



City of North Port

4970 CITY HALL BLVD
NORTH PORT, FL 34286

Meeting Minutes City Commission Workshop

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 Taylor, City Clerk

Tuesday, March 22, 2022

9:00 AM

City Commission Chambers

Assumptions, Projections, and Priorities FY 2022-2023

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Emrich called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: 5 - Mayor Pete Emrich, Vice Mayor Barbara Langdon, Commissioner Jill Luke, Commissioner Alice White and Commissioner Debbie McDowell

Also Present

City Manager Jerome Fletcher, City Attorney Amber Slayton, City Clerk Heather Taylor, Recording Secretary Amanda Baker, Fire Chief Scott Titus, Fire Division Chief Nick Herlihy, Police Chief Todd Garrison, Deputy Police Chief Chris Morales, Finance Director Kimberly Williams, and Interim Public Works Director Chuck Speake

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice Mayor Barbara Langdon.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT:

David Duval: welcomed Mr. Fletcher, FY 2022-2023 Budget, and utility tax increase.

2. GENERAL BUSINESS:

[22-2355](#)

Discussion Regarding the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget Assumptions, Projections and Priorities.

Mayor Emrich announced the item.

Mr. Fletcher introduced the item.

Ms. Williams provided a presentation including the Finance team, actual changes in fund balance 3-year review including major operating funds, FY 2022 major operating fund balance analysis including "roll-forwards", general fund ad valorem assumptions including taxable value and budget ad valorem revenue, effective millage rates, 2021 taxable value and per capita revenue estimate based on effective millage rates for local county and municipalities, actual adopted millage rate for local counties and municipalities, general fund assumptions including salary growth, cost of living adjustment, and cost impacts, general fund key changes for FY 2022-2023, Surtax IV referendum effective date, defining Commission priorities, current pillars including Safe Community, Quality of Life, Economic Development and Growth Management, Environmental Resiliency and Sustainability, Infrastructure and Facilities Maintenance, Good Governance, distribution for all funds, and current pillar distribution for general fund only.

Mr. Fletcher spoke to highlighting citizen engagements, budget misconceptions, implementing an online budgeting tool, increasing budget town hall meetings, customer service improvements, and provided a presentation including the City Manager's considerations pertaining to the Economic Development department, centralizing departments for optimal efficiency, accelerating an information technology plan, long-term facility maintenance strategy, revising the Neighborhood Development Services (NDS) strategy, special event planner, compensation study implementation, and the North Port Non-Profit United Program (NP squared).

Chief Titus answered questions regarding the effective millage rate increases with regard to property increases and population growth, Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFR) Grant, and surrounding areas having greater commercial growth.

Discussion took place regarding facilities maintenance, departmental communications, 311 operator line congestion, one-stop shop concept, and customer call-back time frame per City Code.

Ms. Williams and Mr. Fletcher answered questions regarding General Fund revenue and expenditures, collection rate decrease, taxable value including commercial and residential, FY 2022 adopted budget by pillar summaries, projected "available" fund balance, adopted budget by pillar summaries spreadsheet, and additional personnel considerations preceding the budget workshops.

Discussion continued regarding quality of life, performance-based budgeting, individual interpretation of quality of life, creating cultural and quality of life experiences in the Activity Centers, utilizing the Tree Fund to plant trees, maintaining efficiency with interdepartmental budgeting, and gratitude to staff for diligence and innovation.

Mr. Fletcher spoke to staff's expectations from the meeting.

There was consensus to direct the City Manager to prepare the budget based on the existing millage rate of 3.7667.

Discussion took place regarding Public Works implementing a new methodology and its affect on the budget and capping the Utility Tax Assessment at 6%.

Mr. Fletcher spoke to concerns surrounding decreasing utility tax.

There was consensus to direct the City Manager to not exceed six percent for the Utility Tax Assessment.

Discussion continued regarding the ad valorem assumptions being discussed at a future meeting, Florida Power and Light (FPL) increase, and the recently-passed solar panel

bill.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

4. ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Emrich adjourned the meeting at 10:34 a.m.

City of North Port, Florida

By: _____
Pete Emrich, Mayor

Attest: _____
Heather Taylor, City Clerk

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