

**SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL  
1000 CITY CENTER CIRCLE  
PORT ORANGE, FLORIDA  
SEPTEMBER 5, 2018**

THE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING of the City of Port Orange was called to order by Mayor Donald O. Burnette at 5:30 p.m.

Invocation - Rev. Rebecca T. Hyvonen of Cross Creek Community Church

Pledge of Allegiance

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

                                 Also Present:              Jake Johansson, City Manager  
                                                         Margaret Roberts, City Attorney  
                                                         Deanna Massey, Clerk's Office

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**4. Property Appraiser Update**

Chris Flynn, District Director of the Volusia County Property Appraisers Office, presented a roll-back rate explanation and discussed the millage rate which will provide the same ad valorem tax revenue of taxing authority as was levied during the prior year less the amount paid or applied as a consequence of an obligation measured by the dedicated increment value with some exclusions.

Mayor Burnette stated one of the most frequent questions he gets about taxes is about roll back and why some citizens taxes have gone up, yet others have gone down.

Jake Johansson, City Manager, stated the tax increase only equates to 7.3% increase in taxes not a 15% increase in taxes.

Vice Mayor Stiltner asked if there are any other split taxing districts outside of the hospital district in the City of Port Orange.

Mr. Flynn replied all of the information is available on the Volusia County Property Appraisers website. He spoke on property's assessed values and taxable values. He encouraged citizens to visit the website and view all of the exemptions available.

**5. Discussion of Tentative Millage Rate and Budget for FY19**

Mayor Burnette stated the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget commences on October 1, 2018 and

continues through September 30, 2019. The tentative millage rate to be levied is 4.6288 mills per \$1,000.00 of valuation and is a 9.99% increase in ad valorem tax revenues above the roll-back rate. The roll back rate is 4.2084 mills per \$1,000.00 of valuation.

Vice Mayor Stiltner pointed out the difference in the roll-back rate from Volusia County Property Appraiser's report of 4.2082 and the City's of 4.284.

Jake Johansson, City Manager, pointed out that the City's number is in accordance with the City's notices. He recapped the progress that the City has made throughout the year. He spoke on the increase in millage over the roll-back rate and the specific purposes for the increase. He went over the additions that were made within the City to staff personnel.

Mayor Burnette asked the Council to discuss the reasons for the increase in the final millage above the roll-back date.

Councilman Chase Tramont is still opposed to the increase in taxes. He wants to take care of the City's staff and staff salaries; however, what he hears from the citizens is them asking for us to stop raising their taxes.

Councilman Ford stated we need to keep our taxes at an affordable level. There are a lot of seniors on fixed income who can't afford for the City to continue to raise their taxes. He feels Volusia County needs to address the need for ambulance services; Port Orange should not have to assist them in meeting these needs.

Vice Mayor Stiltner is very passionate about Port Orange as a City. He discussed how throughout the year there are many discussions about things that can improve the City but when it comes to budget time these things tend to fall through the cracks. He would have liked to see the County step up a long time ago with the ambulance issues, but they haven't, and it is unclear if they will. There is a problem in Volusia County with lack of ambulances, but the City needs to look out for its citizens to ensure they will get the help they need in a timely manner. He stated that overall many residents will likely see a decrease in their tax bill. He stated as a City, Port Orange compares very well to other municipalities in the County of Volusia.

Councilman Bastian stated that the number one responsibility of the people sitting up on the dais is public safety. He discussed his current tax bill and stated he will only see a 12 cent a day increase after adding all the additional services.

Mayor Burnette stated in years passed they have always been able to rely on the previous year's overage, and this year we don't have that. The City is currently below our reserves and this has had a negative impact on the budget.

Allen Green, citizen, spoke on his concerns with the City waiving fees for the golf course, impact fees, permits, and food trucks, and it all adds up. The city must stop doing that.

Mark Dickinson, citizen, spoke on issues he had with code enforcement searching his backyard, the police department going back several years. He stated it took the City one

year to clear up the bike path and expects better response from the City.

Mary Wilson, citizen, discussed the importance of having emergency services. She stated she has no problem with paying a 12 cent a day difference to keep the citizens in Port Orange safe. She has very high respect for the City's fire department.

Tom Weber, citizen/Former Fire Chief, stated he is not against raising the taxes. He spoke on the City's response times and stated they are not where they need to be. He stated the system needs to be fixed.

Tim Jackson, citizen, stated he is in full support with raising the taxes, and there are needs for ambulances and first responders.

