

City of Gulfport Florida
Special City Council Minutes
Thursday, September 8, 2011

The special Meeting of the Gulfport City Council was held on Thursday September 8, 2011 in the City Hall, City Council Chambers, located at 2401 - 53rd Street South, Gulfport, Florida.

Michael J. Yakes, Mayor, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The invocation was given by Councilmember Barbara Banno, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Yakes explained the procedures for public speaking at the meeting.

Roll Call:

Present were Councilmembers Barbara Banno, Samuel Henderson, and Jennifer Salmon; Vice Mayor David Hastings; Mayor Michael J. Yakes; City Manager James O'Reilly; City Attorney Andrew Salzman and City Clerk Lesley DeMuth.

1. Ordinances:

- a. 2011-15, First Reading and Public Hearing; an Ordinance of the City of Gulfport, Florida, providing for the Ad Valorem Tax Levy for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2011 and ending September 30, 2012; and providing for an effective date.

City Clerk DeMuth read Ordinance 2011-15 by title only and stated for the record that the millage being levied is 4.000 mills which will be used for the general operation of the City of Gulfport, this millage rate reflects a 4.7% increase from the 3.8176 roll back rate for the Fiscal Year 2011 – 2012, and the Second Reading and Public Hearing will be September 21, at 7:00 p.m.

City Manager O'Reilly explained the Ordinance.

Mayor Yakes opened the public hearing.

Stan Kreuter, 6085 Gulfport Blvd., asked what happened to the idea of raising the millage rate to 4.5 and Mayor Yakes explained the consideration is 4.0.

Neither hearing nor seeing anyone else who wished to speak, Mayor Yakes closed the public hearing.

Motion by Councilmember Salmon, second by Vice Mayor Hastings to approve Ordinance No. 2011-15.

Councilmember Henderson suggested a 3.9 millage rate, the 10% water and sewer increase or possibly going to a 12.5 % increase, and taking \$25,000 out of the city reserves.

Councilmember Banno asked Councilmember Henderson if the figures included the outsourcing of the Parks and Police Dispatch Departments to which he replied no.

In response to questions by Councilmember Banno on the figures provided by Councilmember Henderson, Dan Carpenter, Administrative Services Director said when adding back the cost of the two outsourcings, \$50,000.00 for the lost revenue of the 1/10 millage decrease and the increased revenue estimate of 2 ½% (12.5 %) for water and sewer rates the total shortfall would be \$15,000.00 which would need to come from reserves for Fiscal Year 2012.

Vice Mayor Hastings stated he was not in favor of the 3.9 millage rate, and felt the 4.0 is where the city is this year, and next year may be worse.

Councilmember Salmon spoke in favor of staying with a 4.0 millage rate and keeping the water and sewer rate increase at 10%.

ROLL CALL:	COUNCILMEMBER BANNO	YES
	VICE-MAYOR HASTINGS	YES
	COUNCILMEMBER HENDERSON	NO
	COUNCILMEMBER SALMON	YES
	MAYOR YAKES	YES

MOTION CARRIED 4 – 1.

b. 2011-16, First Reading and Public Hearing; an Ordinance of the City of Gulfport, Florida, adopting the Operating Budget for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2011 and ending September 30, 2012, and providing for an effective date.

City Clerk DeMuth read Ordinance 2011-16 by title only.

City Manager O'Reilly explained the Ordinance.

Mayor Yakes opened the public hearing.

The following individuals spoke against the outsourcing of police dispatch which is included as part of the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Budget.

