



VILLAGE OF PALMETTO BAY

9	Mayor Karyn Cunningham	Village Manager Nick Marano
10	Vice Mayor Leanne Tellam	Village Attorney John C. Dellagloria
11	Council Member Patrick Fiore (Seat 1)	Village Clerk Missy Arocha
12	Council Member Steve Cody (Seat 2)	
13	Council Member Marsha Matson (Seat 3)	

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, persons needing special accommodation, a sign language interpreter, or hearing impaired to participate in this proceeding should contact the Village Clerk at (305) 259-1234 for assistance no later than four days prior to the meeting.

MINUTES
FIRST BUDGET HEARING/SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
(PRECEDING THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING)
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2022 – 7:00 PM
9705 EAST HIBISCUS STREET, PALMETTO BAY, FL 33157

1. **CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND DECORUM STATEMENT, IN THAT ORDER:** Any person making impertinent or slanderous remarks, or who becomes boisterous, while addressing the Council may be barred from further appearance before the Council by the Mayor, unless permission to continue or again address the Council is granted by a majority vote of the Council. Applauding speakers shall be discouraged. Heckling or verbal outbursts in support or opposition to a speaker, or his or her remarks, shall be prohibited. No signs or placards shall be allowed in the Council meeting. Persons exiting the Council meeting shall do so quietly. All cellular telephones and beepers are to be silenced during the meeting.

The First Budget Hearing was called to order at 7:09 PM.

The following members of the Village Council were present during roll call:
Mayor Karyn Cunningham
Vice Mayor Leanne Tellam
Councilmember Patrick Fiore
Councilmember Steve Cody
Councilmember Marsha Matson

1 The following Charter Officials were in attendance:
2 Village Attorney John C. Dellagloria
3 Village Manager Nick Marano
4 Village Clerk Missy Arocha

5
6 Councilmember Patrick Fiore led the invocation.

7
8 Fifth grade student from Howard Drive Elementary, Junaied Sam Kazi-Mayor
9 for the Day, led the pledge of allegiance.

10
11 The Decorum Statement was disposed by Mayor Karyn Cunningham.

12
13 **2. REQUESTS, PETITIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS SUBMITTED**

14
15 Clerk Arocha read the one public comment submitted by form. All public
16 comments submitted by form are attached to the minutes as "Exhibit A".

17
18 The following in-person public comments were heard:

- 19
- 20 • Vitality Falcovitch (9280 SW 167th Terrace) – congratulated the Village for
21 the 20th anniversary celebration and shared his condolences for the passing
22 of Miami-Dade Police Officer Cesar "Echy" Echaverry.
 - 23
24 • Phoenix Sports Director (5775 SW 46th Terrace) - spoke in support of the
25 volleyball community and urged the Council to approve the addition of a
26 third volleyball court at Coral Reef Park.
 - 27
28 • Christie Cantin Davis, Candidate for State Representative for District 115 –
29 introduced herself as a running candidate at the state level and invited the
30 Council to attend her upcoming rally in support of advocacy for women
31 rights.
 - 32
33 • Henry Clifford (8875 SW 171st Street) – urged the Council to allocate funds
34 to the Coral Reef Park Pineland and other parks that the Tree Advisory
35 Board has advocated for in the past and reported that the eastern ¼ of the
36 pineland is becoming an old hammock.
 - 37
38 • Jerry Binker and Bryant McKinnie, Cure Cystic Fibrosis Miami – announced
39 that Cure CF Miami raised \$87,000 last year in the Celebrity Kickball
40 Tournament and thanked the Village for their support in the cause. They
41 presented the Council with a plaque and explained that the organization
42 began 2010 to raise awareness on Cystic Fibrosis and to help find a cure
43 for the disease.
 - 44
45 • Don Pybas (9264 SW 180th Street) – spoke in support of allocating funding
46 for proposed Veterans' Park, the woods and the pinelands, and stated that
47 the Village has an obligation with Miami-Dade County for the woods at Coral
48 Reef Park.

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- Jorge Pulido (16025 SW 89th Avenue Road) – congratulated the Heritage Committee on the 20th year of anniversary celebration and urged the Council to consider adopting a sister city.

3. VILLAGE MANAGER’S PRESENTATION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2022, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 20, 2023

State Senator Ileana Garcia introduced herself and provided an update on state appropriations for sub-basin improvement projects, specifically for sub-basin projects in the Village known as #43, #57, and #96. She also presented and hand-delivered two checks totaling over \$3 million from the Florida Legislature for the sub-basin projects in the Village.

