



Meeting Minutes City Commission

Friday, September 3, 2021

7:00 PM

Commission Chambers

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order on the above date by Mayor Bill Ganz at 7:04 p.m., in the City Commission Chambers, City Hall, Deerfield Beach.

Present: 5 – Commissioner Todd Drosky
Commissioner Michael Hudak - via Zoom
Commissioner Bernie Parness
Vice Mayor Ben Preston - via Zoom
Mayor Bill Ganz

Also Present: 3 – City Manager David Santucci
City Attorney Anthony Soroka
City Clerk Samantha Gillyard

MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

There was a moment of silence, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF CITY COMMISSION MINUTES

Regular City Commission Meeting Minutes - July 20 & August 3, 2021

Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes - August 10, 2021

MOTION was made by Commissioner Parness, seconded by Commissioner Hudak, to approve the minutes as submitted. Voice Vote:

Yeas: 5 - Commissioner Drosky, Commissioner Hudak, Commissioner Parness, Vice Mayor Preston and Mayor Ganz

Nays: 0

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CITY BOARD MINUTES

Community Redevelopment Agency Meeting Minutes - June 8, 2021

Community Appearance Board Meeting Minutes - July 14, 2021

Marine Advisory Board Meeting Minutes - May 20 & June 17, 2021

Hillsboro Inlet District Meeting Minutes - August 16, 2021

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CITY BOARD MINUTES - CONTINUED

MOTION was made by Commissioner Parness, seconded by Vice Mayor Preston, to acknowledge the board minutes. Voice Vote:

Yeas: 5 - Commissioner Drosky, Commissioner Hudak, Commissioner Parness, Vice Mayor Preston and Mayor Ganz

Nays: 0

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

September 3, 2021

MOTION was made by Commissioner Parness, seconded by Vice Mayor Preston, to approve the agenda as submitted. Voice Vote:

Yeas: 5 - Commissioner Drosky, Commissioner Hudak, Commissioner Parness, Vice Mayor Preston and Mayor Ganz

Nays: 0

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

1. Proclamation presented to Broward Mental Health Summit Organizers recognizing September 9, 2021 as Broward Mental Health Summit Day.

Mayor Ganz presented a proclamation recognizing September 9, 2021 as Broward Mental Health Summit Day. Wherein, mental illness affects thoughts, feelings, behaviors, and general interaction with others and the stigma associated with mental illness must be addressed so that no one feels shame in seeking help and treatment. In response to the need for identifying and treating mental illness, a grassroots effort was undertaken by the principal mental health providers in Broward County to join forces in a historic effort to increase awareness and education by holding an "in-person and virtual summit" open to the general public for FREE during the 2021 National Suicide Prevention Week.

Diann Geronemus, Licensed Clinical Social Worker, said she is an advocate for mental care and explained her goal as a provider. Ms. Geronemus said it is hopeful that treatment modalities will be more tailored to the individual experiences, not just the diagnosis. Lastly, she thanked the Commission for its support as well as the community for supporting the event.

BUDGET & MILLAGE PUBLIC HEARINGS

2. ORDINANCE 2021/ - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF DEERFIELD BEACH, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE MILLAGE RATE TO BE LEVIED BY THE CITY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2021 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2022; STATING THE PERCENTAGE CHANGE BY WHICH THE MILLAGE RATE EXCEEDS THE ROLLED-BACK RATE AS COMPUTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 200.065, FLORIDA STATUTES; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The Ordinance was read by title only.

Anthony Soroka, City Attorney, advised that the City is proposing an operating millage of 6.0018 and a debt service millage of 0.317 for a total millage of 6.3125. The proposed operating millage of 6.0018 is approximately 5.13% more than the rolled back rate pursuant to Florida Law which characterized as a percentage increase in property taxes.

BUDGET & MILLAGE PUBLIC HEARINGS - CONTINUED

David Santucci, City Manager, provided a PowerPoint presentation detailing the proposed fiscal year budget for 2022.

