



**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING**  
**CITY OF NEW PORT RICHEY**  
NEW PORT RICHEY CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
5919 MAIN STREET, NEW PORT RICHEY, FLORIDA  
September 29, 2016  
6:00 PM

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**ORDER OF**  
**BUSINESS**

1 Call to Order – Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Rob Marlowe at 6:00 pm. Those in attendance were, Deputy Mayor Bill Phillips, Councilwoman Judy DeBella Thomas and Councilman Jeff Starkey. Councilman Chopper Davis was not present during roll call but did arrive later in the meeting.

Also in attendance were City Manager Debbie Manns, City Attorney Timothy Driscoll, City Clerk Judy Meyers, Chief of Police Kim Bogart, Finance Director Crystal Feast, Development Director Lisa Fierce, Fire Chief Chris Fitch, Economic Development Director Mario Iezzoni, Public Works Director Robert Rivera, Library Director Susan Dillinger, Parks and Recreation Director Elaine Smith, Technology Solutions Director Bryan Weed, and Human Resources Manager Bernie Wharran.

2 Pledge of Allegiance

3 Moment of Silence

4 Business Items

a. 2nd Public Hearing - Proposed Millage Rate & FY2016-2017 Operating Budget & Capital Improvement Program - Page 3

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. Ms. Manns then read the following into the record:

"Florida Statute 200.065(2)(C)1 prescribes that Council adopt the millage rate prior to adopting the 2016-2017 budget. A notification regarding the Public Hearing has been provided to every property owner in the City by the Pasco County Property Appraiser's Office. This notification in the form of the Truth in Millage (TRIM) notice was mailed the week of August 18, 2016. Action requested is to adopt Resolution 2016-30.

The name of the taxing authority is the City of New Port Richey. The tentative millage rate of 9.1500 mills is .33% less than the roll-back rate of 9.18 mills. Total ad valorem revenues that will be generated are estimated to be \$4,430,060; that is approximately \$145,895 more than what was generated in ad valorem in FY15-16 due to the increase of property values. The millage rate is 9.1500

and is a decrease from the prior year millage of 9.2500.

Although the statute requires discussion regarding the percent increase over the rolled back rate and specific purposes for which ad valorem is being increased, for the record in our case neither apply.

At this time, the City's Finance Director, Crystal Feast, will make a presentation regarding the proposed FY2016/2017 Operating Budget. After the close of the presentation, it is requested that the Mayor invite public comment on the millage."

Ms. Feast then highlighted the changes that were made from the first public hearing to the final hearing. There were no changes in the CIP budget from first hearing to the final hearing. Plan to show fund balances along with a hurricane fund for next year.

Mayor Marlowe opened the floor for public comment. John Gallagher came forward to speak. He stated that the budget was made available to public two days before first hearing. Next year when set millage rate is set then budget should be available for view. Ms. Manns responded that based on the work in the Finance Department that will occur next year. Mike Nurrenbrock came forward to speak. He stated he had a few questions for Ms. Feast. He wanted to know if the changes to Mr. Gallagher were all the changes or just the significant changes. He replied that both expenditures and revenues went up. Deputy Mayor Phillips stated there was a net difference of \$104,000. Mr. Nurrenbrock questioned if the budget was balanced before and if the numbers have changed is it balanced now. He questioned about interfund transfers and Ms. Feast stated those were not addressed. Mr. Nurrenbrock asked if there would be a copy of the audit for the meeting on October 4th. Ms. Feast stated she was hoping there will be. Mayor Marlowe then closed public comment and returned the floor to Council.

Deputy Mayor Phillips stated that at the end of the day the budget is about \$60 million. Interdepartmental transfers, CRA transfers and water and sewer transfers. He stated if you look at the yellow and burgundy book numbers they are still not correct due to fire pension and that the parks and rec equipment numbers do not correlate. He stated that rollover funds and creating an emergency fund was a good idea but was undesignated. He stated he would like to see some money taken out of certain line items and put towards an emergency funds. He felt the comments and suggestions made by Mr. Gallagher and Mr. Nurrenbrock had great merit. The fund should not have to wait until next year. He also stated that the timing of things were less desirable.

Councilman Starkey stated that Ms. Feast came into a mess in the finance department and we learned from past mistakes. He suggested starting the budget process earlier next year.

Councilwoman DeBella Thomas stated that Ms. Feast had made the budget easy to understand and her ability to answer the questions quickly was appreciated. She suggested that next year to start earlier or perhaps conduct more meetings.

Mayor Marlowe stated to get the information out to City Council and the public in a more timely manner. Should not be looking at significant changes within 48 hours of new fiscal year.

Councilman Davis stated that budget is a year round process. He stated he was looking for a millage in the 8's. Need to tighten our belt. He stated that there still was no audit for this year. Last audit was full of d's and f's. He stated he still wanted to impose the addendum he had recommended.

City Attorney Driscoll then read Resolution 2016-30 by title. Motion was made to approve Resolution 2016-30 adopting the final millage rate. Motion passed 4-1. Resolution 2016-30 adopted at 6:21 p.m.

City Attorney Driscoll then read Resolution 2016-29 by title. Deputy Mayor Phillips stated he would be providing the City Manager with a list of specific line items that he would like to be addressed within the next thirty days in regards to establishing an emergency fund. Motion was made to approve Resolution 2016-29 adopting the FY16/17 operating budget. Motion passed 4-1. Resolution 2016-

29 adopted at 6:22 p.m.

Motion made by Bill Phillips and seconded by Judy DeBella Thomas. The Motion Passed. 4-1. Ayes: DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Phillips, Starkey Nays: Davis

5 Communications

6 Adjournment

There being no further business to consider, upon proper motion, the meeting adjourned at 6:23 pm.

(signed) \_\_\_\_\_  
Judy Meyers, Interim City Clerk

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

Initialed: \_\_\_\_\_