

Pierce County Board of Commissioners  
Public Hearing Agenda  
Tuesday, October 4, 2022 8:00 AM

Commissioners in Attendance:

Neal Bennett, Chairman  
Harold Rozier, District 1  
David Lowman, District 4

Staff in Attendance:

Franklin Rozier, County Attorney  
Jason Rubenbauer, County Manager/Clerk  
Lana Blankenship, Human Resources Gen.

1. Call to Order—Chairman Bennett called the Public Hearing to order at 8:04 am.
2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance—Commissioner David Lowman provided an Invocation and Commissioner Harold Rozier led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Discussion on the proposed 2023 General Fund, Recreation Fund, and E-911 Fund Budgets and Proposed 2022 Millage rate recommendation. Opportunity for public to provide feedback.

Chairman Bennett called for questions from the citizens in attendance.

Reverend Morris Pate discussed his concerns for the low income and the senior citizens who would be negatively impacted by the increase in taxes.

Chairman Bennett said there are exemptions that citizens can apply for to help offset the cost of the increase.

Reverend Morris Pate stated that citizens are concerned with the increase and what is coming next.

Tony Walsh, representing the Pierce County Republican Party stated that he is working on the modified senior support project.

Mike Bennett discussed the county's recent pay increase and the training of the county's employees. Jason Rubenbauer discussed the level of services the county offers its citizens. Commissioner David Lowman also mentioned the cost for the county to provide the services has increased.

Linda Herrin asked about the building on Nichols Street, the list for salaries. Jason Rubenbauer said that line item was for maintenance. She also asked about the electricity bill for the 705 College Avenue, Blackshear, GA building coming in at \$70,000.00 a year. Commissioner David Lowman discussed that when the citizens wanted to save the historic building that is the cost of

cooling and heating of the old building. Jason Rubenbauer said the space is rented out to help absorb some of the electricity cost.

A citizen stated they appreciated all the hard work of everyone.

Chairman Bennett reminded everyone of the 5:00 pm Public Hearing meeting and the Regular Commission meeting at 6:00 pm this evening.

4. Adjourn at 8:20 am.

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Neal Bennett

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Harold Rozier

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Mike Streat

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Randy Dixon

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David Lowman