



City of North Port

4970 CITY HALL BLVD
NORTH PORT, FL 34286

Meeting Minutes City Commission Special Meeting

CITY COMMISSIONERS

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

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Peter Lear, City Manager
Amber L. Slayton, City Attorney
Patsy Adkins, City Clerk
Kathryn Peto, Deputy City Clerk

Thursday, September 21, 2017

6:00 PM

CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS

Special Meeting/Budget Hearing

NOTE: This is a draft copy of the minutes of the 09-21-2017 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 Special Budget Hearing Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in City Chambers by Mayor Yates.

Present: Mayor Yates; Vice-Mayor Carusone; Commissioners Hanks, Luke and McDowell; City Manager Lear; City Attorney Slayton; City Clerk Adkins; Recording Secretary Hale and Police Chief Vespia.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Commission.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – COMMISSION

A motion was made by Commissioner Hanks, seconded by Vice-Mayor Carusone, to approve the agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

PUBLIC COMMENT 6:01 p.m. - 6:08 p.m.
Greg Culy: Ad Valorem and non-Ad Valorem Taxes.

Following Public Comment, clarification was provided that the increase he experienced

was because he recently combined two properties, and each parcel was not assessed more than last year. The Road and Drainage amount is due to the Road Bond.

3. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- A. [17-1327](#) Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2017-24, Adoption and Certification of Ad Valorem Millage Rate of 3.4070 for Fiscal Year 2017-2018. (Must read in its entirety)

City Clerk read Ordinance No. 2017-24 into the record in its entirety and City Manager Lear provided an overview. There was no public comment.

Discussion ensued: (1) after a question, it was stated that the Millage Rate of 3.4070 was reduced by .0700 from last year and the 5.31% increase stated in the Ordinance is an increase over the Rolled-Back Millage Rate, the rate that would have been necessary to bring in the same amount of revenue that was received last year; (2) concerns were expressed regarding the salary study, the Homestead Exemption next year, impacts of large developments, infrastructure, a possible transfer station, and providing the same level of service to North Port residents; (3) Commissioner McDowell stated that City government provides for the health, welfare and safety of the City and the Budget has \$4.7 million that would help alleviate the concerns expressed.

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Carusone, seconded by Commissioner Luke, to approve Ordinance No. 2017-24, the Adoption and Certification of the Ad Valorem Millage Rate of 3.4070 for Fiscal Year 2017-2018. The motion carried by the following vote, with Commissioner McDowell dissenting for reasons stated:

Yes: 4 - Mayor Yates, Vice-Mayor Carusone, Commissioner Hanks and Commissioner Luke

No: 1 - Commissioner McDowell

- B. [17-1328](#) Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2017-25, Adoption of Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Non-District Budget and Capital Improvements Program.

City Clerk Adkins read Ordinance No. 2017-25 into the record by title only and City Manager Lear provided an overview of the agenda item for the Non-district and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget, and stated that a summary page was provided of changes that the Commission requested at first reading. It was noted that a correction will be made on the summary page that lists the stadium as a City facility. It will be corrected before the adopted budget book is printed. There was no public comment.

Discussion ensued: (1) it was stated that pages 7,8,11,15 and 37 which list the stadium as a City facility will be corrected as well; (2) additionally, the illustration of the pool will be corrected to denote a separation between the children's and adult's side; (3) it was stated that pages 53, 54 and 55 reference the wrong CIP year for Fire Station #87 on North Toledo Blade Boulevard; (4) clarification was provided that the changes are not in the Ordinance text but are found in the project description sheets of the CIP; (5) it was stated that the Ordinance will be signed tonight and the pages will be changed as noted; (6) Commissioner McDowell will not support the motion for the same reason she did not support the millage rate: there is an item in the CIP that can be used for other things to benefit the majority of the Citizens.

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Carusone, seconded by Commissioner Luke, to approve Ordinance No. 2017-25, Adopting the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Non-District Budget and Capital Improvements with amendments to exhibits and project

descriptions as discussed tonight. The motion carried by the following vote with Commission McDowell dissenting for reasons previously stated:

Yes: 4 - Mayor Yates, Vice-Mayor Carusone, Commissioner Hanks and Commissioner Luke

No: 1 - Commissioner McDowell

4. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

5. COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Yates stated that the Atlanta Braves' Facility Agreement was signed as was presented, as approved by the Commission. Afterward, an email was sent to the Commission from Assistant City Manager Schult, with a page that corrected the Exhibits that were mentioned during last night's meeting.

Vice-Mayor Carusone: Nothing to report.

Commissioner Hanks: Nothing to report.

Commissioner Luke: Nothing to report.

Commissioner McDowell: Nothing to report.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL REPORTS:

City Manager Lear: Nothing to report.

City Attorney Slayton: Nothing to report.

City Clerk Adkins: Nothing to report.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Yates adjourned the City of North Port Special Budget Hearing Meeting at 6:31 p.m.

City of North Port, Florida

By: _____
Linda M. Yates, Mayor

Attest: _____
Patsy C. Adkins, MMC, City Clerk

Minutes approved at the City Commission Regular Meeting this ____ day of _____, 2017.