



## **CAMDEN COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICE AUTHORITY**

### **REGULAR MEETING**

**MARCH 21, 2024 • 5:30 PM**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Blount called the regular meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

#### **INVOCATION**

Chairman Blount delivered the invocation.

#### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Blount led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **ROLL CALL**

Chairman Alex Blount – Present  
Vice-Chairman Jimmy Smith – Absent  
Commissioner Lannie Brant – Absent  
Mayor Kizzi Knight – Absent  
Councilman Artie Jones Jr. – Present  
Stephen Haughn – Present  
Terry Landreth – Present  
June Maxwell – Present  
Ernesto Herring Jr. - Absent

#### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Councilman Jones made a motion, seconded by Haughn, to approve the regular meeting minutes from February 15, 2024.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

#### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Landreth made a motion, seconded by Councilman Jones, to adopt the agenda as presented.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

## **GRANTING AUDIENCE TO THE PUBLIC**

### **April Smiley, Kingsland**

Ms. Smiley addressed the board concerning the deterioration of the pickleball courts located at the Howard Peeples Park. She listed several benefits of playing pickleball including exercising the brain and body, concentration and elevated heartrate. However, she feels the biggest gift to the community has been the opportunity for all age groups, different levels of athleticism and backgrounds to come together and become like family.

Ms. Smiley stated pickleball is the fasting growing sport for 3 years in a row. It is now played in 19 colleges and possibly in high school in the future. She and her husband participated in a pickleball tournament in Daytona at a facility called Pictona. 738 players participated in the tournament at \$60 per player which was a profit of \$47, 970, plus concession profits. This facilitated tourism into the community, hotels and restaurants. It was a situation similar to our community. They turned tennis courts into pickleball courts, but funding was needed, so the pickleball association partnered with the local government and came together. They generated funds through tournament play, monthly and yearly fees. They have 1,374 members that pay \$400 per year they generate \$549,600 per year in revenue. She knows the financial ramifications to repair the courts are huge but if we come together we can possibly look at a solution to the financial burden.

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

- A.** Chairman Blount updated the board on employee retirement plans. The PSA took over the retirement account from the Camden County Board of Commissioners during the last quarter of 2021. He referred to that as the conversion period. A detailed review was conducted from the conversion date to December 2023. During this time there were 15 payrolls of employee contributions and 19 payrolls of employer matches not uploaded to the Empower retirement plan. He is pleased to report all these have been uploaded and posted to employee accounts. Additionally, Empower has updated the participant accounts to reflect the calculated interest earnings. The retirement and matches for payroll periods 2024 to date are uploaded and are current.

Chairman Blount stated it has been quite an undertaking going back and checking the work previous administration had partially done or not at all. Chairman Blount thanked Kingsland Finance Director Ms. Filiz Morrow for single handedly lifting that burden.

- B.** Haughn updated the board on the property transfer to the Camden County Board of Education. Haughn and Councilman Jones have been working with the Camden County Board of Education on the transfer of property including the stadium, track, practice field, baseball and softball fields. They have met with the school board several times and recently with operations and logistical staff of the school board. They have obtained current surveys of all the properties and these have been provided to the school board. They're interested in maintaining the current relationships of use of their facilities and in return maintaining the same courtesy to them using the Rec Center facility.

Haughn suggested that the board take the information given and come up with a MOU to be reviewed by the board and move forward with this in a very short period of time if they so desired. The desire of the school board as expressed to him is that they would like to be able to start repairs and construction on the stadium this summer, after school lets out to be prepared for the upcoming football and softball season. There will be a meeting in April to review all the material that has been supplied.

- C.** Executive Director Wilcox, presented the board with a report of recent happenings at the PSA, including an update on the parks, special programs/events, aquatics, gymnastics and athletics.

Haughn asked Ms. Patterson for an update on 24 hour access. Ms. Patterson stated the customized software will take 4-6 weeks to be delivered.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Haughn made a motion, seconded by Councilman Jones to adjourn the regular meeting.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

Adjourn regular meeting at 5:53PM

APPROVED IN OPEN SESSION THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

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**ALEX BLOUNT, CHAIRMAN**

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**TERESA PATTERSON, SECRETARY**

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