

TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Office of The Town Clerk

MINUTES FROM THE FINAL PUBLIC HEARING CONDUCTED BY MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL REGARDING THE MILLAGE RATE AND FY2005 BUDGET ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2004 AT 5:01 P.M. RECESSED AND RESCHEDULED TO SEPTEMBER 27, 2004 AT 5:01 P.M.; RECESSED AND RESCHEDULED TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2004 AT 5:01 P.M. DUE TO HURRICANE JEANNE.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Public Hearing conducted by the Mayor and Town Council was called to order by Councilman William Brooks at 5:02 p.m., on Thursday, September 23, 2004. On roll call the following public officials were found to be in attendance: Mayor Lesly Smith, and Councilman William Brooks. Absent from the meeting were President Allen Wyett, President Pro-Tem Samuel McLendon, Councilman Norman Goldblum, and Councilman Jack McDonald. Also present were: Town Manager Peter Elwell, Finance Director Jane Skittone, Assistant Finance Director Cheryl Somers, and Town Clerk Mary Pollitt.

II. COMMENTS OF TOWN MANAGER PETER B. ELWELL

Town Manager Elwell advised that a news release and notice had been posted in public places in the Town of Palm Beach, as well as notice in the Palm Beach Daily News, advising the public that the a quorum of the Town Council would not be present at the scheduled 5:01 p.m. budget hearing, scheduled for today, September 23, 2004. As a result, this meeting would be continued at 5:01 p.m. on Monday, September 27, 2004, at which time the public hearing would proceed in its normal manner. Because of the forecasts related to Hurricane Jeanne, it may not be possible to hold the postponed regular Town Council meeting, scheduled for Monday, September 27, 2004 at 9:30 a.m., and the continuance of the budget hearing at 5:01 p.m. All efforts would be made to advise the public, should those meetings be canceled.

Town Manager Elwell also advised that preparations had been made today for full activation of the Town emergency plan, if so necessary. He urged everyone to take personal precautions at this point.

Public Hearing
9-23; 9-27; 9-30-04

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III. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting of September 23, 2004 was recessed at 5:06 p.m, to be continued on Monday, September 27, 2004, at 5:01 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Public Hearing conducted by the Mayor and Town Council was reconvened and called to order by Town Manager Peter Elwell at 5:06 p.m. on Monday, September 27, 2004. On roll call the following public officials were found to be absent: Mayor Lesly Smith, President Allen Wyett, President Pro-Tem Samuel McLendon, Councilman William Brooks, Councilman Norman Goldblum, and Councilman Jack McDonald. Also present were Finance Director Jane Skittone, Assistant Finance Director Cheryl Somers, Purchasing Agent Charles Boggs, and Deputy Town Clerk Susan Eichhorn.

II. COMMENTS OF TOWN MANAGER PETER B. ELWELL

Town Manager Elwell advised that a news release and notice had been posted in public places in the Town of Palm Beach, as well as notice in the Palm Beach Daily News, advising the public that, as a result of the occurrence of Hurricane Jeanne, a quorum of the Town Council was not present, and that the recessed and re-scheduled 5:01 p.m. budget hearing, scheduled for today, September 27, 2004, would be recessed and continued at 5:01 p.m. on Thursday, September 30, 2004, at 5:01 p.m., at which time the public hearing would proceed in its normal manner to adopt the FY2005 budget of the Town of Palm Beach. Because of the occurrence of Hurricane Jeanne, it was also not possible to hold the postponed regular Town Council meeting, scheduled for Monday, September 27, 2004 at 9:30 a.m., which was now postponed to Friday, October 1, 2004 at 9:30 a.m. All efforts would be made to advise the public, should those meetings be further delayed.

