



City of North Port

4970 CITY HALL BLVD
NORTH PORT, FL 34286

Meeting Minutes City Commission Special Meeting

CITY COMMISSIONERS
Vanessa Carusone, Mayor
Linda M. Yates, Vice-Mayor
Christopher B. Hanks, Commissioner
Jill Luke, Commissioner
Debbie McDowell, Commissioner

APPOINTED OFFICIALS
Peter Lear, City Manager
Amber L. Slayton, City Attorney
Kathryn Peto, Interim City Clerk

Thursday, September 6, 2018

6:00 PM

CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS

NOTE: This is a copy of the minutes of the 09-06-2018 Commission Budget Hearing, has not been approved by the Commission and is subject to change.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The North Port City Commission Budget Hearing was called to order at 6:07 p.m. in City Chambers by Mayor Carusone.

Present: Mayor Carusone; Vice-Mayor Yates; Commissioners Hanks, Luke and McDowell; City Manager Lear; City Attorney Slayton; Interim City Clerk Peto and Police Chief Garrison.

A moment of silence was observed followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by the Commission.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – COMMISSION

A motion was made by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Vice-Mayor Yates, to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Mayor Carusone, Vice-Mayor Yates, Commissioner Hanks, Commissioner McDowell and Commissioner Luke

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

3. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- A.** [18-578](#) First Reading of Ordinance No. 2018-45, Adoption and Certification of Ad Valorem Millage Rate of 3.4070 for Fiscal Year 2018-2019. (Must read in

its entirety)

Interim City Clerk Peto read Ordinance No. 2018-45 in its entirety into the record.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Greg Culy: taxes.

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Yates, seconded by Commissioner Hanks, to continue Ordinance No. 2018-45, Adoption and Certification of Ad Valorem Millage Rate of 3.4070 for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 to the September 20, 2018 Commission Budget Hearing for second reading. The motion carried by the following vote:

Discussion ensued: (1) following a question, it was stated that a policy is needed prior to implementing body cameras for police officers and a Commission meeting agenda item regarding the issue is anticipated in a few months; (2) after the body cameras are approved, a budget amendment will be utilized to purchase them; (3) concern was expressed that there will not be sufficient funds when the time comes if an amount is not allocated now; (4) staff is working on finding and applying for grants to help purchase the body cameras; (5) clarification was provided that Community Development Block Grant program funds (CDBG) cannot be used to purchase body cameras.

There was a vote on the motion and the motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Mayor Carusone, Vice-Mayor Yates, Commissioner Hanks, Commissioner McDowell and Commissioner Luke

B. [18-579](#)

First Reading of Ordinance No. 2018-46, Adoption of Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Non-District Budget and Capital Improvements Program.

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Yates, seconded by Commissioner Luke, to read Ordinance No. 2018-46 by title only. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Mayor Carusone, Vice-Mayor Yates, Commissioner Hanks, Commissioner McDowell and Commissioner Luke

Interim City Clerk Peto read Ordinance No. 2018-45 into the record by title only.

Discussion ensued: (1) clarification was provided regarding the \$30,000 amount budgeted for Economic Development Marketing for Fiscal Year 2017-18 was not implemented and so the funds will be re-allocated for Fiscal Year 2018-19; (2) it was stated that Commission directed that the \$50,000 for the Economic Development Strategic Plan is scheduled for the Fiscal Year 2019-20 Budget and funding for Sarasota County Economic Development Corporation was added back into the 2018-19 Budget for \$60,000 to \$70,000; (3) a request was made to re-staff the receptionist position at the front desk at City Hall which would fall under Human Resources Department and could be implemented without raising the millage rate; (4) if approved, the position will be added to the Budget between the first and second hearing; (5) the counter height on the first floor will be lowered.

There was a unanimous consensus to staff the front reception desk on the first floor of City Hall as described by the City Manager.

Following a question, confirmation was provided that there was another personnel change regarding an increase in the City Attorney's salary but it will not increase the millage rate.

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Yates, seconded by Commissioner Hanks, to continue Ordinance No. 2018-46, Non-District Budget and Capital Improvements Program to the September 20, 2018 Commission Budget Hearing for second reading, with the amendments as discussed.

A motion was made by Commissioner McDowell, to amend the motion to remove SLA 19-2104 for the Traffic Unit, in the amount of \$317,930 and once removed, to insert a new Service Level Adjustment for Body Cameras. The motion died for lack of a second.

There was a brief discussion regarding the Commission's positive support for body cameras and finding revenue sources to help bear the cost for the project.

A vote was taken on the main motion and the motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Mayor Carusone, Vice-Mayor Yates, Commissioner Hanks, Commissioner McDowell and Commissioner Luke

C. [18-580](#)

Resolution No. 2018-R-21, Approving and Certifying the Assessment Rolls for Floribanna and Sumter Gardens Assessment Areas.

Interim City Clerk Peto read Resolution No. 2018-R-21 into the record by title only.

Following a question, clarification was provided that when the Floribanna and Sumter Gardens were first built, residents requested that utility lines be extended to the area, for which they would be assessed annually until paid in full. The agreement has a life span of seven more years before it is satisfied.

A motion was made by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Luke, to approve Resolution No. 2018-R-21. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Mayor Carusone, Vice-Mayor Yates, Commissioner Hanks, Commissioner McDowell and Commissioner Luke

4. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

5. COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS:

There were no Commission Communications to report.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL REPORTS:

There were no Administrative or Legal Reports.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Carusone adjourned the North Port City Commission Budget Hearing at 7:02 p.m.

City of North Port, Florida

By: _____
Vanessa Carusone, Mayor

Attest: _____
Kathryn Peto, Interim City Clerk

Minutes approved at the City Commission Regular Meeting this ____ day of _____, 2018.