

TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA
TOWN COMMISSION
BUDGET WORKSHOP
MINUTES

Town Commission Meeting Room
4501 Ocean Drive
Tuesday, June 11, 2008
5:00 - 6:30 P.M.

1. **CALL TO ORDER, MAYOR ROSEANN MINNET**
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**
3. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

a. Creation of a LBTS Building Department

Frank Rabinowitz presented a Town Building Analysis. He reviewed necessary expenses for staff, vehicle expenses, and operational expenses to create a building department. He projected cost at \$697,552.00. The Commission discussed expenses and revenues, the possibility of using part time staff and/or on call staff, and the use of green vehicles to keep expenses down.

Mayor Minnet was concerned that there were too many variables and that staff would have enough redevelopment or rejuvenation to back up the program. Discussion followed regarding the time it would take to create a functioning building department with the type of staff to run it. Vice Mayor McIntee suggested the Commission get together to discuss those issues and then advise official direction to Manager Colon at the June 24, 2008 meeting with instruction on how they wanted her to proceed. Discussion continued regarding whether administration was up to the challenge and confident. Commission Dodd directed Manager Colon to go forward with an investigation for an on call department. Mayor Minnet was concerned that administration would not have enough time to prepare.

b. Millage

Manager Colon advised that the roll back rate would not take into account the impact of amendment one. She explained that the millage rate only went down when the economy was healthy and the appraised value went up. Manager Colon explained further that in this case the roll back rate would be higher than the current millage rate. She calculated the millage at 4.5618 and advised that anything below that would be a decrease.

The Commission discussed their general options to decrease operating expenses, take out more loans, or roll with the economy and wait until the economy improved.

Discussion continued regarding the tightening of belts to avoid increasing taxes, and the option to keep the current millage and not go back to the roll back rate or keep the millage rate above 4.11.

c. Fire Assessment

Manager Colon advised that due to the change from Broward Sheriff's Office Fire to Volunteer Fire Department the \$130 fire assessment would not change with the inclusion of a Fire Marshall. She requested direction as to whether a consultant should be called in for a cost analysis or continue with public hearings. The Commission agreed the need for a consultant was not necessary as it was likely that figures would remain the same as last year.

d. Capital Improvement

Manager Colon advised the Commission of the projects that have commitments and/or already started as referenced in the agenda packet. The Commission talked about the beach walkway / pedestrian walkway on the easement for Oriana and Minto at length and suggested looking into installing a natural walkway with sea oats rather than a boardwalk.

The Commission discussed the removal of the underground wiring project for Imperial Lane and Codrington Drive from the budget and the possibility of changing the walkway project from a boardwalk to a natural walkway with sea oats. Manager Colon suggested the Commission revise the Capital Improvement Plan to include only projects that contained grants and projects that contained recorded easements or dedications. Direction was given to Town Manager to add the underground wiring project and the use of Sea Oats as opposed to the Boardwalk to the June 24, 2008 Commission meeting for discussion and or action.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Dodd made a motion to adjourn. With no further business before the Commission, Mayor Minnet adjourned the meeting at 6:40 p.m.



Mayor Roseann Minnet

Attest:



June White, Town Clerk

6/25/08

Date