

**CITY OF PALMETTO
CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP MEETING
July 18, 2018
6:00 PM**

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Shirley Groover Bryant, Mayor
Jonathan Davis, Vice Mayor, Commissioner-at-Large 1
Tamara Cornwell, Commissioner-at-Large 2
Harold Smith, Commissioner, Ward 1
Tambra Varnadore, Commissioner, Ward 2
Brian Williams, Commissioner Ward 3

STAFF PRESENT:

Mark Barnebey, City Attorney
Jeff Burton, CRA Director
Jim Freeman, City Clerk
Scott Tyler, Chief of Police
Amber LaRowe, Assistant City Clerk

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

1. FY 2018-2019 BUDGET VERSION 1 DISCUSSION

Mr. Freeman continued the discussion from the July 16, 2018 Workshop meeting. He reiterated that the millage is set at the current rate of \$5.9671 mills and is balanced at this time.

Commissioner Cornwell questioned the need for a Permit Technician in the Building Department, a part-time Building Inspector in the Building Department, and the 3 new Service Worker positions. Due to Mr. Tusing being unavailable for tonight's meeting, the Mayor will ask Mr. Tusing to provide information to the Commission regarding the need for these positions.

Discussion ensued on the three percent increase to General Employees, the Mayor, and the Commission salaries. Commissioner Varnadore questioned when discussions will be had regarding the City converting to a merit based pay increase schedule. Mr. Freeman stated that in the fall he is proposing discussion at Workshop meetings on the Personnel Policy revisions that staff has made; a merit based program is part of the proposal. He stated that due to the Personnel Policy not being discussed or adopted, staff did not feel comfortable implementing a merit based policy until the employees are well educated on the new pay system. Commissioner Smith expressed his opinions on the merit based proposal and indicated it would be a "hard sell" to the employees. He is concerned about lack of consistency in how employees will be evaluated and treated.

Commissioner Smith questioned when the resurfacing of the tennis courts is going to occur. Mr. Burton is to bring back his reports on the tennis courts/basketball courts/Lamb Park for discussion at a Workshop.

Mayor Bryant adjourned the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED: AUGUST 27, 2018

James R. Freeman

JAMES R. FREEMAN, CITY CLERK