



~ Draft Minutes ~

City of Fort Walton Beach Special Meeting of the City Council of Fort Walton Beach

Wednesday, September 19, 2018

5:30 PM

107 Miracle Strip Parkway
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548

CALL TO ORDER

5:30 PM Meeting was called to order on September 19, 2018 at Council Chamber, 107 Miracle Strip Parkway SW, Fort Walton Beach, FL.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Dick Rynearson	Mayor	Present	
Nic Allegretto	Council Member	Present	
Mike Holmes	Council Member	Present	
Amy Jamieson	Council Member	Present	
John Mead	Council Member	Present	
David Schmidt	Council Member	Present	
Scott Smith	Council Member	Absent	

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The vote on the motion to approve the agenda as presented carried unanimously.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Amy Jamieson, Council Member
SECONDER:	Nic Allegretto, Council Member
AYES:	Allegretto, Holmes, Jamieson, Mead, Schmidt
ABSENT:	Scott Smith

RESOLUTIONS

2018-14 FY 2018-19 Millage Rate

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT WALTON BEACH, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE MILLAGE RATE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2018 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2019; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The Mayor read Resolution 2018-14 by title. He stated the millage rate for the City of Fort Walton Beach for FY 2018-19 is 5.7697 mills, which is 9.89% above the rolled-back rate of 5.2505 mills.

The rolled-back rate is the millage rate that will provide the same ad valorem tax revenue as was levied during the prior year. The reason for setting the millage rate at 5.7697 mills is to provide sufficient revenues to balance the General Fund budget.

The Mayor opened the public hearing for comments on the millage rate. There were none.

The Mayor asked for a motion and second for Resolution 2018-13 to set the millage rate for the City of Fort Walton Beach at 5.7697 mills for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2018 and ending September 30, 2019.

The vote on the motion to adopt Resolution 2018-13 to set the millage rate for the City of Fort Walton Beach at 5.7697 mills for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2018 and ending September 30, 2019 carried by a vote of 4 to 1.

The Mayor announced the millage rate for the City of Fort Walton Beach is 5.7697 mills for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2018 and ending September 30, 2019, which is 9.89% above the rolled-back rate of 5.2505 mills.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [4 TO 1]
MOVER:	Nic Allegretto, Council Member
SECONDER:	Amy Jamieson, Council Member
AYES:	Nic Allegretto, Mike Holmes, Amy Jamieson, John Mead
NAYS:	David Schmidt
ABSENT:	Scott Smith

2018-15 FY 2018-19 Budget

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT WALTON BEACH, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR CERTAIN EXPENDITURES, EXPENSES, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND CERTAIN INDEBTEDNESS FOR THE CITY OF FORT WALTON BEACH, FLORIDA, FOR THE YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2018 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2019; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The Mayor read Resolution 2018-15 by title. He stated the budget for the City of Fort Walton Beach for FY 2018-19 is \$41,714,146 which is \$142,444, or 0.34%, more than the adopted FY 2017-18 budget.

The Mayor opened the public hearing for comments on the budget.

Mike Anderson, 8 Carlyle Court, expressed his disappointment in the budget process and feels that meetings need to be more transparent. He stated that because of the individual meetings held with the Mayor and each Council Member and the City Manager and Finance Director to discuss his/her idea(s), he and the public do not know what those ideas are. He feels that the process is not open enough. He has no idea why the members who voted for the budget voted for it, and he has no idea why the member who voted against it voted against it. His perspective is that a good council member tries to sway the others to support his/her position. He requested that the process be revisited, or that in the future, each council member articulate why he/she liked or disliked the budget.

Dean Covey, 270 Brooks Street, stated he agreed with the comments made by Mr. Anderson, and during his tenure, there was more time to argue and discuss each person's points.

The public hearing was closed.

The Mayor asked for a motion and second for Resolution 2018-15 to adopt the budget for the City of Fort Walton Beach for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2018 and ending September 30, 2019.

Council Member Jamieson made a motion to adopt Resolution 2018-15. Seconded by Council Member Holmes.

Council Member Jamieson stated that she supported the motion because the City is doing a lot with the budget this year with no increase, including providing a new facility for the field offices which is well overdue.

Council Member Mead stated that he has always supported going back to the rollback rate at a minimum during meetings with staff, however, there's a lot going on this year with the budget, a lot of changes and disruptions in the normal business with various projects. But this year, considering all the projects, he felt that the decision was well-founded to support maintaining the same millage rate and supporting the budget.

Council Member Schmidt asked for clarification on whether the Mary Esther project year one dollars were in this year's budget. Finance Director Brandy Ferris stated that if the proposal as presented goes through, the agreement is forecast to begin in January and it will be funded by reducing capital outlay expenses. If the agreement doesn't go through, there will be capital expenditures that will have to be made in the Fire Department.

Council Member Schmidt stated that he did not support the millage rate, he wants staff to continue to be innovative in finding ways to generate revenue through business and economic development.

The vote on the motion to approve Resolution 2018-15 to adopt the budget for the City of Fort Walton Beach for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2018 and ending September 30, 2019 carried by a vote of 4 to 1.

The Mayor announced the budget for the City of Fort Walton Beach for FY 2018-19 is \$41,714,146 with a millage rate of 5.7697 mills, which is 9.89% above the rolled-back rate of 5.2505 mills.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [4 TO 1]
MOVER:	Amy Jamieson, Council Member
SECONDER:	Mike Holmes, Council Member
AYES:	Nic Allegretto, Mike Holmes, Amy Jamieson, John Mead
NAYS:	David Schmidt
ABSENT:	Scott Smith

ADJOURNMENT 5:45 PM