Don Black, Town Shores; Rosemarie Black, Town Shores; Jeri Reed, 5213 11th Avenue S.; Simone Frohne, 2502 Premier Drive; Karen Dorne, 2226 Beach Boulevard; Johnny, 2828 Clinton Street S.; Stan Kreuter, 6085 Gulfport Boulevard; Sue Lewis, 5226 23rd Avenue S.; Art Padula, 2508 50th Street S.; Ernest Stone, 5145 Preston Avenue S.; Brenda, 1701 51st Street S.; Yvonne Johnson, 5012 17th Avenue S.; Rudy Leopold, 4938 26th Avenue S.; Pamela Stone, 5145 Preston Avenue S.; Frank Wheelahan, PBA Representative; Francine Whitten, 5318 25th Avenue S.; and Louise Haines, 5313 11th Avenue S.

The following individuals spoke in support of outsourcing the police dispatch which is included as part of the Fiscal Year 2011- 2012 Budget.

Al Davis, 2790 45th Street S.; Margarete Tober, 1513 59th Street S.; Pete Renkey, 5909 Gulfport Boulevard S.; Beverly Newcomb, 921 Fremont Street S.; Rose Marie Seawall, 6075 Shore Boulevard S.; Bob Newcomb, 921 Fremont Street S.; and Cindy Davis, 2790 45th Street S.

Councilmember Salmon asked Mr. Whelehan to provide copies of the petition he referenced.

Neither hearing nor seeing anyone else who wished to speak, Mayor Yakes closed the public hearing.

City Manager O'Reilly presented a PowerPoint regarding outsourcing police dispatch.

Motion by Councilmember Banno, second by Vice Mayor Hastings to approve Ordinance 2011-16.

Councilmember Banno thanked the public for their feedback and said she has taken this matter very seriously and is looking toward the future for the City. Councilmember Banno spoke on her visit to the Sheriff's Office and explained their dispatch process. She stated she was comfortable with the 4.0 millage rate and the 10% increase in the water and sewer rates. In addition, she stated she was open to not outsourcing the Parks Department.

Vice Mayor Hastings explained how the outsourcing is a tremendous savings for the City. He said that contracts from the Sheriff's Office or the City of St. Petersburg will be thoroughly reviewed and remarked he has spoken with every city in Pinellas County that has outsourced their dispatch and has heard only favorable reviews. He reported speaking to our Police Chief and City Manager at length and his meeting and tour of the county dispatch with the Chief Deputy of the Sheriff's Office. Vice Mayor Hastings commented the Chief Deputy advised him that jobs were available for the dispatch employees and potentially the I.T. position. Vice Mayor Hastings addressed his budget concerns.

Councilmember Henderson agreed that the City has difficult economical decisions, but stated he thinks it is a premature decision to outsource the dispatch department. Councilmember Henderson again stated his proposals for the budget without eliminating jobs.

Councilmember Salmon talked about her tour at the Sheriff's Office and explained the processes of the dispatch department, the use of 911 and the contract of the dispatchers which detailed the pay range. She said she would like a memorandum of understanding before the next meeting from the Sheriff's Office that Gulfport dispatchers will be offered a position if qualified, that the 1030 number would go to a call-taker and what the costs of the needed hardware will be. Councilmember Salmon talked about the impact this contracting will have on the budget. Additionally, she discussed her feelings regarding the parks department employees and asked for consideration in keeping these employees.

Mayor Yakes reiterated that the millage rate has been increased to 4.0 and said that the citizen's want quality service and are willing to pay for it. He talked about the current reserve amount, the infrastructure needs that are being addressed, and the citizens who said they wish to keep the

dispatch and parks departments. Mayor Yakes said he would like to propose a 12% increase in water and sewer rates and keep the dispatch and parks employees. In response to a question by Mayor Yakes, Administrative Services Director Carpenter advised council that the Mayor's proposal adds an additional \$13,244.00 into the General Fund Reserves.

Mayor Yakes stated if council decided to go forward with the proposed budget he would like to request the Sheriff's Office have a representative at the next meeting to clarify any questions.

In response to questions by Councilmembers Salmon, Administrative Services Director Carpenter discussed the anticipated revenues to be generated by the garbage, water and sewer rate increases and the PILOT transfers.