Manager Marano illustrated a PowerPoint Presentation on the fiscal year 2023 budget highlights and overview.

4. ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING WITH PUBLIC COMMENT

- A. AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF PALMETTO BAY, OF MIAMI-DADE FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATE OF 2.3500 FOR THE VILLAGE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2022, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2023, PURSUANT TO SECTION 200.065, FLORIDA STATUTES; PROVIDING FOR NOTICE; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *(Sponsored by Administration)*

Item 4A was moved by Councilmember Patrick Fiore. Seconded by Councilmember Steve Cody.

Clerk Arocha read the one public comment submitted by form. All public comments submitted by form are attached to the minutes as “Exhibit A”.

The following in-person public comments were heard for item 4A:

- Vitality Falcovitch (9280 SW 167th Terrace) – spoke in support of the proposed budget and millage rate.
- Eugene Flinn (8261 SW 162nd Street) – reported that ARPA funds appear to be using \$1.3 million for recurring funds and questioned where the Village would stand with policing when ARPA money runs out. He also questioned the 2019 mitigating resolution and questioned the possible legal action for canal restoration.

- 1 • Pam Gorman (14140 SW 77th Avenue) – stated that the Village
2 Council has failed to the promises of incorporation over twenty years
3 ago. She also reported that FPL franchise fees are a hidden tax and
4 urged the Council to relief residents from higher taxes.
5
- 6 • Henry Clifford (8875 SW 171st St) – thanked the Council for keeping
7 the milage rate low.
8
- 9 • Beverly Gerald (14271 SW 74th Court) – spoke in support of
10 franchise fees and the millage rate and explained that it is
11 irresponsible to do away with them. She questioned what the Village
12 will do when ARPA funds run out and spoke in support of resiliency
13 change and urged the Council to look further into the future.
14

15 COUNCIL DISCUSSION/QUESTIONS:

16
17 Councilmember Steve Cody and Vice Mayor Leanne Tellam spoke in
18 support of the proposed millage rate.
19

20 Councilmember Marsha Matson urged the Council to consider going
21 back to the roll back rate (same amount as the prior year) due to inflation
22 being high.
23

24 Councilmember Marsha Matson **motioned** to have millage rate at the
25 same amount of money as last year. Councilmember Patrick Fiore
26 **seconded** the motion.
27

28 Councilmember Patrick Fiore spoke in support of the roll back rate and
29 opposed to loosing police officers from the budget. He urged the Council
30 to support the addition of a volleyball court at Coral Reef Park and the
31 reduction of the funds allocated for studies such as the comprehensive
32 plan in the amount of \$50,000.
33

34 The question was called on the motion and **the motion failed (2-3);**
35 **Mayor Karyn Cunningham, Vice Mayor Leanne Tellam, and**
36 **Councilmember Steve Cody voting in opposition.**
37

38 Councilmember Patrick Fiore **motioned** to lower the millage rate to 2.3
39 mills. The motion was **seconded** by Councilmember Marsha Matson.
40

41 Councilmember Steve Cody reported that lowering the millage rate to
42 2.3 is an equivalent of a savings in the amount of \$170,000 and would
43 entail removing the two studies from the budget (comprehensive plan
44 and economic market study).
45

46 Manager Marano reported that the Comprehensive Plan will cost
47 approximately \$100,000 and that it is a requirement by Florida Statutes
48 for the Village to get it done. He spoke opposed to lowering the millage

1 rate to 2.3 and urged the Council to not support it due to the expected
2 recession with real estate values that is occurring. He explained that
3 between the 2.3 and 2.35 millage rate, the potential impact is far greater
4 than modest benefit.

5
6 Mayor Karyn Cunningham spoke in support of the proposed 2.35 millage
7 rate and thanked the Village Manager for considering lowering the
8 millage rate below 2.4 (the maximum mileage rate). She also spoke in
9 support of setting aside \$50,000 for the maintenance fund in the budget;
10 as she explained, setting aside these types of funds was not done in
11 previous years by the prior Administration.

12
13 Councilmember Patrick Fiore questioned if the Comprehensive Plan
14 must be done by Florida Statute.

15
16 Manager Marano responded yes.

