

Board of County Commissioners

Agenda Request

Date of Meeting: June 21, 2010

Date Submitted: June 4, 2010

To: Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board

From: Benjamin H. Pingree, County Administrator

Subject: Board Consideration to take action of Executing an Interlocal Agreement between the City of St. Marks and Wakulla County by acknowledging full payment of taxes due the County.

Statement of Issue:

This agenda item requests Board Consideration to take action of Executing an Interlocal Agreement between the City of St. Marks and Wakulla County by acknowledging full payment of taxes due the County (Attachment #1).

Background:

St. Marks recently took possession of 55 acres known as the “St. Marks refinery” located at 627 Port Leon Drive by quit claim deed through U.S. Bankruptcy Court. The prior owner failed to pay all ad valorem taxation due on the property in the amount of \$22,034.55 for which tax certificates have been issued to the County for non- payment. The City has paid all other current tax certificates to clear the property but for the amount due the Wakulla County School Board. The City has made it a priority to clean up the area by obtaining grants to mitigate and clean up the contamination on the property.

Analysis:

St. Marks has reached out to Commissioners and others for relief of taxes that remain due on the property they acquired. This agenda item attempts to address that issue on taxes owed to the county which was also recently discussed at the Joint Workshop held with the City on June 10th.

Section 163.01, F.S. provides for local governments the ability to enter into inter local agreements by enabling them the ability to cooperate with each other on the basis of mutual advantage in accord with geographic, economic and other factors influencing the needs and development of local communities. The county currently owns some tax certificates held on the site.

By law the County is not allowed to outright waive the existing type of debt. Approval of the interlocal agreement allows for payment to be collected from the City and same amount is then reimbursable to go toward the clean up and economic development of the site.

Options:

1. Approve the Interlocal Agreement between the City of St. Marks and Wakulla County
2. Do Not Approve the Interlocal Agreement between the City of St. Marks and Wakulla County
3. Board Direction

Recommendation:

Option #3.

Attachment(s):

1. Interlocal Agreement between the City of St. Marks and Wakulla County