

**CITY OF ANNA MARIA
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
FINAL MILLAGE / FINAL BUDGET 2003/04
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2003
6:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL: Mayor SueLynn, Commission Chair John Quam, Commissioner Tom Aposporos, Commissioner Duke Miller

Absent with excuse: Commissioner Linda Cramer, Commissioner Chuck Webb

Also present: City Attorney Jim Dye, Sheriff's Deputy Sgt. John Kenney, City Clerk Alice Baird, Deputy City Clerk Diane Percycocoe, Public Works Director George McKay, Minutes Clerk Sylvie Reichmann

Press: Sun, Islander, Herald, Sarasota Herald Tribune

1. OPEN 2003 / 2004 BUDGET IN PUBLIC HEARING

Commission Chair John Quam opened the Final 2003 / 2004 Public Budget Hearing.

2. DISCUSS PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN PROPOSED TENTATIVE MILLAGE OVER ROLLED-BACK RATE

Commissioner John Quam stated that the increase over the rolled back rate was 27.43 percent. He indicated that the current year's rolled back rate was 1.5695, 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. Chair Quam said that the proposed millage rate was 2 mills, and defined 1 mill as \$1.00 for every \$1,000 of assessed value plus any exceptions.

3. DISCUSS PROPOSED TENTATIVE BUDGET AND AMEND IF NECESSARY

Commissioner Tom Aposporos referred to his memo, dated September 7th, 2003 to the Mayor and the Commission relative to the City's Capital Improvement plan. He said he had suggested in the memo that the City consider leaving the \$153,000 for City Hall improvements in the restricted reserve fund, and leaving the \$232,000 for capital improvements in the unrestricted reserve fund.

Commissioner Aposporos stated that to the extent the non-restricted fund balance exceeded 35% of the operating budget, it would be overfunded. He said he believed the City Hall reconstruction budget would have to be revisited and that \$153,000 originally allotted would not likely be adequate. The Commissioner added that the \$232,000 would not be sufficient to fund much in the way of capital improvements. Commissioner Tom Aposporos pointed out that although the tentative budget totals \$2.1 million, at least \$400,000 is for capital improvements. He noted that the Mayor and City staff had gone a long way toward setting up a logical capital improvement plan with a professional approach. He said it might make sense to look at the budget as it is, instead of

trying to include sums intended to fund the City's catching up with overdue capital improvements, which project an exaggerated rate of increase over the previous year's budget.

Relative to recent discussions regarding the Building Official position, Commissioner Aposporos suggested that Line Item #54 – Code Enforcement could be re-titled 'Building Department Support'. Chair John Quam recommended reducing the line item to \$19,500 and labeling it 'Code Enforcement Support'. Commissioner Duke Miller said he preferred Commissioner Aposporos' label, and suggested that the line item be kept at \$24,960, so that if an additional \$5,000 was needed for the Building Official's salary, it could be taken from this line item. **There was consensus to re-label Line Item #54 as 'Building Department Support'.**

Commissioner Duke Miller said he agreed with what Commissioner Tom Aposporos had said regarding capital improvements and the restricted and unrestricted reserve funds, but recommended leaving the amounts for City Hall renovations and for Capital Improvements as they are in the tentative budget. Chair John Quam also recommended leaving the amounts for Capital Improvements in the budget the way they are. Mayor SueLynn said she thought Commissioner Aposporos' idea was a good one, and that perhaps next year the budget could be set up that way.

Mayor SueLynn mentioned the \$3,000 fee for the due diligence related to the line of credit. She said the other item was for water quality sampling at \$5,000. She asked if the Commission would like to put them into the new budget or take them out of the current budget.

Commission Chair Quam said he thought the \$3,000 could come out of the current budget. Mayor SueLynn confirmed that the \$5,000 for water sampling could be added to the Capital Improvements budget. Commissioner Tom Aposporos noted that the amount would be coming from non-restricted funds.

There was consensus for the Mayor to submit the items to the Commission as being applied to either budget at her discretion.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

A resident said he had a couple of problems with discussion of the topics discussed this evening at the eleventh hour. He said if the capital improvements projects were not put in the budget as individual line items, it would be impossible to know how the City had performed at the end of the year.

Deputy City Clerk Diane Percycoe said she saw the \$232,000 capital improvements fund as a type of reserve fund, with budget line items being added as they are funded from transfers from that reserve.

