward with locating a company to provide the

AUTHORIZATION FOR CITY SCAPE ANALYSIS (cont.)

plan. A motion was made by Councilmember Tucker and seconded by Councilman Burley. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

ARTS GRANT AUTHORIZATION - \$10,000 ARPA FUNDS

The Mayor and Council discussed the funding of an Arts Grant and allocating \$10,000 from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. The grant will provide financial assistance to artists, production companies, musicians, and art related activities in the city of Camilla. The Council recommends approval to allocate \$10,000 from ARPA funds for the Arts Grant program. A motion was made by Councilmember Tucker and seconded by Councilman Pollard. Mayor Owens commented the Chamber agreed to perform the service for us and the parameters are being worked out. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

CONSERVATION EASEMENT

The Mayor and Council discussed the use of a conservation easement within the corporate limits of Camilla to facilitate improvements for businesses in Camilla. A conservation easement will be executed by the property owner and the City of Camilla while property improvements are in progress. The Council recommends approval and use of the conservation easement for business properties in the corporate limits of Camilla and contingent upon receipt of the easement document from the city attorney. A motion was made by Councilmember Tucker and seconded by Councilman Palmer. City Attorney Coleman provided information on the conservation easement for this particular use. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION PLAN APPROVAL

The Mayor and Council discussed a Communications and Marketing Plan for the City of Camilla. The plan defines the messages, priorities, strategies and tools the City will use when communicating with the community. The plan matches the City's strategic priorities thereby furthering the mission, guiding principles, and enhancing community pride. A motion was made by Councilman Morgan and seconded by Councilman Pollard to approve the Marketing and Communications Plan. Voting in favor of the motion: Councilmen Burley, Morgan, and Pollard. Voting in opposition: Councilmember Tucker and Councilmen Collins and Palmer. Mayor Owens voted yes and the motion passed by a 4-3 vote.

SPRAYFIELD VEGETATION REMOVAL

The Mayor and Council discussed the need to remove vegetation blocking the river screens on Pond #1 and #3 at the sprayfield and clogging the river screens pulling water from the ponds. Still Waters Engineering recommends the vegetation be removed to prevent additional problems at a cost of \$32,000. The Council recommends approval to authorize removal of the vegetation at the sprayfield ponds using Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia (MEAG) Municipal Trust funds designated for the sprayfield project as the funding source. A motion was made by Councilman Burley and seconded by Councilman Pollard to authorize removal of the vegetation using MEAG funds. After comments by Mayor Owens and City Manager Stroud, a roll call vote was taken. Voting in favor of the motion: Councilmember Tucker, Councilman Burley,

Councilman Collins, Councilman Pollard, and Councilman Palmer. Voting in opposition: Councilman Morgan. The vote passed by a 5-1 vote.

MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC AUTHORITY OF GEORGIA (MEAG) TRUST ACCOUNT REFUND – SPRAYFIELD PROJECT

The Mayor and Council discussed refunding the MEAG Municipal Trust flexible account \$1.5 million for the sprayfield project. The city is awaiting approval of a loan application for \$1.5 million from the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority for repairs at the sprayfield. The loan application, if approved, will have a loan forgiveness amount of \$710,100 and a principal loan amount of \$789,900. The Council recommends refunding \$1.5 million to the MEAG Municipal Trust flexible account. A motion was made by Councilmember Tucker and seconded by Councilman Palmer to refund to the MEAG Municipal Trust flexible account any money remaining after the GEFA loan approval. After comments by Councilman Pollard, Councilmember Tucker, City Manager Stroud, Councilman Palmer, and Mayor Owens, a vote was taken. Voting in favor of the motion: Councilmember Tucker and Councilmen Collins and Palmer. Voting in opposition of the motion: Councilmen Burley, Morgan, and Pollard. The Mayor voted against the motion and the motion failed by a 4-3 vote.

YOUTH COUNCIL ADVISORY BOARD NOMINATION

The Mayor and Council discussed the need to appoint a City representative to serve on the Youth Council Advisory Board. The floor was opened for nominations. Councilmember Tucker nominated Mayor Pro Tem Corey Morgan and Councilman Pollard nominated Mayor Owens. Mayor Owens asked for a vote to appoint Mayor Pro Tem Corey Morgan to serve as the Council representative for the Youth Council Advisory Board. Councilman Morgan thanked Councilmember Tucker and his other colleagues for the nomination but does not have the availability to serve at this time and withdrew his name. Mayor Owens stated with no other nominations on the floor he accepts the nomination to serve. There being no other nominations, a motion was made by Councilman Burley and seconded by Councilman Morgan to close the nominations. Voting in favor of nominating Mayor Owens as the Council representative for the Youth Council Advisory Board: Councilmen Burley, Morgan, Collins, and Pollard. Voting against the nomination of Mayor Owens: Councilmember Tucker and Councilman Palmer. The motion passed by a 4-2 vote.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING DATE

The Mayor and Council discussed an annual date for lighting of the City's Christmas tree. The Council recommends designating the first Thursday of December as the annual date for the tree lighting. The time for the annual event will be designated by the city manager or his/her designee. A motion was made by Councilmember Tucker and seconded by Councilman Burley to designate the first Thursday of December as the annual date for the Christmas tree lighting. After comments by Councilmen Pollard and Burley, the motion passed by a unanimous vote.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

YORK & ASSOCIATES ENGINEERING, INC. – PROPOSAL – ALBANY, HILLTOP, OAKVIEW AND NORTHSIDE CIRCLES ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

City Manager Stroud commented he requested a proposal for road improvements to pave and rebuild the cul-de-sacs for Albany, Hilltop, Oakview and Northside Circles. York & Associates Engineering, Inc. has provided a proposal and he is requesting Council approval to get the project moving forward. On motion by Councilman Burley and seconded by Councilman Pollard, the motion to amend the agenda to add York & Associates fee proposal and give City Manager Stroud the authority to engage York & Associates to start the bidding process to repair the roads passed by a unanimous vote.

City Manager Stroud asked councilmembers to look at their calendars for December 2nd for a leadership retreat. It will be an all-day event in Albany, with a facilitator, where they will strategize how they want to move forward. The directors will go to The Depot and their retreat will be based on what comes out of the council session. He commented our auditor is retiring and he found a replacement with the same conditions, service and fees. The replacement has been working with our financial consultant and our auditor and hopes once he gets a contract written Council will approve. This auditor did 95% of our audit and knows Camilla's finances. Councilman Pollard commented he would like for the city manager to see about other firms as well. Mayor Owens commented by November if there are others (auditors) they will find out at the work session. City Manager Stroud commented the contractor at the splash park agreed from October 10th through the 14th the asphalt work and re-stripping will be finished. The Toombs Park fencing is about two weeks out from the contractor receiving the fencing materials. Additional comments were made about the cameras at Toombs Park, LMIG street list, and financial reports.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Owens commented he and the city manager had a conversation with the architect regarding the floor plans for the new Camilla Resource Center that will house the Boys and Girls Club. In about three weeks they should have renderings for Council to look at.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Councilman Pollard, the meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

BY: _____
KELVIN M. OWENS, MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
CHERYL FORD, CLERK

**MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
CITY OF CAMILLA, GEORGIA
NOVEMBER 14, 2022**

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Camilla was called to order at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 14, 2022 by Mayor Owens.

Present at roll call: Councilmember Tucker, Councilman Burley, Councilman Morgan, Councilman Collins, Councilman Pollard, and Councilman Palmer.

City Manager Stroud, City Attorney Coleman, and Clerk Ford were also present.

OPENING PRAYER AND PLEDGE

Councilman Burley gave the invocation and the Mayor and Council led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

CITIZENS AND GUESTS

Sign-in Sheet Attached.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Owens stated he would ask for a motion to add two items to the agenda: selection of the City Manager as our Electric Cities of Georgia (ECG) primary voting delegate for their election in December and to accept the remainder of the Youth Council Advisory Board appointments. Councilmember Tucker asked to move and discuss Item D-Personnel Matters in Executive Session. A motion was made by Councilmember Tucker to amend the agenda to add the ECG Voting Delegate and Youth Council Advisory Board to the agenda, stating she was withdrawing her motion and would make a motion when the item was considered. The motion was seconded by Councilman Morgan and passed by a unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Owens asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the August 24, 2022 Called Meeting/Budget Hearing. A motion was made by Councilmember Tucker, seconded by Councilman Burley, and passed by a unanimous vote.

SPEAKER APPEARANCES

Jerome Jester.

**ADOPTION OF LANGUAGE ACCESS PLAN – 2022 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
BLOCK GRANT**

The Mayor and Council reviewed a Language Access Plan to address the City's responsibilities as a recipient of federal financial assistance from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs programs and grants funded by HUD as they relate to the needs of individuals with limited English language skills. The Language Access Plan is a condition for the Community Development Block Grant and ensures, regardless of nationality or the language spoken, individuals are eligible to take advantage of grants and not excluded due to a language barrier. The Council recommends adoption of the Language Access Plan for the 2022 Community

ADOPTION OF LANGUAGE ACCESS PLAN – 2022 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (cont.)

Development Block Grant No. 22p-x-101-2-6270. A motion was made by Councilman Burley, seconded by Councilman Morgan, and passed by a unanimous vote.

