



From the Desk of Jim Cameron

Jim Cameron Consulting LLC

January 2022

Jim Cameron Consulting LLC brings 38 years of working with local governments and is now available to serve on a clientele basis...be it new land development projects, bids, campaign assistance.

For more information, go to my website, www.jimcameronconsulting.com Call my cell 566-2140...day, night, or weekends if you'd like to discuss further. And my guarantee still stands that if I miss your call and don't return it in eight business hours, I will pay you \$1000 cash.

Congressional News

Congress Raises Nation's Debt Ceiling

On December 16, **President Biden** signed into law a \$2.5 trillion increase to the debt ceiling after the House 221 to 209 and the Senate voted 50-49.

The hike will lift the limit by \$2.5 trillion and is expected to cover all government bills set to come due by 2023.

[Click here](#) for more information.



News from Tallahassee



Legislative Session to Begin January 11

House and Senate members will soon address numerous issues including the proposed FY 2022-23 budget and redistricting Congressional and Legislative districts.

The need for workforce housing is expected to draw attention.

Gov DeSantis Proposes \$99.7 billion budget.....

DeSantis' new budget priorities focus on education, environment, law enforcement, and a reduction in the State gas tax.

It includes \$1.17 billion tax cut package which comprises four sales tax holidays, a 25-cent cut in the gas tax and \$15.3 billion in reserves.

[Click here](#) for more information.





[Jim Cameron Consulting LLC](#)

is now located at
The Fountainhead at Holly Hill,
1200 Center St. Please call my cell to
set a meeting or stop by Monday -
Friday.

Some of the Major Legislative Issues to be Addressed this Session.....

**Business Liability Protection/
Healthcare Providers – [S 7014](#)** by
Sen Burgess extends last year's sun-
set provision (March 14) to June 1,
2023; and it will provide liability protec-
tions for health care providers that have
complied in good faith with Sunshine
State health standards in COVID-19 re-
lated matters.

Teacher Salaries - [S 298](#) by **Sen Book**
would allow local school boards to use
state funds for other personnel if the
district has met the minimum base sala-
ry for teachers.

Vacation Rentals [H 325](#) by **Rep
Fischer** regarding advertising, taxes,
expands authority of local laws/
ordinances to require vacation rentals
to register with local rental registration
programs

**Damages to Business/Local Govern-
ment - [S 620](#)** by **Sen Travis Hutson**
creates a cause of action for estab-
lished business (operating for 3 plus
years) to recover loss of business dam-
ages from a county/municipality whose
regulatory action has caused a 15% of
revenue or profit loss, excluding orders
or declarations passed due to an emer-
gency.

County Council and School Board Finalize New District Maps

With a end of the year Charter deadline
approaching, the County Council unani-
mously adopted their re-districted maps
at their December 14 meeting.

Using the most recent US Census data
which showed Volusia's total population
at 550,701...the target number for each
district was 110,000.

The Council aimed to maintain popula-
tion parity, preserving city boundaries,
keeping minority populations intact and
not splitting communities that have geo-

graphically connected populations and share
common social and economic interests.

Also on December 14, by a 3-2 vote, the
School Board approved Resolution 2021-26
to change School Board Member Residence
Areas Per the 2020 Census.

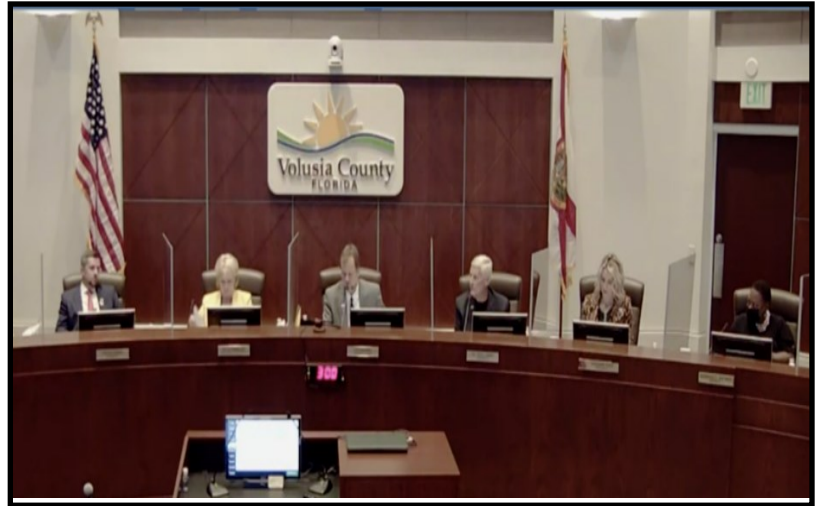
[Click here](#) for the new **County Council** map.

