

CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – CITY HALL
1000 CITY CENTER CIRCLE
JANUARY 23, 2018

THE CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING of the City of Port Orange was called to order by Mayor Donald O. Burnette at 6:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Silent Invocation

Roll Call: Present: Councilman Chase Tramont
 Councilman Drew Bastian
 Councilman Scott Stiltner
 Vice Mayor Bob Ford
 Mayor Donald Burnette

 Also Present: Jake Johansson, City Manager
 Margaret T. Roberts, City Attorney
 Robin Fenwick, City Clerk

DISCUSSION ITEMS

4. Yellowstone Landscape-Southeast, LLC Report

Barry Critcher, Yellowstone Landscape, provided a quarterly report as to the landscaping within the City. Their experiences with the Staff has been positive.

Vice Mayor Stiltner expected to hear a Staff report. Mr. Johansson explained the contractor is meeting the provisions of the contract. There have been issues but those issues are always quickly resolved as required. There have been no fines issued. The contractor has even taken care of items not listed in the contract. Vice Mayor Stiltner has some concerns with weeding but is happy with the communication success between them and City Staff. Vice Mayor Stiltner asked Mr. Critcher to recommend the best areas to plant trees around retention ponds.

Councilman Ford thanked them for their work. He believes the landscaping around the city has improved.

5. Fire Assessment Presentation

Camille Tharpe, Senior Vice President of Government Services Group, discussed the pros and cons of fire assessment fees and how they can be billed.

Vice Mayor Stiltner believes the idea should be explored more to see how it could apply in Port Orange. He likes the idea of all paying the same amount. He asked what the next step would be to look further into it. Ms. Tharpe said there is no half in. Council would need to hire a consultant to analyze the need and the methodology that would best fit Port Orange.

Mr. Johansson said this is just one option to address the decline in revenue from ad valorem taxes due to the extra exemption that is believed will pass this year.

Mayor Burnette does not support furloughing firefighters or police officers to balance the budget. Councilman Bastian would not agree to any staff being furloughed. The level of service needs to remain high. Mayor Burnette would like information on adding a fire assessment fee to the utility bill if it were to pass. Mr. Johansson asked Council for direction within a couple of months as there is a lot of lead time to implement.

Councilman Ford doesn't believe this is the right time. He doesn't want to see an increase in the millage rate as well as a fire assessment fee. He is concerned with the low income residents. Mr. Johansson is also concerned about the low income residents.

Mayor Burnette asked for public comments; there were none.

6. Team Volusia Quarterly Report from Keith Norden

Dwight DuRant, Chair of Team Volusia, discussed the 2017 Annual Report. Keith Norden, President & CEO of Team Volusia, thanked Council for their contributions and support over the years.

7. Five-year model prediction

Mr. Johansson thanked Alan Rosen, Assistant City Manager, for his work on this presentation. He and the Mayor advised the presentation consists of assumptions and will change based on decisions made by Council and other factors.

Mr. Rosen discussed the variables, projected revenue from new construction, effects of recent hurricanes, and other assumptions and results that can be expected based on those assumptions.

8. Financial Report - December 2017

Tracey Riehm, Finance Director, provided details from the December 2017 Financial Report.

Mr. Johansson advised Council that the budget meetings for the school board and county are scheduled the same days as our meetings in September so we will need to hold Special Meetings. Council agreed and would like them to be after our Regular meetings in September.

ADJOURNMENT

Attest:



Robin Fenwick, CMC, City Clerk



Mayor Donald O. Burnette