

Baldwin County Commissioners
Public Hearing
October 24, 2017
6:00 p.m.

A Public Hearing was held Tuesday, October 24, 2017, to consider a proposed amendment to Baldwin County Codes to include the International Property Maintenance Codes (IPMC). The Public Hearing was held at 6:00 p.m., Baldwin County Courthouse, Suite 319, 121 North Wilkinson Street, Milledgeville, Georgia with Chair Sammy Hall presiding.

Members Present: Emily C. Davis
Tommy French
Sammy Hall
Henry Craig
John Westmoreland

Also Present: David McRee
Cindy Cunningham
Dawn Hudson

Call to Order of Public Hearing

Chair Sammy Hall called the Public Hearing to order at 6:00 p.m. He stated the purpose was to receive public input on a proposed amendment to the Baldwin County Codes to include the International Property Maintenance Codes (IPMC). He stated a legal notice has been published in the newspaper. Mr. Hall opened the floor for public comment. He asked those making comments to limit their remarks to three minutes.

Mr. Clarence Woodall addressed the Board to express his opposition to the County adopting the International Property Maintenance Codes. He stated the County should not mandate what people can do in their homes. He also stated there are people who are able to clean up their properties due to age, health issues, and limited finances. He felt the County should utilize the ordinances currently on the books.

Mr. Ray Woodall expressed his opposition to the IPMC for the same reasons stated by Mr. Clarence Woodall.

Mr. Julian Hood addressed the Board on behalf of himself and neighbors in the Sinclair Marina Road area. He stated they are all in favor of adopting the IPMC. He commented that the current ordinances are not effective. There is a great deal of blight throughout the County, and he feels the County needs to adopt something that will be of benefit to the entire County.

Mr. Joel Brookins stated he feels it is important for the County to adopt the IPMC to set standards for the entire community to address the issue of blight and trash. He stated he is very much in favor of the County adopting the IPMC.

Mr. Gary Spillers stated he is very much in favor of the County adopting the IPMC. He reported he has been hired to sale one such blighted property, a trailer park, on Sinclair Marina Road. Once these properties are sold, they can be cleaned up which will be a benefit to the entire County.

Mr. Jerry Huellemier stated he also lives in the Sinclair Marina Road area, and he is very much in favor of the adoption of the IPMC.

Mr. Jerry Lester, also of Sinclair Marina Road area, stated the County must start somewhere to address these issues. He stated he felt the adoption of the IPMC could motivate citizens to take pride in their property.

Mr. Jonah Arnold stated he would yield his time to Mr. Quentin Howell. Mr. Howell stated he felt since the ordinance would be complaint driven that it would not be administered fairly. He felt there are other ways to deal with these areas other than the adoption of the IPMC.

Ms. Lisa Bolt expressed her concern about people moving into the County and wanting to protect their property with no recourse for those who do not. She felt there would not be an excessive amount of complaints; only in extreme situations would people complain

Ms. Debbie Bush asked Commissioners if there would be more public hearings before the Board voted on this matter. Chair Hall stated there would be at least one more hearing or possibly two more. Commissioners want to give citizens ample opportunities to provide their input.

Mr. Jerry McCommon commented on the current codes and how they address such situations. He asked if the IPMC would come back to the full Board of a vote.

Mr. Jonah Arnold stated he has studied the IPMC in-depth. He feels Solicitor General Blackwell needs to address enforcement issues at a meeting.

Adjournment

Commissioner Henry Craig made a motion to adjourn the Public Hearing at 6:35 p.m. Commissioner John Westmoreland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sammy Hall
Chair

Cynthia K. Cunningham
County Clerk