

**VILLAGE OF PALMETTO BAY, FLORIDA
MINUTES OF THE MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2003
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL
FINAL BUDGET HEARING**

DEERING ESTATE VISITOR'S CENTER
16701 S.W. 72ND 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.
Councilmember Ed Feller
Vice Mayor Linda Robinson
Councilmember Paul Neidhart
Councilmember John Breder

The following staff members were present:
Village Manager Charles D. Scurr
Village Attorney Earl Gallop
Village Clerk Meighan Pier

Mayor Flinn asked Jean Bifano to lead the pledge of allegiance.

- 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:** None at this time.

XI. ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING AND 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.

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 Feller. Seconded by Councilman Neidhart. All voted in favor (5-0).

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

A Motion to bring the proposed Ordinance concerning the budget to the floor was made by Councilman Neidhart. Seconded by Councilman Feller. All voted in favor (5-0).

Mr. Scurr provided a Powerpoint presentation of the budget, including several budget adjustments and explanation concerning various line items. He also provided a sample tax bill from a citizen that was used to explain how the residents are taxed and by whom.

Councilman Feller expressed that he was pleased the Village would be providing first aid training and purchasing electronic defibrillators.

The public hearing was opened at 7:41 p.m.

Arlene Feller, 7960 SW 144 Street, thanked staff and asked when and where a library may be constructed.

Howard Tendrich, 16500 SW 74 Avenue, asked why the tax bill listed \$0 as the Village taxes.

Mr. Scurr advised that the 2.447 millage will carry-over, if adopted.

Gabriel Bifano, 7371 SW 156 Street, asked how frequently the Village would receive the actual expenses versus budget report. He asked when employees would be receiving salary increases.

Mr. Scurr advised that staff would be providing the information monthly and reporting same to Council.

Othan Gilbert, 14921 SW 87 Avenue, opined that the Village should keep the millage rate as is.

Eileen Whitlon, 13721 SW 84 Avenue, remarked that the Village should purchase "Life Hammers", instruments that break a car's window should there be an accident wherein a car is submerged in water.

Bev Gerald, 14271 SW 74 Court, asked the Council to keep the millage rate at 2.447, as she feels it is important to meet the needs of the public and have excess funds to meet those needs.

Mayor Flinn closed the public hearing at 7:48 p.m.

Mr. Scurr advised that with regard to staff salaries, approximately 5-6% was included in the separate department line items as a merit pool, meaning an employee could receive up to 6% or nothing depending upon performance. He added that the increases are based upon anniversary and annual performance appraisal.

Mayor Flinn noted that the Village Manager's contract allows for the Council to consider increases for his performance.

Attorney Gallop advised that the Council may wish to include funds in order to address a possible increase.

Councilman Feller moved to amend the budget to include \$15,000 in the Village Manager's budget for potential salary increases.

Mr. Scurr suggested the funds be placed in contingency.

Councilman Feller amended his motion to provide \$15,000 in contingency under the office of Village Manager. Seconded by Councilman Neidhart.

Following brief discussion, all voted in favor (5-0). The Motion carried.

Mayor Flinn asked if funds should be included to purchase Life Hammers.

Mr. Scurr advised that the items are inexpensive and the Village would not have to reallocate funds to purchase them.

Brief discussion ensued regarding mitigation. Mr. Scurr advised that he has requested a reduction figure from the County, but has not received the information as of this date.

Councilman Feller suggested that excess revenues should go to a capital fund.

Mr. Scurr responded that staff and Council could establish this fund at a future meeting.

Vice Mayor Robinson asked if the Village could seek funding for the COPPS program.

Mr. Scurr noted that when the program is announced, the Village will apply for either the positions available or the technology provided. He added that funding for this program is declining.

Mayor Flinn asked if the Tasers would be a “first response” tool.

Mr. Scurr advised that only Sergeants would be provided with the Tasers.

Councilman Neidhart moved to table the proposed Ordinance on the budget. Seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson. All voted in favor.

Councilman Feller remarked that the millage should stay as is; the citizens voted for incorporation to increase services, which has an associated cost. He noted that as the assessed property value increased, the amount a resident pays has increased. He added that the Village is not increasing revenue, rather adjusting for the actual cost of services. He concluded by thanking reporter Jennifer Messemer, expressing his sadness that the Palmetto Bay Leader will no longer be published.

Councilman Neidhart commented that he too would recommend keeping the millage at 2.447, as the Village would be greatly improving the level of services to the residents. He said that while it seems significant to have \$93,000 more available, the amount does not result in a significant increase to property owner.

Councilman Breder remarked that as the Village's budget was prepared based upon information provided from third-party sources, it is wise for the Village to be conservative and cautious. He concurred with Councilmen Feller and Neidhart.

Vice Mayor Robinson remarked that she would be in favor of reducing the millage to 2.395, as she believes the \$93,000 can be obtained through the work of a grant writer.

Mayor Flinn noted that property taxes are the same, occupational licenses are low and many revenue sources remain at the current rate.

Mr. Scurr advised that the Village would be receiving 1.447 mills, as the other mill is going to the County.

A Motion to adopt the proposed Ordinance concerning the millage rate on first reading was made by Councilman Feller. Seconded by Councilman Neidhart. The vote was as follows: Councilman Neidhart, Councilman Breder and Councilman Feller in favor; Vice Mayor Robinson and Mayor Flinn opposed. Motion carried (3-2). The millage rate of 2.447 was adopted.

Councilman Feller moved to remove the proposed Ordinance concerning the budget from table and approve as amended. He clarified that \$15,000 would be provided in contingency in the Village Manager's budget and \$93,000 would be placed in General Government contingency. Seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson. The vote was as follows: Councilman Feller, Councilman Neidhart, Councilman Breder, Vice Mayor Robinson, and Mayor Flinn voting in the affirmative. Motion carried (5-0).

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

XIII. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Feller expressed his pride with the Village and that he is happy to see the Village move to fruition.

Mayor Flinn remarked that he is looking forward to continued public input, adding that the citizen advisory committees were "outstanding". He stated that he wishes to remain goal oriented. He remarked that the Village will do all that is possible to reduce mitigation and wishes to maximize the taxpayers' dollars. He thanked staff for their diligence.

XIV. OTHER BUSINESS: None at this time.

XV. NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT

Vice Mayor Robinson moved to adjourn. Seconded by Councilmember Feller.
All voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Prepared and submitted by:

Meighan J. Pier
Village Clerk

Adopted by the Village Council on
this ____ day of November, 2003.

Eugene P. Flinn, Jr., Mayor