

**CITY OF ANNA MARIA  
CITY COMMISSION MEETING  
FINAL MILLAGE / FINAL BUDGET HEARING  
SEPTEMBER 20, 2006  
6:30 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

**ROLL CALL:** Mayor SueLynn, Commissioner Christine Tollette, Commissioner Dale Woodland, Commission Chair John Quam, Deputy Commission Chair Linda Cramer

**Absent with excuse:** Commissioner Duke Miller

**Also present:** Public Works Director George McKay, Building Official Kevin Donohue, City Attorney Jim Dye, City Clerk Alice Baird, Deputy City Clerk Diane Percycoe

**Press:** Sun, Islander

**1. OPEN 2006/2007 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING.**

Commissioner John Quam declared the public hearing open.

**2. DISCUSS PROPOSED FINAL 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.**

Commission Chair Quam indicated that the percentage increase over the rolled-back rate is 14.64 percent. He noted that the current year's rolled-back rate is 1.7446, and defined the rolled-back rate as the rate projected to produce the same revenue as the previous fiscal year by factoring higher property value assessments.

Commissioner John Quam announced that the proposed millage rate is 2 mills. He explained that one mill is equal to \$1.00 for every \$1,000 of assessed value, less any exceptions. The Commissioner indicated, for example, that an Anna Maria homeowner with a home valued at \$500,000 and claiming a \$25,000 homestead exemption would pay \$950 in city taxes next year.

Commissioner Quam stated that the specific purpose for the increase in ad valorem taxes was to offset the increases in the City's operating and non-operating expenses. He asked the Commissioners to add any other specific purposes they may have identified.

**3. OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT.**

Commissioner Quam opened the floor for Public Comment. None offered.

**4. CLOSE PUBLIC COMMENT.**

Chair John Quam declared the Public Comment portion of this public hearing closed.

**5. AMEND FINAL BUDGET, IF NECESSARY.**

Commissioner Quam asked the City administration and staff to bring forth any proposed amendments to the final budget.

Mayor SueLynn stated, relative to Line Item #195 – City Beautification - EEEEC (Environmental Enhancement and Education Committee), that their current 2005 / 2006 budget was \$8,000, of which \$484.64 had been spent. She explained that this figure did not reflect the recent removal of Australian pines at the cost of \$3,000. The Mayor further indicated that the permit for the construction of the mangrove viewing platform had only been received the week previous to this evening's meeting. Mayor SueLynn observed it would be unlikely that the project would be 90 percent complete by the end of this fiscal year, as would be required to remain in the 2005 / 2006 budget line item. She therefore submitted, on behalf of the EEEEC Committee, a request to amend Line Item #195 to \$12,000 for the 2006 / 2007 budget, reflecting an increase of \$3,000 to cover the cost of construction of the mangrove viewing platform.

During the subsequent discussion between Commissioner Dale Woodland, Commissioner John Quam and Deputy City Clerk Diane Percycoc, the Deputy City Clerk confirmed that \$7,484.64 would be rolling over into the general reserve fund.

**MOTION: Commissioner Quam moved to amend the proposed final budget for fiscal year 2006 / 2007 increase Line Item #195 from \$9,000 to \$12,000, seconded by Commissioner Linda Cramer.**

**Vote: All Ayes. Motion carried unanimously.**

Relative to the Walkable Communities program and her request for funding at the previous meeting (\$2,500 for the audit and \$1,000 for a written report), Commissioner Linda Cramer reported that the Environmental Enhancement and Education Committee (EEEC) had come to the consensus that it may not be necessary to hire a consultant to achieve the program's goals. The Commissioner expressed support for hiring Dan Burton for a comprehensive recommendation. She indicated that the grant of \$300,000 the City was expecting to receive in the year 2010 would affect such subjects as parking, traffic flow, intersections, pocket parks, and street-scaping. She said that a professional recommendation could be valuable to the planning process.

Commissioner Cramer indicated to Commissioner Tollette that Marie Phillips of Bradenton Beach had been very enthusiastic about the seven-hour presentation she had attended. Commissioner Cramer said that Mr. Burton was #6 in his field in the country, as listed by Time Magazine, and that he was based in Orlando, Florida. She said that she had obtained the CD's containing a PowerPoint presentation for review by the City administration and others.

Commissioner Dale Woodland indicated that he was opposed to addressing the Walkable Communities request at this late hour in the budgeting process. He recommended looking at it for the next fiscal year's planning, with more involvement by the EEEEC committee.

Commissioner John Quam agreed that more public input was needed, since the \$3,500 requested would only be the beginning [of expenses associated with the program]. He said that he did not see that Anna Maria would have the same requirements as a city such as Bradenton Beach. The Commission Chair recommended that the EEEEC further investigate and discuss Walkable Communities at their meetings, and that the public be invited to offer their input.