17
18 Councilmember Patrick Fiore withdrew his motion. No objections were
19 received from the Council on the withdrawal of the motion. **The motion**
20 **was withdrawn.**

21
22 The question was called in favor of item 4A via a roll call vote:

- 23
- 24 • Mayor Karyn Cunningham - YES
- 25 • Vice Mayor Leanne Tellam - YES
- 26 • Councilmember Patrick Fiore - YES
- 27 • Councilmember Steve Cody - YES
- 28 • Councilmember Marsha Matson - NO
- 29

30 **Item 4A passed (4-1);** Councilmember Marsha Matson voting in
31 opposition.

32
33 B. AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND VILLAGE COUNCIL OF
34 THE VILLAGE OF PALMETTO BAY OF MIAMI DADE COUNTY,
35 FLORIDA, APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE
36 VILLAGE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1,
37 2022, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2023; PROVIDING FOR
38 EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS;
39 PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN
40 EFFECTIVE DATE. *(Sponsored by Administration)*

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42 Item 4B was moved by Councilmember Steve Cody. Seconded
43 by Councilmember Patrick Fiore.

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45 Clerk Arocha read the one public comment submitted by form. All public
46 comments submitted by form are attached to the minutes as "Exhibit A".

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48 The following in-person public comments were heard for item 4B:

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- Vitality Falcovitch (9280 SW 167th Terrace) – spoke in support of the proposed budget.
- Eugene Flinn (8261 SW 162nd Street) – stated that a significant amount of money could be cut from the budget, including the items that aren’t discussed during the budget hearing. He spoke opposed to cutting public safety and park fees. He urged the Council to spend monies on the woods and questioned what the Village’s plan is considering that the lease is coming to an end. He spoke in support of the volleyball courts at Coral Reef Park and the proposal of adding additional picnic tables around the park.
- Henry Clifford (8875 SW 171st St) – spoke in support of the Coral Reef Park pineland and questioned what the Village’s plan is for the pineland restoration area. He urged the Council to support the hiring of an arborist and questioned the woods project.

Following public comments, Manager Marano continued his Budget Presentation by demonstrating a PowerPoint that illustrated the proposed staffing summary for each of the Village Departments, capital and maintenance budget highlights, park impact fee highlights, CITT transportation highlights, stormwater budget highlights, ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) highlights, Building Highlights, and Veterans’ Park highlights.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION/QUESTIONS:

Councilmember Steve Cody questioned if the funds allocated for the woods project is sufficient to cover the lease with the county.

Fanny Carmona, Parks and Recreation Director responded yes and that the funds allocated in the budget are sufficient to meet the requirements of Miami-Dade County.

Councilmember Steve Cody questioned the control of the burning and the removal of the oaks.

Director Carmona reported that the Village is working with the county for the control burning, including the removal of the oaks.

Councilmember Steve Cody questioned if the pavilion next to the meditation garden at Coral Reef Park has been fixed and where the funds for the repair would come from.

Director Carmona reported that the repair is being taken care of and the funds are allocated from the current fiscal year budget.

1 Councilmember Steve Cody questioned the treatment of the softball fields at
2 Palmetto Bay Park and asked for the timeline.

3

4 Director Carmona responded that once the grant is approved, the Village will
5 begin the process of the softball fields to ensure that the fields are ready for the
6 tournaments as the schedule will be worked out.

7

8 Councilmember Steve Cody asked about the park improvements at the
9 Palmetto Bay Park playground, including the status of the skate park.

10

11 Director Carmona responded that the Village has allocated \$500,000 for overall
12 projects which will come from the Parks Master Plan and that the skate park is
13 part of the Parks Master Plan too.

14

15 Councilmember Marsha Matson spoke opposed to the way ARPA funds are
16 being used in the proposed budget and that ARPA is intended for water, sewer,
17 and infrastructure projects. She questioned what the Village will do once ARPA
18 funds are terminated from the budget and reported that the proposed budget
19 contains good things such as sub-basin projects and Village tree projects. She
20 spoke in support of making the Village more resilient due to the climate
21 changes and urged the Council to vote in opposition of the proposed budget as
22 presented by the Manager.

23

24 Councilmember Marsha Matson reported that the Village previously set aside
25 a separate restricted fund for parks acquisition in the amount of \$50,000 the
26 previous fiscal year. She questioned where the funds are in the budget now.

27

28 Manager Marano responded that the funds in the proposed budget includes the
29 \$50,000 for parks acquisition. He referenced page 29 of his PowerPoint
30 presentation to demonstrate the budget.

31

32 Councilmember Marsha Matson questioned if Palmetto Bay has to match the
33 grant from the state of Florida for the sub-basin improvement projects.