Public Budget Event Calendar - Mr. Santucci outlined the activity starting in June 2021 with budget workshops, followed by the budget workshop on August 10, 2021, submittal of the budget and budget message to the City Commission on August 15, 2021 per City requirements. Tonight, is the first public hearing on adopting the millage rate and budget recommendation.

Table of Revenues - All Funds - Stephanie Tinsley, Chief Financial Officer, outlined changes made to the proposed budget, which included the fire assessment fees, licenses permits and fees, loan proceeds and use of fund balance. Thereafter, she outlined the error found on page 47 of the budget book which does not affect the overall line item.

Table of Expenditures - All Funds - Ms. Tinsley said also on page 47, the categories were misaligned, but were corrected and the figures did not change nor did the individual line items; no other table was affected in the budget book. Errors were corrected within certain organizational charts, but do not affect personnel, the number of positions, titles, or grades.

Budget Message - Mr. Santucci explained the budget theme, revive, recover and renew.

FY22 Millage Rate - Mr. Santucci said this year's millage rate shows a decrease from FY21 as a result of debt obligation.

FY22 Millage Rate - Mr. Santucci said over the past several years, the City has been able to accomplish a gradual reduction of its millage rate since 2014.

Current V. Proposed Operating Millage Rates - Mr. Santucci provided comparisons of millage rates for cities similar to Deerfield Beach; whereby, the millage rate is in-line.

Taxable Value V. Millage Rate - Mr. Santucci explained how a high taxable value allows for a reduction in the millage rate, i.e. Fort Lauderdale.

Residential Property Values - Mr. Santucci said the City has experienced an increase with assessed value and has outpaced the County in terms of percentage change but Deerfield Beach still remains the 10th lowest assessed value in Broward County. Continuing, Mr. Santucci explained the bar graph, showing the number of home parcels, condo parcels, average value for both homes and condos.

Ad Valorem (Property Tax Collection) - Mr. Santucci said the total citywide estimated tax collections for FY22 is \$50.9 million; however, \$2.2 million will go to the CRA; the net projections for FY22 is \$48.7 million. There has been a 5.1% increase in taxable values of properties; thus, the overall taxable value of properties combined is \$8.3 billion.

Ad Valorem Tax Revenue Projection - Mr. Santucci said the projected increase from last year to this year is 5.6%.

Broward County Localities Fire Assessment Fees - Mr. Santucci said the Commission will be considering the fire assessment rate at the September 13th meeting. The current fee is set at \$235 for a single-family home and is proposed for the upcoming fiscal year. Thereafter, he outlined the fire assessment fees for single-family homes among various cities from FY 2020 to FY 2021.

Economic Climate/Cost Drivers - Mr. Santucci said April's consumer price index (CPI) was 4.2% and since then, it has increased to 5.4% in July.

Proposed Budget Overview by Fund - Mr. Santucci said the proposed budget for FY 2022 is \$258 million; the General Fund decreases slightly and includes the Senior Services Insurance Trust Funds. The capital plan is very healthy in FY 22 at \$32 million.

BUDGET & MILLAGE PUBLIC HEARINGS - CONTINUED

Use of Fund Balances - Mr. Santucci displayed various fund sources, amount and use. Within the General Fund, \$3.7 million is recommended to transfer to capital fund, to support a one-time capital improvement project. There is a carryforward from FY 2021 that will continue into FY 2022 at approximately \$518,000 and seeking a contingency of \$250,000. Public safety impact fees, considered a contingency, \$500,000, are being used for the public safety master plan; these funds will also address the public safety facilities, fire and police stations. The full cost of the master plan budgeted is approximately \$600,000 with \$500,000 from public safety impact fees. Parks impact fees are being used for park capital improvements. \$4.2 million from the Utility Fund will be used for water infrastructure and water plant; \$1.7 million for operations. Storm water is a carryforward [\$293,373]; Parks and Rec future fund is being used to support additional capital improvements and operations [\$247,000].

Proposed Budget Revenues by Source - Mr. Santucci displayed a list of revenues and the change from FY 2021 amended to FY 2022 proposed.

