

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS  
FINAL MILLAGE AND BUDGET HEARING  
SEPTEMBER 22, 2016  
5:01 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 5:01 P.M.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Mayor Simmons led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL.

Mayor Peter Simmons and all Council members were in attendance, with Council Member Mike Gibson participating via telephone.

Determination that Councilman Gibson can participate electronically. In accordance with the Administrative Code for meetings, the Council Members can participate in the meeting when not physically at the meeting, subject to finding that Councilman Gibson not being able to attend was an extraordinary circumstance. A quorum must still be maintained physically and Councilman Gibson may participate and vote as long as he is able to hear the meeting and be heard.

5:02:20 PM Council Member Fred Forbes entered a motion finding that Council Member Gibson was unable to attend the meeting due to extraordinary circumstances, allowing him to participate via telephone; Mayor Simmons seconded; and the motion carried unanimously.

IV. OVERVIEW OF THE PUBLIC HEARING. (GREENSHEET NO. 16-09-0293)

5:03:25 PM Finance Director Anne Wright furnished an overview as reflected in the Greensheet as follows: This meeting is the Public Hearing on the Final Millage Rate and the Final Budget for the City of Bonita Springs for Fiscal Year 2016-2017. The Statutes and the City Charter require that this public hearing be preceded by notice of the hearing. Such notice is scheduled for advertisement in the News-Press on September 19, 2016. The proposed millage is .8173 mills per thousand of taxable value, compared to the rolled-back rate of .7724 mills per thousand of taxable value. The proposed millage is a 5.81% increase from the rolled-back rate.

The proposed millage of .8173 has been the adopted millage of the City since FY 2012-2013.

This proposed millage is established to pay for the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 budgeted expenditures.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT.

5:04:26 PM Rick Steinmeyer asked Council to decrease the millage rate.

VI. REVIEW OF BUDGET DOCUMENT CHANGES APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL ON SEPTEMBER 7, 2016. (GREENSHEET NO. 16-09-0294)

[5:05:12 PM](#) Finance Director Wright explained that the only change before City Council is to remove the \$500,000 principal prepayment on May 1, 2017, as directed at the September 7, 2016 public hearing. Discussion followed on the \$500,000 prepayment.

[5:14:41 PM](#) Council Member Quaremba entered a motion to have the contingency at line in the debt service to allow Council to proceed if they want to prepay the debt, making that adjustment to the budget; Council Member Slachta seconded.

[5:15:38 PM](#) City Attorney Vance clarified the motion, for the City to use the contingency in the debt service item so that the City can pay if they want to pay, and alternatively, if they decide to use the money this year for any other purpose it can be done through a budget amendment.

The motion carried unanimously.

VII. COUNCIL DISCUSSION OF THE FINAL BUDGET.

[5:19:04 PM](#) Council Member Forbes entered a motion for a 1-cent decrease to the ad valorem; Mayor Simmons seconded. Finance Director Wright explained that would result in a decrease of \$86,598 in revenue.

[5:21:31 PM](#) City Manager Carl Schwing addressed his concerns with the motion.

The motion failed 3-4 (Council Members O'Flinn, Quaremba, DeWitt and Slachta opposed)

[5:30:15 PM](#) Council Member Gibson entered a motion for a 2-cent decrease; Mayor Simmons seconded; and the motion failed (Council Members O'Flinn, Quaremba, DeWitt, and Slachta opposed)

VIII. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS, LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL LEVYING OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS, LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017; (GREENSHEET NO. 16-09-0295)

[5:32:03 PM](#) Council Member DeWitt motioned to approve the budget as written; Council Member O'Flinn seconded.

[5:32:33 PM](#) City Attorney Vance read the Resolution into the record in its entirety.

The motion carried 5-2 (Mayor Simmons and Council Member Gibson opposed) **ADOPTED RESOLUTION No. 16-49**

IX. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS, LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017 AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (GREENSHEET NO. 16-09-0296)

[5:34:37 PM](#) City Attorney Vance read the revised Resolution in its entirety into the record.

Council Member Forbes motioned adoption of the Resolution; Council Member DeWitt seconded; and the motion carried unanimously. **ADOPTED RESOLUTION No. 16-50**

X. PUBLIC COMMENT.

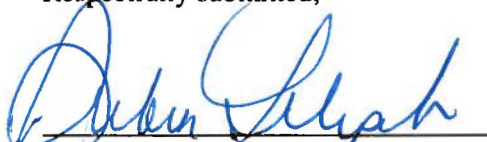
[5:38:30 PM](#) Jim Quaremba thanked Mayor and City Council.

5:38:50 PM Rick Steinmeyer thanked City Council.

XI. ADJOURNMENT.


There being no further items to discuss the meeting adjourned at 5:41 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Debra Filipek, City Clerk

APPROVED:  
BONITA SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL:

Date: 10/7/16

AUTHENTICATED:  
  
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Peter Simmons, Mayor