[Click here](#) for the new **School Board** map.

County Council's 2022 Kick Off Meeting.....

At their January 6 meeting, the County Council made several decisions for 2022... **Barb Girtman** was selected Vice Chair and their meetings will continue on 1st /3rd Tuesdays, 9:30 am.

Council committee/assignments were agreed upon. [Click here](#) to see Committee assignments. Former County Chair **Frank Bruno** was assigned to the Elections Canvassing Board.



Beach Vendors...the Council voted 7-0 to keep the current Volusia Beach Rentals/ Refreshments vs a bid from Boucher Brothers of Miami. Council consensus was that local vendors have performed well.

The Council approved an additional \$2.5 million in **State Housing Investment Partnership** (SHIP) program income to their budget. The County originally estimated at income at \$800,000 but the sale of 2 multi-family rental developments generated the \$2.5 million.

These additional funds will be placed in reserves until allocated for SHIP eligible homeownership or rental activities, and must be expended by June, 2024.

The County received \$2.6 million from the Dept of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) to be used to assist homeless, at-risk of homelessness. These funds could be used for affordable housing, tenant-based rental assistance, supportive services, etc. This money will be placed in a reserve account until a HOME-ARP Allocation Plan is completed and approved by the Council and HUD.



Volusia Elected Officials Roundtable
Monday, January 10, 9 – 11 am
NEW LOCATION!
The Center at Deltona 1640 MLK Blvd. Deltona



Elected officials from Volusia's cities, county government and school system.

Open to the public. Call Kevin Captain 822-5062 for more details. [Click here](#) for the agenda.

New Appointments/ Career Changes.....



Drew Meiner was recently promoted to Senior Advisor to the Governor. Drew was District Director to then-Cong Ron DeSantis in their Port Orange office.

Drew has been a good friend to Volusia and we know he'll do a fine job!



County Judge Chris Kelly was recently appointed by **Gov DeSantis** to be a new Circuit Judge in the 7th District.

He will be located in Deland. Chris is also a graduate of Leadership Daytona XXIV. Congratulations Chris!

And we say good bye to an ol' friend



Mike Jiloty - an advertising specialist, he operated Jiloty, Shipley & Associates, which became Jiloty Communications. He later became president of Lord & Lasker Florida. He was as president of United Way-Volusia-Flagler, Daytona Beach Advertising Federation, Foundation for Volusia County Schools (FUTURES), and Daytona Regional Chamber.

He was always great to work with and will be missed.

Daytona Beach City Commission Approves Downtown Apartment Complex



December 15, Daytona Beach City Commission voted unanimously give Framework Group a \$7.5 million property tax break to construct a 290-unit apartment complex (and 500-space parking garage) on a 3.5-acre site on N Beach St over the next 12 years.

By investing \$80 million, Framework Group would be reimbursed 80% of the property taxes over a 12-year period. Once the units are occupied, the City would still collect more than \$2 million

in property taxes until 2036....afterwards the city would keep 100% of the city property tax revenue.

While this development includes no workforce units, Framework is seeking to build 14 townhomes and 48 apartments on Orange Ave.

Having a residential project of this size on Beach St will definitely add consumer activity to the downtown business shops, cafes and service type businesses.

Daytona Beach City Commission Postpones Redistricting Process

At their January 5 meeting, the Daytona Beach City Commission heard a [REDISTRICTING PRESENTATION](#) from WGI as to the process for redrawing Zone Boundaries for 2022 elections. However, ONLY Zones 1,3 and 5 will be up for elections (see Candidate's Page). The consensus of the Commission was to postpone the mapping process until March 2023 (or sooner) in time for the 2024 elections.