2023 ALCOHOL LICENSE RENEWALS (BEER/WINE/LIQUOR POURING)

The Mayor and Council reviewed the 2023 on-premises and off-premises alcohol license renewals for beer, wine and liquor pouring. Police Chief Hendricks completed required background checks and approved the applications as presented. The Council recommends approval of the 2023 applicants for beer/wine/liquor pouring licenses as presented. A motion was made by Councilman Burley, seconded by Councilman Pollard, and passed by a unanimous vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-11-14-1 – EXPANSION OF ENTERTAINMENT ZONE TO INCLUDE BASEBALL FIELDS

The Mayor and Council discussed an ordinance to include additional property at The Centennial Fields of Camilla, Georgia and known as the baseball fields in the Entertainment District. The Council recommends adoption of Ordinance No. 2022-11-14-1, to waive the second reading, and authorization for the Mayor to sign. A motion was made by Councilman Burley and seconded by Councilman Morgan. Councilmember Tucker commented while not opposed to having entertainment zones, she wants to make sure they have clear guidelines in place for the kinds of use, expectations for clean-up, damage deposits, etc. and will be voting no until such time as those are in place. Councilman Palmer commented he would be voting no and the area was designed for recreation, not entertainment, and should stay that way. Mayor Owens reminded everyone there are places in our region, state, country and world where sport complexes are doubled as entertainment centers. Roll call vote in favor of the motion: Councilmen Burley, Morgan, and Pollard. Voting in opposition of the motion: Councilmember Tucker and Councilmen Collins and Palmer. Mayor Owens stated even though he was voting yes, this item will be pushed to the December work session. Per our charter, the only way to waive the second reading is if the vote is unanimous. The ordinance will go to a second reading.

RECLASSIFICATION – CITY MANAGER

The Mayor and Council discussed reclassification of Interim City Manager Dennis Stroud from Interim City Manager to City Manager along with an annual \$15,000 salary increase. The Council recommends reclassification of the city manager's job title from Interim City Manager to City Manager and a \$15,000 salary increase. A motion was made by Councilman Burley and seconded by Councilman Morgan to reclassify the city manager and a \$15,000 salary increase. Councilmember Tucker stated she requests they go in Executive Session for discussion and then vote on the matter. Mayor Owens asked Councilman Burley to rescind his motion and entertain a motion to go in Executive Session and the councilmember will have the opportunity to restate his motion. Councilman Burley requested to rescind his motion. Councilmember Tucker requested at the end of the agenda they go in Executive Session to discuss this topic and come out to proceed with the item. Mayor Owens commented they would have the vote for Executive Session now. The motion was seconded by Councilman Palmer. Mayor Owens pointed out history and everything regarding this item, in his opinion, is a matter of record. Roll call vote in favor of the motion: Councilmember Tucker and Councilmen Collins and Palmer. Voting in

RECLASSIFICATION – CITY MANAGER (cont.)

opposition of the motion: Councilmen Burley, Morgan, and Pollard. Mayor Owens voted no and the motion failed by a 4-3 vote. Councilman Burley made a motion, seconded by Councilman Morgan, to reclassify the interim city manager to city manager and a \$15,000 increase. Councilman Palmer commented he does not think this is the procedure they should be using and should use their procedure of evaluation, not good business, and he will vote no. Councilmember Tucker commented this is not the correct process as a Council and they should discuss with each other. After additional comments, she stated she would be voting no. Mayor Owens commented facts and history matter. He provided historical salary information for city managers from 2007 to 2018 and the selection process used by Council, which did not include executive sessions. After Mayor Owens presented additional information on the processes previously used and approved salary increases, Councilman Palmer commented on the previous city manager's 30 years of experience, his vast utility experience, and that his salary included no benefits. Councilmember Tucker commented she was not involved in hiring previous city managers and involved in local government for 33 years. Her request for executive session was because it is the only way she has ever seen it done. She knows it is not illegal to have an open conversation but customary to discuss personnel matters in executive session. She commented they could of had all the information that was shared to base their decision on. Her decision was based on one thing - she would like to have a conversation on their expectations as a Council for their city manager. After further comments by Councilmember Tucker, Councilman Pollard commented they were talking about the process used and history, which was fact checking. Mayor Owens stated our minutes are archived on the website and free. If they are prepared to vote yes or no without doing research, he cannot speak to that. It is up to each one to do their research. As an elected body they can determine the process and illustrated that everyone understand they had done things different, from time to time. Councilmember Tucker called for the question. Mayor Owens stated the other point he would make related to Councilman Palmer comments is he mentioned the previous city manager was working without benefits. Dennis Stroud with his \$110,000/year salary, pays his own health insurance for his family and does not receive health and dental benefits. Roll call vote in favor of the motion to make City Manager Stroud the permanent manager with an increase of \$15,000 per year to bring his salary to \$125,000 per year: Councilmen Burley, Morgan, Collins, and Pollard. Voting in opposition of the motion: Councilmember Tucker and Councilman Palmer. The motion passed by a 4-2 vote.

CONTRACT AMENDMENT – CHAMBER OF COMMERCE – ARPA ARTS GRANT

The Mayor and Council approved at the October 10, 2022 regular meeting an Arts Grant in the amount of \$10,000 from American Rescue Plan Act funds. Projects eligible for participation include performing arts, visual arts, literature, fine arts, craft arts, creating writing and music. The Mayor and Council desire to enter into an agreement with the Camilla Chamber of Commerce of Mitchell County, Georgia to administer the Camilla Arts Program and recommends approval of an amendment to an Agreement between the City and the Chamber dated May 1, 2021 to add administration of the Camilla Arts Program. A motion was made by Councilman Burley and seconded by Councilman Pollard. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

DE SOTO TRAIL REGIONAL LIBRARY – ARPA GRANT

The Mayor and Council discussed a one-time grant of \$5,000 from American Rescue Plan Act funds for the De Soto Trail Regional Library. The Council approves disbursement of the one-time \$5,000 grant to the library. A motion was made by Councilman Burley and seconded by Councilmember Tucker. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-11-14-1 – POWER COST ADJUSTMENT – LEGISLATIVE ACTION

The Mayor and Council discussed the approval process for power cost adjustments (PCA) for city provided electrical services. The Council recommends changing the PCA for electrical services from an administrative/staff adjustment to a requirement of City Council action to adjust the PCA via approval of Resolution No. 2022-11-14-1 and to authorize the Mayor to sign. A motion was made by Councilman Burley and seconded by Councilman Morgan. After discussion among the Mayor, members of Council, city attorney, and the city manager, voting in favor to approve Resolution No. 2022-11-14-1 and authorizing the Mayor to sign: Councilmen Burley, Morgan, and Pollard. Voting in opposition: Councilmember Tucker and Councilmen Collins and Palmer. The Mayor voted yes and the motion passed by a 4-3 vote.

MEAG MUNICIPAL COMPETITIVE TRUST DRAWDOWN PROTOCOL

The Mayor and Council discussed protocol and authorization for drawdown of restricted funds from the City of Camilla Municipal Competitive trust fund. Fiscal year 2022-2023 budget includes a drawdown in the amount of \$1.2 million for debt service/rate stabilization. The Council recommends a monthly drawdown of \$200,000 to be credited to the City's monthly MEAG invoice. The Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to sign documents to initiate the withdrawals and designate as payment on the monthly MEAG power bill. A motion was made by Councilman Burley and seconded by Councilman Pollard. After discussion among the members of Council, City Manager, and Mayor, voting in favor of the motion via a roll call vote: Councilmen Burley, Morgan, and Pollard. Voting in opposition of the motion: Councilmember Tucker and Councilmen Collins and Palmer. The Mayor broke the tie with a yes vote and the motion passed by a 4-3 vote.

PAY PLAN AND CLASSIFICATION AMENDMENT – MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN

The Mayor and Council discussed the addition of a Maintenance Technician to the City's pay plan and classification. The requested position is a Grade 17 and will be housed in the Planning and Zoning Department. The Council recommends addition of a full-time Maintenance Technician position at Grade 17 to be included in the pay plan and classification. A motion was made by Councilman Burley, seconded by Councilman Morgan, and passed by a unanimous vote.

RESOLUTION 2022-11-14-2 – HONORARY STREET DESIGNATION – EDWARD BROWN JR. (PEACHTREE STREET)

The Mayor and Council discussed the designation of Peachtree Street to honor the contributions of Edward Brown Jr. to Camilla and our region. Mr. Brown's advocacy and activism significantly helped pave the way for a more equitable, inclusive and diverse community and his legacy and evidence of service, sacrifice, and commitment can be seen daily in the city of Camilla. The Council recommends approval of Resolution No. 2022-11-14-2 designating

RESOLUTION 2022-11-14-2 – HONORARY STREET DESIGNATION – EDWARD BROWN JR. (PEACHTREE STREET) (cont.)

Peachtree Street as Edward Brown Jr. Boulevard and authorizes the Mayor to sign the Resolution. A motion was made by Councilman Burley and seconded by Councilman Morgan. Voting in favor of the motion via a roll call vote: Councilmember Tucker, Councilman Burley, Councilman Morgan, Councilman Collins, Councilman Pollard, and Councilman Palmer. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING – SOUTHERN REGIONAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE

The Mayor and Council discussed a Memorandum of Understanding with Southern Regional Technical College (SRTC) to promote the Adult Education Program at SRTC through June 30, 2023. Promotion costs will be the responsibility of the City and promotions are limited to the Adult Education programs currently offered by the college to include current Adult Education students, current Adult Education instructors, and Adult Education alumni. The Council recommends authorization for the Mayor to sign the Memorandum of Understanding with SRTC. A motion was made by Councilman Burley and seconded by Councilmember Tucker. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-11-14-3 – CONSERVATION EASEMENT FOR FAÇADE PROGRAM

The Mayor and Council reviewed and discussed requirements for participation in a Facade Conservation Easement Program to facilitate improvements for businesses within the corporate limits of the City of Camilla and outside of the City of Camilla Downtown Development District. The Council recommends approval of the requirements via Resolution No. 2022-11-14-3 and authorizes the Mayor to sign. A motion was made by Councilman Burley, seconded by Councilman Pollard, and approved by a unanimous vote.

