

VILLAGE OF PALMETTO BAY
Minutes of the Budget Hearing of September 8, 2014
Village Hall Chambers
9705 East Hibiscus Street

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Shelley Stanczyk
Vice Mayor John DuBois
Council Member Patrick Fiore
Council Member Tim Schaffer
Council Member Joan Lindsay

Staff present:
Village Manager Ron E. Williams
Village Attorney Dexter W. Lehtinen
Village Clerk Meighan J. Alexander

Mayor Stanczyk called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. She led the pledge of allegiance. Mayor Stanczyk asked that the Council consider tabling this meeting to hear the Regular Council Meeting's Proclamations and Awards.

Councilman Schaffer moved to table the Budget Hearing. Seconded by Vice Mayor DuBois. All voted in favor.

The meeting re-convened following Proclamations and Presentations given at the Regular Council Meeting.

2. VILLAGE MANAGER'S REPORT

To begin the report, staff played a video with footage of the Downtown Redevelopment Independence Day celebration.

Manager Williams advised that the Village benefited from a small "uptick" in property values this year and he thanked the Directors for their diligence in being fiscally responsible. He explained various highlights within the budget, including the renewal of the Miami-Dade Police Department's five year contract, and a two percent (2%) Cost of Living Adjustment for all employees, which hasn't been possible for many years due to the recent history of economic downturn. He provided information concerning all Departments and their anticipated efforts for the coming budget year. He listed the following budget priorities: Balanced budget; Maintain millage rate; Preserve strong economic health; and continue to provide high levels of customer service. He explained that the majority of a resident's tax bill is slated for Miami-Dade County Public Schools, the County second, and Palmetto Bay receives 13% of each home's ad valorem taxes.

Manager Williams reported that the millage rate of 2.447 has been consistent from 2009-2013, in spite of the recession. He explained that the Village enjoys low debt and high

value of property and assets, a 126% increase. He noted that the average revenue has been \$14,000,000, with a slight decrease in 2009. He explained the audited expenses, fund balance and the Capital Improvements Element/Capital Improvements Projects. Manager Williams provided a chart concerning operating expenditures and fund balance, noting that the fund balance continues to grow.

Councilman Schaffer asked for clarification concerning page 45: the projection of \$846,779 from reserves to balance the budget. He asked if the reserves were only to be used in case of emergency. Director Chin explained that in late August, one of the revenue streams, the FPL franchise, was reported to be reduced by \$300,000.

Councilman Schaffer asked if there would be a \$600,000 surplus then. Director Chin replied there would be.

Councilman Schaffer asked (page 47) for clarification of the \$400,000 projected for interest and state revenue sharing. Director Chin explained that the County has re-done its system and, overall, the amount is collected under "delinquent taxes."

Councilman Schaffer asked (47 and 92) why, if tennis was budgeted for \$235,000 and finished the year at \$116,000, why would the Village project \$180,000 for the upcoming fiscal year. Director Chin explained that staff is proposing certain modifications to the program, in order for it to be "break-even", including a new contract with the coaches for more revenue. Director Carmona Gonzalez explained that the court had been closed for a month for renovation. She explained that staff negotiated a better contract with the two tennis professionals.

Councilman Schaffer asked for clarification regarding the projection for the summer program. Director Carmona Gonzalez explained that summer camp projects the expenses in accordance with revenues. Director Chin explained that the Village off-sets the revenues and does not try to profit from the summer camp program.

Councilman Schaffer asked what was included in the "miscellaneous revenues" line item. Director Chin explained that library rent of \$108,000 is included and the Village will begin to collect rent from the Building Department on a proportional basis next year.

Councilman Schaffer noted that on Page 66, the Village Attorney, the Village projects \$245,000, although the final was \$132,000. Manager Williams explained that the approximately \$235,000 budgeted in the past was litigation reserve and the Village is hopeful that we won't face significant litigation in the future; however, staff wished to insure that the budget for this Charter Officer was appropriately funded.

