

Public Hearing/Special Town Commission Meeting of the Town of Ocean Ridge held on Tuesday, September 16, 2014 at 5:01 PM in the Town Hall Meeting Chambers

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

Commissioner Aaskov Commissioner Allison
Commissioner Bonfiglio Commissioner Lucibella
Mayor Pugh

PUBLIC HEARING

A. Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Budget

Mayor Pugh stated that this was the final hearing for the 2014/2015 Budget and opened it to Commission and public comment.

Clerk Hancsak summarized the prior meetings including the Sept 8th Tentative Budget Adoption Meeting and further direction by the Town Manager regarding a merit salary adjustment for the topped out employees that resulted in an overall reduction. She advised that the Resolutions were prepared with the final figures with a the \$5.35 millage rate (same as current year) and also a total General Operating Budget of \$5,878,780.00.

The only member of the audience, Terry Brown, Harbour Drive So, commented that he was not suggesting changes to this budget, although he would rather not have a tax increase, but was suggesting possibly having someone other than the police department perform the code enforcement duties. He felt the recent trim violations were not interpreted properly from the code.

1. Mayor Pugh announced – THE TOWN OF OCEAN RIDGE’S ROLLED BACK RATE IS \$5.0680 AND THE TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATE WILL BE \$5.35 WHICH IS 5.56 % MORE THAN THE ROLLED BACK RATE.
2. Adopt Resolution No. 2014-10 Making a Tax Levy Based on the 2014 Assessment Roll with a Final Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2014-2015

Clerk Hancsak read Resolution No. 2014-10 in its entirety into the record.

Comm. Bonfiglio moved that Resolution No. 2014-10 making a tax levy based on the 2014 Assessment Roll with a final millage rate of \$5.35 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation be adopted for the 2014-2015 general operating revenues. Comm. Allison seconded.

There was no public comment.

Motion carried - Yea (5)

3. Adopt Resolution No. 2014-11 Adopting an Annual Final Budget and Appropriating Funds Beginning October 1, 2014 and Ending September 30, 2015, Providing an Effective Date

Clerk Hancsak read Resolution No. 2014-11 in its entirety into the record.

Comm. Bonfiglio moved to adopt Resolution No. 2014-11 appropriating funds for the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 for the Ocean Ridge Budget to be finalized at \$5,878,780 for operating expenses. Seconded by Comm. Aaskov.

There was no public comment.

Motion carried - Yea (5)

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4. Adopt Resolution No. 2014-12; Updating Funds for the Capital Projects Fund for the Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2014 and Ending September 30, 2015

Clerk Hancsak read Resolution No. 2014-12 in its entirety into the record.

Comm. Bonfiglio moved that Resolution 2014-12 updating funds for the Capital Projects Fund for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 be adopted. Seconded by Comm. Lucibella.

There was no public comment.

Motion carried - Yea (5).

Comm Lucibella stated that he would like to make a few comments. He stated that he felt this was the most important function of the Town Commission. He commented that the last few budget cycles included tax increases even though there has consistently been a surplus at each fiscal year end, which meant that the total budgeted figures were not expensed. He stated that the actual surplus is up to \$600,000 more than what is included in the final budget projections because of the way it is presented on the consolidated sheet. He suggested that the next budget cycle begin with the Commission advising the staff what they consider an appropriate budget amount and it is up to the staff to accomplish the task. He concluded by stating that the residents were taxed based on the budgeted expectations which consistently turned out lower.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:25 PM

Attest By:

Town Clerk

Mayor Pugh

Commissioner Aaskov

Commissioner Allison

Commissioner Bonfiglio

Commissioner Lucibella