



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 25, 2018
6:00 PM

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 Jeff Starkey, Councilman Chopper Davis, Councilman Peter Altman and Councilman Matt Murphy.

Also in attendance were City Manager Debbie Manns, City Attorney Timothy Driscoll, City Clerk Judy Meyers, Finance Director Crystal Feast, Fire Chief Chris Fitch, Public Works Director Robert Rivera, Library Director Andi Figart, Development Director George Romagnoli, Technology Solutions Director Bryan Weed, Human Resources Manager Bernie Wharran, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Chris Bornfleth and Police Lieutenant Lauren Letona.

2 Pledge of Allegiance

3 Moment of Silence

4 Business Items

a. Final Public Hearing - Resolution No. 2018-20: Adopting Final Millage Rate - Page 3

City Attorney Driscoll then read the proposed resolution by title only. City Manager Manns read the following statement into the record:

"Florida Statute 200.065(2)(C)1 prescribes that Council adopt the millage rate prior to adopting the 2018-2019 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 13th. Action requested is to adopt Resolution 2018-20. The name of the taxing authority is the City of New Port Richey. The tentative millage rate of 8.9000 mills is 6% less than the roll-back rate of 9.4349 mills. Total ad valorem revenues that will be generated are estimated to be \$4,913,930; that is approximately \$460,000 more than what was generated in ad valorem in FY17-18 due to the increase of property values. The millage rate is 8.9000 and is a decrease from the prior year millage of 8.9950. 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. It is requested that the Mayor invite public comment on the millage."

Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Councilman Altman stated he wanted to reiterate his comments from the last meeting and comments in the introduction that the \$460k increase in ad valorem and roll-back rate is to a higher degree than our assessment level. More funds going into CRA than General Fund which is why no roll-back discussion is needed. Mayor Marlowe stated he hopes voters are judicious when they go to the polls to vote on the homestead amendment. Motion was made to approve the item as submitted. Motion passed 5-0 at 6:06 p.m.

Motion made by Jeff Starkey and seconded by Matt Murphy. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Altman, Davis, Marlowe, Murphy, Starkey

b. Final Public Hearing - Resolution No. 2018-21: Adopting FY2018-2019 Operating Budget & Capital Improvement Program - Page 5

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed resolution by title only. City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the budget was developed in accordance with the City Charter. The budget is the result of many months of work between staff and Council. She thanked staff for their efforts. She then introduced Finance Director Crystal Feast who made a presentation to Council. Ms. Feast stated her presentation would show the differences between the first budget hearing and this one. Total proposed budget total \$59,583,970. There were no changes to the departmental budgets or the Capital Improvement Program since the first budget hearing. The changes that did occur were in the General Fund transfer to Street Improvements which was due to an input error. A decrease in interest from Tampa Bay Water was corrected in the Water & Sewer Fund. An increase in the interest in the General Fund was changed due to previous calculations.

Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Councilman Altman stated he had raised some issues with the budget. The \$450k FEMA income represents a reimbursement of expenses which are shown in other places. He believed that the revenue we show this year should will not be in the figures next year. CRA loan is not generating any revenue to the General Fund this year. The County has four different bond issues in November which will have a direct effect on our residents. The budget is an active planning document. The CRA has a large debt to pay back to the City and this is the year needed to discuss the extension of it for another thirty years. Mayor Marlowe thanked Councilman Altman for bringing up the bond issues. Motion was made to approve the item as submitted. Motion passed 5-0 at 6:19 p.m.

Motion made by Jeff Starkey and seconded by Matt Murphy. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Altman, Davis, Marlowe, Murphy, Starkey

c. Public Hearing - Resolution No. 2018-22: Stormwater Utility Assessment - Page 283

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed resolution by title only. City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated the purpose of this agenda item was to conduct a public hearing for the proposed Stormwater Utility Assessment. She then introduced Public Works Robert Rivera who stated that the assessment amount is \$80 per ERU and did not change from last year's assessment. Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Councilman Altman stated many areas line up against County areas and it is another opportunity to have a conversation with the County. Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

Motion made by Matt Murphy and seconded by Chopper Davis. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Altman, Davis, Marlowe, Murphy, Starkey

d. Public Hearing - Resolution No. 2018-23: Street Lighting Assessment - Page 290

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed resolution by title only. City Manager Manns the item to Council. She stated the purpose of this agenda item was to conduct a public hearing for the proposed Street Lighting Assessment. Mr. Rivera stated that the assessment amount is \$37.81 per ERU and did not change from last year's assessment. Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

Motion made by Chopper Davis and seconded by Matt Murphy. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Altman, Davis, Marlowe, Murphy, Starkey

e. Public Hearing - Resolution No. 2018-24: Street and Road Paving Assessment - Page 297

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed resolution by title only. City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated the purpose of this agenda item was to conduct a public hearing for the proposed Street and Road Paving Assessment. The billing of the paving assessment fee is administered by Pasco County and can be seen as a line item in the non-ad valorem portion of the County tax bill. Mr. Rivera stated that Council approved the Pavement Management Plan last year.

Upon opening the floor to public comment, Mark Doyan from the First Church of the Nazarene came forward and stated that they are a small congregation and the bill of \$1,800 takes away from the services they can provide. He stated he did not feel it was right for churches to be assessed. With no one else coming forward Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council.

Councilman Davis asked Mr. Rivera to follow up when Avery would be paved. Councilman Altman stated that the County created a new formula for the LOGT. Mr. Rivera stated that it was presented to Council if there was an increase in the LOGT dollars it would be up to Council to add additional funds to add other projects. Councilman Murphy asked if these show as an assessment or lien against the property and City Manager Manns stated they are shown as assessments. Mayor Marlowe stated the County changed the formula to be based on the total dollars the city was spending. The key is in order for us to get our share for the benefit of our residents we have to maintain an ongoing paving process. Councilman Altman asked about the restrictions on the funds and Mr. Rivera stated he would have to research the matter. Mayor Marlowe stated there are some plans to do sidewalks and things to make it a lot easier and safer to get around the N. River Road neighborhood. Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

Motion made by Chopper Davis and seconded by Pete Altman. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Altman, Davis, Marlowe, Murphy, Starkey

5 Communications

Mayor Marlowe stated he will be attending the neighborhood meeting for the N. River Road residents. He thanked everyone for their hard work on the budget. He appreciates his colleagues putting in the effort as well. He went to the ribbon cutting at the Art Guild yesterday and ran into Representative Mariano who had very positive comments about her tour of the city earlier that day.

Deputy Mayor Starkey stated that he cannot attend the N. River Road meeting. He stated that the neighborhood is a cut through for those off of US19. He stated that it will be a beneficial meeting.

Councilman Altman stated he cannot attend the neighborhood meeting but will send comments to the City Manager. He has enjoyed the interaction with his colleagues on projects that have come up. Busy year ahead discussing policy.

6 Adjournment

There being no further business to consider, upon proper motion, the meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

(signed) _____
Judy Meyers, City Clerk

Approved: _____ (date)

Initialed: _____