Councilman Schaffer asked for an update concerning the police services and the County union negotiations. Manager Williams stated that the concessions will be returned to the police employees (those benefits that have been offered and received) and the Village will have to pay its share of those costs. Councilman Schaffer asked if the budget would be increased. Manager Williams explained that part of the increase is due to a fleet upgrade, as well.

Councilman Schaffer remarked that in early 2015, he would like to meet with staff to discuss the capital projects coming forward and review the capital assets. He concluded that the Council should reduce their salaries by 50%.

Building Official Ed Silva provided a list of the projected projects (in permitting, or in the process of permitting.)

Mayor Stanczyk expressed her support for included additional staff in the Building Department. Brief discussion ensued concerning this enterprise department and the allocation of utilities and rent.

Councilman Fiore asked if staff included the allocation for the individual who provides the lost pet website. Manager Williams stated \$500 was included.

Councilman Fiore suggested that the Village should budget for approximately 100 signs that read "drive like your kids live here" and provide them to the residents to encourage people not to speed. Manager Williams advised that Public Works could handle this effort and manage it.

Councilman Fiore asked the Manager to review the areas damaged by the contractors in the Triangle area. Manager Williams stated that Public Works is still reviewing the projects. Director Corrice Patterson confirmed that the contracts are not finalized.

Vice Mayor DuBois asked (page 45) for clarification concerning the transfer of capital outlay and whether it affected the general fund. Director Chin advised that the amount comes from fund balance, and reduces it.

Vice Mayor DuBois asked for clarification on Page 116, the \$20,000,000 included for the Coral Reef Park Community Center. Manager Williams advised that funding has not currently been established.

Vice Mayor DuBois remarked that while he was in favor of providing a useful center for Coral Reef Park, he was surprised at the number provided. Director Carmona-Gonzalez stated that it was a conceptual number based upon what other cities have constructed.

Manager Williams explained that this matter will return to the Council and the community, seeking significant resident input. He advised that the Village had inherited several parks from the County, and it is time to build "signature" parks.

Discussion ensued.

Mayor Stanczyk stated that she believed there was a scrivener's error on page 52. Director Chin advised that for FY 2014, the amount under fund balance should read \$13,748,452.

Mayor Stanczyk expressed that the Village has been doing very well in controlling costs in major departments. She asked if there are grants coming forward in the foreseeable future. Manager Williams responded that while there are no applications pending, the

grant cycle begins when legislative committee meet in the fall. He noted that he had provided grant information to the Council, with at least 5 or 6 grants, just over \$1.2 million.

3. ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING / PUBLIC HEARINGS REQUIRED

- A. AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF PALMETTO BAY, OF MIAMI-DADE FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL MILLAGE RATE OF THE VILLAGE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2014, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2015, PURSUANT TO SECTION 200.065, FLORIDA STATUTES; PROVIDING FOR NOTICE; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Councilman Schaffer moved this item forward. Councilwoman Lindsay seconded.

Mayor Stanczyk opened the public hearing. Mr. Eric Tullberg, 7884 SW 179 Terrace, came forward to speak on the budget. Mayor Stanczyk advised him that this discussion is for millage rate.

Councilman Schaffer moved to approve the 2.447 millage rate. Councilwoman Lindsay seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The Ordinance passed on first reading unanimously (5-0.)

- B. AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF PALMETTO BAY OF MIAMI DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR THE VILLAGE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2014 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2015; PROVIDING FOR EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Councilman Schaffer moved this item forward. Seconded by Councilman Fiore.

Vice Mayor DuBois asked about the funding for the Capital Projects. Director Chin replied that the amount is included on Page 96. Councilman Schaffer asked if the amount includes the \$1,000,000 for the Downtown Redevelopment project. Director Chin stated that a match was included for the Coral Reef Trails grant.

Mayor Stanczyk opened the public hearing. The following individuals addressed the Council: Eric Tullberg, 7884 SW 179 Terrace; Ed Feller, 7960 SW 144 Street; Larissa Siegel Lara, 17125 SW 77 Avenue; David Singer, 8360 SW 154 Terrace; Karyn Cunningham, 13985 SW 72 Court; Eugene Flinn, 8261 SW 162 Street; Peter England, 7620 SW 171 Street; Carol Vega, 8845 SW 178 Terrace; and Henry Clifford, 8875 SW 171 Street.