34

35 Manager Marano responded yes and that the Village will have to pay, costing
36 approximating \$200,000, in that range.

37

38 Councilmember Marsha Matson questioned what the cost per ride for the
39 freebee.

40

41 Manager Marano responded that the cost varies by month.

42

43 Public Services Director, Dionisio Torres responded that it costs an estimate of
44 \$32,000 a month.

45

46 Manager Marano reported that the July 2022 estimate was based on the
47 number of rides, costing \$20.87 per ride with the ridership being at 1,533 that
48 month.

1 Councilmember Marsha Matson spoke opposed to the funds being used for
2 freebee due to the low ridership data.
3

4 Councilmember Marsha Matson reported that she supports the Veterans' Park
5 but is concerned that the Village is not receiving a clear title and spoke opposed
6 the amount of funds being allocated to this park without receiving a clear title.
7

8 Attorney John Dellagloria explained that the Village would not be receiving the
9 deed for the Veterans' Park until the plat issue is resolved with South Motors.
10 He reported that the Village does not have the timeframe for when the platting
11 would be concluded and that it could take approximately six months for the
12 county to plat the property.
13

14 Councilmember Marsha Matson reported that unless the Village has a deed
15 that is free and clear, that she would not support a budget allocating funds for
16 the veteran's park.
17

18 Manager Marano reported that the Village would not spend funds on the
19 veteran's park until the plat matter is resolved; however, the funds are being
20 allocated based on the commitment the Village made over six years ago.
21

22 Councilmember Patrick Fiore spoke in support of the sub-basin projects, the
23 water main project for SW 143rd Street, the vac truck, and the Coral Reef Park
24 recreational building.
25

26 Manager Marano reported that the recreational building at Coral Reef Park is
27 fully being funded in the proposed budget and announced that a Parks Master
28 Plan Workshop is scheduled for September 30, 2022, at Palmer Trinity School.
29 He encouraged members of the public to attend the workshop.
30

31 Manager Marano provided an update on the rubberized trails repair project at
32 Coral Reef Park and explained that it would cost approximately \$2.6 million
33 dollars for that project due to the type of work that is involved with repairing the
34 trails as it wasn't property installed when the project was originally done. He
35 explained that he has a meeting with the contractor in the future to discuss
36 going over the options for this project.
37

38 Vice Mayor Leanne Tellam thanked the Village Manager for answering all her
39 questions prior to the budget hearing and thanked him for the presentation.
40

41 Councilmember Marsha Matson questioned if the walking trail at Palmetto Bay
42 Park will be replaced.
43

44 Director Carmona responded that the Request for Proposal process for the
45 walking trails at Palmetto Bay Park recently closed and that a cone of silence
46 is in place. She announced that a recommendation will be brought to the
47 Council in the month of October.
48

1 Mayor Karyn Cunningham spoke in support of the Manager’s presentation and
2 the proposed budget. She announced that the Village has created a legacy for
3 the maintenance fund, resiliency plan, and the veterans’ park. She spoke in
4 support of the Coral Reef Park recreational building and reported that she is in
5 support of not spending funds on the veterans’ park until the Village has
6 received a deed that is free and clear. She also spoke in support of public
7 safety.

8
9 The question was called in favor of item 4A via a roll call vote:

- 10 • Councilmember Marsha Matson - NO
- 11 • Councilmember Steve Cody - YES
- 12 • Councilmember Patrick Fiore - YES
- 13 • Vice Mayor Leanne Tellam - YES
- 14 • Mayor Karyn Cunningham - YES

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16
17 **Item 4B passed (4-1);** Councilmember Marsha Matson voting in opposition.

18
19 **5. NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT**

20
21 Mayor Karyn Cunningham announced that the Second Budget Hearing is
22 scheduled for Wednesday, September 28, 2022.

23
24 At 9:38 PM, Councilmember Patrick Fiore **motioned** to adjourn the meeting.
25 The motion was seconded by Councilmember Steve Cody. **All voted in favor**
26 **(5-0). The motion passed unanimously.**

27
28
29 **THE MEETING MINUTES WERE APPROVED THIS 3RD DAY OF OCTOBER 2022.**

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33 DocuSigned by:
34 *Karyn Cunningham*
35 **MAYOR KARYN CUNNINGHAM**

33 DocuSigned by:
34 *Missy Arocha*
35 **VILLAGE CLERK MISSY AROCHA**