

**CITY OF BROOKSVILLE
FINAL PUBLIC HEARING
FISCAL YEAR 2011/12 BUDGET
MINUTES**

SEPTEMBER 28, 2011

7:00 P.M.

Brooksville City Council met in regular session with Mayor Frankie Burnett, Vice Mayor Joseph E. Johnston, III, Council Members, Joe Bernardini and Lara Bradburn and Kevin Hohn present. Also present were Jennifer C. Rey, City Attorney; T. Jennene Norman-Vacha, City Manager; Janice L. Peters, City Clerk; Steve Baumgartner, Finance Director; Mike Walker, Parks and Recreation Director; Bill Geiger, Community Development Director; Richard Radacky, Director of Public Works; George Turner, Police Chief and Tim Mossgrove, Fire Chief. Members of the Hernando Times were also present.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Burnett, followed by an invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Member Bradburn asked that the discussion for the United States Postal Service closing be added to the agenda. Council consensus was to add the item.

PUBLIC HEARING - PRESENTATION OF PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR STARTING OCTOBER 1, 2011

The Public Announcement was read into the record by City Clerk Peters.

Public Announcement - Ad Valorem Tax Rate (TRIM Notice)

Pursuant to Section 200.069, F.S., "Notice of Proposed Property Taxes" (TRIM NOTICE) the proposed ad valorem rate for the Fiscal Year 2011/12 was advertised to be a maximum of 7.5000 mills. This millage rate would be a 5.55% increase over the current year's rolled-back rate of 7.1055 mills. After reviewing revenue projections and proposed expenditure levels for the 2011/12 Fiscal Year, the General Fund budget is balanced at a proposed rate of 6.3700 mills, which is 10.35% less than the current year's rolled-back rate.

Public Hearing - Fiscal Year 2011/12 Proposed Budget

Consideration of the Recommended 2011/12 Fiscal Year Budget

Review of balanced budget, together with consideration of additional proposed changes.

Mayor Burnett advised questions by Council would be entertained at this time.

Council Member Bernardini, referencing salaries, asked Chief Turner when a Captain position was added. City Manager Norman-Vacha stated it was during this current fiscal year and was an alignment of title with no monetary change to coincide with the accreditation process.

Council Member Bernardini asked about the Quarry Lease. City Manager Norman-Vacha stated Council approved the lease at the last meeting and Mr. Carson will be over operations and maintenance effective October 1st.

Council Member Bernardini felt now that the Quarry is not under the Director of Parks, Facilities & Recreation that the salary should be cut by a third for a savings of approximately \$20,000. He also felt the Facilities Supervisor position should be budgeted under the Department of Public Works.

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Council Member Bradburn would like to discuss fee waivers and welcomed feedback.

Council Member Hohn, regarding Council Member Bernardini's concerns about the Director of Parks, Facilities & Recreation salary felt that should wait until after the Quarry lease. Vice Mayor Johnston as well felt it should be studied in the future.

CITIZEN INPUT

Mayor Burnett asked for public input.

Gail Samples felt the Quarry lessee should be given a chance. She also spoke on behalf of the fee waivers and felt the contract with Hernando County Broadcasting could be eliminated.

Laura Dewitt of Get Healthy Brooksville spoke on behalf of the Brooksville Cycling Classic asking that Council reconsider reinstating the fee waivers adding that all profits go to charities. Many businesses reported race day was their best sales ever as it was a huge success. She commended city employees for their involvement in the event. Last year's fee waivers gave them the opportunity to donate almost \$5,000 to charities. Get Healthy has raised \$11,000 to support the cost of bringing the race to Brooksville. Vendors will be giving away thousand of samples in products to the community. Local businesses are donating resources to preserve charity dollars.

Karen Greenway of Get Healthy Brooksville stated economic impact projections from last year for the City and County was \$173,000. There was 600 participants of which 400 used hotel rooms.

Diana Koontz, on behalf of the Brooksville Kiwanis, also asked Council to reconsider reinstating the waivers. She also elaborated on the charity returned to the community from the Christmas Parade.

Council Member Bradburn emphasized the economic and social impacts of special events in the community and was in support of reinstating fee waivers in full by transferring \$5,000 from Medical Insurance line item and \$2,000 from Reserves.