EMPLOYEE PREMIUM PAY EXTENSION – AMERICAL RESCUE PLAN ACT

The Mayor and Council discussed the use of ARPA funds to extend premium pay for City employees through September 30, 2022. The estimated cost is \$80,000 to fund the extension and the Council recommends approval for use of ARPA funds for premium pay until September 30, 2022. A motion was made by Councilman Burley and seconded by Councilmember Tucker. Councilman Palmer pointed out the year should be 2023. Councilman Burley restated his motion with an expiration date of September 30, 2023. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Tucker and passed by a unanimous vote.

ELECTRIC CITIES OF GEORGIA – PRIMARY VOTING DELEGATE

Mayor Owens asked for a motion to appoint City Manager Stroud as the primary voting delegate for the ECG Board electoral decisions. A motion was made by Councilmember Tucker and seconded by Councilman Burley. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

YOUTH COUNCIL ADVISORY BOARD

Mayor Owens asked for nominations for the Youth Council Advisory Board, specifically the required educators, resource officer and staff member. In the motion he recommends City Manager Stroud be the staff representative for the Youth Council Board, Eritrea Sanders-King as

YOUTH COUNCIL ADVISORY BOARD (cont.)

school representative, Anthony Brown as school representative, and Martin Barnes as the resource officer. Councilman Pollard made the following nominations: City Manager Stroud, Eritrea Sanders-King, Anthony Brown, and Martin Barnes. A motion to close nominations was made by Councilman Morgan, seconded by Councilman Burley, and passed by a unanimous vote. A motion to accept the nominations was made by Councilman Morgan, seconded by Councilman Pollard, and passed by a unanimous vote.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Stroud commented on financial reports, the employee appreciation luncheon, LMIG, cityscape program, and the council and director's leadership retreat.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Owens commented this past week the Council had an opportunity to honor our veteran's throughout the city and the county, which continued today at the Mitchell County High School. The City of Camilla loves its' veterans and thanked all the councilmembers for embracing, acknowledging and honoring our veterans. He commented on the youth employment program, Youth Council Advisory Board, and youth initiatives and stated he was extremely proud of the work they were doing with our youth. Councilman Pollard thanked the Mayor for the State of the City Address and stated he had received positive feedback.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Councilman Pollard the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

BY: _____
KELVIN M. OWENS, MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
CHERYL FORD, CLERK

**MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
CITY OF CAMILLA, GEORGIA
DECEMBER 12, 2022**

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Camilla was called to order at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, December 12, 2022 by Mayor Owens. He announced the new city attorney, Winston Denmark, was in attendance.

Present at roll call: Councilmember Tucker, Councilman Burley, Councilman Morgan, Councilman Collins, Councilman Pollard, and Councilman Palmer.

City Manager Stroud, City Attorney Winston Denmark of Fincher Denmark, and Clerk Ford were also present.

OPENING PRAYER AND PLEDGE

City Manager Stroud gave the invocation and the Mayor and Council led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

CITIZENS AND GUESTS

Sign-in Sheet Attached.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Owens commented the action item to authorize the city manager to explore property purchases downtown was added after the work session and runs parallel with the consensus for the city manager to start looking into the loft apartments at A. A. McNeil building. On motion by Councilman Morgan, seconded by Councilman Burley, the motion to approve the agenda passed by a unanimous vote.

NEW CITY ATTORNEY

Mr. Denmark thanked the Council and citizens of Camilla for their trust in his law firm. He stated the law firm has eleven dedicated attorneys engaged in the practice of law for governmental units, cities, counties, and school districts. After additional comments, he stated they wanted to help the officials and staff make sound and good decisions and a difference in the community.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2022-12-12-1 – ENTERTAINMENT ZONE – THE CENTENNIAL
FIELDS OF CAMILLA, GEORGIA – SECOND READING**

The Mayor and Council held the first reading of an Ordinance providing for the inclusion of additional property known as the baseball fields in the Entertainment Zone at The Centennial Fields of Camilla, Georgia at their regularly scheduled meeting on November 14, 2022. The Second reading of Ordinance 2022-12-12-1 is being held tonight. The Council shall consider adoption of Ordinance 2022-12-12-1, and Exhibit B as presented, with authorization for the Mayor to sign. A motion was made by Councilman Morgan and seconded by Councilman Burley to approve the ordinance and authorize the Mayor to sign. Voting in favor of the motion:

**ORDINANCE NO. 2022-12-12-1 – ENTERTAINMENT ZONE – THE CENTENNIAL
FIELDS OF CAMILLA, GEORGIA – SECOND READING (cont.)**

Councilmen Burley, Morgan and Pollard. Voting in opposition: Councilmember Tucker and Councilmen Collins and Palmer. The Mayor voted yes and the motion passed by a 4-3 vote.

MAYOR WEEKLY VIDEO ADDRESS

The Mayor has requested authorization to deliver, at his discretion, a weekly video address to discuss accomplishments, highlight priorities and planned projects, planned events, and other City and community related information. The Council shall consider recommending authorization for the Mayor, at his discretion, to deliver the address to the citizens of Camilla using in-house communication platforms. A motion was by Councilman Burley and seconded by Councilman Pollard to authorize the Mayor to deliver the address. Mayor Owens commented the primary purpose is to make sure the citizens of our city are receiving information directly from the source. After further comments, voting in favor of the motion: Councilmen Burley, Morgan, and Pollard. Voting in opposition: Councilmember Tucker and Councilmen Collins and Palmer. The Mayor voted yes and the motion passed by a 4-3 vote.

**AUTHORIZATION FOR CITY MANAGER TO EXPLORE PROPERTY PURCHASES
DOWNTOWN**

Mayor Owens asked for a motion to authorize the city manager to explore property purchases downtown. A motion was made by Councilman Pollard and seconded by Councilman Burley. Councilmember Tucker asked for detail before they grant authorization. City Manager Stroud commented the idea for him to explore is to go downtown and look at properties and the ways they can utilize the resources and possibly generate revenue for the City. It will be brought back to the Council. Councilmember Tucker asked if it would be working in partnership with the Downtown Development Authority and City Manager Stroud replied they are only authorizing him to explore at this time. Councilman Palmer invited them to attend the next Downtown Development Authority meeting and they were already exploring some of those options. After comments by Mayor Owens to include among others the downtown properties and building vacancies, the Downtown Development Authority and the Camilla Development Authority, the forward motion of Camilla, and transformation of the A. A. McNeil building into loft apartments, voting in favor of the motion: Councilmen Burley, Morgan, and Pollard. Voting in opposition: Councilmember Tucker and Councilmen Collins and Palmer. The Mayor voted yes and the motion passed by a 4-3 vote.

REALLOCATION OF ARPA FUNDS FOR UTILITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Mayor and Council discussed the use of remaining funds from the Citizen Vaccination Program, which ends on December 31, 2022. It is estimated \$28,000 of ARPA funds will remain at the conclusion of the program and the Council shall consider the request to allocate and use the remaining funds as follows:

\$23,000	Utility Assistance Program
\$ 5,000	Citizen Vaccination Program

REALLOCATION OF ARPA FUNDS FOR UTILITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (cont.)

A motion was made by Councilman Morgan and seconded by Councilman Burley. Councilmember Tucker called for a substitute motion for the entire balance of \$28,000 to go to the Utilities Assistance Program since the citizen vaccine program has been available for a number of months. The motion was seconded by Councilman Palmer. Councilman Pollard commented on the program and the number of lives helped by the program and Mayor Owens commented the program has contributed to nearly 10% of the total population being vaccinated and played an intricate part in our low hospitalizations and keeping the infection rate down. Voting in favor of the motion to allocate \$28,000 for the Utilities Assistance Program: Councilmember Tucker and Councilmen Collins and Palmer. Voting in opposition of the motion: Councilmen Burley, Morgan, and Pollard. The Mayor voted no and the motion failed by a 4-3 vote. Voting in favor of the original motion to allocate \$23,000 to the Utilities Assistance Program and \$5,000 to the citizen vaccination program: Councilmen Burley, Morgan, and Pollard. Voting in opposition of the motion: Councilmember Tucker and Councilmen Collins and Palmer. The Mayor voted yes and the motion passed by a 4-3 vote.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS – APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS

The Council reviewed appointments and re-appointments to various Boards and Commissions for 2023. Councilmember Tucker commented she would like to offer for consideration that each of the citizens on the various committees were contacted by city staff and asked if they were willing to be reappointed. All the members and citizens agreed to be reappointed with the exception of Charles Stripling on the Animal Control Appeals Board. She moved for nominations to be closed except for the Animal Control Appeals Board and Tree Committee. Councilman Palmer seconded the motion. Councilmember Tucker stated she had citizens call her after the meeting Monday night when nominations were being made by Councilman Pollard to nominate Mayor Owens for all of the openings that once were served by citizens. The citizens stated they were confused because they had been contacted by the City and accepted the willingness to serve again [the city clerk confirmed they were contacted]. She thinks it might be in their best interest as a Council where the citizens are willing to serve to allow citizens. Whereas the Mayor has a great interest in the committees she thinks there are roles for ex-officio on there. After comments by Mayor Owens, Councilman Morgan made a substitute motion to move forward as originally planned with nominating members to the boards. The motion was seconded by Councilman Pollard. Voting in favor of leaving the nominations open until a nominee is selected: Councilmen Burley, Morgan, and Pollard. Voting in opposition of the motion: Councilmember Tucker and Councilmen Collins and Palmer. The Mayor voted yes and the motion to leave the nominations open until a nominee is selected passed by a 4-3 vote.

