

## PUBLIC HEARING MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 26, 2011

Public Hearing/Tentative Budget Adoption Meeting of the Town of Ocean Ridge held on Monday, September 26, 2011, at 5:01PM in the Town Hall Meeting Chambers.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Kaleel and roll call was answered by the following:

|                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Commissioner Pugh    | Commissioner Brookes |
| Commissioner Allison | Mayor Kaleel         |

It was noted that Commissioner Hennigan was absent with notice.

### PUBLIC HEARING

#### a. Presentation of Tentative Budget and Proposed Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2010-2011

Clerk Hancsak summarized the approved revisions from the prior budget meeting including the changes to reflect the \$46,200 reduction for new health insurance premiums for the employees. She stated that she had distributed revised pages that reflected a total budget amount of \$5,111,081 thus requiring \$107,376 to balance the budget and added that this also still included the Investigator Position. However, the Town Manager explained his memo updating the Commission that staff was advised that the maximum premium rate quoted at the Sept. 12, 2011 meeting may not actually be the maximum rate. He stated that the enrollment applications must be reviewed by underwriting and the rate may actually increase. Staff should have the final quote prior to Friday's final budget hearing. As a result the budget advertisement that was sent to the Palm Beach Post on Friday for Tuesday publication reflected a budget of \$1,157,281 which includes the \$46,200 back in knowing that the total expenditures will only decrease.

#### Comment from Commissioners and Public

Betty Bingham, 1 Ocean Ave., complimented the Commission and staff on the budget. She stated that she was still concerned about the budget for Palm Beach County related to the Solid Waste Authority's past bond issues and future expenses. She felt the municipalities should join together and approach the Commission in opposition to the spending by the SWA.

Gerald Goray, 130 Island Drive, thanked the Commission and staff for holding the line on expenses. He felt the staff does a good job but felt the Town should also hold the line on any additional staff. Penny Kosinski agreed with his comments.

Nancy Hogan, 37 Hibiscus Way, commented that she resented a meeting being held on a Friday night as a result of re-noticing. She commented that her property value has decreased \$301,000 but her overall taxes have increased 20% over the last few years. She stated that she felt the Town Attorney and Town Engineer services should be placed out for RFPs as it has been at least 10 years and younger fresher individuals could be brought in. She thanked the Mayor, Town Manager and Police Chief for their representation at the Boynton Beach Budget Meeting but added that they should have been involved in prior discussions related to Fire/Rescue and traffic problems at Woolbright/Federal Hwy that may affect their response times in Ocean Ridge.

At this point there were no additional comments from the public.

#### b. Adoption of Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2011-2012

Comm Allison moved that a budget in the amount of \$5,157,281 be tentatively adopted for the 2011-12 Operating Fund. Comm Pugh seconded the motion.

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Comm Brookes questioned if this figure included the Investigator Position to which he was advised that the funding was included. Mayor Kaleel commented however, that the position has not been authorized to be filled. Comm Brookes stated that he felt a vote should be taken on whether to remove the position altogether from the budget. The remaining Commissioners stated that the final decision on the position could be made on Friday when the final insurance figures are also received.

Motion carried – Yea (Pugh, Allison, Kaleel)  
Nay (Brookes)

c. Adoption of Tentative Millage for Fiscal Year 2011-12

Comm Pugh moved that a millage of \$5.2500 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation be tentatively adopted for the 2011-12 general operating revenues. Comm Allison seconded the motion.

Motion carried – Yea (Brookes, Allison, Pugh, Kaleel)

- d. Mayor Kaleel announced that the computed millage rate is .29% more than the rolled back rate of \$5.2348.
- e. Mayor Kaleel announced that the date and time of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and final public hearing is established at 5:01 PM on Friday, Sept. 30, 2011. The 2011-12 operating and capital projects budgets and corresponding millages will be finalized and adopted at that time.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30pm.

Attest By:

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Town Clerk

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Mayor Kaleel

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Commissioner Allison

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Commissioner Brookes

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Commissioner Hennigan

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Commissioner Pugh