

A public hearing and special meeting of the City Commission of the City of Apalachicola was held on Tuesday, September 27, 2016 at 6:00 PM at the Apalachicola Community Center, 1 Bay Avenue, Apalachicola, Florida.

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

Visitors: Robin Vroegop, Joe Taylor, Pam Lewis, Diane Brewer, Carrie Kienzle, Beth Wright, David Adlerstein, Stephanie Turrell, Lillie Turrell, Holden Foley, Kristen Foley, Karl Giametta

Public Hearing opened by Mayor Johnson.

PUBLIC HEARING – FY 2016-2017 BUDGET

Commissioner Ash read the following statement:

City of Apalachicola 2016-2017 Fiscal Year Budget Information:

General Fund:	2,076,323
Enterprise Fund:	1,657,010
Total Budget:	3,733,333

Proposed Millage Rate: 9.3543

Rolled Back Rate: 9.1089

Proposed Millage Rate is a 2.69% increase of the Rolled Back Rate.

This is the Final Public Hearing and Special Meeting for Final Adoption of the 2016/2017 Fiscal Year Budget.

Robin Vroegop voiced her concern about the DEP revolving loan payment and asked what the escrow balance is on this loan.

Mayor Johnson stated that DEP admitted this burden was their fault, but they could not waive the fee. Mayor Johnson stated he met with Senator Munford regarding this issue, and he will see what can be done on the legislative side.

Commissioner Ash stated the Commission is looking into other avenues so that the citizens do not have to be taxed with higher utility bills. Commissioner Ash stated the principal balance to this loan is paid and the remaining balance is the interest.

No further public comment.

Public Hearing closed and special meeting opened by Mayor Johnson.

SPECIAL MEETING

ADOPTION DECISION – RESOLUTION 2016-13 – FY 2016-2017 Millage Rate

Ms. Mathes read Resolution 2016-13 by title as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF APALACHICOLA, FLORIDA LEVYING THE AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAX MILLAGE RATE FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES ON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY WITH THE CITY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2016 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2017, STATING THE PERCENTAGE BY WHICH THE MILLAGE RATE TO BE LEVIED EXCEEDS THE ROLLED BACK RATE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2016-13 levying the FY 2016-2017 millage rate to be set at 9.3543 mills made by Commissioner Cook, second by Commissioner Bartley.

Motion carried 5 to 0.

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

Voting Nay: None

ADOPTION DECISION – ORDINANCE NO. 2016-02 – FY 2016-2017 BUDGET

Ms. Mathes read Ordinance No. 2016-02 by title as follows:

AN ORDINANCE BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF APALACHICOLA ADOPTING THE 2016-2017 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2016-02 adopting the 2016-2017 fiscal year budget made by Commissioner Cook, second by Commissioner Ash.

Motion carried 5 to 0.

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

Voting Nay: None

DISCUSSION – SURVEY OF HISTORIC SQUARES

Diane Brewer outlined a survey proposal for all City of Apalachicola Historic Squares and asked City Commission to consider for approval.

Joe Taylor stated in conjunction with History, Culture, and Arts and Historical Society, he would offer to seek funding for a historical resource grant to pay for survey, and if a match is required, then the City can address funding the match.

Motion to search for funds to pay for survey proposal and if match is required, then Commission address funding the match made by Commissioner Elliott, second by Commissioner Bartley.

Motion carried 5 to 0.

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

Voting Nay: None

AFFORDABLE HOUSING OWNERSHIP PROGRAM

Holden Foley, representing the Conservation Corps, distributed and outlined Affordable Housing Ownership Program.

Mayor Johnson stated he would like for the Commission to review the materials, and be ready to discuss at October 4th regular meeting.

MASTER METER

Ms. Mathes requested a workshop on Tuesday, October 4th at 5:30 to have representative from Master Meter present their proposal on radio read meters.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned.

Van W. Johnson, Sr., Mayor

Deborah Guillotte, City Clerk