REGIONAL COMMISSION:

Non-public representative (one year term) – expiring appointment: Nathaniel Keaton
Mayor Owens asked for nominations and Councilmember Tucker stated in consideration of Mr. Keaton's willingness to serve she recommended they appoint Mr. Keaton. The motion was seconded by Councilman Palmer. Nominations were closed on motion by Councilmember Tucker, a second by Councilman Palmer, and a 5-1 vote with Councilman Pollard voting no. Councilman Pollard stated he had a nomination and Mayor Owens stated the nominations were

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS – APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS (cont.)

closed. Voting in favor of appointing Nathaniel Keaton to the Regional Commission for a one-year term: Councilmember Tucker and Councilmen Burley, Morgan, Collins, and Palmer. Voting in opposition: Councilman Pollard. The motion passed by a 5-1 vote.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION:

One position for 3-year term – expiring appointment: Shealy Dixon

Mayor Owens asked for nominations and stated the nomination right now was Shealy Dixon and asked if there were others. Councilmember Tucker moved the nominations be closed and stated Shealy Dixon had served on this and was willing to serve again. The motion was seconded by Councilman Palmer. Councilman Pollard stated he had a nomination. The motion to close nominations for Historic Preservation failed by a 4-3 vote with Councilmember Tucker and Councilmen Collins and Palmer voting for the motion and Councilmen Burley, Morgan, and Pollard voting in opposition. The Mayor voted no. Councilman Pollard nominated Mayor Kelvin Owens to fill the position of Shealy Dixon. A motion to close nominations was made by Councilman Pollard, seconded by Councilman Morgan Burley, and passed by a 4-2 vote with Councilmember Tucker and Councilman Palmer voting no. A motion was made by Councilman Morgan and seconded by Councilman Pollard to appoint Mayor Kelvin Owens to the Historic Preservation Board. After comments and discussion by Councilmember Tucker, Councilmen Palmer, Morgan, Pollard, and Mayor Owens, Councilmember Tucker made a motion they call the question and vote. The motion was seconded by Councilman Palmer. Voting in favor of the motion to call the question: Councilmember Tucker and Councilmen Collins and Palmer. Voting in opposition: Councilmen Burley, Morgan and Pollard. The Mayor voted no and the motion failed by a 4-3 vote. Mayor Owens stated there was a time in this country where folks would make those kind of statements [you don't own property] and somehow the only folks worthy of contribution are folks that own property or own a historic this or that. This is 2023 and everyone gets a voice whether a taxpayer, rate payer, renter, mortgage, it does not matter. Voting in favor of appointing Mayor Kelvin Owens to the Historic Preservation Board: Councilmen Burley, Morgan, and Pollard. Voting in opposition: Councilmember Tucker and Councilmen Collins and Palmer. The Mayor voted yes and the motion passed by a 4-3 vote.

MITCHELL COUNTY RECREATION BOARD:

One position for a 1-year term – expiring appointment: Corey Morgan

Mayor Owens stated Corey Morgan's name is forwarded automatically as a nominee and Councilman Palmer nominated Steve Collins. A motion was made by Councilman Palmer and seconded by Councilmember Tucker to close nominations. The motion passed by a 4-2 vote with Councilmen Morgan and Pollard voting in opposition. A motion was made by Councilman Palmer and seconded by Councilmember Tucker to appoint Steve Collins. Voting in favor of the motion: Councilmember Tucker and Councilmen Collins and Palmer. Voting in opposition: Councilmen Burley, Morgan, and Pollard. Mayor Owens voted no and the motion failed by a 4-3 vote. A motion was made by Councilman Pollard and seconded by Councilman Burley to appoint Corey Morgan to the Recreation Board. Voting in favor of the motion: Councilmen Burley, Morgan and Pollard. Voting in opposition: Councilmember Tucker and Councilmen Collins and Palmer. The Mayor voted yes and the motion passed by a 4-3 vote.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS – APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS (cont.)

MITCHELL COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT:

One position for a 6-year term – expiring appointment: Rosa Ward

Mayor Owens stated Rosa Ward was nominated automatically and asked for additional nominations. A motion to close nominations was made by Councilman Burley, seconded by Councilman Morgan, and passed by a unanimous vote. A motion was made by Councilmember Tucker and seconded by Councilman Morgan to nominate Rosa Ward. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

CAMILLA TREE COMMITTEE:

Four positions for a 1-year term – expiring appointments: W.D. Palmer, III; Martha Cabiness; Janice Smith; Rad Yager

Mayor Owens stated expiring members all agreed to served and their names would move forward in the nominations. Councilmember Tucker suggested Councilman Collins is the only councilmember that does not have an appointment on any committee. With his willingness to serve and Councilman Palmer's willingness to give up his position, Councilman Collins would have the opportunity to be on one committee. All the rest of them [councilmembers] have a committee and Councilman Collins does not. She stated it was in the form of a motion and was seconded by Councilman Palmer. Councilman Pollard made a nomination for Mayor Kelvin Owens to serve in the place of Councilman Palmer on the Tree Committee. He stated that he [Councilman Pollard] does not serve on any board. A motion was made by Councilmember Tucker, seconded by Councilman Pollard, and passed by a unanimous vote to close nominations. A motion to appoint Councilman Collins to replace W.D. Palmer III was made by Councilman Palmer and seconded by Councilmember Tucker. The motion failed by a 4-3 vote. Voting in favor: Councilmember Tucker and Councilmen Collins and Palmer. Voting in opposition: Councilmen Burley, Morgan and Pollard. The Mayor voted no. A motion was made by Councilman Pollard and seconded by Councilman Morgan to appoint Mayor Kelvin Owens to replace W.D. Palmer III. Voting in favor of the motion: Councilmen Burley, Morgan and Pollard. Voting in opposition: Councilmember Tucker and Councilmen Collins and Palmer. The Mayor voted yes and the motion passed by a 4-3 vote.

ZONING APPEALS BOARD:

Two positions for 3-year term – expiring appointments: Jimmy Jones and Derek Hadley

Mayor Owens commented both Jimmy Jones and Derek Hadley had agreed to remain on the board and asked for nominations. Councilman Morgan nominated Stephanie Anderson to replace Derek Hadley. Councilmember Tucker made a motion to nominate Derek Hadley and Mayor Owens commented by virtue of his name already on the list he was part of the nomination process. A motion was made by Councilman Pollard and seconded by Councilman Morgan to close nominations. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. A motion was made by Councilman Morgan and seconded by Councilman Pollard to appoint Stephanie Anderson to replace Derek Hadley. Voting in favor of the motion: Councilmen Burley, Morgan, and Pollard. Voting in opposition: Councilmember Tucker and Councilmen Collins and Palmer. The Mayor voted yes and the motion carried by a 4-3 vote.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS – APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS (cont.)

ANIMAL CONTROL APPEALS BOARD:

One position to fill unexpired term ending 12/2024 – replacement for Charles Stripling
Councilmember Tucker nominated Tyler Rose to replace Charles Stripling on the Animal Control Appeals Board. A motion was made by Councilmember Tucker and seconded by Councilman Morgan to close nominations. A motion was made by Councilmember Tucker and seconded by Councilman Palmer to nominate Tyler Rose. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

S.G.G.S.A. GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY:

One position for 4-year term – expiring appointment: Bennett Adams
Councilman Pollard made a motion to appoint Mayor Kelvin Owens to replace Bennett Adams. Councilmember Tucker stated she is aware his name is still on the list and wants to make sure they consider him and he is willing to serve again. He has extensive knowledge and experience in the subject matter. A motion was made by Councilman Pollard and seconded by Councilman Burley to close nominations. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. A motion was made by Councilman Morgan and seconded by Councilman Burley to appoint Mayor Kelvin Owens to replace Bennett Adams. Voting in favor: Councilmen Burley, Morgan, and Pollard. Voting in opposition: Councilmember Tucker and Councilmen Collins and Palmer. The Mayor voted yes and the motion passed by a 4-3 vote.

CAMILLA/MITCHELL COUNTY LAND BANK:

One position for 2-year term – expiring appointment: W.D. Palmer III
Councilman Pollard nominated Dewayne Burley to serve in the expiring term of W.D. Palmer III. A motion was made by Councilman Morgan and seconded by Councilman Pollard to close nominations. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. A motion was made by Councilman Pollard and seconded by Councilman Morgan to appoint Dewayne Burley to replace W.D. Palmer III. Voting in favor of the motion: Councilmen Burley, Morgan, and Pollard. Voting in opposition: Councilmember Tucker and Councilmen Collins and Palmer. Mayor Owens voted yes and the motion passed by a 4-3 vote.

ABSENTEE BALLOT CLERK – Appointment: Tammy Jackson

A motion was made by Councilman Pollard and seconded by Councilman Burley to close nominations. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. A motion was made by Councilman Pollard and seconded by Councilman Burley to appoint Tammy Jackson as the Absentee Ballot Clerk. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC AUTHORITY OF GEORGIA – POWER SALE OF EXCESS RESERVE CAPACITY

The Mayor and Council discussed an agreement with the Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia (MEAG) to facilitate the sale, on behalf of Camilla, certain excess reserve capacity to Blakey. Blakey agrees to purchase 1,412 kW at \$11.50 per kW-year with the initial term of the sale of Camilla's excess reserve capacity at 0000 hours on January 1, 2023 and ending at 2400 hours on December 31, 2023. The Council recommends approval to execute the agreement with

MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC AUTHORITY OF GEORGIA – POWER SALE OF EXCESS RESERVE CAPACITY (cont.)