Proposed Budget by Expenditure Category - Mr. Santucci displayed expenditures and the change from FY 2021 amended to FY 2022 proposed. He briefly commented on the reduction of capital outlay and an increase to interfund transfers and debt service, \$11.9 million.

Budget Initiatives and Recommendations - Mr. Santucci outlined the goals for the upcoming fiscal year: create a dedicated capital project fund; create Department of Community Services and Office of Public Safety; and provide a compensation strategy and increase maintenance without increasing the millage rate.

Community Services - Mr. Santucci provided an organizational chart for the proposed department; whereby, administration, grants, housing and health and social services would be under community services. The transportation component is recommended to transfer to Parks & Recreation. The community bus shuttle, afterschool care bus shuttle service, summer school, and others, will remain unchanged.

Community Services - Mr. Santucci explained the functions handled under each umbrella. Within administration falls management of the department as well as intergovernmental affairs, community outreach and events, education initiatives and assistance, and volunteer coordination. Additionally, Mr. Santucci said the grants division will administer, manage and coordinate Federal/State grants and others. Within the housing division are the CDBG, SHIP, HOME, mortgage/rental utility assistance and others. Thereafter, he advised that various responsibilities and activities will remain under the health and social services division, a few were listed.

Office of Public Safety - Mr. Santucci outlined the creation of the public safety department; thereafter, he outlined the organizational chart. Continuing, Mr. Santucci outlined the budget and function oversight for the proposed department; whereby, public safety represents approximately 55% of the General Fund, \$71 million which makes providing oversight extremely important. The contract management aspect is important to provide better coordinated efforts among various departments, Ocean Rescue, Code Enforcement, Parking and others. Thereafter, he outlined the objectives of the office, increase fiscal accountability, operational accountability, and coordinated city-driven effort which he explained. Furthermore, Mr. Santucci outlined the responsibilities of the office: monitor and evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery methods and procedures by staff and contract services; allocate resources accordingly and implement cost saving measures; plan, coordinate and implement public safety operations and activities across all functions with city management and staff; assign, record and train all EOC staff in emergency management activities, exercises and position specific roles; assist in the development of annual budget; implement programmatic and process improvements; etc.

Office of Public Safety - Emergency Management Coordination - Mr. Santucci said the proposed department will create a managerial function that is charged with creating the framework within the community to reduce vulnerability to hazards and cope with disasters; promote a safer and more prepared community with the capacity to respond to hazards and disasters; and coordinate and integrate all activities necessary to mitigate, prepare for, respond to and recover from emergency events. Additionally, Mr. Santucci said the Emergency Management Coordinator is responsible for coordinating the command operations logistics of planning and administrative and finance functions of emergency events that align with ICS and FEMA standards. The process is year-round and must be prepared for all types of perils, not

BUDGET & MILLAGE PUBLIC HEARINGS - CONTINUED

just hurricanes.

Personnel Summary - Mr. Santucci outlined the personnel changes and there is one change indicating a reduction of 3.5 staff members due to recent resignations of school crossing guards. Thereafter, he entertained questions by the Commission.

Commissioner Hudak asked about the 10% increase in salaries, reduction to capital outlay, increase in debt service and decrease to grants as shown on slide 19. Additionally, he advised that 9 full-time employees are being added and reiterated his question as to why salaries and wages are increasing by \$3 million, especially since there is an overall reduction in staff.

Mr. Santucci replied that the increase to salaries and wages is due to a combination of two things, compensation strategy of the City Commission to include estimated COLA and merit increases and making part-time employees full-time. Also, capital outlay is for one-time purchases and depending on the size of the project, scope and cost, a \$10 million project, for example, could start next year and continue throughout multiple years. The capital fund will highlight the capital improvements for greater transparency.

In response to Commissioner Hudak's question, Mr. Santucci replied that the grants and contributions for fiscal year 2021 included CARES Act monies.

Commissioner Hudak reiterated his concerns with the 10% increase to salaries.

