
ROCKLEDGE CITY COUNCIL FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2020 ♦ 4:00 P.M.

MAYOR PRICE, CHAIR; COUNCILMEN DASKI, FORESTER & FERGUSON

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The Council Finance and Budget Committee met on Wednesday, June 17, 2020, at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber at Rockledge City Hall, 1600 Huntington Lane, Rockledge, Florida.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Thomas J. Price Council Chairman
Dr. R. Shaun Ferguson Committee Member
Frank T. Forester Committee Member
Duane A. Daski Committee Member
Dr. Brenda Fettrow City Manager
Jennifer M. LeVasseur City Clerk & Public Relations
Officer

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Matthew Trine Assistant City Manager &
Finance Director
Alexandra Bernard Planning Director
Joseph P. LaSata Public Safety Director/Chief of
Police
C. Kenneth Poole Public Works Director
James Elmore Wastewater Treatment &
Water Reclamation Director

With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order by Chairman Thomas J. Price.

Committee Member Ferguson arrived at 4:01 p.m.

2. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Fiscal Year 2021 Proposed Budget

At the June 10, 2020 Council Finance and Budget Committee meeting, City Manager Fettrow provided a high-level report on the budget for Fiscal Year 2021 and indicated that the proposed Fiscal Year 2021 budget was formulated utilizing the following parameters:

- A millage rate of 6.05.
- No raises for employees
- A 10 percent increase in healthcare costs.
- \$500,000.00 in reserve funds to balance the budget, which has been authorized in previous years, along with an additional \$141,745. Furthermore, if we receive a federal grant to complete \$1.5 million to harden Fire Stations 35 and 37, an added \$397,135 will need to be utilized out of reserves.

At the June 10, 2020 Council Finance and Budget Committee meeting, Committee members moved to recommend a tentative millage rate of 6.05 mills and a minimum of 1% salary increase for employees.

City Manager Fettrow illustrated the modifications that were made to the budget proposal suggested by the Committee at the June 10, 2020 meeting. There was great appreciation expressed for all of the employees, as all employees worked through the pandemic with no interruption in service. Discussion ensued regarding the potential for a greater than 1% salary increase for employees, a one-time bonus or paid time off, dependent upon revenue over the next several months.

Committee Member Forester moved to recommend to the full Council the Fiscal Year 2021 proposed budget as presented; seconded by Committee Member Ferguson. The motion carried unanimously (4).

B. Investment Policy of the City

During the June 10, 2020 Council Finance and Budget Committee meeting, the Committee moved to table this item until the June 17, 2020 Committee meeting pending a meeting with City investors.

City Manager Fettrow explained that, pursuant to "Exhibit A" of Resolution No. 2012-724, the City's Investment Policy is to be reviewed annually by the Finance and Budget Committee. If desired, the Finance and Budget Committee can make recommendations to City Council for modifications to this Policy if deemed necessary. City Manager Fettrow provided an overview of the current Investment Policy, with which the City is in full compliance as it is written.

Committee Member Forester reported his findings from a recent meeting with City investors regarding banks who have a history of questionable business dealings. The Committee discussed the potential ramifications of investing with banks that may have a negative history and the options that the City has in terminating business with these banks. A brief summary of the vetting process for potential investment opportunities was provided. The Committee agreed to ask Committee Member Forester to conduct

further research on any possible mechanism or website that highlights financial institutions that may have been penalized for unethical conduct and business practices.

C. Fees and Charges

1. Stormwater Rates Resolution

At the June 10, 2020 Council Finance and Budget Committee meeting, the Committee moved to increase the Stormwater ERU fee by .25¢ per month for Fiscal Year 2021 and an additional .25¢ per month in Fiscal Year 2022. City Manager Fettrow presented a draft Resolution for the Committee's review.

Committee Member Daski made a motion to recommend to the full Council the draft Resolution for consideration; seconded by Committee Member Ferguson. The motion passed without objection (4).

D. Utility Pole Discussion

At the June 10, 2020 Council Finance and Budget Committee meeting, City Manager Fettrow explained that the City currently has an Ordinance requiring that every replacement utility pole must be concrete. The Committee directed City Manager Fettrow to obtain an executive summary from Florida Power & Light illustrating recent hardening efforts and the benefits of poles comprised of different materials.

Bart Gaetjens and Vic Spruill, Florida Power & Light, were present via teleconference and provided information regarding the billions of dollars that Florida Power & Light has spent since 2004 in an effort to harden the infrastructure in order to withstand extreme wind conditions (of 130 miles per hour), thus resulting in less damage to the power infrastructure from a storm event.

Mr. Gaetjens and Mr. Spruill explained that damaged poles are usually replaced with like material unless the replacement requires a concrete pole for a critical structure.

The Committee elected to seek additional information from the City Attorney as to the Franchise Agreement terms and the adherence of the Ordinance.

3. NEW BUSINESS

- None

NOT AN AGENDA ITEM

City Manager Fettrow indicated that a subsequent meeting of the Finance and Budget Committee is scheduled for July 8, 2020, 5:30 p.m., in the Council Chamber at City Hall. The Committee decided to cancel the July 8, 2020 Council Finance and Budget Committee meeting and retain the option to reconvene in August, pending receipt of additional revenue data.

4. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council Finance and Budget Committee, Chairman Price adjourned the meeting at 4:44 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

NAME	Jennifer M. LeVasseur
TITLE	City Clerk & Public Relations Officer