



TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Minutes of the Special Town Council Budget Meeting
Held on September 21, 2023

Public Hearing on Final Millage Rate and FY24 Budget

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Special Town Council Meeting was called to order on September 21, 2023, at 5:01 p.m. On roll call, all elected officials were found to be present, except for Mayor Moore and Council President Zeidman.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council President Pro Tem Lindsay led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Council Member Cooney and seconded by Council Member Crampton to approve the agenda as presented. On roll call, the motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

IV. COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS - 3 MINUTE LIMIT

No one indicated a desire to speak.

V. PUBLIC HEARING ON FINAL MILLAGE RATE AND FY24 BUDGET

A. Proof of Publication

Acting Town Clerk Churney stated that notice of the meeting was published in the

Palm Beach Post on Monday, September 18, 2023. Proof of publication was received by the Town Clerk's Office and provided to the Town Council for review.

B. Announcement of Proposed Operating Millage Rate

Council President Pro Tem Lindsay stated at the September 12, 2023, Public Hearing, the Mayor and Town Council tentatively approved the proposed millage rate for the General Fund Operating Millage of 2.6110 mills. The Town of Palm Beach Fiscal Year 2023 General Fund proposed an operating millage rate of 2.6110 mills, representing a 10% increase from the "rolled-back millage rate" of 2.3736 mills.

Council Member Crampton indicated that this was the sixth year that the Town Council had lowered the millage rate for the Town. He reminded everyone that the Town remained a full-service town. He thought the lower millage rate was a result of the hard work of the staff and of the Town Council.

C. Reasons for Proposed Operating Millage Rate Increase from the Rolled-Back Millage Rate

Town Manager Blouin stated that the FY24 General Fund budget increased by \$7,620,993 or 7.87% from the FY23 budget. The increase is partially the result of the increase in the transfer to the Capital Improvement Fund for the reconstruction of the North Fire-Rescue Station and other capital projects in the amount of \$937,000. In addition, commodity and other contractual services increased by over \$1.9 million due to inflationary causes. Salaries and benefit costs increased due to the addition of 6.33 full-time equivalent employees, as well as merit, and COLA increases for employees. Property tax revenue increased by \$6,710,810 partly to cover the increase in the Capital Improvement Fund transfer and the balance to cover salary, benefit, contractual, and commodity cost increases.

D. Comments and Questions from the Public

No one indicated a desire to speak.

E. Resolutions

1. RESOLUTION NO. 124-2023 - A Resolution Of The Town Council Of The Town Of Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida Adopting The Final Millage Rate And Levying Ad Valorem Taxes For The Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2023, And Ending September 30, 2024; Setting Forth Certain Information Regarding The Rolled-Back Millage Rate; Directing The Town Manager Or The Deputy Town Manager, Finance And Administration To Adjust The Adopted Millage Rate In The Event Of Changes In The Assessment Roll And Taxable Value; Providing An Effective Date.

Bob Miracle, Deputy Town Manager - Finance and Administration

Town Manager Blouin read Resolution No. 124-2023 by title only.

Motion made by Council Member Crampton and seconded by Council Member Cooney to approve Resolution No. 124-2023. On roll call, the motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

2. RESOLUTION NO. 125-2023 - A Resolution Of The Town Council Of The Town Of Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, Adopting A Final Budget And Appropriating Funds For The Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2023, And Ending September 30, 2024; Providing For An Effective Date.

Bob Miracle, Deputy Town Manager - Finance and Administration

Town Manager Blouin read Resolution No. 125-2023 by title only.

Motion made by Council Member Cooney and seconded by Council Member Crampton to approve Resolution No. 125-2023. On roll call, the motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

VI. ANY OTHER MATTERS

Amanda Skier, Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach, expressed her gratitude to the Town Council and the staff for supporting the gift for Phipps Ocean Park.

The Town Council expressed their excitement for the project.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Council Member and seconded by Council to adjourn the meeting at 5:11 p.m. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

APPROVED:

Bobbie D. Lindsay, Town Council President Pro Tem

ATTEST:

Kelly Churney, Acting Town Clerk
Date: _____