

TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA

MINUTES

Budget Hearing

September 09, 2014

5:30 PM

Government Center

6601 Main Street, Miami Lakes, Florida 33014

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Slaton called the meeting to order at 5:28 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL:

The Town Clerk, Marjorie Tejeda-Castillo, called the roll with the following Councilmembers present: Frank Mingo, Nelson Rodriguez, Tony Lama, Tim Daubert, Ceasar Mestre, Vice Mayor Manny Cid, and Mayor Wayne Slaton.

3. INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE:

Mayor Slaton called for a moment of silence.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Slaton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

6. ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING

- A. AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE MILLAGE RATE OF THE TOWN FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2014 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2015, PURSUANT TO SECTION 200.065, FLORIDA STATUTES; PROVIDING FOR DIRECTIONS TO TAX COLLECTOR; PROVIDING FOR NOTICE; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (Rey)

Town Attorney, Raul Gastesi, read the title of the ordinances for first reading, items 6A and 6B.

Town Manager, Alex Rey, stated the following: The proposed fiscal year 2014-2015 millage rate is 2.3518. The rate is the same as the fiscal year 2013-2014 rate. The taxable value is two billion, five hundred seventy four million nine hundred sixty thousand, and one

hundred twenty four dollars. The proposed millage rate will generate five million seven hundred fifty four thousand and two dollars in ad valorem revenue budgeted at 95% collection rate. The proposed millage rate of 2.3518 is 5.66% above the roll back rate of 2.258. Due to the impact on the police budget from union concessions (granted by the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners) and significant reductions in FP&L franchise fees, the millage rate is higher than the rollback rate.

The Mayor opened the public hearing for both ordinances.

Alec Anderez gave recognition to all the volunteers that dedicate their time to making the Town a better place. As a member of the Cultural Affairs Committee (CAC) and the Youth Activities Task Force (YATF), he assured the Council and residents of new and exciting events that will take place in the upcoming fiscal year. He anticipates the Council's support in approving both Committees' budgets.

Katherine Duarte, a member of the YATF, spoke in favor of providing activities and events for special needs youth.

Lynn Matos advocated for more activities for the youth and spoke highly of the Town of Miami Lakes' community service program geared towards helping the youth acquire their hours. Over 22,000 people were served by these volunteers. She also kindly asked for the Council's generosity in approving the YATF's budget.

Magaly Rubio advocated for the Town's continued support of the Expo Event spearheaded the Miami Lakes Chamber of Commerce.

Nancy Rogers emphasized an increase in the Elderly Affairs Committee's (EAC) budget due to a rise in events, which senior citizens enjoy greatly.

Luis Collazo, chairperson of the EAC, elaborated on the points emphasized by Nancy Rogers with respect to the EAC budget.

Aida McCarthy spoke in favor of the EAC budget increase and the points highlighted by Nancy Rogers and Luis Collazo.

Mirtha Mendez voiced her support for the YATF and EAC and the remarkable work the committees perform. Therefore, she proposed not shortchanging the committees as the Town benefits greatly from efforts of the members.

Neil Robinson, chairperson for the CAC, requested that the committee's budget remain the same as last year's budget.

As no one else wished to speak, Mayor Slaton closed the public hearing.

Councilman Daubert made a motion to discuss the ordinance on first reading, item 6A. The motion was seconded by Councilman Mestre.

Councilman Mestre made a motion to adopt the ordinance on first reading, item 6A. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rodriguez. The Town Clerk, Marjorie Tejada-Castillo, called the roll and the Ordinance passed on first reading 7-0.

B. AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-15; PROVIDING FOR EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR AMENDMENTS; PROVIDING FOR CARRYOVER OF FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR THE INCORPORATION OF THE ADOPTED CAPITAL BUDGET AS THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT ELEMENT OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (Rey)

Councilman Daubert made a motion to discuss the ordinance on first reading, item 6B. The motion received a second from Councilman Mestre.

Councilman Mestre highlighted additional savings found from further budget reviews. Financial Institution fees were negotiated, thereby saving the Town \$5,000. The Town's garbage contract was reduced by \$4,000. Furthermore, the Public Works Department processing fee was reduced by \$5,000 and \$35,000 out of \$50,000, of the budget allocated for the Town Engineer, was utilized. These figures represent a savings of \$29,000 for the Town of Miami Lakes.

Vice Mayor Cid made a motion to amend Item 6B, thereby allocating \$50,000 from Carryover Funds for a canopy cover at Royal Oaks Park Playground. The motion was seconded by Councilman Daubert. The Town Clerk called the roll and the motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Mestre made a motion to amend Item 6B, thereby identifying \$29,000 in savings from the budget for the purpose of funding the Town's marketing program (*please refer to the above-mentioned comments concerning this initiative*). The motion was seconded by Councilman Rodriguez. The Town Clerk called the roll and the motion passed 5-2. Councilman Mingo and Councilman Lama voted in opposition.

Mayor Slaton made a motion to amend Item 6B, thus approving fund requests made this evening by the committees and directing the Town Manager to provide recommendations at the second budget hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilman Lama. The Town Clerk called the roll and the motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Mestre made a motion to adopt the Ordinance and budget as amended. The motion was seconded by Councilman Lama. The Town Clerk called the roll and the motion passed unanimously.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Approved this 14th day of October 2014.



Wayne Slaton, Mayor

Attest:



Marjorie Tejada-Castillo, Town Clerk