

TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA

TOWN COMMISSION

SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES

Jarvis Hall

4505 Ocean Drive

Tuesday, September 24, 2012

7:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER, MAYOR ROSEANN MINNET

Mayor Roseann Minnet called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Also present were Vice Mayor Scot Sasser, Commissioner Mark Brown, Commissioner Stuart Dodd, Commissioner Chris Vincent, Town Attorney Susan L. Trevarthen, Town Manager Connie Hoffmann, and Town Clerk June White.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public speakers.

4. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Finance Director Tony Bryan reviewed the Fiscal Year 2013 Budget. The highlights included:

- The adoption of the roll back rate of 3.9312, the fourth lowest in Broward County
- The reduction of the overall sewer revenues by 10% over the current year
- A 50% reduction in the water utility tax
- A decrease in the garbage rates in October 2012
- Capital Improvement Projects for the next fiscal year for drainage and sewer improvements, streetscape and landscape improvements that would be funded solely by the Town's existing funds.

Town Manager Hoffmann added, with the Bougainville Drive, 19th Street in Bel Air, and the Hibiscus Avenue and Tropic Drive neighborhood drainage projects, the Town was spending \$1.4 - \$1.5 million on drainage improvements in 2013.

Finance Director Bryan continued his presentation:

- The overall property tax bill included different taxing authorities. He explained the Town's millage rate as of 2012 represented 20% of the tax bill. This was down from 2011 when it was about 24%. While the Town was reducing its taxes, most other taxing authorities were increasing their taxes.
- Public safety represented the single largest line item in the General Fund Budget, accounting for about 42% of the overall expenditure.
- Parking revenues exceeding the budget in the current year by about \$570,000. The funds would be used for various Town parking improvements in the next fiscal year.

Mayor Minnet opened the meeting for public comment. With no one wishing to speak, she closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

5. RESOLUTIONS

- a. **Resolution 2012-45: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING AND ADOPTING THE FINAL TOWN AD VALOREM TAX MILLAGE RATE AT 3.9312 MILS PER THOUSAND DOLLARS OF TAXABLE ASSESSED VALUE, WHICH IS EQUAL TO THE ROLLED BACK RATE COMPUTED PURSUANT TO STATE LAW, FOR THE 2012 TAX YEAR; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Mayor Minnet opened the meeting for public comment. With no one wishing to speak, she closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

Commissioner Brown commended Town staff for putting together an incredible budget. He was unaware of any other municipality in Broward County that could match the fiscal responsibility Lauderdale-By-The-Sea's administration exhibited. The budget included funding for a variety of capital projects. He reminded residents the Commission did not initiate many of the projects; they were the result of resident feedback at numerous public meetings during the current fiscal year. He felt this illustrated a system that worked from the public level up, and he was very pleased with the outcome.

Commissioner Vincent echoed thanks to staff. It was fortunate that the Town had the fourth lowest millage rate in the County.

Commissioner Dodd wished the other 80% that constituted the rest of the tax bill were as conscientious as the Town.

Mayor Minnet concurred, stating the two largest percentages in the tax bill came from Broward County and the Broward County School Board, so she encouraged everyone to contact those two agencies.

Vice Mayor Sasser agreed Town staff put a lot of hard work into the budget. He stated the Town still had a utility tax, and it was great that it was being cut by 50%, but he intended going after the rest next year, particularly with Fort Lauderdale and Pompano charging the Town's residents a 25% surcharge on top of their bill. He wanted to keep pressing for every little bit that helped Lauderdale-By-The-Sea to be a wonderful town with all of the amenities currently enjoyed, while keeping the taxes as low as possible.

Mayor Minnet supported Town staff's continuing to look for opportunities to reduce taxes and thanked them for all their hard work, as well as the residents for giving the Town Commission the opportunity to do the job they were elected to do.

Commissioner Dodd made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-45. Vice Mayor Sasser seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

- b. Resolution 2012-46: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE ATTACHED FINAL TOWN BUDGET FOR THE 2012/2013 FISCAL YEAR; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Minnet opened the meeting for public comment. With no one wishing to speak, she closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

Commissioner Dodd made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-46. Vice Mayor Sasser seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Dodd made a motion to adjourn. With no further business before the Commission, Mayor Minnet adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Mayor Roseann Minnet

ATTEST:

Town Clerk, June White CMC

Date