

CITY COMMISSION MINUTES

BUDGET HEARING

September 7, 2017

Mayor LaCascia called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL – City Manager Patricia Jackson

Present: Mayor Joe LaCascia, Vice Mayor Wanda Harris, Commissioner Don Kimsey, Commissioner Mike Blethen, City Attorney Thomas Cloud and City Manager Jackson

Absent: Commissioner Randy Carroll

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Before moving forward with the Public Hearing, City Manager Jackson stated there are items that need to be discussed prior to the Public Hearing. There was a City Commission Workshop on the 2018-2019 Budget, and the City Commission did not have any changes; therefore, we are still working from the draft version, in the event there are changes during the Public Hearing.

During the discussion of taking back the Utilities, the number of employees was discussed in order to accomplish the take-back.

Debt Service will need a motion to move forward with refinancing the USDA loan with Citizens Bank.

Motion by Commissioner Kimsey to approve moving forward with refinancing the USDA Loan with Citizens Bank; this motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Harris.

Vote: Commissioner Kimsey – aye, Vice Mayor Harris – aye, Commissioner Blethen – nay, Mayor LaCascia – aye

Motion carried 3/1.

2011 Bond Issue

The City Commission will need to motion for approval of the 2011 Bond Issue to authorize the refunding of Polk City's Water and Sewer System Capital Improvement refunding Bond Series 2011A, the original revenue bonds from 2011.

Motion by Mayor LaCascia to approve authorizing the refunding of Polk City's Water and Sewer System Capital Improvement refunding Bond Series 2011A, the original revenue bonds from 2011; this motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Harris.

Vote: Mayor Lacascia - aye, Commissioner Blethen - aye, Vice Mayor Harris - aye, Commissioner Kimsey - aye

Motion carried 4/0

Relocating of Sprayfield to the Sand Mine

Gerry Hartman discussed the final order on September 5, 2017 for the SRF Program, Project #53140 which reflects the original \$160,000 is design for relocation and \$128,000 grants. The local portion is \$32,000. This is the highest percentage of all entities that filed for this program in the State of Florida for 2017, which is 80%. The interest on \$32,000 is 0.89%. Paying this up front will shorten the process for the construction loan.

City Manager stated this information will not change the bottom line of the budget

Motion by Mayor LaCascia to pay off the local share for the design of the SRF Program, Project # 53140 in the amount of \$32,000; this motion was seconded by Commissioner Kimsey.

Vote: Commissioner Blethen - aye, Mayor LaCascia - aye, Vice Mayor Harris - aye, Commissioner Kimsey - aye

Motion carried unanimously.

Hurricane Irma

City Attorney Cloud stated that each local government has to adopt a Declaration of Emergency in conjunction with Polk County and the State of Florida. A Resolution has been prepared for Polk City to exercise powers for emergency management purposes. Polk City is able to suspend normal protocols.

City Attorney Cloud read Resolution 2017-05 by title only.

Motion by Commissioner Blethen to approve Resolution 2017-05; this motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Harris.

Motion carried by Voice Vote.

PUBLIC HEARING

Budget Hearing - Ordinance 2017-02

ORDINANCE 2017-02 - AN ORDINANCE OF POLK CITY OF POLK COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE (TENTATIVE/FINAL) LEVYING OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR POLK CITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE, first reading.

City Attorney Cloud read Ordinance 2017-02 by title only.

Mayor LaCascia opened the Public Hearing.

The rollback rate computed for Polk City for FY 2017-2018 is 7.4877 mills; therefore, the percentage by which the above specified final millage rate to be levied by Polk City is zero percent of the roll back rate. No increase in the Ad Valorem. Polk City's certified value is \$82,695,844.00.

Motion by Commissioner Kimsey to approve the Ordinance 2017-02; this motion was seconded by Commissioner Blethen.

No Discussion.

Vote: Commissioner Kimsey - aye, Commissioner Blethen - aye, Vice Mayor Harris - aye, Mayor LaCascia - aye

Motion carried 4/0.

ORDINANCE 2017-03 - AN ORDINANCE OF POLK CITY OF POLK COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE (TENTATIVE/FINAL) BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018, PROVIDING FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS BUDGET; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. First reading

City Attorney Cloud read Ordinance 2017-03 by title only.

Mayor LaCascia opened the Public Hearing.

Tina Gagelman (13331 Commonwealth Avenue). Budget questions regarding employee wages.

City Manager Jackson provided clarification.

Mayor LaCascia closed the Public Hearing.

Motion by Vice Mayor Harris to approve Ordinance 2017-03; this motion was seconded by Commissioner Blethen.

Commissioner Blethen inquired about the debt increase, employment of additional Utilities Department staff, and current staff work hours.

City Manager Jackson provided lengthy clarification regards to the budget and current staff's daily job duties.

City Attorney Cloud reiterated that the budget is a financial planning document. Discussed what the Orlando Water Plant crews were doing just prior to Hurricane Irma's arrival with the Stormwater System, making any necessary repairs. Polk City does not have adequate staff at this time to be proactive with such task.

Lengthy discussion ensued.

Vote: Vice Mayor Harris - aye, Commissioner Kimsey - aye, Mayor Lacascia - aye, Commissioner Blethen - nay

Motion carried 3/1.

City Manager Jackson stated the second reading of the FY 2017-2018 Budget will be September 21, 2017 at 7:00 pm.

The Budget will be updated and provided to the City Commission sometime next week.

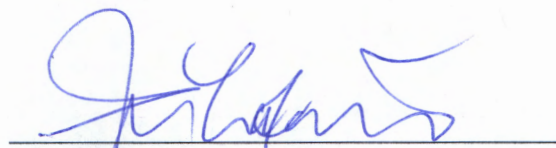
Bronson Storm Shelter/Hurricane Irma

Staff will be coming in to work the Storm Shelter and two staff members will be at the Polk County Emergency Operations Center in Winter Haven, all working through the end of Hurricane Irma. All expenditures will be submitted to FEMA. There will be a PCSO Deputy at the Storm Shelter. All information will be posted on the marque in front of City Hall and on the website.

The meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.



Patricia R Jackson, City Manager



Joe LaCascia, Mayor