

CITY OF PALMETTO
CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP MEETING
July 18, 2016
4:30 PM

Elected Officials Present:

Shirley Groover Bryant, Mayor
Harold Smith, Vice Mayor, Commissioner, Ward 1—(arrived at 4:31 p.m.)
Tamara Cornwell, Commissioner-at-Large 2
Jonathan Davis, Commissioner-at-Large 1
Tambra Varnadore, Commissioner, Ward 2—(arrived at 4:32 p.m.)
Brian Williams, Commissioner, Ward 3

Staff Present:

Mark Barnebey, City Attorney
Jeff Burton, CRA Director
Jim Freeman, City Clerk
Allen Tusing, Public Works Director
Scott Tyler, Chief of Police
Scott Rudacille, Chief Assistant City Attorney
Amber Foley, Assistant City Clerk

There is no audio for this meeting.

Mayor Bryant called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

1. FY2017 BUDGET VERSION 1 DISCUSSION

Mr. Freeman discussed the FY2017 assumption pages of the budget handout. He explained that the General Fund ad valorem revenues are approximately \$4,557,792 with the assumption of assessing a preliminary millage rate of \$5.9671; the same millage as assessed last year. He reminded Commission that they can set the millage rate higher and always reduce it at final adoption; however, it cannot be increased.

Other highlights from the assumptions page of the budget are as follows:

- Property values have increased from 716,329,546 for FY2016 to 763,820,230, or 6.6%
- General Fund is projected to receive approximately \$517,277 in Police Department reimbursement from the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) during FY2017 compared to \$517,131 in FY2016 and \$627,527 in FY2015. This downward trend is a part of a deliberate plan to eventually eliminate all such CRA funding.
- Utility revenues are loaded with the approved rate increases associated with the rate study that was approved in 2013. Water and Sewer revenues reflect a 4% increase while reuse revenues reflect a 2% increase for FY2017. This is year four of a five year implementation plan.
- At this time, the Building Department is balanced and projected to have a surplus of approximately \$107, 616. No reserves are being utilized to balance the Building Department budget and it is projected to show a surplus of \$112,000 in fiscal year 2016.
- All employee and Commission salaries are loaded with no increase in Version 1. The preliminary results have been received from the Compensation Study and are being discussed by Department Heads to determine implementation options.
- At the time of publication of Version 1, health insurance was loaded with no increase based on the current census of insured participants. Since Version 1, it has been estimated that health insurance will increase by approximately 2.6%.
- The budget contains 137 funded positions
- Five new positions are loaded in the budget

- Two positions are expected to receive upgrades
- Five vacant positions remain funded in the budget; four full-time and one part-time
- Cost allocation for General Fund support services methodology is consistent with prior years
- Capital leases include the following (4 year lease)
 - Forklift
 - New City admin vehicle
 - Three patrol Chargers
 - One detective Charger
 - Four vehicle radios
 - Three Coban EDGE in-car video
 - Two Ford Explorers
 - Playground equipment
 - Wheel Loader with three yard bucket and forks
 - New small pick-up truck
 - Camera truck retrofit
- The following one-time expenditures are being funded by fund balance:
 - Insurance contingencies
 - Planning Comprehensive Plan update
 - Hurricane emergency supplies
 - Insurance contingencies for Road and Bridget
- The following one-time capital expenditures are being funded with fund balance
 - IT hardware-12 laptops
 - Fleet scanner
 - Deck replacement at Celebration Center
 - 10th Avenue light poles and benches
 - 110 gallon spray trailer
 - Z-track mower
 - Three air conditioner units for the Historical Park
 - New PVC fence for Historical Park
 - Red solar powered stop sign light kit

Mr. Freeman discussed the All Fund Summary page of the budget. He stated that the General Fund is showing a \$228,029 deficit as presented and the CRA is showing a \$266,755 deficit.

Mr. Freeman handed out a handout showing different scenarios based on ad valorem increases and what it could mean to a home owner.

It was questioned when the salary study would be presented to Commission. Mr. Freeman expects a final draft form to be ready by the August 1st meeting.

Mr. Freeman asked Commission to think about what millage needs to be set so he can communicate that to the Manatee County Property Appraisers Office for the Truth in Millage Statement. Commissioner Varnadore is not interested in increasing the millage rate at this time. Discussion ensued on whether there should be a budget meeting on Wednesday. The consensus was to cancel the July 20th budget meeting and reschedule it for Monday July 25th.

2. RV AND BOAT PARKING DISCUSSION

Attorney Rudacille informed Commission that amendments are being proposed in the City Code to the parking of domestic and commercial vehicles and recreational vehicles on residential property. Currently, these types of vehicles can be stored outside of an enclosed garage no less than five feet from any interior lot line. It is being proposed to extend upon that language to say that the vehicle shall be screened on all sides by a six foot opaque fence or wall; where that is not permitted in the City, then those vehicles and trailers shall be stored in enclosed buildings.

Commissioner Williams disagreed with the addition of language requiring fencing; he opined a landscape option would be better.

Discussion ensued regarding the definitions of front yards and back yards; specifically those yards that have waterfront property. It was questioned if there is a huge need for significant changes to the current ordinance, and, if so, does it need to be applied as a "one size fits all" to the entire City, regardless of zoning. Mayor Bryant has had several complaints from residents regarding storage of these vehicles on property where this causes parking along the streets in residential neighborhoods. Commissioner Williams agreed it is a problem, but only believes that some of the portions of this code should be updated. He also asked if Code Enforcement could come to a City Commission meeting to discuss the specific areas of complaints.

Commissioner Smith would like a survey done in the entire City to determine site specific areas where this is a problem.

Commissioner Varnadore expressed her opinions on the proposed changes and does not agree with most of what is written. She would prefer to see an ordinance drafted that addresses parking of these vehicles in the yard which would create more parking along the street.

Further discussion on this topic is schedule to be on the August 1st Workshop Agenda.

Mayor Bryant adjourned meeting at 6:07pm

Minutes approved: August 1, 2016

James R. Freeman

James R. Freeman
City Clerk