City Manager Norman-Vacha stated medical insurance is budgeted for each employee and there is no excess to transfer out.

Mayor Burnett felt it was a good investment in the community.

Council Member Bernardini pointed out in the past Special Events used to be budgeted in each department for overtime but felt the burden should not be on the taxpayers and costs could be paid from profits of the events.

Vice Mayor Johnston agreed with Council Member Bernardini and indicated it was budgeted this way with the intent of keeping track of expenses. His objection was the way in which it has been funded recently.

Council Member Hohn stated Special Events line item was the first to be presented to Council for budget cuts. He was in favor of reinstating the fee waivers but felt it would be difficult for Council to determine which events to fund at a limited amount of \$7,000.

Motion:

Motion was made by Council Member Bradburn for approval of reinstating the \$7,000 fee waivers from reserves with a ranking system to be established and realized savings added to that line item. Motion died for lack of a second.

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Approval of Resolution No. 2011-11 for FY2011/12

Consideration of proposed resolution levying a General Fund Ad Valorem Millage Rate of 6.3700 mills.

Finance Director Steve Baumgartner indicated the resolution reflects the 6.3700 millage as indicated in the announcement.

Mayor Burnett asked for public input; there was none.

Motion:

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Johnston and seconded by Council Member Hohn for approval of Resolution No. 2011-11.

City Clerk Peters read Resolution No. 2011-11 by title, as follows:

A RESOLUTION LEVYING AN AD VALOREM MILLAGE RATE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2011/12 FOR THE OPERATION OF THE VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS AND FUNDS OF THE CITY OF BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA, AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Motion carried 4-1 upon roll call vote as follows:

Council Member Bradburn	Aye
Council Member Bernardini	Nay
Council Member Hohn	Aye
Vice Mayor Johnston	Aye
Mayor Burnett	Aye

Ordinance No. 825 - Recommended Budget for FY2011/12

Consideration of second and final reading of proposed budget effective October 1, 2011.
[FIRST READING 09/14/11]

Finance Director Steve Baumgartner indicated changes have been made as directed by Council and is the official record of the budget.

Motion:

Motion was made by Council Member Bradburn to amend special line items for waivers. Motion died for lack of a second.

Motion:

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Johnston and seconded by Council Member Hohn for approval of Ordinance No. 825.

City Clerk Peters read Ordinance No. 825 by title, as follows:

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING CERTAIN MONIES FOR THE GENERAL OPERATIONS OF THE CITY OF BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA, FROM ITS SEVERAL FUNDS FOR THE TWELVE MONTH PERIOD BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2011 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2012.

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Motion carried 3-2 upon roll call vote, as follows:

Council Member Bernardini	Nay
Council Member Hohn	Aye
Council Member Bradburn	Nay
Vice Mayor Johnston	Aye
Mayor Burnett	Aye

Mayor Burnett adjourned the Final Budget Hearing at 8:24 p.m. for Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) reconvening at 8:27 p.m.

United States Postal Service

Council Member Bradburn reviewed the status of the Brooksville Post Office urging Council and the citizens to rally support on Monday, October 3rd for keeping the Post Office open.

Council Member Hohn asked had Congressman Nugent been contacted in this regard. Council Member Bradburn stated he had been contacted by letter but she has not had the opportunity to speak with him. She would like Council to ride together and arrive at the meeting together to make a powerful statement.

Council Member Hohn felt this action of closing the downtown post office by the United States Postal Service could not be stopped. Vice Mayor Johnston agreed but planned on attending the hearing.

Council Member Bernardini indicated he may attend but would drive in his own vehicle. Mayor Burnett agreed and stated they would run the risk of violating the Sunshine Law by driving together but would also be in attendance.

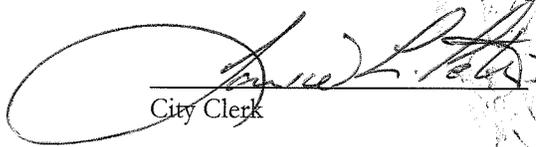
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to bring before Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Attest:

Mayor


Frankie Burnett


City Clerk

