

**VILLAGE OF PALMETTO BAY, FLORIDA  
MINUTES OF THE THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2003  
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL  
FIRST BUDGET HEARING**

DEERING ESTATE VISITOR'S CENTER  
16701 S.W. 72<sup>ND</sup> AVENUE  
PALMETTO BAY, FL 33157

- I. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Flinn called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following members of the Village Council were present:

Mayor Eugene P. Flinn, Jr.  
Vice Mayor Linda Robinson  
Councilman Paul Neidhart  
Councilman John Breder

The following staff members were present:

Village Manager Charles D. Scurr  
Village Attorney Earl Gallop  
Village Clerk Meighan Pier

Mayor Flinn asked Corrice Patterson to lead the pledge of allegiance. He asked the audience to bow their heads in a moment of silence for victims of September 11, 2001.

- II. PROCLAMATIONS, AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS:** None at this time.
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** None at this time.
- IV. VILLAGE MANAGER'S REPORT:** None at this time.
- V. VILLAGE ATTORNEY'S REPORT:** None at this time.
- VI. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:** None at this time.
- VII. CONSENT RESOLUTIONS:** None at this time.
- VIII. RESOLUTIONS:** None at this time.
- IX. RESOLUTIONS REQUIRING PUBLIC HEARING:** None at this time.

**X. ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING AND EMERGENCY ORDINANCES  
(PUBLIC HEARING)**

- A. AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF PALMETTO BAY, ADOPTING THE MILLAGE RATE OF THE VILLAGE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2003, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2004, PURSUANT TO SECTION 200.065, FLORIDA STATUTES; PROVIDING FOR NOTICE; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
- B. AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF PALMETTO BAY, APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE VILLAGE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2003, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2004; PROVIDING FOR EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Flinn provided a brief introduction. He advised that a millage rate of 2.447 has been tentatively proposed for this year.

The Village Clerk read the Ordinance regarding the millage rate by caption.

A Motion to table consideration of the proposed Ordinance was made by Councilman Neidhart. Seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson. All voted in favor (4-0).

The Village Clerk read the Ordinance concerning the budget by caption.

A Motion to bring the item to the floor was made by Vice Mayor Robinson. Seconded by Councilman Neidhart. All voted in favor (4-0).

Mr. Scurr provided a Powerpoint presentation of the proposed budget. He provided information on the following topics: Financial Overview and Revenue Forecast, Establishing a Cash Reserve, Establishing a Millage Rate, Budget Highlights, Parks and Recreation Department, Public Works Department, Community Development Department, General Government Department, and Mitigation/QNIP. He noted that the Village anticipates receiving a South Florida Water Management District grant in the amount of \$500,000, which would release over \$150,000 from General Fund. Additionally, a \$40,000 MPO Grant would be received, which would release approximately \$48,000 in restricted Transit Tax funds.

Mr. Scurr provided information with regard to several policy decisions that would be forthcoming, such as the Police Department moving to Village Hall, expanding hours of operation to be seven days per week from 8 am to 10 pm;

the possible availability of a bayfront park; consideration of utilizing a grant writer; safety training for all Village personnel in emergency first aid, including purchasing defibrillator units for Village Hall, Coral Reef Park and Perrine Park; beginning traffic studies, particularly in the school districts.

Mr. Scurr advised that staff intends to establish a policy that would include having surplus cash carryover for capital projects. He noted that the proposed budget holds the line on taxes, allowing for \$2,500,000 in reserves, additionally, increased service would be experienced in all departments.

Vice Mayor Robinson stated that she recommends increasing the budget for public awareness, including web site development.

Councilman Neidhart asked for an explanation regarding the codification process.

The Village Clerk provided a sample and a brief explanation.

Mayor Flinn thanked the Clerk for including a digitizing/imaging system in the budget. He asked if the amount provided would be sufficient.

Mrs. Pier responded affirmatively.

Councilman Neidhart asked for clarification regarding Right of Way Enhancements.

Mr. Ron Williams, Director of Public Works, stated that those enhancements include landscaping, signage, maintenance and continuing creating a positive aesthetic look.

Councilman Neidhart asked for information concerning the beautification of the US-1 median.

Mr. Williams advised that US-1 is a State Highway; however, the Village would work with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and conduct an intersection review, seeking grants from the County and FDOT for roadway and pedestrian improvements.

Councilman Neidhart asked for information concerning stormwater and drainage issues.

Mr. Williams advised that staff included \$150,000 for formulating a stormwater plan that would allow the Village to establish its own utility and its own revenue base.

Councilman Neidhart asked if sidewalk repairs and/or constructing additional sidewalks would be considered.

Mr. Williams replied that some neighborhoods need improvement and staff would address ADA compliance, and other safety issues.

