

**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 1<sup>st</sup>. They would like to make concessions that will help both parties. Councilmember Tucker commented to follow up – today is September 16<sup>th</sup> and the next work session is October 3<sup>rd</sup>. That is two weeks and the next meeting will be October 10<sup>th</sup>. Would another potential concession be that he would agree for a closure of September 15<sup>th</sup> to October 10<sup>th</sup>, 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 10<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> through November 1<sup>st</sup>, 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 15<sup>th</sup> to November 1<sup>st</sup>. 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

# CITY OF CAMILLA, GEORGIA ~ SIGN-IN SHEET

DATE: SEPT 16 2022 TIME: 11:00 ☒ A.M. ☐ P.M.

MEETING: ☒ COUNCIL ☐ WORK SESSION ☒ OTHER: CALLED

	NAME	ADDRESS	SPEAKER		TOPIC OF DISCUSSION
			NO	YES	
1	Jaon Y Thomas	192 Walker	✓		
2	Lizzie Hawkins	209 N Ellis Street			
3	Laurene Dawson	199 N. Ellis Street	✓		
4	Renae Jenkins			✓	
5	Walter Anderson	104 Thomas Street			
6	Jacqueline T. Ross	293 N Ellis St. Camilla	✓		
7	Rhonda Willard	194 N Ellis Street			
8	Paul Smith	Camilla			
9	Joe Bostick, Jr.	321 BAIN BRIDGE Rd.		✓	
10	Michael L. S.	42 N Ellis St		✓	
11	Bonita White	28 West Bennett Str		✓	
12	Ronald Spence				
13					
14					
15					
16					
17					