Mr. Santucci explained that many positions were frozen in FY 2021; whereas, the increase represents those frozen positions being funded.

Vice Mayor Preston expressed concerns with the Office of Public Safety as it will be new to the residents. If approved, he asked how this information will be communicated to the public. Additionally, he asked if this department will have a plan to distribute information when a life safety emergency arises and whether the department will work with the marketing department or alone in this scenario.

Mr. Santucci replied that he will make sure the director is working with the community to get the word out. Furthermore, communication responsibilities will not shift from marketing, but there will be a collaboration between public safety and marketing.

Vice Mayor Preston continued to explain the importance of community outreach and its positive affect on the department and community.

Mayor Ganz expressed concerns with the grade level of the Director of Public Safety, E30 as well as the Emergency Management Coordinator, E16. He said there needs to be an adjustment for one of the two.

Mr. Santucci said he would be comfortable reducing the grade for the director position to E29, as a qualified candidate can still be found.

Commissioner Drosky commended the budget process and presentations. Thereafter, he spoke in support of the Office of Public Safety due to the increase in population, diversity and complexity. Furthermore, he said the inclusion of a beach ambassador is an excellent idea which was discussed years ago. Commissioner Drosky continued to explain how the department would be useful, i.e. P3 opportunities, hurricane preparedness for all city departments, cost savings and recovery, grant opportunities, coordination of equipment, and others. He also supported the reduction of the director grade from E30 to E29. Lastly, Commissioner Drosky applauded the reduction of the millage which has always been important to him.

Vice Mayor Preston said the public safety office cannot interfere with law enforcement and paramedic procedures and wants to make sure the director understands and is able to collaborate efforts. He said the department should be a benefit to the City, but there will be kinks to work out in the beginning.

BUDGET & MILLAGE PUBLIC HEARINGS - CONTINUED

Mayor Ganz opened the public hearing for Items 2 and 3.

Gloria Docilait, 4754 NW 4th Avenue, Deerfield Beach, African American Heritage Board, agreed that the Office of Public Safety should be communicated to the public. Thereafter, she asked that additional funding be contributed to the Martin Luther King, Jr. event, so it is just as robust as the Juneteenth event.

Barri McMillion, 456 NW 1st Terrace, Deerfield Beach, said additional monies are needed for the events coordinated by the African American Heritage Board. She said the community needs to be more engaged which can be done by making the events more upscale and collaborating with schools and other civic organizations. Ms. McMillion said the board would like to bring one of the HBCU bands to the City and would be possible with additional funding. Originally, \$60,000 was proposed and they would like use of those funds, but plan to bring vendors in to recover some costs.

Mayor Ganz outlined his concerns due to the lack of a budget for the Commission and lack of participation for parades which is why staff is working to offer other activities and eliminate parades.

Gwyndolen Clarke-Reed, 1430 SW 6th Way, Deerfield Beach, expressed concerns with combining the Legislative & Community Affairs Department with Active Aging. She said certain aspects may work, but asked that it be researched further. Ms. Clarke-Reed asked if school crossing guards will be replaced and that the pay grades for all positions be shown. Lastly, she said although a public safety office may be needed, it shouldn't be rushed as different approaches to implementation should be considered, i.e. staggered.

Mayor Ganz closed the public hearing.

Thereafter, there was a brief discussion between Vice Mayor Preston and Mayor Ganz on how to increase participation, funds budgeted for Martin Luther King Day, along with a comparison of 4th of July attendance and a reduction of costs for the 4th of July fireworks; whereby, thousands still attend the event.

Commissioner Parness commented on the importance of the Office of Public Safety and the positive impact the department would play during an emergency. He emphasized that having a public safety director would ensure the City is prepared for disasters which is necessary in keeping everyone safe. Thereafter, Commissioner Parness commented on the disaster in New Orleans due to a lack of organization or planning. Lastly, Commissioner Parness said the director should have emergency experience, operation with police and fire, as well as other attributes to carry out functions in a logical, cost efficient way as to save the City from major disasters.

