



Town of Surfside
Town Commission Budget Workshop
MINUTES
June 9, 2016
5:00 p.m.

Town Hall Commission Chambers - 9293 Harding Ave, 2nd Floor
Surfside, FL 33154

1. Opening

A. Call to Order

Mayor Dietch called the meeting to order at 5:03 P.M.

B. Roll Call of Members

Town Clerk Sandra Novoa called the roll with the following members present: Mayor Daniel Dietch, Commissioner Tina Paul and Commissioner Daniel Gielchinsky. Vice Mayor Barry Cohen and Commissioner Michael Karukin were absent. Commissioner Karukin arrived at 5:05 p.m.

C. Pledge of Allegiance

Police Chief Allen led the Pledge of Allegiance

2. Discussion and Input of Upcoming FY 16/17 Budget – Guillermo Olmedillo, Town Manager

Manager Olmedillo presented the budget under General Funding. Before the presentation the calendar for future Budget Meetings was reviewed for any conflicts. The July 12th meeting date has been changed to July 20th at 5:00 p.m.

Finance Director Donald Nelson gave an overview on how the budget works. He then gave a presentation on the proposed budget. He explained that some numbers may change as on July 1st they will receive the Property Appraisers tax value for the town. He gave the dates of future hearings regarding the budget. Director Nelson gave a detailed presentation on the budget and said there was a strong growth last year in assessed value without adding new construction. He said the tax millage rate set to date is 5.0293 and noted the income it would generate. Manager Olmedillo explained the column regarding unfunded items and Director Nelson said they will be considered for approval only if there could be a balanced budget.

The Commission went through each section of the budget. Commissioner's asked questions as they went through the line items one by one. Manager Olmedillo explained the need for a new position of an Assistant Town Manager. He said the Commission is free to express their views on the candidate but the final decision will be that of the Town Manager. Commissioner Gielchinsky supports the position and trusts Manager

Olmedillo's selection of the new hire. Commissioner Karukin went over the funding for the item.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding property assessed value and tax income as well as millage rate. The Commission supports the new position of Assistant Town Manager and would like to consider funding for staff for an Educational Assistance Program.

Commissioner Gielchinsky said the Planning and Zoning Board is asking for resources to study sea level rise and streetscape issues such as undergrounding utilities, sidewalks and shade trees. He praised the Planning and Zoning Board and supports their requests. He thinks we should have a plan in place a year from now. He believes there should be a study on cost analysis to underground utilities, sidewalks and shade trees. Commissioner Karukin respectfully disagreed with some of the issues. He said sea level rise is now part of the Comprehensive Plan requirement as well as being studied by various groups and committees which the town can be part of. He will only support this if the sea level rise issue and the newly formed subcommittee can use the process as part of the Comprehensive Plan.

Mayor Dietch speaking on streetscape issues believes we can use the resources we have now and perhaps if we have an Assistant Town Manager he can organize dealing with these items. Commissioner Paul questioned why the underground utilities only included one street and not town wide. Commissioner Karukin questions the undergrounding because of our low sea level.

Town Planner Sinatra spoke about the EAR which is like a report card and gave an explanation which includes State law.

Commissioner Gielchinsky asked that we do a study so when the funding is available we can move forward. Director Nelson said the budget line item was for an updated town wide study.

Mayor Dietch asked that a report be prepared and given to the Commission between July 12 and September 13th on this issue. Commissioner Gielchinsky requested that shade trees and sidewalks be included in the report. Commissioner Karukin requested that line items for shade trees, sidewalks and undergrounding be separated as to what each item would cost.

Mayor Dietch recognized Representative Geller who joined the meeting.

Manager Olmedillo continued explaining the need for an additional staff person in customer service and also the benefits of digitalization of records. Director Nelson said the digitizing would be out sourced and records be kept offsite. Building Official Ross Prieto gave further details and said it is public record and anyone could have access online.

Under Public Safety the Chief is asking for additional staff. The Mayor asked what he would prefer two PSA's or one police officer. Chief Allen said he would want both and gave his reasoning. Commissioner Paul asked how he felt about one police officer and one PSA. The Chief said he could agree to that. The Mayor said the Commission is

supportive of one and one. Also, under the Public Safety budget replacement vehicles were discussed. The Commission was supportive of three new vehicles as the Chief was asking for five.

Commissioner Karukin asked for a breakdown of all our software maintenance and Director Nelson said he can provide that information.

Under Parks and Recreation, the Earth Day Event was talked about and the Mayor thinks it is an important event and this year's event was very successful. He suggests looking into partnering with our neighboring communities and to also find other ways to support this event without going into the General Fund.

Dog stations were discussed and the problems of placement of new stations. Besides dog stations, Commissioner Paul said we also need more trash cans and Commissioner Karukin said there is also a problem of placement.

Commissioner Karukin asked for more information on the reserve fund and Director Nelson gave details.

The Commission moved out of the General Fund and on to the Capital Improvement Fund. Manager Olmedillo gave an update regarding the sewer model capacity.

Under the Municipal Parking Fund pay stations were discussed and Commissioner Karukin said many foreign visitors have a problem understanding it. It was suggested that pay by phone is a good option to use. The Mayor asked if the Commission could get some customer feedback. Chief Allen explained the machines are old and problems arise.

Solid Waste was discussed and some new receptacles needed.

The Mayor opened the public speaking.

Public Speakers:

-Barbara Cohen commended the Commission and speaking on behalf of the Tourist Board they would like a new push for a new bid for downtown, the feasibility of a consultant for the addition of a second floor on the community center building with a plan that people can still use the building while the addition is constructed. If a second floor is not possible then a discussion to create a meeting, cultural and entertainment community center with parking, on top of the parking garage across from the community center. She also said there is a need for additional parking spaces at the community center especially when there are special events and meetings.

-Victor May had a presentation and asks his neighbors to stand together against injustices and corruption in the city's government and that they should not accept the budget put together by the city that really did not consider its residents. Mr. May's presentation was 20 pages and although his time ran out he was allowed to make a closing statement.

Mayor Dietch said he heard the word corruption mentioned several times and said one may go to the website or on line to select agencies such as State Attorney's Office, FBI, Commission on Public Trust and said on behalf of his colleagues they do not stand for a

hint of any impropriety and if there is any evidence on impropriety to report it and do something about it and not just make statements. Commissioner Gielchinsky took offense at the suggestion of corruption and said they are all volunteers and reminded everyone that Mr. May ran for Mayor in the last election and received a total of only 90 votes which expresses what the residents really thought of his platform.

Closing the public hearing the Mayor thanked all for sharing their thoughts. The Town Manager said he had the direction he needed. He said by July 1st they will have the details. There will be a summer study between July 12 - September 13, 2016.

3. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 a.m.

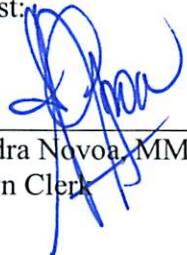
Respectfully submitted,

Accepted this 10th day of July, 2016



Daniel Dietch, Mayor

Attest:



Sandra Novoa, MMC
Town Clerk