Daytona Beach State of the City Wednesday, January 19, 5:15 pm City Hall

A brief video and presentation by **Mayor Derrick Henry** which will highlight economic development, public works, leisure services as well as new challenges facing the City.

This will be broadcast on the City's website www.codb.us



Holly Hill Mayor Chris Via will present the **State of the City on Wednesday, January 19, 11:30 am – 1 pm at Sica Community Hall, 1065 Daytona Ave.** Open to the public.

[Register online](#) or contact [Samantha Crouch](#) .

City News Continued.....



Deland's Putnam Hotel to be Renovated!!

The Deland Historic Preservation Board recently approved a project that will convert the former Hotel Putnam into apartments.

Located at 121 W NY Ave, the building is owned by Axia Partners,. It will be formally named Putnam Estates and will house 64 one and two bedroom apartments.

This project is expected to be completed within the year.

City of Oak Hill and County Working Towards A Central Sewer Collection System

Both the City and County have a MOU to fund the construction of a centralized sewage collection.

Oak Hill has already received legislative funds and a grant from the Fla Dept of Environmental Protection and St. Johns River Water Management District to construct a central sewer collection system.

Oak Hill Mayor Doug Gibson was at the January 6 Council meeting along with **County's Public Works Director Ben Bartlett** and **Water Resources & Utilities Director Mike Ulrich**.

Groundbreaking event for this project will be January 19, 11 am at East Ariel Rd x US 1. This has got to be a plus for the Indian River Lagoon!

Treasure Island Inn on DB Shores Agenda next week....

On Monday, January 10, the DB Shores Planning Board will address an agreement with 2025 South Atlantic Avenue, LLC to permit the redevelopment of the Treasure Island properties and the demolition of the existing structure. It will enable the owner/developer to redevelop the Treasure Island and Sunny Shores parcels with a development containing 300 hotel units and 200 residential units. More details must be worked out with the property owner.

This same ordinance is on the City Council's agenda on Tuesday, January 11. [Click here](#) for more details.



Elections 2022!!!!

Click the candidate link for more info....

Current Congressional/Legislative Candidates

August 23 (Primary) November 8 (General)

Governor

[Charlie Crist](#) (DEM)
[Ron DeSantis](#) (REP) *Incumbent
[Nikki Fried](#) (DEM)

Attorney General

[Jim Lewis](#) (DEM)
[Ashley Moody](#) (REP) *Incumbent

Agriculture Commissioner

[Ryan Morales](#) (DEM)
[Wilton Simpson](#) (REP)

Chief Financial Officer

[Jimmy Patronis](#) (REP) *Incumbent

Congressional District 6

[Charles Davis](#) (REP)
[Joe Hannoush](#) (LPF)
[Gerry Nolan](#) (NPA)
[Richard Thripp](#) (DEM)
[Michael Waltz](#) (REP) * Incumbent

Florida Senate District 7

[Travis Hutson](#) (REP) *Incumbent
[Gerald James](#) (REP)

Florida Senate District 9

[Jason Brodeur](#) (REP) *Incumbent

Florida Senate District 14

[Tom Wright](#) (REP) *Incumbent

Florida House District 24

[Paul Renner](#) (REP) *Incumbent
[Timothy Sharp](#) (REP)

Florida House District 25

[Tom Leek](#) (REP) *Incumbent

Florida House District 26

[Elizabeth Fetterhoff](#) (REP) *Incumbent
[John Navarra](#) (DEM)

Florida House District 27

[Webster Barnaby](#) (REP) *Incumbent

Current County Council/School Board Candidates

County Council, At-Large

[Jake Johansson](#)
[Heather Post](#)

County Council, District 1

[Wallace Bailey](#)
[Barb Girtman](#)
[Ronnie Mills](#)

County Council, District 2

[Danny Fugua](#)
[Chase Tramont](#)
[Paul Zimmerman](#)

County Council, District 3

[Danny Robins](#)

County Council, District 4

[Rob Littleton](#)
[Kenneth Smith](#)

County Council, District 5

[Victor Ramos](#)
[David Sosa](#)

School Board, District 1

[Georgeann Carnicella](#)
[Jaclyn Carrell](#)

School Board, District 3

[Kim Short](#)
[Jessie Thompson](#)

School Board, District 5

[Ruben Colon](#)
[Ronald Jungk](#)

County Council Zone 2 Candidates Discuss Issues

On January 6, the Daytona Beach Beachside Neighborhood Watch hosted a Candidates Forum for Volusia County Council Zone 2. **Candidates Chase Tramont and Paul Zimmerman** addressed numerous issues. **Candidate Danny Fuqua** was unable to attend due to a death in the family.