Commissioner Hudak opined that the lack of community leadership is the reason for low participation in various events. He said Juneteenth was a successful event because the community was impassioned. The Martin Luther King event has been turned into a party atmosphere, parades, bounces houses, etc. He said if the community is not passionate about the event, it will not be successful. Thereafter, he commented on how there are no events for Memorial Day in the City, but is a huge event throughout the Country. Furthermore, Commissioner Hudak said \$45,000 has been budgeted for MLK, and if the community comes out in droves, more money will be spent as the events are for the community. Commissioner Hudak spoke in support of the Office of Public Safety as it is vitally important to the City. Lastly, he said the director of public safety should report annually what is being saved from the public safety contracts.

Mr. Santucci commended the African American Heritage Board for their work on Juneteenth and other events. He said he would work with the Board and liaison on a plan so the event can be discussed openly by the City Commission. The special events budget may or may not absorb these costs due to COVID protocols; whereas, the events may not be full-scale. Therefore, he will work with the board to see what they are planning, the outreach and determine event expenses and net cost. Continuing, Mr. Santucci said the reduction in school crossing guards is not a reduction and those on staff will be at different locations as the positions are augmented with contractual services. He then explained the positions that do not have pay ranges, including his.

BUDGET & MILLAGE PUBLIC HEARINGS - CONTINUED

Vice Mayor Preston explained how increasing the budget should be done to help increase participation instead of waiting for participation to increase, then increasing the budget.

Commissioner Drosky said based on Mr. Santucci's comments, since all events may not be fully funded due to COVID, there will be funds available to help with certain events; therefore, no funds need to be moved around. Commissioner Drosky then commented on the lackluster parade attendance since he started as a commissioner. He said the fact is, parade attendance throughout the Country is declining, which is evidenced through various resources. Additionally, other cities have eliminated parades due to low attendance and maybe, the parades should be reconsidered for all events.

Mayor Ganz disagreed with increasing the budget without seeing an increase in community participation.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Parness, seconded by Commissioner Hudak, to approve Item 2 on first reading. Roll Call:

Yeas: 5 - Commissioner Drosky, Commissioner Hudak, Commissioner Parness, Vice Mayor Preston and Mayor Ganz

Nays: 0

3. ORDINANCE 2021/ - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF DEERFIELD BEACH, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2021 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2022; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The Ordinance was read by title only.

Mayor Ganz asked that the grade change for the Director of Public Safety be included.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Hudak, seconded by Commissioner Parness, to approve Item 3 on first reading, reduced the grade for the Director of Public Safety to E29. Roll Call:

Yeas: 5 - Commissioner Drosky, Commissioner Hudak, Commissioner Parness, Vice Mayor Preston and Mayor Ganz

Nays: 0

4. ORDINANCE 2021/ - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF DEERFIELD BEACH, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE BUDGET FOR THE DEERFIELD BEACH COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2021 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2022; PROVIDING FOR FUNDING THROUGH TAX INCREMENT FINANCING AS PROVIDED FOR IN PART III, CHAPTER 163, FLORIDA STATUTES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The Ordinance was read by title only.

Mayor Ganz opened the public hearing; however, there were none to speak and the public hearing was closed.

There was no discussion amongst the Commission.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Parness, seconded by Commissioner Hudak, to approve Item 4 on first reading. Roll Call:

BUDGET & MILLAGE PUBLIC HEARINGS - CONTINUED

Yeas: 5 - Commissioner Drosky, Commissioner Hudak, Commissioner Parness, Vice Mayor Preston and Mayor Ganz

Nays: 0

PUBLIC COMMENT

None came forward.

CONSENT - AGREEMENTS & EXPENDITURE REQUESTS

- 5. Resolution 2021/131 - A Resolution of the City Commission of the City of Deerfield Beach, Florida, approving an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Deerfield Beach and the Deerfield Beach Community Redevelopment Agency for administrative support services for the CRA; authorizing execution of the Interlocal Agreement; providing for conflicts and an effective date.**

The Resolution was read by title only.

