



City of Pompano Beach

100 West Atlantic Blvd.
Pompano Beach, FL 33060

Detailed Minutes - Final

City Commission

- Lamar Fisher, Mayor*
- Charlotte J. Burrie, Vice Mayor*
- Rex Hardin, Commissioner*
- Barry Moss, Commissioner*
- Beverly Perkins, Commissioner*
- Michael Sobel, Commissioner*

- Gregory P. Harrison, City Manager*
- Mark Berman, City Attorney*
- Asceleta Hammond, City Clerk*

Monday, September 25, 2017

5:15 PM

Commission Chamber

Special City Commission Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

The Honorable Lamar Fisher called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

ROLL CALL

- Present:** Commissioner Rex Hardin
 Commissioner Barry Moss
 Commissioner Beverly Perkins
 Commissioner Michael Sobel
 Vice Mayor Charlotte Burrie
 Mayor Lamar Fisher

INVOCATION

Lamar Fisher, Mayor, City of Pompano Beach offered the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Asceleta Hammond, City Clerk

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Hardin, seconded by Vice Mayor Burrie, that the Agenda be APPROVED. The motion carried unanimously.

A. REGULAR AGENDA

1. [17-604](#) A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF POMPANO BEACH, BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING

THE MILLAGES FOR THE 2017 TAX ROLL; LEVYING A TAX ON ALL PROPERTIES, REAL AND PERSONAL, WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF POMPANO BEACH, BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, FOR OPERATION AND/OR MAINTENANCE EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF POMPANO BEACH USING A GENERAL OPERATING MILLAGE RATE OF 4.9865; PROVIDING THAT THE PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE REPRESENTS A 11.21% INCREASE IN PROPERTY TAXES WHEN COMPARED TO THE ROLLED-BACK MILLAGE RATE OF 4.4837; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

(Fiscal Impact: N/A)

Greg Harrison, City Manager, stated that this was the second and final hearing in the budget process that began last November. He then introduced Erjeta Diamanti, Budget Officer. She indicated that this was the final hearing to adopt the proposed millage rate of 4.9865, which represents an 11.21% property tax increase when compared to the roll-back millage rate of 4.4837.

Tom Terwilliger, 3160 NW 1st Avenue, Pompano Beach, reminded the Commission that in previous budgets, there was the issue of the golf course. Specifically, he stated there was language within the budget from two years ago, that if the golf course did not break even, action should be taken, presumably, to close it. Continuing, Mr. Terwilliger stated that in the 2015-16 fiscal year, the golf course lost slightly less than \$2 million. Mr. Terwilliger also expressed concern over the loss in revenue from the parking garage. Furthermore, he stated that if the Commission had voted to make the developer pay for the garage, the City would not have suffered those losses.

Mayor Fisher stated that he did not recall the Commission voting on closing the golf course and then he asked Assistant City Manager, Suzette Sible, about the parking garage and what is projected.

Mrs. Sible explained that parking activities were accounted for in the General Fund, but it did not run that high of a profit. The Commission voted to create an Enterprise Fund to organize the parking enterprise system. Moreover, the City financed the garage with projected parking fees, current reserve funds and borrowed funds to assist with the interest expense. Mrs. Sible stated that this was all factored into the finance plan that was presented to the Commission for approval.

Mayor Fisher stated that if the City is on target currently, to which Mrs. Sible responded that is correct.

Steve Hudson, 700 NE 23rd Avenue, Pompano Beach, FL, expressed that he would like to voice his opinion of optimism. He wanted to let the Commission know that they have been doing a good job and he is pleased with the direction the City is headed. Mr. Hudson explained that he has been a resident of Pompano Beach since he was hired with the Fire Department 15 years ago. Continuing, he said over the last 5-6 years, he has seen steady growth and is happy to call the City home.

Ron Boehl, Pompano Beach, FL, informed the Commission that he has been a resident of Pompano Beach since 1964 and that the City has done a great job and to keep up the good work.

Commissioner Sobel wanted to first respond to comments made by Mr. Terwilliger. Commissioner Sobel stated that it is part of their job to ask why, and he wanted to make a motion to have an independent evaluation of the golf course and its operations, so that the residents can know why the City continues to keep it in operation and also to see if there is anything that can be done to enhance the profitability of it.

Mayor Fisher asked if there was a second to the motion, which there was not. The motion died for lack of a second. Mayor Fisher asked Ms. Diamanti to verify for the record the \$1.8 million deficit at the golf course.

Ms. Diamanti explained that they need to take a closer look at how the \$1.8 million was generated, because she does not have the information in front of her at the moment, but the revenues and expenditures of the Golf division are being monitored.

Andrew Jean-Pierre, Finance Director, stated that they have been monitoring the activities and the results of the Golf Fund operations and as of the last report that was sent out to the Golf Advisory Board, they initially budgeted \$700,000, as of August, they are down to \$200,000 subsidy, with an overall budget of \$2.6 million, so, currently they are ahead of schedule.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hardin, seconded by Vice Mayor Burrie, that the Resolution be ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Hardin
Moss
Perkins
Sobel
Burrie
Fisher

Enactment No: RES. No. 2017-315

2. [17-605](#) A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES / EXPENSES AND RECEIPTS/REVENUES FOR THE CITY OF POMPANO BEACH, BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 TOTALING \$248,938,842; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
(Fiscal Impact: \$248,938,842)

Ms. Diamanti informed that this is the final adoption of the fiscal year 2018 operating budget, which is

\$248,938,842.