William Ward, citizen, spoke on the tax increase. He stated if this increase passes his bill will be going up around \$120.00. He stated on a scale from 1 to 10, he ranks our fire services a 10.

Mayor Burnette announced the Council will now hear comments regarding the proposed tentative millage.

Vice Mayor Stiltner stated there are many times when there have not been any ambulance services available to the City of Port Orange's citizens. He spoke to employee raises and stated we fail in comparison to other cities we run into, service, response, seniority, and experience issues, and we don't want that.

Councilman Bob Ford commented our system in many ways is conservative. This comes down to what kind of service we as a City want to provide. The City needs to be more conservative in our spending.

Councilman Bastian commented that there are almost never any ambulances available for the citizens of Port Orange and he is not okay with that.

6. Resolution No. 18-29 - Adopting the Tentative Millage Rate for FY19

Mayor Burnette read Ordinance No. 18-29.

RESOLUTION NO 18-29

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT ORANGE, VOLUSIA COUNTY, FLORIDA; ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE PROPERTY TAX MILLAGE RATES TO BE LEVIED FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019 (OCTOBER 1, 2018 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2019); AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Burnette announced the adopted tentative millage rate of 4.6288 mills per \$1,000.00 of valuation is a 9.99% increase in ad valorem tax revenues above the roll-back rate.

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 18-29 was made by Vice Mayor Scott Stiltner and seconded by Councilman Drew Bastian.

Ted Nofall, citizen, spoke on the revenues the City is projecting.

Motion passed 3-2 with Councilman Drew Bastian, Vice Mayor Scott Stiltner, and Mayor Donald Burnette voting yes and Councilman Chase Tramont and Councilman Bob Ford voting no.

7. Resolution No. 18-30 - Adopting the Tentative Operating Budget for FY19

Mayor Burnette read Resolution No. 18-30.

RESOLUTION NO 18-30

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT ORANGE, VOLUSIA COUNTY, FLORIDA; ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE OPERATING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2018 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2019 FOR THE CITY OF PORT ORANGE; SETTING FORTH ANTICIPATED SOURCES OF REVENUE IN THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$102,461,288; SETTING FORTH EXPENDITURES IN AN EQUIVALENT AMOUNT; PROVIDING FOR APPROPRIATION AND PROCEDURES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 18-30 was made by Vice Mayor Scott Stiltner and seconded by Councilman Bastian.

Mr. Nofall questioned the Council members on what they did differently this year in the analysis. He stated the City should have two officers share a police vehicle between shifts. There is no need for each officer to have their own vehicle.

Motion passed 3-2 with Councilman Drew Bastian, Vice Mayor Scott Stiltner, and Mayor Donald Burnette voting yes and Councilman Chase Tramont and Councilman Bob Ford voting no.

8. Resolution No. 18-31 - Adopting the Tentative Capital Budget for FY19

Mayor Burnette read Resolution No. 18-31.

RESOLUTION NO. 18-31

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT ORANGE, VOLUSIA COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE CAPITAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2018 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2019 FOR THE CITY OF PORT ORANGE; SETTING FORTH ANTICIPATED SOURCES OF REVENUE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9,818,722; SETTING FORTH EXPENDITURES IN AN EQUIVALENT AMOUNT; PROVIDING FOR APPROPRIATION EXPENDITURES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 18-31 was made by Vice Mayor Scott Stiltner and seconded by Councilman Drew Bastian. Motion carried 3-2 with Councilman Drew Bastian, Vice Mayor Scott Stiltner, and Mayor Donald Burnette voting yes and Councilman Chase Tramont and Councilman Bob Ford voting no.

9. Resolution No. 18-32 - Adopting the Tentative Millage Rate for FY19 for Town Center CRA Tax Increment District

Mayor Burnette read Resolution No. 18-32.

RESOLUTION 18-32

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT ORANGE, VOLUSIA COUNTY, FLORIDA; ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE PROPERTY TAX MILLAGE RATE TO BE LEVIED FOR THE TOWN CENTER TAX INCREMENT DISTRICT, FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019 (OCTOBER 1, 2018 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2019); AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 18-32 was made by Vice Mayor Scott Stiltner and seconded by Councilman Drew Bastian.

Mr. Dickinson stated his tax bill will increase \$5.47.

Motion passed 3-2 with Councilman Drew Bastian, Vice Mayor Scott Stiltner, and Mayor Donald Burnette voting yes, Councilman Chase Tramont and Councilman Bob Ford voting no.

**10. Resolution No. 18-33 - Adopting the Tentative Operating Budget for FY19 for Town Center CRA Tax Increment District**

Mayor Burnette read Resolution No. 18-33.