Mayor Ganz opened the public hearing; however, there were none to speak and the public hearing was closed.

There was no discussion amongst the Commission.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Parness, seconded by Commissioner Hudak, to approve Item 5, adopted Resolution 2021/131. Roll Call:

Yeas: 5 - Commissioner Drosky, Commissioner Hudak, Commissioner Parness, Vice Mayor Preston and Mayor Ganz

Nays: 0

COMMENTS BY ADMINISTRATION & LEGAL

CITY ATTORNEY - No Report.

CITY MANAGER - No Report.

CITY COMMISSION BUSINESS

- 6. Resolution 2021/132 - A Resolution of the City Commission of the City of Deerfield Beach, Florida, recognizing September 11, 2021 as the 20th Anniversary of the terrorist attacks on the United States; designating September 11th as the City of Deerfield Beach First Responders Day; providing for implementation and an effective date.**

The Resolution was read by title only.

Commissioner Hudak commented on his experiences during the terrorist attacks and how his father, a retired New York City firefighter, lost over 432 fellow firefighters and more than 4,000 perished. Numerous first responders have lost their lives due to the chemicals they inhaled during rescue and recovery efforts. Commissioner Hudak said a number of first responders are experiencing ailments due to the exposure to hazardous materials that happened that day.

CITY COMMISSION BUSINESS - CONTINUED

Mayor Ganz opened the public hearing; however, there were none to speak and the public hearing was closed.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Hudak, seconded by Commissioner Parness, to approve Item 10, adopted Resolution 2021/132. Voice Vote:

Yeas: 5 - Commissioner Drosky, Commissioner Hudak, Commissioner Parness, Vice Mayor Preston and Mayor Ganz

Nays: 0

COMMENTS BY MAYOR & CITY COMMISSION**COMMISSIONER DROSKY****DISTRICT 4**

No Report.

COMMISSIONER PARNESS**DISTRICT 3**

Public Transportation - Commissioner Parness said there needs to be an increase in public transportation as people will not give up their cars if accessibility and availability are not improved. Commissioner Parness also commented on the reduction of lanes on Hillsboro Boulevard due to Complete Streets. Since the population continues to increase, something needs to be done.

Vaccine Booster - Commissioner Parness said he was able to receive a booster at Publix, without an appointment as walk-ins are welcome. He encouraged people to continue safety measures, wearing masks, washing hands and being vaccinated as conditions in Florida have worsened.

VICE MAYOR PRESTON**DISTRICT 2**

COVID-19 - Vice Mayor Preston agreed with Commissioner Parness and advised that Broward Health North medical staff said a booster is needed for those who are 8 months out from the initial vaccination. Additionally, he said someone he knows recently passed due to COVID.

Condolences - Vice Mayor Preston advised that Officer John Chikerotis passed away today and encouraged everyone to pray for his family.

COMMISSIONER HUDAK**DISTRICT 1**

COVID-19 - Commissioner Hudak said 98% of people in the ICU are unvaccinated. Younger people are dying and quicker; thus, he encouraged people to get vaccinated. Thereafter, he commented on how vaccines eradicated various diseases from years ago.

District 1 Meetings - Commissioner Hudak said he is available to meet virtually or in-person and asked that those interested contact the City Manager's Office. There will be an upcoming meeting in October, virtually and in-person; meeting date will be forthcoming.

MAYOR BILL GANZ

Officer Chikerotis - Mayor Ganz thanked Vice Mayor Preston for the update and spoke in high regard to Mr. Chikerotis.

ADJOURNMENT

There was no additional business to discuss.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Parness, seconded by Commissioner Hudak, to adjourn the meeting at 9:23 p.m. Voice Vote:

Yeas: 5 - Commissioner Drosky, Commissioner Hudak, Commissioner Parness, Vice Mayor Preston and Mayor Ganz

Nays: 0

CITY OF DEERFIELD BEACH

BILL GANZ, MAYOR

Samantha Gillyard, CMC, City Clerk