MEAG to sell excess reserve capacity to Blakely and authorizes the Mayor to sign. A motion was made by Councilmember Tucker and seconded by Councilman Pollard. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

POWER PURCHASE CONTRACT – PINEVIEW SOLAR LLC

The Mayor and Council discussed the first amendment to the Power Purchase Contract dated August 16, 2021 between MEAG Power and Pineview Solar LLC. MEAG Power agreed to a conditional amendment to the agreement with Pineview which increases the price of the power from \$25.91 per MWh to \$29.06 per MWh and reduces the term from 20 years to 15 years. The amendment is conditional per approval of the Solar Participants to the new contract terms. An option for MEAG Power to buy the solar facility at the end of the term, if beneficial to Solar Participants, is also included in the amendment. The Council recommends approval to execute the First Amendment to the Power Purchase Contract and authorizes the Mayor to sign. A motion was made by Councilmember Tucker and seconded by Councilman Burley. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

BID AWARD – STORM DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS FOR THOMAS AND COCHRAN STREETS

City Manager Stroud commented for this project a lot of surface water is flowing in a resident's yard causing major hazards. A local engineering firm was employed and has provided estimates and engineering services. A bid was released and we had multiple bidders. Green's Backhoe came in as the lowest bidder and he and engineering firm are recommending Green's Backhoe. A motion to award the bid to Green's Backhoe on recommendation by the city manager was made by Councilman Burley and seconded by Councilman Morgan. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

2023 CALENDAR – WORK SESSIONS/COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Mayor and Council reviewed dates for calendar year 2023 work sessions and council meetings. The Council recommends approving the 2023 calendar as presented. A motion was made by Councilmember Tucker and seconded by seconded by Councilman Burley. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Stroud reported on LMIG streets and stated he needed the Council's guidance on seasonal power cutoff. There is property on Church Street apparently owned by the City that a business has been paying property taxes on and they will come before Council to ask the property be deeded to them. He is still planning on providing the financial health of the City and work is continuing on reconciliations. The cemetery plots recently sold are in their packets. Mayor Owens commented we have businesses in the city where they are not producing, specifically agriculture. At certain points of the year they are not doing anything but there is a holding charge that we charge. It is that charge where someone may come in and have a discuss-

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT (cont.)

ion with the Council and will be helpful for the city manager to have a policy. After additional discussion Mayor Owens stated there would be conversation with the city attorney and city manager to create a framework for the Council to consider.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Owens commented he would be delivering to the citizens of Camilla an end of the year address very soon to talk about 2022 and what the plan is going forward to 2023. Change is not always popular and not always pretty. From time to time change is necessary and his intent to speak more on that in the days to come.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Councilman Pollard the meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

BY: _____
KELVIN M. OWENS, MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
CHERYL FORD, CLERK

AGENDA ITEM #6 - ACTION ITEMS

February 13, 2023

Presenter: Dennis Stroud, City Manager

- a. The Mayor and Council reviewed a resolution at their February 6th Work Session proclaiming the month of February as Black History Month in Camilla. All citizens are urged to recognize, honor, and celebrate the significant role and influence African Americans have made and continue to make in shaping our country's diverse history and remarkable culture. The Council recommends approval of Resolution No. 2023-02-13-1 recognizing February 2023 as Black History Month in Camilla and authorizes the Mayor to sign.
- b. The Georgia Environmental Finance Authority has notified the City it has been approved for a \$1,578,000 loan through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund for improving the City's wastewater system infrastructure (sprayfield project). The loan has a forgiveness of debt service in the amount of \$710,000 with a 1.61% interest rate for 360 months. The Council recommends approval of Resolution No. 2023-02-13-2 approving and authorizing the execution, delivery and performance of the Loan Agreement and Note and authorizing the Mayor to execute all loan related documents contingent upon the approval of the City Attorney.
- c. The Mayor and Council discussed at their February 6th work session the future of the Perry Street Gym. The Council recommends authorization for City Manager Stroud to discuss with county officials the way forward with the gym and to receive estimates and/or quotes for repairs.
- d. The Mayor and Council discussed the attendance of the city attorney at work sessions and the technology required to accommodate attendance. The Council recommends requiring the city attorney's attendance at work sessions and purchase of technology to allow participation.
- e. The Mayor and Council discussed the reallocation of MEAG funds in the amount of \$1.5 million for the sprayfield pond repair project. The City was recently approved for a GEFA loan in the amount of \$1,578,000 for the sprayfield project and the Council requests reallocation of the MEAG funds as follows:

\$1,000,000 GEFA loan debt service

\$ 500,000 MEAG Economic Development Fund

- f. The Mayor and Council discussed authorized travel for elected officials and travel budgets. The Mayor requests to amend Section F of the Credit Card/Purchasing Card and Travel Expenses Reimbursement Policy by amending the policy to include: *any National League of Cities event where the Mayor or any councilmember serves in an advisory capacity* and to approve an additional \$5,000 in travel expenses (meals, hotel, registration) for FY 2022-2023.
- g. Not available at time of agenda release
- h. The FY 2023 annual competition for Community Development Block Grant applications will close on June 2, 2023. The City of Camilla is interested in submitting an application to the Department of Community Affairs for funding to improve the living conditions of low and moderate income persons living in the city of Camilla. The Council recommends approval of Resolution No. 2023-02-13-4 authorizing the submission of 2023 CDBG application and authorizes the Mayor to sign.
- i. It is the policy of the City of Camilla to encourage equal opportunity in housing for all persons regardless of race, color, religion, gender or national origin. The City of Camilla commits to fair housing, recognizes the need to affirmatively promote fair housing in its policies and practices, and will work to identify and remove impediments to fair housing choices. The Council recommends approval of Resolution No. 2023-02-13-5 and authorizes the Mayor to sign.
- j. Valenti, Rackley and Associates LLC submitted a letter summarizing significant terms of their engagement to perform auditing services for the City for the year ended September 30, 2022. This firm has experienced staff knowledgeable of the City's financial operations and will be replacing retiring city auditor Richard Waters. The Council recommends approval to engage Valenti, Rackley and Associates LLC to perform the City's audit.

CITY OF CAMILLA, GEORGIA
RESOLUTION NO. 2023-02-13-1

Resolution

WHEREAS, During Black History Month we celebrate the many diverse achievements and contributions made by African Americans to our economic, cultural, spiritual, and political development; and

WHEREAS, Black History Month grew out of the establishment of Negro History Week by Carter G. Woodson in 1926; and

WHEREAS, The 2023 national theme for Black History Month observance is “*Black Resistance*”; and

WHEREAS, The observance of Black History Month calls our attention to the continued need to battle racism and build a society that lives up to its democratic ideals; and

WHEREAS, The City of Camilla continues to develop a community in which all citizens – past, present, and future – are respected and recognized for their contributions and potential contributions to our community, region, state, country, and the world; and

WHEREAS, All citizens are encouraged to celebrate our diverse heritage and culture and continue our efforts to create a world that is more just, peaceful, and prosperous for all; and

WHEREAS, The City of Camilla is proud to honor the history and contributions of African Americans in our community, throughout our state, and nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, The Mayor and City Council, in recognition of African Americans – past and present in our community – do hereby proclaim the month of February 2023 as ***Black History Month*** in Camilla, Georgia and urge all citizens to recognize, honor, and celebrate the significant role and influence African Americans have made and continue to make in shaping our Country’s diverse history and remarkable culture.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Camilla, Georgia to be affixed this 13th day of February, in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Three.

ATTEST:

Kelvin M. Owens
Mayor

CITY
SEAL

Cheryl Ford
Clerk

**EXTRACT OF MINUTES
RESOLUTION OF GOVERNING BODY**

Recipient: CITY OF CAMILLA

Loan Number: CW2021025

At a duly called meeting of the governing body of the Borrower identified above (the "Borrower") held on the _____ day of _____, the following resolution was introduced and adopted.

WHEREAS, the governing body of the Borrower has determined to borrow but not to exceed **\$1,578,000** from the **CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND, ADMINISTERED BY GEORGIA ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE AUTHORITY** (the "Lender") to finance a portion of the costs of acquiring, constructing, and installing the environmental facilities described in Exhibit A to the hereinafter defined Loan Agreement (the "Project"), pursuant to the terms of a Loan Agreement (the "Loan Agreement") between the Borrower and the Lender, the form of which has been presented to this meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Borrower's obligation to repay the loan made pursuant to the Loan Agreement will be evidenced by a Promissory Note (the "Note") of the Borrower, the form of which has been presented to this meeting;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of the Borrower that the forms, terms, and conditions and the execution, delivery, and performance of the Loan Agreement and the Note are hereby approved and authorized.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the governing body of the Borrower that the terms of the Loan Agreement and the Note (including the interest rate provisions, which shall be as provided in the Note) are in the best interests of the Borrower for the financing of the Project, and the governing body of the Borrower designates and authorizes the following persons to execute and deliver, and to attest, respectively, the Loan Agreement, the Note, and any related documents necessary to the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the Loan Agreement.

(Signature of Person to Execute Documents)

(Print Title)

(Signature of Person to Attest Documents)

(Print Title)

The undersigned further certifies that the above resolution has not been repealed or amended and remains in full force and effect.