ROLL CALL:	COUNCILMEMBER BANNO	YES
	VICE-MAYOR HASTINGS	YES
	COUNCILMEMBER HENDERSON	NO
	COUNCILMEMBER SALMON	YES
	MAYOR YAKES	NO

MOTION CARRIED: 3 to 2

Mayor Yakes called a 10 minutes recess. The meeting was called back to order at 9:42 p.m.

c. 2011-17, First Reading: An ordinance of the City of Gulfport, Florida, amending Article IV of Chapter 11 of the Code of Ordinances pertaining to Water Service; providing for amendment of Section 11-44, pertaining to Meters-Cost of Installing, Connection Charges; providing for amendment of Subsection (a) of Section 11-46, Deposit Required Prior to Turning on Meter; providing for amendment of Section 11-47, Tampering with Meter or Meter Seal; providing for amendment of Subsections (1) and (2) of Subsection (c) and Subsection (d) of Section 11-48, Water Service Rates, Established, Responsible for Payment; providing for the amendment of Section 11-65 Penalties; providing for the repeal of ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith, to the extent of such conflict; and providing for an effective date.

City Clerk DeMuth read Ordinance 2011-17 by title only.

City Manager O'Reilly explained the Ordinance.

Mayor Yakes opened for public discussion

Margarete Tober, 1513 59th Street S, thanked the councilmembers for minimizing the water and sewer rate increases.

An unidentified person asked if the bill contains both water and sewer charges and asked the amount of the rate increase to which City Manager O'Reilly advised the increase is 10% on both water and sewer.

Neither hearing nor seeing anyone else who wished to speak, Mayor Yakes closed the public discussion.

Motion by Councilmember Banno, second by Vice Mayor Hastings to approve Ordinance No. 2011-17.

ROLL CALL:	COUNCILMEMBER BANNO	YES
	VICE-MAYOR HASTINGS	YES
	COUNCILMEMBER HENDERSON	YES
	COUNCILMEMBER SALMON	YES
	MAYOR YAKES	YES

MOTION CARRIED.

d. 2011-18, First Reading: An ordinance of the City of Gulfport, Florida, amending Article III of Chapter 11 of the Code of Ordinances pertaining to Sewage Disposal; providing for amendment of Subsection (1) of 11-37, pertaining to Sewer Rates; providing for amendment of Section (b) of Section 11-39, pertaining to Billing, Collection and Standby Charges; providing for amendment of Subsections (1) and (3) of Section 11-40, pertaining to Sewer Service Connection Fees, providing for amendment of Subsection (b) (1) thru (3) of Section 11-40.01 pertaining to New Renovated Buildings and Structures; providing for amendment of Section 11-40.26 pertaining to Penalty and Costs; providing for the repeal of ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith, to the extent of such conflict; and providing for an effective date.

City Clerk DeMuth read Ordinance 2011-18 by title only.

City Manager O'Reilly explained the Ordinance.

Mayor Yakes opened for public discussion. Neither hearing nor seeing anyone who wished to speak, Mayor Yakes closed the public discussion.

Motion by Vice Mayor Hastings, second by Councilmember Salmon to approve Ordinance No. 2011-18.

ROLL CALL:	COUNCILMEMBER BANNO	YES
	VICE-MAYOR HASTINGS	YES
	COUNCILMEMBER HENDERSON	YES
	COUNCILMEMBER SALMON	YES
	MAYOR YAKES	YES

MOTION CARRIED.

e. 2011-19, First Reading: An ordinance of the City of Gulfport, Florida, providing for amendment of Chapter 11 of the Code of Ordinances; pertaining to Garbage, providing for amendment of Article 1, thereof, pertaining to Section 11-21 Service Charges; Section 11-22 Billing; and Section 11-24 Special Pick-up; providing for

the repeal of ordinances, or parts of ordinances, in conflict herewith, to the extent of such conflict; providing for severability; and providing for an effective date.

City Clerk DeMuth explained Ordinance 2011-19 by title only.