A resident asked if the City was committed to the \$153,000 for City Hall, and how much had been spent to date on the project. Deputy City Clerk Percycoe said that this money was in a reserve fund and that so far only \$2,500 had been spent.

A resident commented on Line Item #43 – Special Events - \$8,000. She said she objected to funding the fireworks. She said other items are not necessary, such as holiday gatherings for volunteers and staff. The resident said she would rather see employees receive a living wage than receive turkeys and hams. She objected to Commissioner plaques and photographs of the Commission. The resident said she thought that Line Item #112 – Parking Plan Support that \$26,000 was excessive for parking place markings.

Chair Quam said the holiday luncheon for volunteers was a very important event, and that it was the least the City could do to show appreciation for the volunteers' valuable work.

Mayor SueLynn said relative to Line Item #112, that the \$26,000 would likely fund other items than the parking space markers.

A resident said that the note on Line Item #112 relative to 200 spaces plus handicapped should be removed and there was consensus to do so.

A resident reminded everyone that what the public wanted to see was checks and balances.

Public Works Director George McKay recommended reducing Line Item #71 by \$1,000 and increasing Line Item #99 by \$1,000 and there was consensus to do so.

The Mayor elaborated on the many and varied uses of the \$8,000 for special events and their importance to the residents of the City. She said it is difficult to predict things like the illness or tragedy associated with a public servant and other contingencies. The Mayor agreed that accountability is necessary, and said that receipts and other records are carefully kept.

City Clerk Alice Baird said relative to **Lines #61 & 62**, that elected officials would need to be re-elected before they would be eligible to participate in the insurance program. She recommended that the amounts for the three Commissioners up for re-election be added to the line items in case they do elect to participate. Discussion followed. Commissioner Tom Aposporos recommended not authorizing the insurance class for elected officials. City Attorney Dye said if the City was interested in seeing if a separate class could be made for the Mayor, it could be added to the next budget.

Deputy City Clerk Diane Percycoe referred to the memo she had addressed to the Commission and attached to the budget, and asked for approval for deletion of

\$750 for the fax machine on Line Item #88, approval of an addition of \$2,000 on Line Item #91 for the computer for the Building Official, and approval of the DCA permit surcharge and DBPR permit surcharge, Line Items under #45 relative to a quarterly return that the Building Clerk does. **There was consensus to approve these three items.**

5. RECOMPUTE TENTATIVE MILLAGE – ANNOUNCE PERCENT MILLAGE EXCEEDS THE ROLLED-BACK RATE

Chair John Quam asked City Clerk Alice Baird to report. She said that the percentage increase over the rolled back rate for 2003/ 2004 was 27.43 percent, and that the current year rolled back rate was 1.5695 and that the millage rate was set at 2 mills for the City of Anna Maria.

6. ADOPT TENTATIVE PROPOSED MILLAGE

MOTION: Commissioner Tom Aposporos moved to adopt 2mills per \$1,000 assessed property value as the final millage rate for City of Anna Maria for fiscal year 2003/2004, seconded by Commissioner Duke Miller.

Roll Call Vote: All Ayes. Motion carried.

7. ADOPT TENTATIVE PROPOSED BUDGET

Motion: Commissioner Duke Miller moved to adopt the budget presented by the Mayor and City Clerk at the current meeting, as amended at this hearing as the final budget of the City of Anna Maria for the fiscal year 2003/04, seconded by Commissioner Tom Aposporos.

Roll Call Vote: All Ayes. Motion carried.

8. SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING RE: ORDINANCE 03-611, ADOPTING OF BUDGET FOR FY 03-04 AND RECEIPT AND COLLECTION OF AD VALOREM TAXES

Commissioner Duke Miller read the ordinance by title.

MOTION: Commissioner Tom Aposporos moved to approve Ordinance 03-611, Adoption of Budget for fiscal year 2003 / 2004 and Receipt and Collection of Ad Valorem taxes, seconded by Commissioner Duke Miller.

Roll Call Vote: All Ayes. Motion carried.

9. CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

Commission Chair John Quam closed the public hearing.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Commissioner Tom Aposporos moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Duke Miller.

Vote: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:36. P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Baird
City Clerk

Date Approved: 9-25-03