Mayor SueLynn said that she felt that the availability of Dan Burton was an excellent opportunity for the City to have the benefit of information and expertise in the initial stages of the program, for planning purposes. The Mayor praised the valuable contributions of the volunteer members of the EEEEC. She noted, however, that the City was only three years away from implementing the program, although to date, there had been no overall plan for achieving the citizens of Anna Maria's vision for the future. The Mayor suggested that a non-resident's professional analysis would impart objectivity and greatly assist the EEEEC. Mayor SueLynn expressed the opinion that \$3,500 would be a small price to pay for all the benefits the proposed one-day workshop could provide.

Commissioner John Quam maintained that more public input was required, and that he felt the EEEEC should evaluate the program and the options available to the City. He recommended that EEEEC first get behind the program and present their suggestions to the public.

Mayor SueLynn clarified that the proposal now before the Commission consisted an audit and a report, and no action whatsoever. She warned those present that if the Commission waited a year to take this first step, it would find itself with only two years left to implement the program and no citizen-approved plan to follow.

Commissioner Cramer urged the Commissioners to support the proposal for the audit and the presentation of a professional report. She noted that City Planner Alan Garrett was enthusiastic about the program and her current proposal, in particular. The Commissioner said that Mr. Garrett was familiar with the process of soliciting public input as well as the process of mediation in planning disputes.

Commissioner Christine Tollette asked if the EEEEC could first look at the program and proposal and then inform the Commission of their recommendations. Commissioner Quam agreed, and suggested the committee could recommend where they envision the focal center of the City of Anna Maria to be located. He confirmed to Commissioner Tollette that monies would be available in the 2006 / 2007 contingency reserve fund to move ahead with the audit and report, should the Commission decide to do so at any point in the coming fiscal year.

Commissioner Dale Woodland voiced approval for the approach recommended by Commissioners Quam and Tollette.

**6. RECOMPUTE FINAL 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 announced that the percentage that millage exceeds the rolled-back rate is 14.64%, and that the current rolled-back rate is 1.7446. He indicated that the proposed millage rate is 2.00.

**7. CONSIDER RESOLUTION R06-617 – ADOPTING MILLAGE RATE.**

Commissioner Linda Cramer read Resolution R06-617 by title, stating the adopted millage rate for 2006 / 2007 as 2.00.

**MOTION: Commissioner John Quam moved to adopt Resolution R06-617 and 2.00 as the final millage rate for the City of Anna Maria for tax year 2006 / 2007, seconded by Commissioner Linda Cramer.**

**Roll call vote: Commissioner Tollette – Aye; Commissioner Woodland - Aye; Commissioner Quam – Aye; Commissioner Cramer – Aye. Motion carried unanimously.**

**8. CONSIDER RESOLUTION R06-618 – ADOPTING 2006 / 2007 BUDGET.**

Commissioner Linda Cramer read Resolution R06-618 by title.

**MOTION: Commissioner John Quam moved to adopt Resolution R06-618 adopting the budget (as amended) as the final budget for the City of Anna Maria for 2006/2007, seconded by Commissioner Linda Cramer.**

**Roll call vote: Commissioner Tollette – Aye; Commissioner Woodland - Aye; Commissioner Quam – Aye; Commissioner Cramer – Aye. Motion carried unanimously.**

**9. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 06-668, ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR FY 06/07 AND RECEIPT AND COLLECTION OF AD VALOREM TAXES.**

Commissioner Linda Cramer read the Ordinance by title.

**10. OPEN PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE No. 06-668.**

Commission Chair Quam declared the public hearing open.

Dianne Canniff of Oak Avenue confirmed that the City would be receiving 14% more revenue from ad valorem taxes in the coming fiscal year than in the current year. She indicated that it had been her wish that the Commission would have lowered the millage rate to under 2.00. Ms. Canniff noted that over the past five years, taxes had doubled, and that homeowners were now also dealing with insurance rate increases.

**11. CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING.**

Chair John Quam closed the public hearing for Ordinance #06-668.

**12. CONSIDER ORDINANCE NO. 06-668, ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR FY 06/07 AND RECEIPT AND COLLECTION OF AD VALOREM TAXES.**

**MOTION:** Commissioner John Quam moved to adopt Ordinance No. 06-668, adopting the budget for fiscal year 2006 / 2007 and receipt and collection of ad valorem taxes, seconded by Commissioner Linda Cramer.

**Roll call vote:** Commissioner Tollette – Aye; Commissioner Woodland - Aye; Commissioner Quam – Aye; Commissioner Cramer – Aye.  
**Motion carried unanimously.**

**13. ADJOURNMENT.**

**MOTION:** Commissioner John Quam moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Linda Cramer.

**Vote:** All Ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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City Clerk Alice Baird

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Date