City Manager O'Reilly explained the Resolution.

Mayor Yakes opened for public discussion. Neither hearing nor seeing anyone who wished to speak, Mayor Yakes closed the public discussion.

Motion by Vice Mayor Hastings, second by Councilmember Salmon to approve Resolution No. 2011-19.

ROLL CALL:	COUNCILMEMBER BANNO	YES
	VICE-MAYOR HASTINGS	YES
	COUNCILMEMBER HENDERSON	YES
	COUNCILMEMBER SALMON	YES
	MAYOR YAKES	YES

MOTION CARRIED.

7. Resolution:

a. 2011-49, A resolution of the City of Gulfport, Florida, amending fees for the Departments of Leisure Services, Library and Marina in accordance with Chapter 25 of the Code of Ordinances; and providing for an effective date.

The City Clerk read Resolution No. 2011-49 by title only.

City Manager O'Reilly explained the Resolution.

Mayor Yakes opened for public discussion. Neither hearing nor seeing anyone who wished to speak, Mayor Yakes closed the public discussion.

Motion by Councilmember Banno, second by Vice Mayor Hastings to approve Resolution No. 2011-49.

Councilmember Salmon spoke on the city's new VPK Program.

ROLL CALL:	COUNCILMEMBER BANNO	YES
	VICE-MAYOR HASTINGS	YES
	COUNCILMEMBER HENDERSON	YES
	COUNCILMEMBER SALMON	YES
	MAYOR YAKES	YES

MOTION CARRIED.

- b. 2011-50, A resolution of the City of Gulfport, Florida amending fees for Building and Zoning Services in accordance with Chapter 25 of the Code of Ordinances; and providing for an effective date.

The City Clerk read Resolution No. 2011-50 by title only.

City Manager O'Reilly explained the Resolution.

Mayor Yakes opened for public discussion. Neither hearing nor seeing anyone who wished to speak, Mayor Yakes closed the public discussion.

Motion by Vice Mayor Hastings, second by Councilmember Salmon to approve Resolution No. 2011-50.

In response to a question by Councilmember Banno, City Manager O'Reilly stated the city anticipates receiving \$50,000.00 from the 10% increase in general government fees, combined, and explained how the fees from rentals are monitored.

ROLL CALL:	COUNCILMEMBER BANNO	YES
	VICE-MAYOR HASTINGS	YES
	COUNCILMEMBER HENDERSON	YES
	COUNCILMEMBER SALMON	YES
	MAYOR YAKES	YES

MOTION CARRIED.

- c. 2011-51, A resolution of the City of Gulfport, Florida amending Fire Inspection and Permit Fees in accordance with Chapter 25 of the Code of Ordinances; and providing for an effective date.

The City Clerk read Resolution No. 2011-51 by title only.

City Manager O'Reilly explained the Resolution.

Mayor Yakes opened for public discussion. Neither hearing nor seeing anyone who wished to speak, Mayor Yakes closed the public discussion.

Motion by Vice Mayor Hastings, second by Councilmember Salmon to approve Resolution No. 2011-46.

Councilmember Salmon commented that she felt the fees were very inexpensive.

City Manager spoke on a proposal he will be presenting to move the city's commercial inspections to the fire department.

ROLL CALL:	COUNCILMEMBER BANNO	YES
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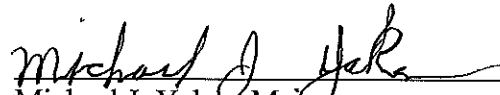
VICE-MAYOR HASTINGS	YES
COUNCILMEMBER HENDERSON	YES
COUNCILMEMBER SALMON	YES
MAYOR YAKES	YES

MOTION CARRIED.

12. Adjournment.

Motion by Vice Mayor Hastings, second by Councilmember Salmon to adjourn.

Date Approved: 10-4-11


Michael J. Yakes, Mayor


Lesley DeMuth, City Clerk