Dated: _____

Secretary/Clerk

(SEAL)

City of Camilla, Georgia
RESOLUTION NO. 2023-02-13-3

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF CAMILLA TO REALLOCATE AND DESIGNATE FUNDS TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND AND FOR OTHER LAWFUL PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, on May 9, 2022 the Mayor and City Council (“City Council”) of the City of Camilla (“City”) approved an action to fund the Spray Field Pond Repair (the “Project”) in an amount not to exceed **ONE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00/100 CENTS** (\$1,500,000); and

WHEREAS, the City has identified a new source of funding for the Project and wishes to reallocate the funds initially reserved for the Project; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes to reallocate the **ONE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00/100 CENTS** (\$1,500,000) reserved for the Project as follows: **ONE MILLION DOLLARS AND 00/100 CENTS** (\$1,000,000) to the GEFA Debt Service Fund and **FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00/100 CENTS** (\$500,000) to the MEAG Economic Development Fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Camilla, Georgia that funds in the amount of **ONE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00/100 CENTS** (\$1,500,000) reserved for the Spray Field Pond Repair on May 9, 2022 shall be reallocated to the GEFA Debt Service Fund and the MEAG Economic Development Fund.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the funds shall be reallocated as follows: **ONE MILLION DOLLARS AND 00/100 CENTS** (\$1,000,000) to the GEFA Debt Service Fund and **FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00/100 CENTS** (\$500,000) to the MEAG Economic Development Fund.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, to the extent any portion of this Resolution is declared to be invalid, unenforceable, or nonbinding, that shall not affect the remaining portions of this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, all City resolutions are hereby repealed to the extent they are inconsistent with this Resolution.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

SO RESOLVED and effective this 13th day of February, 2023.

CITY OF CAMILLA

By: _____

Mayor, Kelvin M. Owens

[CITY SEAL]

Attest: _____

Clerk, Cheryl Ford

Credit Card

Purchasing Card and Travel Expense Reimbursement Policy

A. Overview

The Georgia General Assembly established guidelines and penalties into the Official Code of Georgia Annotated ("O.C.G.A.") which provides that no municipal corporation shall issue government purchasing cards or government credit cards to elected officials on or after January 1, 2016, until the governing authority of the municipal corporation, by public vote, has authorized the issuance and has promulgated specific policies regarding the use of such government purchasing cards or government credit cards for elected officials of such municipal corporation.

B. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to set requirements and standards for the City of Camilla Credit Card and Purchasing Card Program. The policy is not intended to replace current State of Georgia statutes but is intended to comply with such state laws and establish more efficient guidelines for elected officials using such purchasing cards. At no time should a city issued purchasing card or credit card be used for personal purchases regardless of the circumstances. Utilizing the purchasing card or credit card for personal use or for any item or service not directly related to such official's public duty may result in disciplinary action including, but not limited to, felony criminal prosecution. All purchases utilizing a government purchasing card or government credit card must be in accordance with these guidelines and with state law.

C. Scope

This purchasing card policy, as required by state law under O.C.G.A. § 36-80-24(c), applies to the use of government purchasing cards or government credit cards used by elected officials authorized to be issued such government purchasing cards or government credit cards. The below list of officials have been authorized by the governing authority of the city to use such government purchasing cards or government credit cards and must abide by all of the applicable state laws and this purchasing card policy.

1. Mayor
2. City Council Members

D. Public Inspection

In accordance with O.C.G.A. § 36-80-24(b) any documents related to purchases using government purchasing cards or government credit cards incurred by elected officials shall be available for public inspection.

E. Transaction Limits

Transaction limits are hereby established to insure compliance with state purchasing laws, maintain proper budgetary controls, and to minimize excessive use of any

individual credit line. Individual monthly card limits cannot exceed those established by the municipal governing authority. The established single transaction limit for each card must be less than \$2,500.00. The established monthly card limit is based upon the city's budgetary constraints and is not to exceed \$2,500.00 per month. Any exceptions to the standardized limits must have express written approval by the municipal governing authority and must be added to this policy by amendment or addendum.

F. Authorized Travel

- a. The Mayor is authorized to attend the Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) Spring and Fall Training, GMA Mayor's Day (currently titled Cities United Summit), and the Annual GMA Conference. In addition to GMA training, the Mayor is authorized to attend the Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia Annual Meeting, the Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia Mayor's Summit, the National League of Cities annual meeting, and any National League of Cities event where the Mayor or any member of Council serves in an advisory capacity.
- b. Members of Council are authorized to attend the Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) Spring and Fall Training, GMA Mayor's Day (currently titled Cities United Summit), and the Annual GMA Conference. Members of Council are authorized to attend the Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia Annual Meeting and the National League of Cities annual meeting.
- c. All other Georgia Municipal Association related training that is offered online or alternative venues.
- d. All other training and travel reimbursement requires advance Council approval.

G. Purchasing Restrictions

1. Elected Officials may not use a government purchasing card or government credit card for the following:
 - a. Any purchases of items for personal use.
 - b. Cash refunds or advances.
 - c. Any transaction amount greater than the transaction limits set for by this policy.
 - d. Items specifically restricted by this policy, unless a special exemption is granted by the municipal governing authority.
 - e. Alcohol or liquor of any kind. Such purchases should not be made with the purchasing card and may not be reimbursed by the city.
 - f. Purchases or transactions made with the intent to circumvent the city purchasing policy, transactional limits, or state law.

- g. Food, fuel or non-alcoholic beverages. Such purchases should not be made with the purchasing card and may not be reimbursed by the city.
- 2. Elected Officials may use government purchasing cards or government credit cards to purchase goods and/or services not prohibited by this policy or state law. Such purchases include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Purchases of items for official city use which fall within the transactional restrictions of this policy.
 - b. Purchase of lodging, education and training materials while on city business.
 - c. Emergency purchases necessary to protect city property.

H. Travel Expense Reimbursement

1. Reimbursement Procedures

- a. *Mileage Allowance.* Mayor and Council receiving travel advancement or reimbursement will be reimbursed at the standard IRS mileage rate per mile only when their personal vehicle is used for travel in the performance of official city duties. Mayor and Council will notify City Clerk when out-of-town travel arrangements are needed. A Travel Advance Form is required to be submitted to the Clerk for food and mileage expense reimbursement. Reimbursement will be for actual miles based on MapQuest mileage.
- b. *Common Carrier.* If common carrier is used for official travel, reimbursement will be at the tourist rate. Receipts must be submitted. Mayor and Council should approve use of common carrier prior to travel.
- c. *Meals.* Reimbursement will be the federal standard meal allowance rates per day while on official travel. A day begins at 6:00 a.m. and ends at 7:00 p.m. The standard meal allowance will be paid regardless of any registration fee paid.
- d. *Lodging.* Reimbursement will be made for actual, reasonable cost of lodging while on official travel. Copies of hotel or motel receipts shall be attached to expense voucher for payment.
- e. *Other Expenses.* Employees may be reimbursed for other expenses incidental to official travel and normally will be limited to taxi fees, baggage handling fees, official phone calls, parking fees, registration fees for conventions, seminars or workshops. Any other expenses will be reimbursed at the discretion of the Council. Receipts must be provided.

I. Administrator

The city designates the office of Finance Director as the program administrator of government purchasing cards or government credit cards. Such administrator shall:

1. Serve as a liaison between the city's cardholders and the issuers of such cards.
2. Maintain the cardholder agreement for all cardholders.
3. Provide instruction, training, and assistance to cardholders.
4. Maintain account information and secure all cardholder information.
5. Keep cardholders up-to-date on new or changing information.
6. Upon receipt of information indicating fraudulent use or lost/stolen cards immediately report it to appropriate parties, including the issuer.
7. Ensure all card accounts are being utilized properly as set forth by state law and this policy.
8. Define the city's policy and procedures for proper documentation and storage of receipts, logs, and approvals required under this policy.
9. Identify any changes to named persons authorized to use a government purchasing card or government credit card.
10. Any other duties assigned by the municipal governing authority.

J. Accounting and Auditing

The Administrator, in an effort to ensure compliance with city policy and state law, will conduct quarterly reviews and audits of all government purchasing card or government credit card transactions. The review is designed to ensure compliance, identify non-compliance issues and misuse, and through corrective measures assist the city with improving compliance. The quarterly review and audit should happen within 30 (thirty) days of the start of a new quarter. After completing the quarterly audit the Administrator shall notify cardholders of any violations or questions the Administrator has that occurred within that previous quarter. Depending on the severity of the violation, the Administrator may suspend or revoke the use of the government purchasing card or government credit card after notification to the cardholder and to the municipal governing authority, but only after consultation with the city attorney. Any unresolved violations should be reported to the municipal governing authority and the city attorney in writing within 10 (ten) business days.

K. Violations

The use of a government purchasing card or government credit card may be suspended or revoked when the Administrator, after consultation with the city attorney, determines that the cardholder has violated the approved policies or state law regarding the use of the government purchasing card or government credit card. The government purchasing card or government credit card shall be revoked whenever a cardholder is removed from office with the city and shall be suspended if such elected official has been suspended from office.

L. Agreement

Before being issued a government purchasing card or government credit card under this policy and state law, all authorized users of government purchasing cards or government credit cards shall sign and accept below indicating that such user will use such cards only in accordance with the policies of the city and with the requirements of state law.

As an elected official for the City of Camilla I hereby acknowledge receipt of the Credit Card/Purchasing Card and Travel Expense Reimbursement Policy.