A few comments from the forum.....

Homeless/Panhandling/First Step Shelter

Chase Tramont – individuals have the constitutional right to panhandle but Cities can and have adopted ordinances to determine when/where panhandling can occur. *Note – Tramont supported the Port Orange Panhandling Ordinance.*

First Step Shelter gives police officers another location besides jail to take homeless individuals. Its purpose is to get homeless individuals with a case manager, job training/counseling and ‘mainstream’ them on to a half-way house....and NOT keep them indefinitely.

Paul Zimmerman – First Step Shelter is NOT a “come as you are”...homeless must be taken there by a police officer. Deland’s Neighborhood Center IS “come as you are”. Truth is..being homeless is not illegal and many of these individuals like that lifestyle. Daytona Beach is home to most Social Service agencies for homeless....would like these agencies spread out more.

Top Infrastructure Need in the County?

Both candidates agreed that LPGA should be top priority.

Impact Fees?

Both candidates agreed to increase them.

1-Cent Infrastructure Sales Tax Referendum?

Chase Tramont – people voted against the 2019 half-cent referendum....tax increases hurt working families...cannot support another referendum.

Paul Zimmerman – County has a \$1.1 billion budget and it contains lots of waste. I led the opposition to the 2019 referendum....would oppose it again.

Pay for New Roads?

Chase Tramont – government needs to live within its means. County should collaborate with state/federal government and leverage funding from those sources.

Paul Zimmerman – again, County has a \$1.1 billion budget and use existing funds along with state/federal funds.

Septic to Sewer?

Chase Tramont – oppose *forced* septic to sewer. Local government should work with homeowners to alleviate hook-up costs.

Paul Zimmerman – support septic to sewer; package systems allowed for out-of-control growth.

Both candidates did a superb job of explaining their stand on each issue. I want to congratulate **Anne Ruby** for organizing an informative program. Estimated 75-80 in attendance.....

Including.....**New Smyrna Beach Mayor Russ Owen, DB City Commissioners Quanita May, Ruth Trager, Ken Strickland, DB Shores Nancy Miller, County At-Large Candidate Jake Johansson,**

City Filed Candidates
August 23 (Primary) November 8 (General)

Daytona Beach City Commission, Zone 1
[Ruth Trager](#)

New Smyrna Bch Commission Zone 2
[Joel Paige](#)

Daytona Beach Commission Zone 3
[Quanita May](#)
[Steve Miller](#)

Port Orange Council District 2
[Cathleen \(Kat\) Atwood](#)

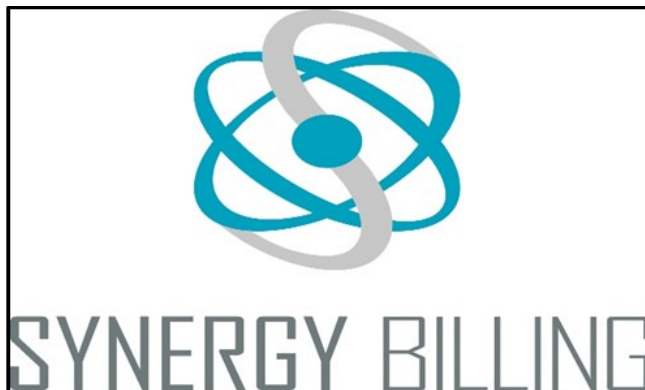
DeLand Mayor
[Christopher Cloudman](#)
[Buz Nesbit](#)
[Reginald Williams](#)

Ormond Beach Mayor
[Bill Partington](#)

Deland Commission Seat 3
[Jessica Davis](#)

Ormond Beach Commission Zone 4
[Harold Briley](#)
[Brian Nave](#)

Deltona Commission Zone 1
[Thomas Burbank](#)



[Click here](#) to see status of
ACTIVE (PROPOSED) STATE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