Vice Mayor DuBois began discussion concerning the \$20,000,000 included for the Coral Reef Park building. He stated that a holistic approach should be taken for a master plan for the entire park. He suggested including a smaller number, since it is only being included for initial planning and discussion.

Councilman Fiore stated that the Village, with \$13,000,000 in reserves has a very healthy budget and he noted that he has not received any emails expressing concern over the budget.

Councilman Schaffer suggested a visioning session be held concerning the park. He thanked Mr. Tullberg for mentioning the bike trails.

Councilwoman Lindsay thanked Director Carmona-Gonzalez for the projects she has included for the parks, specifically the drainage at the dog park and the agility courses. She remarked that she is comfortable with the numbers provided because she is certain staff will not spend the funds if not necessary. She concluded that the Village Manager is conservative and the Village has always had a surplus.

Mayor Stanczyk stated that the Village reaches out to the residents concerning the budget. She reminded all of the budget workshop, the meeting to set the maximum millage, and now the first budget hearing; the second to come. She remarked that the Village encourages public participation. Mayor Stanczyk stated that residents are interested in services at the park. She advised that residents also wish to have safe streets and the \$800,000 included in the Police budget will be a recurring cost and the Village needs to consider how to continue to fund the Police force. She concluded that being compliant with the code benefits all the residents.

Vice Mayor DuBois moved to revise the \$20,000,000 P26 item to \$7,000,000. (There was no second.)

Councilwoman Lindsay moved to approve the Budget. Seconded by Councilman Schaffer.

Vice Mayor DuBois further explained his reasoning for reducing the \$20,000,000 line item, noting that without a specific plan for how this building will be constructed, he feels a smaller number is appropriate.

Manager Williams stated that the number is a "placement holder" and aggressive input from the residents will drive the funding. He stated that the Council appears to be in agreement to move forward with the Parks and another number could be assigned.

Mayor Stanczyk suggested \$10,000,000. Vice Mayor DuBois remarked that if the Village is not going to begin the project next fiscal year, the funding listed could be zero. He expressed that the number is excessive.

Councilman Schaffer remarked that the number is not funded and doesn't adversely affect the overall budget.

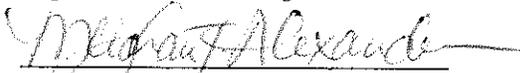
Councilman Schaffer moved to reduce the line item P26 to \$10,000,000. Seconded by Vice Mayor DuBois. All voted in favor (5-0).

Mayor Stanczyk called the question, approval of the budget with the \$10,000,000 line item P26 included. All voted in favor. The matter will be heard on final reading on September 22, 2014.

4. NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT

The Meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm.

Prepared and submitted by:



*Meighan J. Alexander, CMC
Village Clerk*

Approved by the Village Council on this 6th day of October, 2014.



Shelley Stanczyk, Mayor

PURSUANT TO FLORIDA STATUTES 286.0105, IF A PERSON DECIDES TO APPEAL ANY DECISION MADE BY THIS COUNCIL WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED AT ITS MEETING OR HEARING, HE OR SHE WILL NEED A RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS, AND THAT FOR SUCH PURPOSE, THE AFFECTED PERSON MAY NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDING IS MADE, WHICH RECORD INCLUDES THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE APPEAL IS TO BE BASED. THIS NOTICE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE CONSENT BY THE VILLAGE FOR THE INTRODUCTION OR ADMISSION OF OTHERWISE INADMISSIBLE OR IRRELEVANT EVIDENCE, NOR DOES IT AUTHORIZE CHALLENGES OR APPEALS NOT OTHERWISE ALLOWED BY LAW. WHILE THE FLORIDA STATUTES DO NOT REQUIRE TAPE RECORDINGS, TO THE EXTENT THAT TAPE RECORDINGS ARE MADE, THE TAPES MAY BE REQUESTED FROM THE VILLAGE CLERK FOR REVIEW AND/OR COPYING. THE VILLAGE OF PALMETTO BAY CAN NOT GUARANTEE QUALITY OF ANY RECORDING.