**RESOLUTION NO. 18-33**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT ORANGE, VOLUSIA COUNTY, FLORIDA; ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE TOWN CENTER TAX INCREMENT DISTRICT OPERATING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2018 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2019; SETTING FORTH ANTICIPATED SOURCES OF REVENUE IN THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$476,503; SETTING FORTH EXPENDITURES IN AN EQUIVALENT AMOUNT; PROVIDING FOR APPROPRIATION AND PROCEDURES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 18-33 was made by Councilman Drew Bastian and seconded by Vice Mayor Scott Stiltner. Motion passed 3-2 with Councilman Drew Bastian, Vice Mayor Scott Stiltner, and Mayor Donald Burnette voting yes and Councilman Chase Tramont and Councilman Bob Ford voting no.

**11. Resolution No. 18-34 - Adopting the Tentative Millage Rate for FY19 for Eastport CRA Tax Increment District**

Mayor Burnette read Resolution 18-34.

**RESOLUTION NO 18-34**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT ORANGE, VOLUSIA COUNTY, FLORIDA; ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE PROPERTY TAX MILLAGE RATE TO BE LEVIED FOR THE EASTPORT TAX INCREMENT DISTRICT, FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019 (OCTOBER 1, 2018 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2019); AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 18-34 was made by Vice Mayor Scott Stiltner and seconded by Councilman Drew Bastian.

Mr. Nofall spoke on the increase in taxes and how it will affect the businesses in the

Motion passed 3-2 with Councilman Drew Bastian, Vice Mayor Scott Stiltner, and Mayor Donald Burnette voting yes and Councilman Chase Tramont and Councilman Bob Ford voting no.

**12. Resolution No. 18-35 - Adopting the Tentative Operating Budget for FY19 for Eastport CRA Tax Increment District**

Mayor Burnette read Resolution No. 18-35.

**RESOLUTION NO. 18-35**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT ORANGE, VOLUSIA COUNTY, FLORIDA; ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE EASTPORT TAX INCREMENT DISTRICT OPERATING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2018 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2019; SETTING FORTH ANTICIPATED SOURCES OF REVENUE IN THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$207,733; SETTING FORTH EXPENDITURES IN AN EQUIVALENT AMOUNT; PROVIDING FOR APPROPRIATION AND PROCEDURES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 18-35 was made by Vice Mayor Scott Stiltner and Seconded by Councilman Drew Bastian. Motion passed 3-2 with Councilman Drew Bastian, Vice Mayor Scott Stiltner, and Mayor Donald Burnette voting yes and Councilman Chase Tramont and Councilman Bob Ford voting no.

Mayor Burnette requested a motion to direct the City Clerk to publish an advertisement providing notice of the City of Port Orange City Council's intent to adopt the final millage rate and final operating and capital budget for the City of Port Orange, the Community Redevelopment Agency for Port Orange Town Center and the Community Redevelopment Agency for Eastport Business Center complying with the budget summary requirements of law.

Motion to direct the City Clerk to publish an advertisement providing notice of the City of Port Orange City Council's intent was made by Vice Mayor Scott Stiltner and Seconded by Councilman Drew Bastian. Motion passed 4-1 with

Councilman Drew Bastian, Mayor Donald Burnette, Vice Mayor Scott Stiltner, Councilman Chase Tramont voting yes and Councilman Bob Ford voting no.

Mayor Burnette stated in addition to the foregoing general operating budget/millage levy, there is a voter approved millage levy of .2923 mills to fund the debt service for the 2016 general obligation refunding bonds issued for public safety capital facilities.

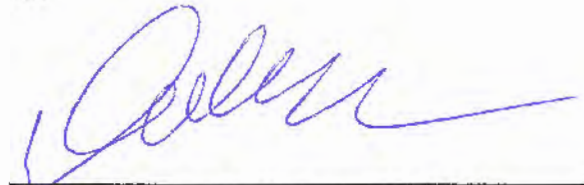
Council took a short recess to allow the Town Center and Eastport CRA hold their meetings.

Mayor Burnette called the meeting back to order at 7:06 p.m.

Mr. Johansson thanked the finance department for all of their hard work. He appreciates all the support and help Council has given the City.

Mayor Burnette stated we are all in unanimity and trust staff to carry out their jobs to finish up the budget and produce positive results.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:08 p.m.



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DONALD O. BURNETTE, MAYOR

Attest:  


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ROBIN L. FENWICK, CMC  
CITY CLERK