

City of Gulfport Florida
Special City Council Minutes
Wednesday, September 21, 2011

The Special Meeting of the Gulfport City Council was held on Wednesday, September 21, 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.

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.

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

1. Ordinances:

- a. 2011-15, Second 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 the millage being levied is 4.000 mills which will be used for the general operation of the City of Gulfport, and the millage rate reflects a 4.7% increase from the 3.8176 roll back rate for Fiscal Year 2011 – 2012.

City Manager O'Reilly explained the Ordinance.

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

Motion by Councilmember Banno, second by Councilmember Salmon to adopt Ordinance No. 2011-15.

Councilmember Henderson noted he previously voted against the 4.0 millage rate, but was now willing to accept that rate, and stated he had an alternative for the budget which he will present under that agenda item.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

- b. 2011-16, Second 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 No. 2011-16 by title only.

City Manager O'Reilly explained the Ordinance.

Mayor Yakes opened the public hearing.

The following individuals spoke in support of maintaining the city's police dispatch:

Jeri Reed, 5213 11th Avenue S.; Roz Barbieri, Town Shores; Christine Brown, 2802 53rd Street S.; Bonnie Skillen, 5950 Pelican Bay; Nobedine Packer, 5940 Pelican Bay; Ernie Stone, 5145 Preston Avenue S.; Carol Valdez, 5609 20th Avenue S.; Frank Wheelehan, PBA Representative; Pam Stone, 5145 Preston Avenue S.; Pat Dunham, 2310 53rd Street S. and Rudy Leopold, 4938 26th Avenue S.

The following individuals spoke in support of outsourcing the city's police dispatch:

Doug Hudson, 5525 Gulf Boulevard S.; Bob Newcomb, 921 Fremont Street S.; Mark Gildauskas, 4917 Newton Avenue; Beverly Newcomb, 921 Fremont Street S.; Michael Schnippering, 2610 Upton Street S.; Rose Marie Seawall, 6075 Shore Boulevard and Margarete Tober, 1513 59th Street S.

Individuals speaking on other budget proposals:

Patricia Millward, 1518 Gray Street S, asked if the budget was online; Jack Berry, 3018 59 Street South, asked council to look at ways to fund the trolley; Stan Kreuter, 6085 Gulfport Boulevard, asked if organizations were going to have to pay their fair share for city events; Don Black, 5925 Shore Boulevard, Town Shores, asked council to hear Councilmember Henderson's proposal before voting; and Bernard Wright, 5232 Dellett Avenue, voiced concerns on council priorities.

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

Motion by Vice Mayor Hastings to adopt Ordinance No. 2011-16. The motion died for the lack of a second.

Motion by Councilmember Banno, second by Councilmember Salmon to adopt Ordinance No. 2011-16 with an amendment to include the Parks Department in the budget.

Councilmember Banno talked about her love and passion for the City and stated she will accept the consequences of her decision on the budget. She asked for the trust of the citizens who voted for her. Additionally, she said she is looking toward the future of the City and that Gulfport needs to stay competitive with other cities.

Vice Mayor Hastings said he has learned that everyone will not agree with his decisions, but he is focusing on numbers to balance the budget. He went on to talk about the amount of research

he has put into the Gulfport Police Dispatch and the Sheriff's Office Dispatch Department and discussed the positives associated with outsourcing dispatch with the Sheriff's Office.

Councilmember Henderson presented a proposed amendment to the budget which would increase the water rate to 12%; keeping the 10% increase on service fees and the 12.5% increase in sanitation fees, the 4.0 millage rate, and keeping police dispatch and parks employees. He spoke about the personal aspect of our City government and did not think the city should rush to cut employee positions.

Councilmember Salmon talked about visiting the Sheriff's Department and how this affected her decision on the budget regarding the police dispatch and she discussed deficits in the current budget, the reserve amounts and her commitment to keeping the Gulfport Police Department. Additionally, she expressed her concerns regarding the Parks Department employees finding employment and her belief that the dispatchers have employment opportunities with the Sheriff's Office.

Mayor Yakes said the offer of contracting dispatch with the Sheriff's Office was a fair offer and commended the councilmembers for their thorough research into this issue. Mayor Yakes talked about the city and his previous proposal for the budget.

Councilmember Henderson asked if the dispatch issue came before a referendum next year how much it would cost the city to which City Clerk DeMuth advised the estimated costs for an election held on the municipal general election date or in conjunction with the Presidential Preference election. City Clerk DeMuth advised the city attorney would need to be consulted regarding the referendum question. City Attorney Salzman spoke on crafting a referendum question that would be appropriate and that council would be comfortable with, in creating this as a Charter department.

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

MOTION CARRIED: 3 to 2

c. 2011-17, Second Reading and Public Hearing; 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 No. 2011-17 by title only.

Mayor Yakes opened for public hearing.

Stan Kreuter, 6085 Gulfport Boulevard, asked if the percentage rate increase had changed from the first reading to which City Manager O'Reilly answered no.

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

Motion by Vice Mayor Hastings, second by Councilmember Henderson to adopt 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, Second 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 No. 2011-18 by title only.

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

Motion by Vice Mayor Hastings, second by Councilmember Salmon to adopt 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, Second Reading and Public Hearing; 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 No. 2011-19 by title only.

Mayor Yakes opened for public hearing.

Stan Krueter, 6085 Gulfport Boulevard, asked if the special services garbage fee will also increase to which Mayor Yakes advised it will now be 12 ½%.

Patricia Millward, 1518 Gray Street S., asked if there was revenue from recycling to which Mayor Yakes advised there have been some gains from recycling.

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

Motion by Vice Mayor Hastings, second by Councilmember Banno to adopt Ordinance No. 2011-19.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

2. Adjournment.

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

Date Approved: 10-18-11

Lesley DeMuth
Lesley DeMuth, City Clerk

Michael J. Yakes
Michael J. Yakes, Mayor