

CITY COUNCIL BUDGET MEETING  
CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS OFFICIAL AGENDA  
MONDAY, JULY 16, 2018  
9:00 A.M. CITY HALL  
9101 BONITA BEACH ROAD  
BONITA SPRINGS, FLORIDA 34135  
MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER.

Mayor Peter Simmons called the meeting to order at 9:05 A.M.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Council Member Laura Carr led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL.

Mayor Simmons and all Council Members were in attendance.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS.

9:06:25 AM Dallas Revord, Chairman of the Historic Preservation Board, was in attendance to address funding for the historic village concept for purposes of getting more people downtown. He also addressed the historic grant program. He is here to request the Historic Preservation Board receive the same amount of funding they received last year. They would also appreciate funding for the historic village feasibility study.

V. INTRODUCTION OF FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019 DRAFT BUDGET.

9:11:46 AM Interim City Manager Arleen Hunter furnished a brief overview. Discussion on communications and inability for Pelican Landing and Bonita Bay to be able to watch Council meetings on TV. Council Member Amy Quaremba suggested the city contact Hotwire. Lora Taylor responded to questions, and explaining that she is in talks with hotwire, adding that closed captioning is a one-time charge.

9:24:12 AM Anne Wright, Finance Director, furnished a Powerpoint presentation (copy attached and in Clerk's file), to provide an overview of the general fund budget request, the general fund requested expenditure budget by functional categories, the general fund expenditures compared to FY 2019 requested budget, the general fund revenue and expenditure assumptions, a summary of outstanding debt, the history of road impact fee revenue, the history of unassigned fund balance, and the history of park impact fee revenue.

9:49:28 AM Interim City Manager Hunter explained that for the vehicle replacement Staff will be bringing forward the idea of a concept as we go forward, it's repair and replacement and Staff will be asking that for whatever is not spent in the fiscal year that it is allowed to roll over, and Staff is looking at a policy of trying to fund that each year at \$100,000 until they can complete the turnover of the poor condition of vehicles, so each year replacing approximately two to three vehicles. In response to Council Member O'Flinn's question of whether we have a rough idea of what the grounds maintenance in the parks department is. Staff to get that information.

9:50:32 AM Director Wright continued by addressing hurricane Irma that was budgeted in FY 19 at \$1 million, and as mentioned a contingency account of \$900,000, closed captioning at \$65,000, vehicle repair and replacement at \$100,000 and a decrease in the professional services budget within the City Attorney department of \$200,000 for specialized services (for specialized counsel).

[10:18:26 AM](#) Council Member O’Flinn referred to page 75, Hurricane Irma, which totaled \$9 million, with \$6 to be reimbursed by FEMA. He further addressed.

[10:28:58 AM](#) Director Wright next addressed the Five Year Financial Plan to address the General Fund, the gas tax, road impact fees, park impact fees, the building fee fund, the 2014 debt service fund, and the 2011 (and other) debt service fund, which will be changed since it is based on the budget.

[10:46:11 AM](#) At the request of Council Member O’Flinn Staff addressed items in the budget that have increased. Communications Director Lora Taylor next addressed items increased in communications budget. The number referred to by Council Member O’Flinn is due to saving of health insurance as well as a position they had that was unexpectedly vacant. There were some unfilled positions that were filled during the year. Reflected is the \$68,000 for closed captioning, some health insurance costs. The new website is still underway of which \$35,000 was budgeted. Director Wright next addressed increases in the Finance Budget, which will include \$5,000 for an audit along with health insurance. Council Member O’Flinn next referred to Parks and Recreation which reflects an increase of \$60,000. Interim Manager Hunter addressed the thermal pump that’s required for health and safety.

[10:48:12 AM](#) At the request of Council Member Quaremba, Meg Weiss, Director of Administrative Services, addressed personnel costs, specifically the paid for performance. Staff is not requesting a market adjustment this year, and have not requested one since the 2014-2015 budget year. Pay for performance is merit based, and is conducted half way through the year, so the budget reflects 6 months of it, and is effective April 1<sup>st</sup>. She further explained. Council Member O’Flinn referred to the increase in animal control services, and asked who is paid that, to which Interim Manager Hunter stated that is paid to Lee County. Council Member O’Flinn referred to Estero and stated that he felt the City has a lot more cats, and addressed Estero who was literally was counting per cat how much it was costing them. Interim Manager Hunter find out what Estero’s contract has and what they are doing, and will have Neighborhood Manager Backhurst to look into this. Staff can find out what Estero contract entails and what it covers compared to what the contact has will Lee County covers and have a comparison of that.