Name Printed

Signature

Title: _____

Date: _____

TRAVEL ADVANCE REQUEST

Instructions:

1. Any travel resulting in advancement or reimbursement must be submitted on this form.
2. This form must be submitted to the City Clerk at least fifteen (15) days prior to date of travel.
3. Advance payment shall be made only to Mayor, Council Members, and vendors providing services such as registration, lodging and other customary incidentals.
4. Supporting documentation and registration requirements must be presented at the time of request for travel.

INFORMATION

NAME: _____

DEPARTMENT: _____

CONFERENCE, MEETING, SEMINAR, ETC. INFORMATION:

NAME OF CONFERENCE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

DEPARTURE DATE: _____ TIME: _____ DAM ☐ PM

RETURN DATE: _____ TIME: _____ ☐ AM ☐ PM

WILL YOU USE YOUR PERSONAL VEHICLE FOR TRAVEL? ☐ YES ☐ NO

WILL YOU INCUR DESTINATION CHARGES? ☐ YES ☐ NO

I hereby certify the travel expenses requested above will be incurred by me while on official City of Camilla business.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____

ACTION ITEM 6-g

DEFENSE AND INDEMNITY ORDINANCE

NOT AVAILABLE AT TIME OF AGENDA RELEASE

CITY OF CAMILLA, GEORGIA
RESOLUTION NO. 2023-02-13-4

A RESOLUTION by the Mayor and Council Members of the City of Camilla, Georgia, to authorize submission of a FY 2023 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) for funding under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council Members of the City of Camilla, Georgia, find that the program is necessary and desirable in order to improve the living conditions of low and moderate income persons living in the City of Camilla, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council Members of the City of Camilla, Georgia desire that a FY 2023 CDBG application be submitted to the Georgia DCA for funding under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Mayor and Council Members of the City of Camilla, Georgia, that:

The Mayor of the City of Camilla, or his/her successor, is hereby authorized to submit to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs a FY 2023 Community Development Block Grant application and such supporting and collateral material as shall be necessary.

READ, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Mayor and Council Members of the City of Camilla, Georgia on a motion made by Councilmember _____, seconded by Councilmember _____, and adopted on this 13th day of February, 2023.

CITY OF CAMILLA

ATTEST:

Kelvin Owens, Mayor

Cheryl Ford, Clerk

City of Camilla, Georgia
FAIR HOUSING RESOLUTION
RESOLUTION NO. 2023-02-13-5

LET IT BE KNOWN TO ALL PERSONS OF the CITY OF CAMILLA that discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, gender or national origin in the sale, rental, leasing or financing of housing or land to be used for construction of housing or in the provision of brokerage services is prohibited by Title VIII of the 1968 Civil Rights Act (Federal Fair Housing Law).

It is the policy of the **CITY OF CAMILLA** to encourage equal opportunity in housing for all persons regardless of race, color, religion, gender or national origin. The Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988 expands coverage to include disabled persons and families with children. Therefore, the **CITY** does hereby pass the following Resolution.

BE IT RESOLVED that within available resources the **CITY** will assist all persons who feel they have been discriminated against because of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, disability or familial status to seek equity under Federal and State laws by referring them to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, Compliance Division.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the **CITY** shall publicize this Resolution and through this publicity shall encourage owners of real estate, developers, and builders to become aware of their respective responsibilities and rights under the Federal Fair Housing Law and amendments and any applicable state or local laws or ordinances.

SAID **CITY** will, at a minimum: 1. Adopt and publicize the Fair Housing Resolution; 2. Post Fair Housing Posters in prominent public areas; 3. Provide Fair Housing Information Brochures to the public; 4. Declare April as Fair Housing Month by Proclamation or Resolution; and 5. Conduct at least one (1) Fair Housing activity and document said activity.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This Resolution shall take effect February 13, 2023.

CITY OF CAMILLA

ATTEST:

Kelvin Owens, Mayor

Cheryl Ford, Clerk



February 2, 2023

To the Mayor, City Council, and Management
City of Camilla
Camilla, Georgia

We are pleased to confirm our understanding of the services we are to provide to the City of Camilla ("the City") for the year ended September 30, 2022.

Audit Scope and Objectives

We will audit the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information, if any, including the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements of the City as of and for the year ended September 30, 2022. Accounting standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) provide for certain required supplementary information (RSI), such as management's discussion and analysis (MD&A), to supplement the City's basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. As part of our engagement, we will apply certain limited procedures to the City's RSI in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). These limited procedures will consist of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We will not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance. The following RSI is required by U.S. generally accepted accounting principles and will be subjected to certain limited procedures, but will not be audited:

- 1) Management's Discussion and Analysis, if presented
- 2) Budgetary comparison schedules
- 3) Pension Related Schedules

We have also been engaged to report on supplementary information other than RSI that accompanies the City's financial statements. We will subject the following supplementary information to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves,

and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS, and we will provide an opinion on it in relation to the financial statements as a whole, in a report combined with our auditor's report on the financial statements:

- 1) Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards
- 2) Combining and individual funds statements and schedule, if any
- 3) Supplemental financial schedules as required by the State of Georgia
- 4) Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax Project Cost
- 5) Transportation Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax Project Cost

The objectives of our audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions about whether your financial statements are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with GAAP, and report on the fairness of the supplementary information referred to in the second paragraph when considered in relation to the financial statements as a whole. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements, including omissions, can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment of a reasonable user made based on the financial statements. The objectives also include reporting on:

- Internal control over financial reporting and compliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and award agreements, noncompliance with which could have a material effect on the financial statements in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.
- Internal control over compliance related to major programs and an opinion (or disclaimer of opinion) on compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards that could have a direct and material effect on each major program in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance).

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements and Single Audit

We will conduct our audit in accordance with GAAS; the standards for financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996; and the provisions of the Uniform Guidance, and will include tests of accounting records, a determination of major program(s) in accordance with Uniform Guidance, and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express such opinions. As part of an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

We will evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management. We will also evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and determine whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation. We will plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial

statements are free of material misstatement, whether from (1) errors, (2) fraudulent financial reporting, (3) misappropriation of assets, or (4) violations of laws or governmental regulations that are attributable to the government or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the government. Because the determination of waste and abuse is subjective, *Government Auditing Standards* do not expect auditors to perform specific procedures to detect waste or abuse in financial audits nor do they expect auditors to provide reasonable assurance of detecting waste or abuse.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, combined with the inherent limitations of internal control, and because we will not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is an unavoidable risk that some material misstatements or noncompliance may not be detected by us, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*. In addition, an audit is not designed to detect immaterial misstatements or violations of laws or governmental regulations that do not have a direct and material effect on the financial statements or on major programs. However, we will inform the appropriate level of management of any material errors, any fraudulent financial reporting, or misappropriation of assets that come to our attention. We will also inform the appropriate level of management of any violations of laws or governmental regulations that come to our attention, unless clearly inconsequential. We will include such matters in the reports required for a Single Audit. Our responsibility as auditors is limited to the period covered by our audit and does not extend to any later periods for which we are not engaged as auditors.

We will also conclude, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the government's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our procedures will include tests of documentary evidence supporting the transactions recorded in the accounts, tests of the physical existence of inventories, and direct confirmation of receivables and certain assets and liabilities by correspondence with selected individuals, funding sources, creditors, and financial institutions. We will also request written representations from your attorneys as part of the engagement.

Our planning will include the identification of potential significant risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, and these risks may include, among others, risks due to management override of controls, risk of improper revenue recognition, and the risk of the occurrence of fraudulent disbursements or charges to grants/contracts.

Our audit of financial statements does not relieve you of your responsibilities.

Audit Procedures—Internal Control

We will obtain an understanding of the government and its environment, including internal control relevant to the audit, sufficient to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and to design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks and obtain evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinions. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentation, or the override of internal control. Tests of controls may be performed to test the effectiveness of certain controls that we

consider relevant to preventing and detecting errors and fraud that are material to the financial statements and to preventing and detecting misstatements resulting from illegal acts and other noncompliance matters that have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. Our tests, if performed, will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on internal control and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our report on internal control issued pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards*.

As required by the Uniform Guidance, we will perform tests of controls over compliance to evaluate the effectiveness of the design and operation of controls that we consider relevant to preventing or detecting material noncompliance with compliance requirements applicable to each major federal award program. However, our tests will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on those controls and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our report on internal control issued pursuant to the Uniform Guidance.

An audit is not designed to provide assurance on internal control or to identify significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. Accordingly, we will express no such opinion. However, during the audit, we will communicate to management and those charged with governance internal control related matters that are required to be communicated under AICPA professional standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance.

Audit Procedures—Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, we will perform tests of the City's compliance with the provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, agreements, and grants. However, the objective of our audit will not be to provide an opinion on overall compliance, and we will not express such an opinion in our report on compliance issued pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards*.

The Uniform Guidance requires that we also plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the auditee has complied with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards applicable to major programs. Our procedures will consist of tests of transactions and other applicable procedures described in the OMB *Compliance Supplement* for the types of compliance requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each of the City's major programs. For federal programs that are included in the Compliance Supplement, our compliance and internal control procedures will relate to the compliance requirements that the Compliance Supplement identifies as being subject to audit. The purpose of these procedures will be to express an opinion on the City's compliance with requirements applicable to each of its major programs in our report on compliance issued pursuant to the Uniform Guidance.

Other Services

We will also assist in preparing the financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and related notes of the City in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and the Uniform Guidance based on information provided by you. These non-audit services do not constitute an audit under *Government Auditing Standards* and such services will not be conducted in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. We will perform the services in accordance with applicable professional standards. The other services are limited to the financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and related notes services previously defined. We, in our sole

professional judgment, reserve the right to refuse to perform any procedure or take any action that could be construed as assuming management responsibilities.

