

**CITY OF ANNA MARIA
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
TENTATIVE MILLAGE/TENTATIVE BUDGET 2008/2009
MEETING HELD AT ANNA MARIA COUNCIL CHAMBERS
10005 GULF DRIVE – ANNA MARIA, FL
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2008
5:30 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Quam called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL: Mayor Fran Barford, Commissioner Jo Ann Mattick, Commissioner Dale Woodland, Chair John Quam, and Deputy Chair Christine Tollette.

ABSENT w/excuse: Commissioner Duke Miller.

Staff present: City Clerk Alice Baird, Finance Director/Deputy City Clerk Diane Percycoe, and Minutes Clerk Stacey Johnston.

Press present: Islander.

1. Open 2008/2009 Budget Public Hearing.

Chair Quam officially opened the 2008/2009 Budget Public Hearing.

2. Discuss Proposed Tentative Budget's Percentage Increase in Millage Over Rolled-Back Rate to Fund Budget (if any), and Specific Purposes for which Ad Valorem Taxes are Being Increased/Decreased.

Chair Quam stated that the meeting that evening constitutes the millage and budget hearing for the City of Anna Maria. State law requires that the first item to be discussed is the proposed tentative budget's percentage increase millage over the rolled-back rate to fund the budget (if any), and the specific purposes for which the Ad Valorem taxes were being increased or decreased.

Chair Quam announced that the proposed millage rate is 1.7882 – the same as last year.

The percentage decrease in millage over the rolled-back rate is –12.41%.

The rollback rate is 2.0145.

The specific purpose for which Ad Valorem taxes are being decreased is the reduction of operating expenditures maintained in the current millage rate.

3. Open Public Comment.

Connie Pike, N. Shore Dr., asked if there would be an increase in the proposed taxes for this year.

Finance Director/Deputy City Clerk Percycoe informed that the City could only lower the millage. Since the millage will remain the same as last year, the City's portion of the proposed taxes should remain the same as the previous year.

4. Close Public Comment.**5. Amend Tentative Budget, if necessary.**

Finance Director/Deputy City Clerk Percycoe informed that the City had just received a letter from the Florida League of Cities offering windstorm, hail, and storm surge coverage on Piers, Wharves, Docks, Boardwalks, Boat Ramps, and Dune Walkovers. She informed that in the past, the City had not been able to insure for wind or storm surge damage for the City Pier. The annual cost is \$50,445. The quote is based on the \$1,121,000 value of the Pier. The City is to let the Florida League know their intent as soon as possible.

City Clerk Baird pointed out that the \$50,445 cost quote was for covering the City Pier only. There was no information on the deductible.

In answer to *Commissioner Mattick's* question, Ms. Percycoe informed that the City currently has fire and casualty insurance included in the general liability coverage also issued through the Florida League of Cities.

Commission discussion followed. Ms. Percycoe explained that there is \$50,000 currently in reserves. *Commissioner Woodland* said in the worse case scenario, if there was no insurance and the Pier was destroyed, it would be rebuilt and then the City would most likely insure it. He said he wished the City was in a better position to insure the Pier but was not sure it was possible right now.

Commissioner Tollette asked if the Pier did get destroyed and was not insured was it possible to borrow the money for its replacement.

Ms. Percycoe informed that she just received notice that Wachovia Bank would no longer be issuing new loans for cities.

Chair Quam questioned if the State and County would even allow the Pier to be rebuilt if it were destroyed.

Commissioner Mattick suggested the City start now to pursue grant opportunities to rebuild the Pier. The Commission all agreed.

Mayor Barford informed that the City would be replacing two pilings in two areas for the Pier. They are providing on-going maintenance and hold Pier meetings every other month. She suggested that a committee be formed to research the Commission's questions.

Ms. Percycoe suggested that the Commission might want to build in additional costs when the lease comes up for renewal in 2010.

ACTION: It was the consensus of the Commission to not include the additional insurance in the 2008/2009 Budget.

Other changes to the proposed budget were:

- \$8,000 added to Summary Expense Budget Line Item # 37 – Trolley Service – City Share.
- Notification was received in late August that the State reduced their estimate for Revenue Sharing and the ½ cent Sales Tax. Revenues - Line # 17 (Rev Sharing) - Proposed Budget 2008-2009 changed to \$44,399 and Line Item # 18 (1/2 cent Sales Tax) changed to \$116,183.
- Summary Expense Budget – Line Item # 35 – Contingency Funds Summary Proposed 2008-2009 changed to \$77,984.
- Pier repairs will be taken out of the 2007/2008 budget. Explanation followed relating to the separate Pier bank account.

Commissioner Woodland stated he received inquiries about the budget doubling over the past two years.

Finance Director/Deputy City Clerk Percycocoe confirmed that Revenues Line Item # 48 – Subtotal serves as the total proposed 2008-2009 budget amount. She said she hoped to have more accurate projections by the Final Public Hearing and confirmed that all changes will be reflected on the budget for that meeting. A separate statement indicating the reserve calculations will also be provided.

Hearing no further Public Comment, *Chair Quam* officially closed the Public Comment section of the Public Hearing.

6. Recomputed Tentative Millage – Announce Percent Millage Exceeds (if any) the Rolled-Back Rate. If Millage Exceeds the Rolled-Back Rate, this is Characterized as the Percentage Increase in Property Taxes.

Chair Quam informed that the Tentative Millage remains at 1.7882. The percentage decrease over the rolled-back rate is -12.41%. The rolled-back rate remains at 2.0145.

7. Adopt Tentative Millage.

MOTION: Commissioner Woodland moved to adopt the Tentative Millage Rate of 1.7882 for Fiscal Year 2008/2009. Commissioner Tollette seconded the motion.
Motion carried unanimously.

8. Adopt Tentative Budget, as amended.

MOTION: Commissioner Tollette moved to adopt the Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2008/2009, as amended. Commissioner Woodland seconded the motion.
Motion carried unanimously.

9. First Reading – Ordinance 08-691 – Adopting the Budget for FY 08/09 and Receipt and Collection of Ad Valorem Taxes.

City Clerk Baird read the Ordinance by title.

10. Announcement of Final Millage and Budget Hearing Date.

The Final Millage and Budget Hearing Date is scheduled for Tuesday, September 23, 2008, 5:30 p.m.

11. Adjournment.

On motion made by Chair Quam and seconded by Commissioner Mattick, the meeting was adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

Alice Baird, CMC, City Clerk

Minutes Approved: _____