Councilman Neidhart asked for clarification concerning the \$2,000 budget for truck maintenance.

Mr. Williams responded that the dollar amount would be for preventative maintenance, in addition to the secured extended warranty through the vendor.

Councilman Neidhart asked how the Village would determine which streets required repair.

Mr. Williams noted that his department requested funds for a full inventory/assessment and road repair would be prioritized depending upon extent of the disrepair.

Councilman Breder asked for clarification concerning the Village signage program.

Mr. Williams replied that the Village would begin a comprehensive and cohesive program, including “Welcome To” signs, formal signage at Village Hall and other facilities, in addition to commencing the process of street signage throughout the Village.

Vice Mayor Robinson asked if the South Florida Water Management District would be actively assisting with the C-100 canal improvements.

Mr. Williams responded affirmatively.

Mayor Flinn asked if Mr. Williams felt sufficient funds were included for drainage issues.

Mr. Williams replied that the budget contains appropriate funds to commence a study and some maintenance. He noted; however, that certain drainage areas that are particularly difficult may require significant and costly improvements that may not be solved this year and until the Village establishes its own program, Dade County Water and Sewer Authority would be assisting.

The public hearing was opened at 8:18 p.m.

Norman Kassoff, 15405 SW 77 Court, expressed his concern regarding erosion of canal walls and the damage to residents’ properties.

John McCord, 9300 SW 181 Street, provided a hand-out regarding his opinion on the budget. Increases taxes, not a balanced budget, not a line item budget, excess travel & per diem – over \$42K, educational - \$32K, \$13K for books, memberships & subscriptions, options re \$2.5M windfall, etc.

Richard Wagner, 15940 SW 85 Avenue, asks if the millage established by the Village would make the taxes greater than 3%.

Mr. Scurr advised that the millage is 2.447 mills; he suggested that Mr. Wagner meet with the Village's Finance Director.

Mayor Flinn noted that the taxable value of a home can only raise 3% or to the CPI, whichever is less.

Mr. Scurr added that the assessed value is provided by the Miami-Dade County Property Appraiser and that the Village budgets 95% of ad valorem taxes to account for any appeals.

Mr. Wagner suggested a "Zero based budget". He asked for clarification regarding the use of motorcycles.

Lt. Scott Dennis noted that the number one concern expressed by the residents is traffic control, and the motorcycle officers are specialized for traffic control.

Chuck Latshaw, 8825 SW 154 Terrace, noted that the draft budget utilized 2.395 mills and if 2.447 mills would be used, the Village would have an additional \$93,000.

Warren Lovely, 15323 SW 74 Place, suggested the millage rate be 2.395.

Bonnie Roddenberry, 14140 SW 69 Avenue, asked the Village Public Works Department to utilize funds from the South Florida Water Management District to conduct a survey regarding well water and the salt water intrusion.

Charles Miller, 8269 SW 173 Terrace, suggested lowering the millage rate. He also remarked that most neighbors would be willing to volunteer with landscaping refurbishment.

Jim Beckett, 16661 SW 84 Court, concurred with Mr. Miller. He also suggested that code enforcement may be possible source of revenue.

The public hearing was closed at 8:51 p.m.

A Motion to table the proposed Ordinance concerning the budget was made by Vice Mayor Robinson. Seconded by Councilman Neidhart. All voted in favor (4-0).

Councilman Breder moved to bring the proposed Ordinance concerning the millage rate to the floor. Seconded by Councilman Neidhart. All voted in favor (4-0).

A Motion to adopt the proposed Ordinance concerning the millage rate on first reading was made by Councilman Neidhart. Seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson. The vote was as follows: Councilman Neidhart, Councilman Breder, Vice Mayor Robinson, and Mayor Flinn voting in the affirmative. Motion carried (4-0).

A Motion to adopt the proposed Ordinance concerning the budget on first reading was made by Councilman Vice Mayor Robinson. Seconded by Councilman Neidhart. The vote was as follows: Councilman Neidhart, Councilman Breder, Vice Mayor Robinson, and Mayor Flinn voting in the affirmative. Motion carried (4-0).

**XI. ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING:** None at this time.

**XII. REQUESTS, PETITIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None at this time.

**XIII. COUNCIL COMMENTS:** None at this time.

**XIV. OTHER BUSINESS:** None at this time.

**XV. NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT**

Vice Mayor Robinson moved to adjourn. Seconded by Councilman Neidhart. All voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

*Prepared and submitted by:*

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*Meighan J. Pier  
Village Clerk*

*Adopted by the Village Council on  
this \_\_\_\_ day of November, 2003.*

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*Eugene P. Flinn, Jr., Mayor*