



City of North Port

4970 CITY HALL BLVD
NORTH PORT, FL 34286

Meeting Minutes - Draft City Commission Special Meeting

CITY COMMISSIONERS

Pete Emrich, Mayor
Barbara Langdon, Vice Mayor
Jill Luke, Commissioner
Debbie McDowell, Commissioner
Alice White, Commissioner

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Jerome Fletcher, City Manager
Amber L. Slayton, City Attorney
Heather Faust, City Clerk

Thursday, September 8, 2022

5:01 PM

CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS

Budget Hearing

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Emrich called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: 4 - Mayor Pete Emrich, Commissioner Jill Luke, Commissioner Debbie McDowell and Commissioner Alice White
Absent: 1 - Vice Mayor Barbara Langdon

Also Present:

City Manager Jerome Fletcher, City Attorney Amber Slayton, City Clerk Heather Faust, Fire Chief Scott Titus, Police Chief Todd Garrison, Budget Administrator Lisa Herrmann, Solid Waste Manager Frank Lama

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Solid Waste Manager Frank Lama.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Emrich requested a motion to approve the agenda.

A motion was made by Commissioner Luke, seconded by Commissioner White, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried on the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Mayor Emrich, Commissioner Luke, Commissioner McDowell and Commissioner White

Absent: 1 - Vice Mayor Langdon

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Valdy Olender: citizen rights and resolutions
Jeffrey Scott: expressed concern with spending

3. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- B. [RES. NO. 2022-R-47](#) A Resolution of the City Commission of the City of North Port, Florida, Tentatively Adopting the Proposed Ad Valorem Millage Rate and Rolled-Back Rate for the Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2022 and Ending September 30, 2023; Providing for Findings: Providing for Conflicts; Providing for Severability; and Providing an Effective Date.

Due to this item needing to be approved prior to Resolution No. 2022-R-48, the agenda was reordered to hear this item at this time.

Mayor Emrich announced the item and called on the City Clerk to read by title, Section 2.01 and Section 2.02.

Ms. Faust read the Resolution by title, Section 2.01 and Section 2.02 and read a statement regarding ad valorem increase.

Mr. Fletcher introduced the item.

Commission questions and discussion took place regarding general fund balance decrease and reallocation of funds allocated to budget proposal 203.

There was no public comment.

Mayor Emrich closed the public hearing and requested a motion.

A motion was made by Commissioner Luke, seconded by Commissioner White, to approve Resolution No. 2022-R-47 as presented. The motion carried on the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Mayor Emrich, Commissioner Luke and Commissioner White

No: 1 - Commissioner McDowell

Absent: 1 - Vice Mayor Langdon

Commissioner McDowell spoke to the motion and stated her reason for dissention due to concern with lack of planning for leaner years, lack of assistance to taxpayers, minimal cuts during budget process, lack of compromise, taxable value increase and spending of funds, additional staffing, pay study process, and concern with budget process in not reviewing by line item.

- A. [RES. NO. 2022-R-48](#) A Resolution of the City Commission of the City of North Port, Florida, Adopting the Tentative Non-District Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2022 and ending September 30, 2023; Adopting the Tentative Capital Improvement Budget and Program; Prescribing the Terms, Conditions, and Provisions with Respect to the Items of Appropriations and Their Payment; Providing for Supplemental Appropriations and Reappropriations; Providing for Findings; Providing for Conflicts; Providing for Severability; and Providing an Effective Date.

Mayor Emrich announced the item and called on the City Clerk to read by title only.

Ms. Faust read the Resolution by title only.

Mr. Fletcher introduced the item.

There were no Commission questions or discussion.

Ms. Faust read the following online public comment into the record:

Joan Herron San Lwin: supporting City ownership and budgeting for Warm Mineral Springs

Mayor Emrich closed the public hearing and requested a motion.

Mayor Emrich reopened the public hearing.

In person public comment:

Jeffrey Scott: expressed concern with tax increases and spending

Mayor Emrich closed the public hearing and requested a motion.

A motion was made by Commissioner Luke, seconded by Commissioner White, to approve Resolution No. 2022-R-48 as presented. The motion carried on the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Mayor Emrich, Commissioner Luke and Commissioner White

No: 1 - Commissioner McDowell

Absent: 1 - Vice Mayor Langdon

Commissioner McDowell dissented due to lack of planning for plan for leaner years ahead, pay study concerns, additional revenue spending, additional staff, no compromise during budget process, and spending of all funds received.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

5. ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Emrich adjourned the meeting at 5:24 p.m.

City of North Port, Florida

By: _____
Pete Emrich, Mayor

Attest: _____
Heather Faust, City Clerk

These minutes were approved on the ____ day of _____, 20__.