

City of Pembroke Pines, FL

*City of Pembroke Pines
Charles F. Dodge City Center
601 City Center Way
Pembroke Pines, FL 33025*



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 13, 2020

1:00 PM

1:00 PM Commission Budget Workshop Presentation

Commission Chambers

City Commission

*Mayor Frank Ortis
Vice Mayor Iris A. Siple
Commissioner Jay D. Schwartz
Commissioner Thomas Good, Jr.
Commissioner Larissa Chanzas*

1:00 PM BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**ROLL CALL**

Present 5 - Mayor Frank Ortis, Vice Mayor Iris A. Siple, Commissioner Thomas Good Jr., Commissioner Jay D. Schwartz, and Commissioner Larissa Chanzas

Also present: City Manager Charles F. Dodge, City Attorney Samuel S. Goren, and City Clerk Marlene D. Graham.

WORKSHOP ITEMS:

20-0622 WORKSHOP ITEM: BUDGET WORKSHOP PRESENTATION

PRIOR TO THE START OF THE PRESENTATION:

Commissioner Good took a moment to acknowledge the passing of Mr. Saul B. Shechter, brother of former City Commissioner Carl Shechter, and Ms. Arlene Draizin, who were both longtime active residents in the Pembroke Pines community.

City Manager Dodge provided an overview of the Proposed Budget for the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year.

City Manager Dodge stated each of the General Funds were balanced for the year with the aid of a small portion of reserves being utilized. This also included an adjustment made for the increase of the charge for the TRIM notice advertisement. Mr. Dodge continued to speak about the following revenues lost on the State level:

- 3 million dollar reduction from State shared funds.
- 1 million dollar reduction from the Road and Bridge funds.

The current budget being proposed would change the Operating Millage rate of 5.6736 from the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year with a Debt Service rate of 0.4464 from 6.1152 with a Debt Service rate of 0.4273, an increase of 0.4225 Mills, which would generate an additional \$6 million dollars of revenue for the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year due to an increase in the taxable values. The proposed Residential Fire Assessment rate of \$325.89, an increase of \$43.51 over last year's rate would generate \$27.2 million dollars of revenue. Mr. Dodge also stated that the Commission would be

required by law to have four fifths of the votes to adopt the budget and that the City of Pembroke Pines continues to maintain one of the lowest rates in the County.

City Manager Dodge reviewed the following topics that were included in the budget:

- 16 Full Time Positions for the Police and Fire Department.
- General Fund Items listed by Department.
- Grants for Other Entities.
- Road and Bridge Funds.
- The Utility fund. City Manager Dodge called upon Jonathan Cooper, Utilities Director to address the Capital Budget Highlights for the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year and address the questions of the Commission.

Lisa Chong, Finance Director, presented the Utility Revenue Sufficiency Analysis based on the report findings from Stantec Consulting Services, addressed the negative impacts to the downgrades in the bond ratings as it relates to the utility tax revenue provided by the City's financial advisor, Ford & Associates, and made reference to the 05/02/2018 Visioning Workshop where this item was previously discussed. Ms. Chong responded to the questions of the Commission.

Vice Mayor Siple, Commissioner Schwartz, Commissioner Good, Commissioner Chanzas, and Mayor Ortiz spoke on the following matters presented:

- Concerns with the hit on sales tax.
- Meter reader upgrades.
- Furloughs.
- Loss of revenue at Club 19.
- Concerns with the current CPI.
- Prioritizing Capital Budget Projects/ General Fund items with the reason for the purchase to be included.
- Collective Bargaining Agreement items not listed/ voted on at the August 5, 2020 Commission meeting.
- Reaching out to the vendors to renegotiate better contract terms.
- The new positions in the Police and Fire Department.
- Concerns with raising the millage rate / creating a more conservative budget.

City Attorney Goren provided clarification on Chapter 447 of the Florida Statutes regarding discussing closed door sessions on labor affairs that would not otherwise be open to the public.

Police Chief Kipp Shimpeno addressed the questions of the Commission regarding the new positions in the Police Department.

City Manager Dodge concluded all the concerns would be addressed and brought back to the Commission in a workshop; which was agreed by consensus, to be conducted on Thursday, August 27, 2020 at 1:00pm.

ADJOURN - 2:43 P.M.

CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES

Marlene D. Graham, CMC
City Clerk

ANY PERSON WHO DECIDES TO APPEAL ANY DECISION OF THE COMMISSION WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED AT THIS MEETING WILL NEED A RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS AND FOR SUCH PURPOSE, MAY NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS IS MADE WHICH RECORD INCLUDES TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE APPEAL IS TO BE BASED.

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES REQUIRING ACCOMMODATIONS IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE SHOULD CONTACT THE CITY CLERK, 450-1050 AT LEAST 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE TO REQUEST SUCH ACCOMMODATION.