

**DRAFT
CITY OF PALMETTO
CITY COMMISSION BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING
July 31, 2017
6:00 PM**

Elected Officials Present:

Shirley Groover Bryant, Mayor
Brian Williams, Vice Mayor, Commissioner, Ward 3—arrived at 6:01 p.m.
Tamara Cornwell, Commissioner-at-Large 2
Jonathan Davis, Commissioner-at-Large 1
Harold Smith, Commissioner, Ward 1
Tambra Varnadore, Commissioner, Ward 2

Staff Present:

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

Mayor Bryant called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. FY2017-2018 BUDGET VERSION 1

Mr. Freeman reminded the Commission of the two budget hearings scheduled; tentative budget hearing is September 11th during regularly scheduled 7:00 p.m. Commission meeting and the final budget hearing is September 26th at 5:30 p.m. Staff is proposing to discuss the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and the projects for the ½ cent sales tax funds.

Mayor Bryant asked Commission to follow up with questions regarding the assumptions page before Mr. Freeman continues with his presentation.

Commissioner Cornwell asked about how pay increases will be handled for new employees hired within the six months before the new fiscal year. Mr. Freeman explained that staff is currently reviewing the Personnel Policy to address that; however, in the interim, there is a procedure that any new employees hired and still on initial probation when new fiscal year begins, will not receive the allotted pay increase until after successfully completing their probation period.

Commissioner Varnadore questioned the reserves being used to help fund the Building Department. Mr. Freeman explained that it is not the intention to continuously use reserves to fund the Building Department and Mr. Tusing is looking at outsourcing the Building Official for the City.

Commissioner Varnadore questioned the need to fund more improvements to the Celebration Center when it has not been determined what is going to happen to the Center. Mr. Freeman explained that no matter what happens with the Celebration Center, safety concerns have to be addressed for any public facility. Commissioner Varnadore requested the funds not be used until a decision is made on what is going to occur with the Center.

In regards to the street sweeper purchase budgeted for Public Works, Mrs. Varnadore asked staff to look into a leasing option versus purchasing.

Birthday parties at parks and facilities were discussed. A workshop for next Monday is scheduled to review the CRA's research and survey results regarding the parks in the City

Mr. Freeman proposed dates and times for other meetings regarding CIP and ½ cent sales tax. Those meetings and budget discussion will be held on August 14th at 5:30 p.m. and August 23rd at 5:30 p.m.; the August 2nd and August 9th budget meetings were removed. Staff will resend the schedule as well as create a meeting invite.

Mayor Bryant adjourned the meeting at 6:43 p.m.

Minutes approved: August 28, 2017

James R. Freeman

James R. Freeman
City Clerk