

A public hearing and special meeting of the City Commission of the City of Apalachicola was held on Tuesday, September 28, 2010 at 6:00 PM in the Apalachicola Community Center, #1 Bay Avenue, Apalachicola, FL.

Present: Mayor Van Johnson, Commissioner Jimmy Elliott, Commissioner Brenda Ash, Commissioner Mitchell Bartley, Commissioner Frank Cook, City Administrator Betty Webb, City Clerk Lee Mathes, City Attorney Pat Floyd, Chief of Police Bobby Varnes, Street Supervisor Marvin Croom

Visitors: Harry Arnold, Tom Daly, David Adlerstein

Public hearing opened by Mayor Johnson followed by prayer and pledge.

PUBLIC HEARING – FY 2010-2011 BUDGET

Commissioner Ash read the following statement:

CITY OF APALACHICOLA 2010-2011 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET INFORMATION:

GENERAL FUND:	2,076,241
ENTERPRISE FUND:	1,471,700
TOTAL BUDGET:	3,547,941

PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE: 8.6250

ROLLED BACK RATE: 8.6235

PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE IS A .0174% INCREASE FROM THE ROLLED BACK RATE

THIS IS THE SECOND REQUIRED PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE ADOPTION PROCESS OF THE 2010-2011 BUDGET.

No public comment.

Public hearing closed.

SPECIAL MEETING

ADOPTION DECISION – RESOLUTION 2010-11 – FY 2010-2011 MILLAGE RATE

Mayor Johnson stated he wanted to present some additional cost cutting measures. Mayor Johnson stated he would like to propose to abolish the Building Inspector and Grants Manager positions and to advertise for a Deputy City Administrator. Mayor Johnson submitted sample job description to the

Commission. Mayor Johnson stated the Deputy City Administrator position would be placed below the Chief of Police but above the Street Superintendent in the salary schedule.

Deputy City Administrator job description discussed.

Commissioner Cook stated one problem with the County taking back over the inspections is the County only inspects with the Southern Building Code and does not ensure that the Planning & Zoning requirements are carried out.

Mayor Johnson stated that language can be inserted into the contract.

Commissioner Elliott asked how the inspections were handled before when the County inspected.

Ms. Webb stated the individual filled out the application at City Hall, and the County inspected the project through the construction.

Mayor Johnson stated the City is only anticipating taking in \$6,000 in building permit fees, and the City is paying out more than that for having an inspector.

Commissioner Ash asked if the Mayor is proposing abolishing two positions, why would the City need a Deputy City Administrator.

Mayor Johnson stated this position is needed to help with efficiency. This position would help the City run better.

Discussion continued concerning Deputy City Administrator position.

Ms. Webb asked Mayor Johnson if this position was being created to faze her out of her position.

Mayor Johnson stated no, he is not trying to faze Ms. Webb out of her position.

Commissioner Bartley stated he feels that Grants Manager Cindi Giametta should be put back to work.

Mayor Johnson stated he is just trying to save the City money. The City's Building Inspector is not certified.

Building Inspector position discussed.

Commissioner Ash asked if there were job descriptions for Gene Osburn and Cindi Giametta.

Ms. Webb stated yes, and gave a brief summary of Building Inspector and Grants Manager duties.

Discussion continued concerning Building Inspector and Grants Manager positions.

Commissioner Bartley stated he is not in favor of laying people off.

Attorney Floyd read Resolution 2010-11 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, 2010 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2011, 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 2010-11 made by Commissioner Bartley, second by Commissioner Cook.

Motion carried 5 to 0.

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

Voting Nay: None

ADOPTION DECISION – ORDINANCE NO. 2010-03 – FY 2010-2011 BUDGET

Attorney Floyd read Ordinance No. 2010-03 in its entirety.

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2010-03 made by Commissioner Ash, second by Commissioner Bartley.

Motion carried 5 to 0.

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

Voting Nay: None

OTHER BUSINESS

* Commissioner Ash stated she has reservations about abolishing two positions and creating another one. The Grants Manager and Building Inspector are positions that are being overpaid, and this is something the Commission is definitely going to have to address. The Commission is going to have to address the Building Inspector position because he is not certified.

Commissioner Cook stated the Mayor Johnson's cost cutting ideas are not bad, but just needs to be looked at in depth. The Commission needs to look at how the City can run better.

Mayor Johnson stated if actions are not taken tonight, it is not going to happen.

Commissioner Ash stated usually a grant writer is usually paid by how much the grant generates, and as far as the Building Inspector position, there is no building going on in the City.

Mayor Johnson stated the City is paying an employee for services the County is providing.

Commissioner Elliott asked if the grants manager salary could be lowered and then give a percentage of what the grant generates.

Harry Arnold stated most grant writers work of a percentage. If the grant is not funded, they don't get paid.

Commissioner Cook stated the Commission needs to put some thought into this, and bring back up at the next meeting. Commissioner Cook stated he would like to look into this in depth before he makes a decision.

Commissioner Bartley stated he wants to put Cindi Giametta back to work.

Mayor Johnson stated Ms. Giametta has to go through the procedures.

No further business, meeting adjourned.

Van W. Johnson, Sr., Mayor

Lee H. Mathes, City Clerk