You agree to assume all management responsibilities for the financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and related notes, and any other non-audit services we provide. You will be required to acknowledge in the management representation letter our assistance with preparation of the financial statements, the schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and related notes and that you have reviewed and approved the financial statements, the schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and related notes prior to their issuance and have accepted responsibility for them. Further, you agree to oversee the non-audit services by designating an individual, preferably from senior management, with suitable skill, knowledge, or experience; evaluate the adequacy and results of those services; and accept responsibility for them.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements and Single Audit

Our audit will be conducted on the basis that you acknowledge and understand your responsibility for (1) designing, implementing, establishing, and maintaining effective internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, including internal controls over federal awards, and for evaluating and monitoring ongoing activities to help ensure that appropriate goals and objectives are met; (2) following laws and regulations; (3) ensuring that there is reasonable assurance that government programs are administered in compliance with compliance requirements; and (4) ensuring that management and financial information is reliable and properly reported. Management is also responsible for implementing systems designed to achieve compliance with applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements. You are also responsible for the selection and application of accounting principles; for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and all accompanying information in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; and for compliance with applicable laws and regulations (including federal statutes), rules, and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements (including award agreements). Your responsibilities also include identifying significant contractor relationships in which the contractor has responsibility for program compliance and for the accuracy and completeness of that information.

You are also responsible for making drafts of financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, all financial records, and related information available to us and for the accuracy and completeness of that information (including information from outside of the general and subsidiary ledgers). You are also responsible for providing us with (1) access to all information of which you are aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, such as records, documentation, identification of all related parties and all related-party relationships and transactions, and other matters; (2) access to personnel, accounts, books, records, supporting documentation, and other information as needed to perform an audit under the Uniform Guidance; (3) additional information that we may request for the purpose of the audit; and (4) unrestricted access to persons within the government from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence. At the conclusion of our audit, we will require certain written representations from you about the financial statements; schedule of expenditures of federal awards; federal award programs; compliance with laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements; and related matters.

Your responsibilities include adjusting the financial statements to correct material misstatements and confirming to us in the

management representation letter that the effects of any uncorrected misstatements aggregated by us during the current engagement and pertaining to the latest period presented are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements of each opinion unit taken as a whole.

You are responsible for the design and implementation of programs and controls to prevent and detect fraud, and for informing us about all known or suspected fraud affecting the government involving (1) management, (2) employees who have significant roles in internal control, and (3) others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements. Your responsibilities include informing us of your knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the government received in communications from employees, former employees, grantors, regulators, or others. In addition, you are responsible for identifying and ensuring that the government complies with applicable laws, regulations, contracts, agreements, and grants. You are also responsible for taking timely and appropriate steps to remedy fraud and noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements that we report. Additionally, as required by the Uniform Guidance, it is management's responsibility to evaluate and monitor noncompliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards; take prompt action when instances of noncompliance are identified including noncompliance identified in audit findings; promptly follow up and take corrective action on reported audit findings; and prepare a summary schedule of prior audit findings and a separate corrective action plan.

You are responsible for identifying all federal awards received and understanding and complying with the compliance requirements and for the preparation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards (including notes and noncash assistance received, and COVID-19-related concepts, such as lost revenues, if applicable) in conformity with the Uniform Guidance. You agree to include our report on the schedule of expenditures of federal awards in any document that contains, and indicates that we have reported on, the schedule of expenditures of federal awards. You also agree to include the audited financial statements with any presentation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards that includes our report thereon. Your responsibilities include acknowledging to us in the written representation letter that (1) you are responsible for presentation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards in accordance with the Uniform Guidance; (2) you believe the schedule of expenditures of federal awards, including its form and content, is stated fairly in accordance with the Uniform Guidance; (3) the methods of measurement or presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period (or, if they have changed, the reasons for such changes); and (4) you have disclosed to us any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement or presentation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards.

You are also responsible for the preparation of the other supplementary information, which we have been engaged to report on, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). You agree to include our report on the supplementary information in any document that contains, and indicates that we have reported on, the supplementary information. You also agree to include the audited financial statements with any presentation of the supplementary information that includes our report thereon. Your responsibilities include acknowledging to us in the written representation letter that (1) you are responsible for presentation of the supplementary information in accordance with GAAP; (2) you believe the supplementary information, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with GAAP; (3) the methods of measurement or presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period (or, if they have changed, the reasons for such changes); and (4) you have disclosed to us any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement or presentation of the supplementary information.

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining a process for tracking the status of audit findings and recommendations. Management is also responsible for identifying and providing report copies of previous financial audits, attestation engagements, performance audits, or other studies related to the objectives discussed in the Audit Scope and Objectives section of this letter. This responsibility includes relaying to us corrective actions taken to address significant findings and recommendations resulting from those audits, attestation engagements, performance audits, or studies. You are also responsible for providing management's views on our current findings, conclusions, and recommendations, as well as your planned corrective actions for the report, and for the timing and format for providing that information.

Engagement Administration, Fees, and Other

We understand that your employees will locate any documents selected by us for testing.

At the conclusion of the engagement, we will complete the appropriate sections of the Data Collection Form that summarizes our audit findings. It is management's responsibility to electronically submit the reporting package (including financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, summary schedule of prior audit findings, auditor's reports, and corrective action plan) along with the Data Collection Form to the federal audit clearinghouse. We will coordinate with you the electronic submission and certification. The Data Collection Form and the reporting package must be submitted within the earlier of 30 calendar days after receipt of the auditor's reports or nine months after the end of the audit period.

We will provide copies of our reports to the City; however, management is responsible for distribution of the reports and the financial statements. Unless restricted by law or regulation, or containing privileged and confidential information, copies of our reports are to be made available for public inspection.

The audit documentation for this engagement is the property of Valenti, Rackley & Associates, LLC and constitutes confidential information. However, subject to applicable laws and regulations, audit documentation and appropriate individuals will be made available upon request and in a timely manner to a regulator or its designee, a federal agency providing direct or indirect funding, or the U.S. Government Accountability Office for purposes of a quality review of the audit, to resolve audit findings, or to carry out oversight responsibilities. We will notify you of any such request. If requested, access to such audit documentation will be provided under the supervision of Valenti, Rackley & Associates, LLC personnel. Furthermore, upon request, we may provide copies of selected audit documentation to the aforementioned parties. These parties may intend, or decide, to distribute the copies or information contained therein to others, including other governmental agencies.

The audit documentation for this engagement will be retained for a minimum of five years after the report release date or for any additional period requested by the Cognizant Agency, an Oversight Agency for Audit, or a Pass-through Entity. If we are aware that a federal awarding agency, pass-through entity, or auditee is contesting an audit finding, we will contact the party(ies) contesting the audit finding for guidance prior to destroying the audit documentation.

Nicholas J. Valenti, Jr. CPA CFP is the engagement partner and is responsible for supervising the engagement and signing the

reports or authorizing another individual to sign them.

Our fee for these services will be at \$50,500. For budget purposes, we provide the following estimates of the breakdown of audit fees.

General Fund	\$24,500
Gas Fund	\$4,000
Water & Sewer Fund	\$12,000
Electric Fund	\$4,000
CNS Cable Fund	\$500
Solid Waste Fund	\$500
Airport Fund	\$1,500
Development Authority of City of Camilla	\$3,500

The single audit fee and any other state or federal compliance audit required will be billed at a rate of \$55 - \$140 per hour. Our invoices for these fees will be rendered each month as work progresses and are payable on presentation. In accordance with our firm policies, work may be suspended if your account becomes 30 days or more overdue and may not be resumed until your account is paid in full. If we elect to terminate our services for nonpayment, our engagement will be deemed to have been completed upon written notification of termination, even if we have not completed our report(s). You will be obligated to compensate us for all time expended and to reimburse us for all out-of-pocket costs through the date of termination. The above fee is based on anticipated cooperation from your personnel and the assumption that unexpected circumstances will not be encountered during the engagement. If significant additional time is necessary, we will keep you informed of any problems we encounter, and our fees will be adjusted accordingly.

Reporting

We will issue written reports upon completion of our Single Audit. Our reports will be addressed to the Mayor, City Council, and Management of the City. Circumstances may arise in which our report may differ from its expected form and content based on the results of our audit. Depending on the nature of these circumstances, it may be necessary for us to modify our opinions, add a separate section, or add an emphasis-of-matter or other-matter paragraph to our auditor's report, or if necessary, withdraw from this engagement. If our opinions are other than unmodified, we will discuss the reasons with you in advance. If, for any reason, we are unable to complete the audit or are unable to form or have not formed opinions, we may decline to express opinions or issue reports, or we may withdraw from this engagement.

The *Government Auditing Standards* report on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters will state that (1) the purpose of the report is solely to describe the scope of testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance, and (2) the report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. The Uniform Guidance report on internal control over compliance will state that the purpose of the report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform

Guidance. Both reports will state that the report is not suitable for any other purpose.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to the City and believe this letter accurately summarizes the significant terms of our engagement. If you have any questions, please let us know. If you agree with the terms of our engagement as described in this letter, please sign and return it to us.

Very truly yours,

Valenti, Rackley & Assoc., LLC

Valenti, Rackley & Associates, LLC
Certified Public Accountants

RESPONSE:

This letter correctly sets forth the understanding of the City of Camilla.

Signed: _____

City Management

Name: _____