

A Public Hearing and Special Meeting of the City Commission of the City of Apalachicola was held on Tuesday, September 12, 2017 at 6:00 PM at the Apalachicola Community Center, 1 Bay Avenue, Apalachicola, Florida.

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

Visitors: Joe Taylor, Ginger Creamer, Bob Lindsley, Robin Vroegop, Anita Grove, Jan Thomas, Jim Bachrach, David Adlerstein, Bonnie Fulmer, John Lee, Val Webb

Public Hearing opened by Mayor Johnson.

PUBLIC HEARING – 2017/2018 BUDGET

Ms. Mathes stated before public hearing can proceed, the Commission must decide on a millage rate to work with.

Ms. Mathes outlined revenues from both General and Enterprise fund, and department expenses.

Mayor Johnson clarified any column other than the rollback rate will represent a tax increase.

Ms. Mathes stated to go back to the rollback rate the City would be about \$100,000 in the red.

Commissioner Ash read the following statement:

City of Apalachicola 2017-2018 Fiscal Year Budget Information:

General Fund: 2,159,992
Enterprise Fund: 1,752,110
Total Budget: 3,912,102

Proposed Millage Rate: 9.6043

Rolled Back Rate: 9.1734

Proposed Millage Rate is a 4.70% increase from the Rolled Back Rate.

The Second Public Hearing and Special Meeting for Final Adoption of the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year Budget will be held on Tuesday, September 26, 2017 at 6:00 PM in the Apalachicola Community Center, #1 Bay Avenue.

No public comment.

Public hearing closed and special meeting opened by Mayor Johnson.

SPECIAL MEETING

TENTATIVELY ADOPT FY 2017-2018 MILLAGE RATE – RESOLUTION 2017-2013

Attorney Floyd read Resolution 2017-13 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 WITHIN THE CITY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2017 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2018, STATING THE PERCENTAGE BY WHICH THE MILLAGE RATE TO BE LEVIED EXCEEDS THE ROLLED BACK RATE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Motion to tentatively adopt FY 2017-2018 millage rate at 9.6043 mills made by Commissioner Elliott, second by Commissioner Cook.

Motion carried: 3 to 2
Voting Aye: Elliott, Cook, Mayor Johnson
Voting Nay: Ash, Bartley

1st READING ORDINANCE NO. 2017-10 – TENTATIVELY ADOPT FY 2017-2018 BUDGET

Attorney Floyd read Ordinance No. 2017-10 by title as follows:

AN ORDINANCE BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF APALACHICOLA ADOPTING THE 2017-2018 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET

Motion to tentatively adopt FY 2017-2018 budget made by Commissioner Elliott, second by Commissioner Cook.

Motion carried: 3 to 2
Voting Aye: Elliott, Cook, Mayor Johnson
Voting Nay: Ash, Bartley

APPROVAL OF JULY MINUTES

Motion to approve July minutes made by Commissioner Ash, second by Commissioner Bartley.

Motion carried 5 to 0
Voting Aye: Cook, Bartley, Ash, Elliott, Mayor Johnson
Voting Nay: None

AUTHORIZE TO ADVERTISE FOR WATER & SEWER VACANT POSITION

Motion to advertise for Water & Sewer vacant position made by Commissioner Bartley, second by Commissioner Ash.

Motion carried 5 to 0
Voting Aye: Cook, Bartley, Ash, Elliott, Mayor Johnson
Voting Nay: None

APPROVAL TO WITHDRAW FROM LINE OF CREDIT

Motion to withdraw from line of credit the amount of \$62,000 to cover library shelving, head start renovation and supreme court travel expenses made by Commissioner Ash, second by Commissioner Cook.

Motion carried 4 to 1
Voting Aye: Cook, Ash, Elliott, Mayor Johnson
Voting Nay: Bartley

Commissioner Ash inquired about the State land swap and City owned properties.

Robin Vroegop shared her knowledge of how the land swap works.

PLANNING & ZONING

a. Confirm July Minutes

Motion to confirm July Planning & Zoning Minutes made by Commissioner Ash, second by Commissioner Elliott.

Motion carried 5 to 0

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

Voting Nay: None

b. Cindy Clark – City Planner – Monthly Report

Cindy Clark updated Commission on ongoing projects including Vulnerability Analysis Grant, CRS Community status, CVS, Denton Cove, revising building and development fee schedule, and Storm Water Utility Ordinance.

Mayor Johnson inquired about the kiosk for parking.

Ms. Clark commented parking is to be reviewed at next month's Planning & Zoning meeting.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Motion to approve payment for Attorney Floyd invoice made by Commissioner Bartley, second by Commissioner Elliott.

Motion carried 5 to 0

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

Voting Nay: None

ATTORNEY FLOYD

Attorney Floyd commented still working on sidewalk ordinance.

Robin Vroegop asked if smoking on public sidewalks outside restaurants could be looked into.

OTHER VISITORS & COMMENTS

a) John Lee reviewed issues he has with the proposed sidewalk ordinance including charging a fee for space being used permanently (day and night) and some space being used only during working hours on business front sidewalks.

b) Ginger Creamer expressed her concerns regarding Librarian salary.

MAYOR & COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Commissioner Bartley questioned by there are no shelters within the City of Apalachicola.

Ms. Mathes commented Franklin County is a coastal flood zone area and cannot have shelters here for that reason.

Anita Grove stated the Franklin County School Board provides busing to shelters in Calhoun and Liberty Counties that are designated for Franklin County.

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Joe Taylor commended Lee Mathes and David Meyer for helping at EOC.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned.

Van W. Johnson, Sr., Mayor

Deborah Guillotte, City Clerk