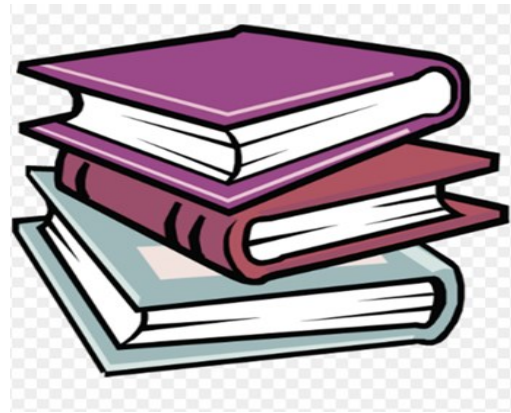
LOOK FOR OTHER CANDIDATES TO FILE SOON!!!!

Click the links below to see our
Officials in Washington and Tallahassee

[**Congressional Delegation**](#)
[**Volusia Legislative Delegation**](#)

What are you reading? Do you have a book that you're reading now or recently read? If so, email the name of it to jim@jimcameronconsulting.com

I'd like to list it in next month's newsletter. Below is a list of our readers from last month.



- **Jayson Meyer**
Invent & Wander – The Collective Writings of Jeff Bezos
- **Ernie Audino**
Lessons in Leadership by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks
The First Circle by Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn
- **Dana McCool**
Franklin Delano Roosevelt—Champion Campaigner by Harold Gosnell
- **Mike Scuderio**
Killing the Mob by Bill O'Reilly
- **Stephanie Larret**
The 4 Disciplines of Execution by Chris McChesney, Sean Covey, Jim Huling
- **Bob Williams**
Loonshots: How to Nurture the Crazy Ideas That Win Wars, Cure Diseases, Transform Industries

- **Rufus Johnson**
Good to Great by Jim Collins
- **Tom Self**
The Grid by Gretchen Bakke, Ph. D.
- **Richard Bryan**
The Vitamin D Solution by Michael F. Holick
- **Loretta Arthur**
The Tibetan Book of the Dead by The Dalai Lama
- **Jane Pottmeyer**
Seven Habits of Highly Effective People by Steven Covey
- **Jim Cameron**
Isreal: A Simple Guide to the Most Misunderstood Country on Earth

Many of these books are available via Kindle through the Volusia County Library. Click <https://volusialibrary.org/> then click Digital Library.

They have a GREAT selection of online books.

THE CRACKED EGG DINER

Make This Your Place
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HOMEMADE DAILY:
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386-788-7332
3280 S. Atlantic Ave.,
Daytona Beach Shores
www.thecrackedeggdiner.com

Click the link for Local Government

<u>Volusia County Council</u>	January 6, 18 - 9:30 am Cty Adm Bldg
<u>Daytona Beach City Commission</u>	January 5, 19 - 6 pm City Hall
<u>Ormond Beach City Commission</u>	January 4, 18 - 7 pm City Hall
<u>Port Orange City Council</u>	January 18 - 6:30 City Hall
<u>Holly Hill City Commission</u>	January 11, 25 - 6 pm City Hall
<u>South Daytona City Council</u>	January 11 - 6 pm City Hall
<u>Daytona Bch Shores City Council</u>	January 11, 25 - 6 pm City Hall
<u>DeBary City Council</u>	January 5 - 6:30 pm City Hall
<u>Deland City Council</u>	January 3, 18 - 7 pm City Hall
<u>Deltona City Commission</u>	January 3, 18 - 6:30 pm City Hall
<u>Edgewater City Council</u>	January 10 - 6:00 pm City Hall
<u>Lake Helen City Commission</u>	January 13 - 7:00 pm City Hall
<u>New Smyrna Bch Commission</u>	January 11, 25 - 6:30 pm City Hall
<u>Oak Hill City Commission</u>	January 10 - 6 pm City Hall
<u>Orange City City Council</u>	January 11, 25 - 6:30 pm City Hall
<u>Ponce Inlet Town Council</u>	January ---, 6 pm City
<u>School Board of Volusia</u>	January 11, 25 - 3:30/ 5:30 pm Deland
<u>River to Sea TPO</u>	January 26 - 9 am TPO Office

