

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS  
TENTATIVE MILLAGE AND BUDGET HEARING  
SEPTEMBER 26, 2017  
5:05 P.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 5:05 P.M.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

At the request of Mayor Simmons, Council Member Greg DeWitt led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL:

Mayor Simmons and all Council Members were in attendance, except for Council Members Steve Slachta and Amy Quaremba.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT.

5:06:37 PM Martha Simmons addressed the Special Meeting following the budget meeting and stated that the priorities addressed are what make up the budget.

5:07:39 PM Alan Glazier a member of the Historic Preservation Board, asked that any grant monies left over be rolled over.

5:08:26 PM Rick Steinmeyer addressed the McSwain historic house.

V. OVERVIEW OF THE PUBLIC HEARING. (GREENSHEET NO. 17-09-0336)

5:09:08 PM Finance Director Anne Wright furnished an overview as set out in the Greensheet.

VI. COUNCIL DISCUSSION OF THE TENTATIVE MILLAGE AND TENTATIVE BUDGET.

5:10:08 PM Arleen Hunter, Assistant City Manager, addressed funding for items and project revisions as a result of Hurricane Irma.

5:15:44 PM Director Wright addressed debris removal funding, Staff is recommending an increase in FY" 2018 general fund expenditure budget for debris removal as a result of Hurricane Irma in amount of \$6 million.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE PERCENTAGE, IF ANY, THAT THE RECALCULATED PROPOSED MILLAGE EXCEEDS THE ROLLED-BACK RATE.

Addressed above.

VIII. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS, LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE LEVYING OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS, LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018; ESTABLISHING THE DATE, TIME AND PLACE FOR A FINAL HEARING TO ADOPT

THE FINAL AD VALOREM TAXES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (GREENSHEET NO. 17-09-0337)

[5:21:23 PM](#) Council Member Greg DeWitt motioned adoption of the Resolution; Mayor Simmons seconded.

Assistant City Attorney Alex Boswell-Ebersole read the Resolution into the record in its entirety.

The motion carried unanimously. **ADOPTED RESOLUTION NO. 17-53**

IX. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS, LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (GREENSHEET NO. 17-09-0338)

[5:26:13 PM](#) Council Member Forbes addressed the line item for vehicle replacement, and suggested they acquire 2 high wheeled vehicles like those the fire district has. He next suggested they consider allowing an additional person for public works to address at their next meeting. Council Member DeWitt addressed Council Member Forbes suggested vehicles, and Council Member O'Flinn suggested the City Manager and Public Works Director look into it further.

[5:34:01 PM](#) Council Member DeWitt motioned adoption of the Resolution; Council Member Fred Forbes seconded.

Assistant City Attorney Boswell-Ebersole read the Resolution into the record in its entirety.

The motion carried unanimously. **ADOPTED RESOLUTION NO. 17-54**

X. PUBLIC COMMENT.

[5:38:11 PM](#) Rick Steinmeyer expressed a concern in that the \$6 million for debris removal doesn't entail bids. City Manager Carl Schwing explained that the City was "piggybacking" on Lee County's contract.

[5:39:28 PM](#) Mike Bodi commended Council and BSU for preparing everyone before the storm. He addressed 3 concerns if an event should occur like this again. He is upset with Code Enforcement issue with mowing. Bonita Grande still under water, and concerned with vehicles speeding up and down that road when covered with water. Radio stations going back to regular programming 3 to 4 days after storm. He suggested Bonita Springs come up with a station to allow residents to tune into for information.

[5:42:39 PM](#) John West agreed with comments made by Mr. Bodi. Last week he mentioned the possibility of providing charging stations for electric vehicles. It's something he feels needs to be considered within the next five years.

[5:43:44 PM](#) Jennifer Savanaugh, stated her home is flooded because of the river. She questioned the portion of the budget that addresses short and long term goals, to rebuild.

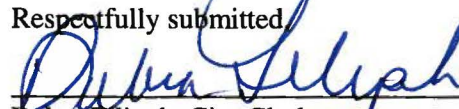
[5:44:59 PM](#) Martha Simons stated what she saw lacking, as a central point of contact. She suggested that before each hurricane season that Council reviews the hurricane plan and contact those agencies. She addressed water testing and debris removal as well.

[5:50:33 PM](#) Mike Bodi informed Council that prior to the storm he called 211 and could not get through as he did not have any cell service.

XI. ADJOURNMENT.

There being no further items to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 5:56 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Debra Filipek, City Clerk

APPROVED:  
BONITA SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL:

Date: 10/9/17

AUTHENTICATED:



Peter Simmons, Mayor