

CITY OF PALM BAY, FLORIDA

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING 2022-25

Held on Wednesday, the 7th day of September 2022, at the City Hall Council Chambers, 120 Malabar Road, SE, Palm Bay, Florida.

This meeting was properly noticed pursuant to law; the minutes are on file in the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, Palm Bay, Florida.

The meeting was called to order at the hour of 6:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL:

MAYOR:	Rob Medina	Present
DEPUTY MAYOR:	Kenny Johnson	Present
COUNCILMEMBER:	Randy Foster	Present
COUNCILMEMBER:	Donny Felix	Present
COUNCILMEMBER:	Peter Filiberto	Present
CITY MANAGER:	Suzanne Sherman	Present
DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY:	Erich Messenger	Present
CITY CLERK:	Terese Jones	Present

CITY STAFF: Present was Joan Junkala-Brown, Deputy City Manager; Angelica Collins, Fiscal Manager; Chris Little, Utilities Director.

COMMENTARY BY STAFF:

1. Statement regarding tax rate for Fiscal Year 2023.

Ms. Sherman announced that the City had tentatively adopted an operating millage rate of 7.5995 for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2022 and ending September 30, 2023, which exceeded the Truth in Millage (TRIM) current year aggregate rolled-back rate of 6.5887 by 15.34%. The percentage increase being above the three percent (3%) cap was caused by new construction being excluded from the three percent (3%) cap.

Contributing to the operating millage rate increase over the rolled-back rate was:

- Declaration of critical need funding to exceed the three percent (3%) cap operating millage rate
- Anticipated health insurance benefit associated expenditure increases of seven percent (7%)
- \$1.7 million in high priority funding needs, including contractual obligations requiring payment

- \$2.7 million in capital funding needs, including vehicle replacements, public safety equipment, information technology investments, and street/traffic light maintenance and support
- \$2.5 million in NAGE White/Blue contract negotiations and salary study execution
- \$1.1 million in personnel adjustments, including four (4) additional firefighters and six (6) additional police officers
- Road Maintenance funding to meet goal of \$1,000,000

The City had also tentatively adopted a debt millage rate of 1.0931 for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2022 and ending September 30, 2023. The tentative debt millage rate shall generate estimated revenues totaling \$6,977,575 based on the gross taxable value certified by the Property Appraiser's Office. These revenues were restricted and were designated for payment of the General Obligation Bonds, Series 2019 debt service payment totaling \$3,527,750, and the General Obligation Bonds, Series 2021 debt service payment totaling \$3,450,150, both due in the Fiscal Year 2023 budget year.

PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Discussion of tentative millage rate for Tax Year 2022 and City Manager's summary of proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

The public hearing was opened. Ms. Collins provided an overview of the proposed budget. She answered questions posed by councilmembers.

Individuals commented on the budget.

Ms. Sherman responded to councilmembers regarding line items of the budget.

The public hearing was closed.

BUSINESS:

1. Consideration of the tentative millage rate for Tax Year 2022; re-computation, if needed, and announcement of tentative millage rate and percentage increase over rolled-back rate.

Ms. Sherman said the tentative millage rate for tax year 2022 was 7.5995 and the road bond millage was 1.0931.

Motion by Mr. Felix, seconded by Mr. Foster, to set the tentative millage rate at 7.5995 and the road bond millage rate at 1.0931.

Motion carried with members voting as follows:

Mayor Medina	Yea
Deputy Mayor Johnson	Nay
Councilman Foster	Yea
Councilman Felix	Yea
Councilman Filiberto	Yea

2. Ordinance 2022-96, amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 200, Utilities Code, by adjusting the rates, fees and charges for the City's utilities system and services, first reading.

The Deputy City Attorney read the ordinance in caption only.

Ms. Sherman presented the request to Council.

Mayor Medina commented that some of the increases were significant. There was discussion on the fees that had increased and decreased, as well as connection for customers where services were available. Mr. Little and Jeff Dykstra, of Stantec, responded to questions.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Johnson, seconded by Mr. Felix, to approve Ordinance 2022-96.

Motion carried with members voting as follows:

Mayor Medina	Nay
Deputy Mayor Johnson	Yea
Councilman Foster	Yea
Councilman Felix	Yea
Councilman Filiberto	Nay

3. Ordinance 2022-97, amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 201, Sewer Use, Subchapter 'Miscellaneous Provisions', by adjusting the permit fees and other charges related to the City's utilities wastewater system, first reading.

The Deputy City Attorney read the ordinance in caption only.

Ms. Sherman presented the request to Council.

Residents commented on the need to expand utility services throughout the city and for homeowners to be required to hook-up to services.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Johnson, seconded by Mr. Foster, to approve Ordinance 2022-97.

Motion carried with members voting as follows:

Mayor Medina	Nay
Deputy Mayor Johnson	Yea
Councilman Foster	Yea
Councilman Felix	Yea
Councilman Filiberto	Nay

4. Ordinance 2022-98, amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 202, Reclaimed Water, by adjusting the rates, fees, and charges for reclaimed water, first reading.

The Deputy City Attorney read the ordinance in caption only.

Ms. Sherman presented the request to Council.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Johnson, seconded by Mr. Felix, to approve Ordinance 2022-98.

Motion carried with members voting as follows:

Mayor Medina	Yea
Deputy Mayor Johnson	Yea
Councilman Foster	Yea
Councilman Felix	Yea
Councilman Filiberto	Nay

5. Ordinance 2022-99, adopting the final budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023, first reading.

The Deputy City Attorney read the ordinance in caption only.

Ms. Sherman presented the request to Council.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Johnson, seconded by Mr. Foster, to approve Ordinance 2022-99. Motion carried with members voting as follows: Mayor Medina, Yea; Deputy Mayor Johnson, Yea; Councilman Foster, Yea; Councilman Felix, Yea; Councilman Filiberto, Yea.

6. Discussion of declaring critical need funding for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

Ms. Sherman presented the request to Council. If Council agreed, a resolution would be presented at the second budget hearing to declare critical need funding for the next fiscal year. Council concurred.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at the hour of 8:10 P.M.

Rob Medina, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Terese M. Jones, CITY CLERK