

A Special Meeting and Budget Workshop of the City Commission of the City of Apalachicola was held on Tuesday, August 16, 2016, at 6:00 PM at the Apalachicola Community Center, 1 Bay Avenue, Apalachicola, Florida.

Present: Mayor Van Johnson, Commissioner Jimmy Elliott, Commissioner Brenda Ash, Commissioner Mitchell Bartley, Commissioner Frank Cook, City Administrator Lee Mathes, City Clerk Deborah Guillotte, Attorney Pat Floyd

Visitors: David Meyer, Joe Taylor, George Coon, Diane Brewer, Brianna Wheatley, Cindy Clark, Jim Bachrach, Pam Lewis, Robert Osburn, Greg Harris, Robert Graham, William Cox, Rhett Butler, Caty Greene, George Watkins, David Adlerstein

Special meeting opened by Mayor Johnson.

Attorney Floyd announced he received a letter from Division of Retirement stating after complete review that BTW Services, Inc. is not in violation of the reemployment after retirement provisions.

Motion to approve BTW Services, Inc. contract made by Commissioner Bartley, second by Commissioner Elliott.

Motion carried 5 – 0.

Voting Aye: Ash, Bartley, Cook, Elliott, Mayor Johnson

Voting Nay: none

Public comments received.

Special meeting closed and budget workshop opened.

BUDGET WORKSHOP

Ms. Mathes outlined proposed FY 16/17 budget. Ms. Mathes explained that any millage rate above the rolled back rate is a tax increase.

Mayor Johnson stated the same millage rate would generate slightly more revenue.

Ms. Mathes outlined revenues and department expenses. Ms. Mathes stated the property and liability insurance has been allocated to the appropriate departments. City owned facilities have been created into a separate budget.

Commissioner Ash inquired why the special exception/variance fee line item increased so dramatically.

Ms. Mathes stated that fee is for Quasi-Judicial proceedings. Ms. Mathes stated she is in the process of increasing the fees to cover the costs of the proceedings.

Discussion held on Professional/Legal, IT Services, Main Street, Senior Services, Project Impact, and Library and how funds can be obtained from the FC Public Library system.

Commissioner Ash asked Ms. Mathes to go back over the budget and cut where we can.

Discussion held on volunteer fire department ratings with ISO and certifications on their equipment.

Commissioner Ash inquired if the sewer treatment plant had a maintenance schedule on where we are on the plant.

Discussion held.

Commissioner Elliott asked that some kind of security be put in for the upstairs office at city hall.

Ms. Mathes stated a security camera is in the process of being installed.

There being no further business workshop adjourned.

Van W. Johnson, Sr., Mayor

Deborah Guillotte, City Clerk