Commissioner Sobel stated that he received that morning a copy of what was published in the newspaper for the budget summary for the City, and he certainly does not agree with everything that is anonymously put on the doorstep of his private office, but it was brief and he wanted to share it. Commissioner Sobel then read to the Commission an anonymous letter given to him that expressed concern about the difficulty for the average person to understand the budget and how every line item can be cut further. Although he doesn't agree with everything said, he does feel that the Commission should be asking the why questions. Continuing, he was advised that staff may be put off by his questions about the budget, but wanted to say that his objective is to do what is in the best interest of the residents and to communicate as transparently as possible. Moreover, he will continue to keep asking questions.

Ms. Diamanti explained that the budget summary that was posted in the newspaper, is the same ads they publish every year, which is based on what the Department of Revenue requires. The language that is used in both ads is defined by the Department of Revenue, it is not something that the City creates.

Mayor Fisher commended Ms. Diamanti for providing explanation on the budget. The information has been available on the website and to the public, as well as, staff and the Commission, have been able to ask Ms. Diamanti questions. Moreover, with statements being made about the City not being transparent or being corrupt, he wants to ensure that the public knows they can ask questions and that the City has been very transparent about the budget.

Ms. Diamanti added that in 2014 they revised the budget documents, based on the best practices of the Government Finance Officers' Association (GFOA), in order to make it user friendly. Furthermore, the City follows guidelines set by the GFOA. Mayor Fisher asked to clarify that the City has won the GFOA award every year, to which Ms. Diamanti replied the City has won every year since 2014.

Commissioner Hardin wanted to take the time to say thank you to the budget team, City Manager and the rest of the staff. Continuing, he reiterated to the public that this has been a yearlong project. Additionally, every department head and every manager is tasked with the responsibility each year to look at ways to possibly cut the budget. Commissioner Hardin explained that every dollar that the City has is a tax payer dollar and they are all accounted for in the budget and every year they have to determine where to cut from and still provide great service to the public at the lowest cost.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hardin, seconded by Vice Mayor Burrie, that the Resolution be ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Hardin
Moss
Perkins
Sobel
Burrie
Fisher

Enactment No: RES. No. 2017-316

B. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

COMMENCE MEETING AS EMS TAXING DISTRICT

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2017

(To commence immediately after the Special City Commission Meeting)

Mayor Fisher commenced the meeting of the EMS Taxing District at approximately 5:39 p.m.

A. REGULAR AGENDA

1. [17-606](#) A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF POMPANO BEACH EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DISTRICT, BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA ADOPTING THE MILLAGE FOR THE 2017 TAX ROLL; LEVYING A TAX ON ALL PROPERTIES, REAL AND PERSONAL, WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE POMPANO BEACH EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DISTRICT, FOR OPERATION AND/OR MAINTENANCE EXPENSES OF THE POMPANO BEACH EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DISTRICT USING A MILLAGE OF .5000; PROVIDING THAT THE PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE REPRESENTS A 8.01% INCREASE IN PROPERTY TAXES WHEN COMPARED TO THE ROLLED-BACK RATE OF .4629; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

(Fiscal Impact: N/A)

A motion was made by Commissioner Hardin, seconded by Vice Mayor Burrie, that the Resolution be ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following vote:

- Yes:** Hardin
 Moss
 Perkins
 Sobel
 Burrie
 Fisher

Enactment No: RES. No. 2017-317

2. [17-607](#) A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES AND RECEIPTS OF THE POMPANO BEACH EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DISTRICT, BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 TOTALING \$17,256,771; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

(Fiscal Impact: \$17,256,771)

Tom Terwilliger, 3160 NW 1st Avenue, Pompano Beach, FL, stated that although he has been a financial analyst for 40 years, he said the budget is very hard to read, which is why more residents are not present to

speaking on it. Furthermore, he asked for an explanation for a transfer that was made from the General fund to the EMS fund, as he could not find an explanation for it.

Mayor Fisher asked if Ms. Diamanti had this information off the top of her head, to which she replied that the transfer was made to support EMS services, as well as, the pension increases. Mr. Terwilliger asked to clarify that the funds were coming from the General fund, not the EMS fund, to which Ms. Diamanti replied that was correct. Mayor Fisher explained that the EMS fund does not fund the entire budget, to which Mr. Terwilliger responded that he understands it is a partial transfer to the total budget.

Commissioner Hardin commented on the budget documents and how the City wins awards each year for these documents and that the residents in District 3 seem to be able to read them just fine.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hardin, seconded by Vice Mayor Burrie, that the Resolution be ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Hardin
Moss
Perkins
Sobel
Burrie
Fisher

Enactment No: RES. No. 2017-318

B. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

Lamar Fisher, Mayor

Asceleta Hammond, City Clerk