

CITY OF APOPKA

Minutes of a special City Council meeting held on September 9, 2015, at 7:00 p.m., in the City of Apopka Council Chambers.

PRESENT: Mayor Joe Kilsheimer
Commissioner Bill Arrowsmith
Commissioner Billie Dean
Commissioner Diane Velazquez
Commissioner Sam Ruth

PRESS PRESENT: John Peery - The Apopka Chief

INVOCATION - The Invocation was given by John Ricketson, Publisher of The Apopka Chief.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Mayor Kilsheimer led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. ANNOUNCE AND ADOPT MILLAGE RATE OF 3.5876, WHICH IS A 17% INCREASE OVER THE ROLLED BACK RATE OF 3.0662.

Mayor Kilsheimer said this was a public hearing to hear and consider comments and questions considering the City's tentative millage rate and tentative annual budget for FY 2015-2016. He said Glenn Irby, City Administrator, recommends the City Council set September 23, 2015 for a final public hearing date and approve the tentative ad valorem taxation for the fiscal year commencing October 1, 2015 and ending September 30, 2016.

Mayor Kilsheimer first announced the tentative millage rate of 3.5876 for FY 2015-16, which is a 17% increase over the rolled back rate of 3.0662 per \$1,000 of nonexempt assessed valuation as computed by Florida Statute 200.065. He advised in the Budget Workshop of August 26, 2015, they learned they could adopt a balanced budget by using the existing millage rate of 3.2876 and this will be considered following the budget presentation by Pam Barclay, Finance Director.

A budget presentation was given by Finance Director Pam Barclay, showing an overview of the proposed budget. She reported the total budget being presented is \$89,683,025, an increase of \$20.15 million, (29%). The General Fund budget is \$43,132,913, an increase of \$4.86 million (12.7%). Taxable values increased \$2.635 million (12%). The proposed millage rate is 3.5876 which is .3 mills above the current rate of 3.2876 (9%) and it is .5214 mills (17%) above the roll back rate. She stated the General Fund reserves were sufficient to cover expenses for at least three months advising we were well above the 18-20% recommended by the GFOA. Performance based pay raises are included and the capital outlay total is \$3.9 million for the General Fund which is an increase of \$2.4 million. (The presentation is attached hereto and made a part of these meeting minutes.)

Mayor Kilsheimer opened the meeting to a public hearing.

Barb Zakszewski said she went through the proposed budget posted on the City's website and noticed each department had their own budget for office supplies. She inquired if we shopped across all departments for the best buying power on office supplies. She noticed a \$337,000 for various cardiac monitors and defibrillators and inquired what portion of the \$254,000 grant would be paying for that.

Assistant Chief Carnesale said we were going to buy 12 AED monitors and we received the \$254,000 grant which will purchase eight of the monitors, leaving four for the City to purchase.

Ms. Zakszewski also inquired about the impact fee study and if this was being conducted internally. She said the amount of \$885,000 for Community Outreach seemed to be very excessive to her. She said there was an item that read other contractual services for \$236,000 that she questioned. She did notice there were three people in the department and inquired what their function would be. She was curious as to why we were paying \$23,000 a month to a lobbyist consultant that most people cannot talk to without an appointment. She further questioned why we needed a labor attorney. She said to keep in mind the function of a city government was to provide a safe environment for its citizens, stating we had excellent Police and Fire Departments.

Mayor Kilsheimer said the Community Outreach was created as there were some positions reorganized and the position of Public Information Officer and Neighborhood Services Coordinator/Grants Writer were created and these were consolidated under Community Outreach. There will also be additional events at the amphitheater next year including expansion of the Old Florida Outdoor Festival.

No one else wishing to speak, Mayor Kilsheimer closed the public hearing.

Motion was made by Commissioner Ruth, and seconded by Commissioner Velazquez, to adopt a tentative millage rate of 3.2786, the existing rate.

Suzanne Kidd said our staff has been terrific in searching out all they can possibly get into the millage rate of 3.2786. She stated in thinking ahead if going with the 3.5786 millage rate we would be garnering in a little excess of \$600,000 that could be utilized. She said the visioning process is currently going in and at the end of that there will be a strategic plan and this could be used for that purpose. She gave several examples of where these funds could be utilized and suggested considering leaving the tentative millage rate at 3.5786.

Motion carried unanimously, with Mayor Kilsheimer and Commissioners Arrowsmith, Dean, Velazquez, and Ruth voting aye.

B. ADOPT TENTATIVE BUDGET WITH ANY BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Ruth, and seconded by Commissioner Velazquez to accept the budget as proposed at \$89,683,025.

Mayor Kilsheimer opened the meeting to a public hearing. No one wishing to speak, he closed the public hearing.

Motion carried unanimously, with Mayor Kilsheimer and Commissioners Arrowsmith, Dean, Velazquez, and Ruth voting aye.

**C. ANNOUNCE FINAL BUDGET MILLAGE RATE HEARINGS –
September 23, 2015, at 7:00 p.m.**

Mayor Kilsheimer announced the public hearing for the final Millage Rate and FY 2015-2016 Budget will be held on September 23, 2015, at 7:00 p.m.

D. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

_____/s/_____
Joseph E. Kilsheimer, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____/s/_____
Linda F. Goff, City Clerk