



**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 5, 2019**  
**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 p.m. 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, Police Chief Kim Bogart, Finance Director Crystal Feast, Fire Chief Chris Fitch, Public Works Director Robert Rivera, Library Director Andi Figart, Parks and Recreation Director Elaine Smith, Development Director George Romagnoli, Technology Solutions Director Bryan Weed and Human Resources Manager Bernie Wharran.

2 Pledge of Allegiance

3 Moment of Silence

4 Business Items

a. First Public Hearing - FY19-20 Operating Budget & Capital Improvement Program - Page 3

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to conduct a first public hearing on the proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year. City Manager Manns then highlighted the budget process. The total proposed budget is \$60,931,710 and reflects a 7.09% increase. The reduction in the millage rate is the fourth year in a row. The budget priorities are in alignment with the City's vision. There is a 10.75% increase in employees and includes a COLA increase.

She then introduced Finance Director Crystal Feast who made a presentation to Council. Ms. Feast began her presentation by highlighting the budget process and the various funds and the amounts for the upcoming fiscal year. The majority of the budget is made up of general funds and water & sewer funds. The proposed millage rate is 8.75 mills. The Capital Improvement Program totals \$17,234,000. The expected revenues for the general fund is \$22,931,490. Transfers out include street improvement of \$325,000 and CRA TIF at \$1,710,070

Mayor Marlowe then opened the floor for public comment. Bill Phillips came forward to thank everyone for the hard work on the budget and for continuing to lower the millage rate. He complimented the completion of Sims Park. What concerns him about the budget is the increase of employees and the expansion of the water & sewer department. He was disappointed in the Sports Coast presentation when they were here at the last meeting. He is concerned with the LOGT funding element with the way the projects are. The last comment was regarding the recent Main Street Landing agreement negotiation and asked if all will be paid in this fiscal year if not there is \$700k credit this year that won't show up until next year.

Patrick Bene came forward and stated he appreciated Council's work on the budget. He hopes to continue the movement of NPRMS. He stated the Florida Main Street Organization will be hosting its annual conference here next year. He thanked Council for the support of NPRMS.

With no one else coming forward, Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Mayor Marlowe stated the tourism group had a longer presentation and encouraged Mr. Phillips to watch their presentation they made at People Places. He stated the paving projects for Massachusetts and Gulf will be in this fiscal year to show the County the work was done. Ms. Feast stated what is not completed this fiscal year will roll forward. Mayor Marlowe stated that all of the rain has hindered the paving. The agreement with Main Street Landing agreed to split the payment in this fiscal year and remaining half next year. This will free up money for more projects.

Councilman Davis asked about reserves and carryovers for this year. Ms. Feast stated there will not be any in the general fund. Other funds will carryover and are budgeted for the next fiscal year to cover projects that cannot be finished this fiscal year.

Deputy Mayor Starkey asked about the projected start dates on paving for Massachusetts and Gulf Drive. Mr. Rivera stated work has started and paving should take place towards the middle of this month weather permitting.

Councilman Altman stated there are some differences between the budget book and the CAFR. He asked to meet with the City Manager before the next budget hearing. He noted the last page of the budget book regarding the Street Improvement Program. When we budget it is a plan and we need to get on it. He is an advocate for the city engineer to report to Council on capital projects. He stated there has been a discussion on the crossover on US19. The County's trail system did not show ours. We need a better relationship. There is another meeting with them coming up. He asked if there will be additional budget discussion regarding the CRA. Ms. Feast stated the CRA budget will be presented for approval on September 17, 2019.

Councilman Murphy stated we need to make sure we have a good contingency plan for the future.

City Attorney Driscoll read Resolution 2019-14 adopting the tentative millage rate by title only. Motion to approve made by Deputy Mayor Starkey and seconded by Councilman Davis. Motion passed 5-0 at 6:46 p.m.

City Attorney Driscoll then read Resolution 2019-13 adopting the tentative budget. Bill Phillips came forward and encouraged Council to go back and see what was rolled over from last year. He has a hard time believing there is no roll over in the general fund due to the open positions last year. Ms. Feast stated we only roll forward money for uncompleted construction and capital purchases any personnel expenditures roll into the general fund but are not carried over. Mayor Marlowe stated they go into undesignated reserves and Ms. Feast stated yes. Motion to approve made by Councilman Altman and seconded by Councilman Davis. Motion passed 5-0 at 6:47 p.m.

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

5 Communications

None

6 Adjournment

There being no further business to consider, upon proper motion, the meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

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

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

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