[10:55:12 AM](#) Council Member Quaremba referred to the difference in law enforcement that the \$5 million in one area and the \$1.7 and the public safety which adds up to \$2 million. She questioned the \$3 million, which Director Wright stated was the building fee fund, which entails all the permitting and inspections as well. It’s considered public safety that’s the way the State categorizes it.

[10:57:43 AM](#) Events was next addressed, with Interim Manager Hunter addressed, entailed individual meetings with the Council Members and also had the Special Events Committee fully discuss each of the events. The budget reflects a reduction in Celebrate Bonita, with the remaining events remaining at their current funding level. The idea was to have it more of a “home grown” type event, and look at other revenue enhancement processes that could potentially happen. Director Taylor also explained and addressed Fiesta, and the Outreach Committee. Discussion was held.

[11:08:38 AM](#) Council Member O’Flinn next referred to page 40 and the \$47,000 budgeted for holiday decorations, noting there was no budget for social services. Council Member Quaremba suggested finding out what percentage the City is afforded from Lee County. She would more in favor of doing something like the communications tax, which she expanded on. Discussion was held.

[11:28:16 AM](#) Council Member Forbes questioned a separate line item that states for temporary hurricane fund for people to see. Contact property appraiser. Communications Services Tax and the Electric Franchise Fee. City Attorney Vance to prepare the CST and the FPL Ordinances. Discussion lengthy discussion followed.

[12:02:48 PM](#) Council Member O’Flinn suggested putting \$10 million in the out year. He wants to ensure proper long term planning. He also questioned outreach for Lee County on items such as shells on Bonita Beach Road, beach parking, and money for the quadrant plan, and Lee Tran.

12:05:20 PM Council Member Forbes suggested purchased land, rid the blight, and also investigate a shuttle service to the beach and maybe eventually another shuttle service that goes as far up as the mall on Coconut Road. Discussion followed on the shuttle service. Discussion followed.

12:16:34 PM Council Member Quaremba addressed city hall and suggested doing something with the air handler, which makes it uncomfortable to sit where she does and also because it's difficult to hear. Meg Weiss, Director of Administrative Services, addressed plans for the A/C in the next two years. Interim Manager Hunter stated she will have the contractor look at it.

12:22:52 PM Interim Manager Hunter addressed recommendations from DPZ that need to be brought back for Council consideration.

VI. PRESENTATION OF FIVE YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN. Addressed above.

VII. DISCUSSION AND DIRECTION CONCERNING FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019 BUDGET.

All addressed above.

- A. DISCUSSION OF INCREASE IN RESERVE AMOUNTS.
- B. DISCUSSION OF CAPITAL PROJECTS IMPROVEMENT PLAN.
- C. REVIEW LIST OF FUNDING REQUESTS.
- D. DISCUSSION OF REVENUE ENHANCEMENTS.
- E. DISCUSSION OF THE MILLAGE.

VIII. ESTABLISH THE PROPOSED OPERATING AD VALOREM MILLAGE RATE FOR 2018 TAX YEAR AND SET DATE FOR THE FIRST REQUIRED PUBLIC HEARING FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2018, AT 5:05 P.M.

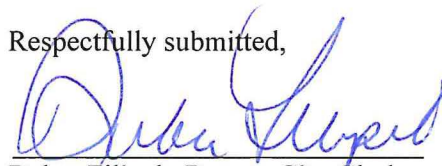
No action.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT. None

X. ADJOURNMENT.

There being no further items to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 12:47 P.M.


Respectfully submitted,

  
Debra Filipek, Deputy City Clerk

APPROVED:  
CITY COUNCIL ZONING BOARD

Date: 8/21/18

AUTHENTICATED:

  
Peter Simmons, Mayor