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**TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA  
TOWN COMMISSION  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

Jarvis Hall  
**4505 Ocean Drive  
Tuesday, July 27, 2010  
6:00 P.M.**

1. CALL TO ORDER, MAYOR ROSEANN MINNET

Mayor Roseann Minnet called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Also present were Vice Mayor Stuart Dodd, Commissioner Birute Ann Clotney, Commissioner Scot Sasser, Commissioner Chris Vincent, Town Attorney Susan L. Trevarthen, Interim Town Manager Connie Hoffmann, Town Clerk June White, and Deputy Clerk Nekisha Smith.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

3. ITEMS OF DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION:

- a. Resolution 2010-17: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE PROVISION OF FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES, FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS IN THE TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA, FLORIDA; DESCRIBING THE METHOD OF ASSESSING FIRE PROTECTION ASSESSED COSTS AGAINST ASSESSED PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN THE TOWN'S GEOGRAPHICAL BOUNDARIES, KNOWN AS FIRE PROTECTION ASSESSMENT AREA - TOWN WIDE; ESTABLISHING THE ESTIMATED RATES FOR FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2010; DIRECTING THE PREPARATION OF AN ASSESSMENT ROLL FOR FIRE PROTECTION ASSESSMENT AREA - TOWN WIDE; AUTHORIZING A PUBLIC HEARING AND DIRECTING THE PROVISION OF NOTICE THEREOF; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Attorney Trevarthen read Resolution 2010-17 by title.

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

Vice Mayor Dodd questioned whether this resolution included the break the Commission gave to small businesses to establish a separate rate for businesses under 6,000 square feet. He also wanted to make sure that any profits made from fire inspections were put back into a vehicle replacement fund or something similar.

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Interim Town Manager Hoffmann explained that half of the fire inspection revenues were allocated to a vehicle replacement fund.

Commissioner Clotley clarified that the provision regarding small businesses under 6,000 square feet only pertained to the fire inspection fee; not the fire assessment rate.

Interim Town Manager Hoffmann explained that the proposed fire assessment fee covered the cost of fire services and additional funds would be placed in the fire reserve.

Vice Mayor Dodd made a motion to approve Resolution 2010-17. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

- b. Resolution 2010-18: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA, FLORIDA, ADOPTING A PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2010, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2011; STATING THE PERCENTAGE AMOUNT OF THE PROPOSED RATE DOES NOT EXCEED THE ROLLED BACK RATE; ANNOUNCING THE DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF THE FIRST PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE AND THE TENTATIVE BUDGET; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE Exhibit - Budget Message from Town Manager

Attorney Trevarthen read Resolution 2010-18 by title.

Mayor Minnet clarified that the proposed millage rate was .421993

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

Commissioner Clotley said she was not in favor of increasing taxes.

There was discussion regarding the roll back rate. Interim Town Manager Hoffmann explained that the proposed millage rate was a reduction of about \$250,000. She said that staff was able to bridge the \$600,000 gap but did need the difference between that and the \$246,000.

Commissioner Clotley pointed out that there were residents that would see an increase in their taxes due to the "Save Our Home" program. She urged the Commission not to forget about those residents.

Commissioner Sasser agreed with Commissioner Clotley. He believed that the Town needed a specific CIP (Capital Improvement Plan) and that there could be significant cuts within it. Commissioner Sasser said the missing \$600,000 could be found in the proposed budget.

Mayor Minnet reviewed her areas of concern within the proposed budget. She said that the \$55,000 proposed for the Chamber of Commerce needed to be looked at closely and suggested reducing that amount by \$10,000.

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Mayor Minnet suggested decreasing the Town's donations by \$5,000 and requested the Commission forgo their salary increases. She recommended that the Town Topics go out less frequently or be emailed to decrease that budgeted amount by \$5,000.

Mayor Minnet was concerned with the 4% increase to the VFD contract amount. She requested staff work with the VFD to try and find a savings to cover the requested increase of \$17,000.

Mayor Minnet proposed eliminating the \$15,000 budgeted for "Recreation", item 345, page 42 of the proposed budget "Contractual Services". She said that \$12,000 was already budgeted for "Special Events", item 495 for miscellaneous special events and entertainment. Mayor Minnet said her recommendations could save about \$70,000 to \$80,000 in the budget.

Commissioner Vincent said he previously discussed his concerns and recommendations with staff.

Vice Mayor Dodd wished to see the Chamber of Commerce come forward with their proposal. He said that he was not ready to take \$10,000 off of their proposal before the Chamber of Commerce gave a presentation outlining the details of their request. Vice Mayor Dodd agreed with Mayor Minnet regarding the VFD's budget and increases in Commission salaries.

Mayor Minnet questioned whether staff could work with the VFD regarding their budget and current contract. Interim Town Manager Hoffmann explained that it could be done and pointed out that the proposed VFD budget was substantially different than the prior years budget. She requested direction to look into renegotiating the VFD contract.

Commissioner Sasser explained that it was important to consider the return on investment for the Chamber of Commerce. He believed that there could be significant savings in the CIP. Commissioner Sasser said several questions needed to be answered regarding the sewer infrastructure, stormwater, El Mar Drive, and A1A before the millage rate was set.

There was Commission consensus to have the Interim Town Manager and staff work with VFD regarding their budget and renegotiating a new contract. Interim Town Manager Hoffmann questioned whether the Commission agreed with her recommendation to have the recreation instructors charge a fee for their services and then split the money with the Town.

There was Commission consensus to provide some recreational activities at no cost to residents and to only pay the instructor based on the number of people who attended. The Commission agreed to implement an employee merit system.

There was discussion regarding holding an additional meeting in August to further discuss the budget. Interim Town Manager Hoffmann suggested holding a meeting towards the end of August and asked the Commission to discuss the subject later that evening during the regular Commission meeting.

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Mayor Minnet explained that the proposed millage rate was 4.21993 and the roll back rate was 4.3553.

Commissioner Sasser made a motion to set the tentative millage rate at 4.21993 and approve Resolution 2010-18. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-1. Commissioner Clotney voted no.

**4. ADJOURNMENT**

Vice Mayor Dodd made a motion to adjourn. With no further business before the Town, Mayor Minnet adjourned the meeting at 6:50 pm.

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Mayor Roseann Minnet

ATTEST:

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Town Clerk, June White

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Date