



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 24, 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, Finance Director Crystal Feast, Fire Chief Chris Fitch, Economic Development Director Charles Rudd, 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. Resolution No. 2019-12: Amendments to the Comprehensive Fee Schedule - Page 3

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed resolution by title only. City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to approve changes to the Comprehensive Fee Schedule. Changes included the following:

- Increase in Summer Day Camp fees
- Development Department permit fees
- Increase in false alarm fees for Fire Department
- Library Services eliminated some fees

Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Councilman Davis highlighted an email received earlier from Bob Smallwood regarding discount for city residents. Councilman Davis asked why it was not uniformed. City Manager Manns stated she would like to review the matter further. Motion was made to approve the item with the provision that there is a uniformity of fees.

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

b. Final Public Hearing - Resolution No. 2019-16: Adopting Final Millage Rate - Page 31

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 2019-2020 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 2019-16. The name of the taxing authority is the City of New Port Richey. The tentative millage rate of 8.7500 mills is 1.44% less than the roll-back rate of 8.8782 mills. Total ad valorem revenues that will be generated are estimated to be \$5,150,870; that is approximately \$237,000 more than what was generated in ad valorem in FY18-19, due to the increase of property values. The millage rate is 8.7500 and is a decrease from the prior year millage of 8.9000. 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. After the close of the presentation, it is requested that the Mayor invite public comment on the millage."

Finance Director Feast made a brief presentation to Council. She stated the total budget being proposed is \$64,554,330. She then broke down the total amount per each fund. The General Fund and Water & Sewer Fund are the largest followed by the Capital Improvement Program. She then highlighted the following changes from the first public hearing which included:

- Technology Solutions contractual services increased
- Billing & Collections insurance decreased
- Police Patrol part-time wages were increased due to reserve officers
- Recreation part-time wages were increased for the marketing position
- Streets and ROW contractual services was increased to fund streetscape maintenance fund

Unrestricted fund balance will be used for these changes. 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 passed 5-0 at 6:14 p.m.

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

c. Final Public Hearing - Resolution No. 2019-17: Adopting FY2019-2020 Operating Budget & Capital Improvement Program - Page 33

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed resolution by title only. City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Councilman Altman asked for the revision in the title to the Cotee River Underpass Project to add the word "connect." Motion was made to approve the item as presented. Motion passed 5-0 at 6:17 p.m.

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

d. Public Hearing - Resolution No. 2019-18: Stormwater Utility Assessment - Page 281

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed resolution by title only. City Manager Manns introduced Finance Director Crystal Feast who then presented the item to Council. She stated the purpose of this agenda item was to conduct a public hearing for the proposed Stormwater Utility Assessment. There

were eight new parcels added to the assessment roll. Upon opening the floor to public comment, Bob Smallwood came forward and asked if any assessments were increasing from last year. Finance Director Crystal Feast stated that there were no increases in any of the assessments. With no one else coming forward Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. City Manager Manns stated that the City's property tax rate was higher than some other communities but our property values were lower. Councilman Altman stated that in the CIP for the stormwater utility fund there is a \$684k estimate of expenses for capital improvements or new stormwater system and that is an increase from the past. It also incorporates Beach Street which we have requested state funding for. Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

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

e. Public Hearing - Resolution No. 2019-19: Street Lighting Assessment - Page 288

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed resolution by title only. City Manager Manns introduced Finance Director Crystal Feast who then presented the item to Council. She stated the purpose of this agenda item was to conduct a public hearing for the proposed Street Lighting Assessment. This assessment is administered by the County and put on the tax bill. She stated that the assessment amount is \$37.81 per ERU and did not change from last year's assessment. There were six new parcels added to the assessment roll. 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 Jeff Starkey and seconded by Matt Murphy. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Altman, Davis, Marlowe, Murphy, Starkey

f. Public Hearing - Resolution No. 2019-20: Paving Assessment - Page 295

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed resolution by title only. City Manager Manns introduced Finance Director Crystal Feast who then presented 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 placed on the tax bill. There was no change in the assessment fee from last year's amount. 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 Jeff Starkey and seconded by Chopper Davis. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Altman, Davis, Marlowe, Murphy, Starkey

5 Communications

Councilman Davis stated he was surprised and happy with the join work session earlier this afternoon. Mayor Marlowe concurred and stated it was better than last year's work session. We were on the same page. Deputy Mayor Starkey stated he would like to get more input from the County Administrator at the next session.

6 Adjournment

There being no further business to consider, upon proper motion, the meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

(signed) _____
Judy Meyers, CMC, City Clerk

Approved: _____ (date)

Initialed: _____