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III. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting of September 27, 2004 was recessed at 5:10 p.m., to be continued on Thursday, September 30, 2004, at 5:01 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Public Hearing conducted by the Mayor and Town Council was reconvened and called to order by President Allen Wyett at 5:01 p.m. on Thursday, September 30, 2004. On roll call the following public officials were found to be present: Mayor Lesly Smith, President Allen Wyett, President Pro-Tem Samuel McLendon, Councilman William Brooks, and Councilman Jack McDonald. Councilman Norman Goldblum was not in attendance. Others in attendance were: Town Manager Peter Elwell, Assistant Town Manager Tom Bradford, Assistant to the Town Manager Sarah Hannah, Finance Director Jane Skittone, Assistant Finance Director Cheryl Somers, Acting Fire-Rescue Chief Andrew Cox, Human Resource Director William Crouse, Police Chief Michael Reiter, Police Support Services Major Gary Sallenbach, Public Works Director Paul Brazil, and Town Clerk Mary Pollitt.

II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Town Clerk Pollitt gave the Invocation. President Wyett read the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda was approved through motion of President Pro-Tem McLendon, seconded by Councilman Brooks, and carried 4/0 on roll call. President Pro-Tem McLendon, Councilman Brooks, Councilman McDonald and President Wyett cast affirmative votes. Councilman Goldblum was not present at the meeting.

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IV. PUBLIC HEARING ON FINAL FY2005 MILLAGE RATES AND BUDGETS

President Wyett announced that this Public Hearing had been publically advertised and announced to commence at 5:01 p.m. today. The FY2005 proposed millage rates and debt service fund and other fund budgets would be discussed, including the approval of Resolution No. 52-04, and Resolution No. 53-04.

A. Proof of Publication

Town Clerk Pollitt verified proof of publication.

B Proposed Operating Millage Rate

President Wyett advised that at the September 14, 2004, Public Hearing at 5:01, the following proposed millage rates were tentatively approved:

General Fund	3.9594
Debt Service:	.0693
TOTAL	4.0287

The Town of Palm Beach FY2005 General Fund proposed operating millage rate of 3.9594 mills represents a 7.85% increase over the "rolled-back millage rate" of 3.6712 mills.

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

President Wyett asked Town Manager Elwell to comment.

Town Manager Elwell advised that the FY2005 proposed Operating Millage rate of 3.9594 is 7.85% higher than the rolled back millage rate of 3.6712 mills. Factors contributing to the increase over the rolled back rate are as follows:

1. As noted in Exhibit D from for the September 14, 2004, Public Hearing back-up, the FY2005 Operating Fund budget of \$52,380,731 increased \$4,930,096 or 10.4% from the FY2004 Adopted Operating Budget of \$47,450,635. The major increases to the budget include: An increase in the amount transferred to the Retirement Funds, employee pay for performance

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and competitive pay increases, increase in health insurance funding, increases in pay-outs for accumulated leave, and an increase in the transfer to the Capital Improvement Fund for the Town Hall renovation project.

2. Exhibit B from the back-up for the September 14, 2004, Public Hearing outlines the changes made to the budget since the proposed budget was presented to the Mayor and Town Council on July 12, 2004. These changes included the elimination of funding for the traffic and parking improvement plan, the reduction of funding for new positions, offset partially by the funding of tasers for the Police Department, hazmat equipment for the Fire-Rescue Department, and an increased level of service for Palm tree trimming.

D. Comments and Questions from Public

There were none.

E. Discussion and Adoption (with changes, if any) of Resolution No. 52-04 - Adopting Final Millage Rates for FY 2005

Town Manager Elwell read Resolution No. 52-04 by title:

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PALM BEACH, PALM BEACH COUNTY FLORIDA, ADOPTING FINAL MILLAGE RATES AND LEVYING AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2004, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2005, SETTING FORTH CERTAIN INFORMATION REGARDING THE ROLLED-BACK MILLAGE RATE; DIRECTING THE TOWN MANAGER OR THE FINANCE DIRECTOR TO ADJUST THE ADOPTED MILLAGE RATES IN THE EVENT OF CHANGES IN THE ASSESSMENT ROLL AND TAXABLE VALUE, AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Councilman Brooks moved adoption of Resolution No. 52-04, setting a final millage rate of 3.9594 mills for the General (Operating) Fund, and .0693 mills for the Debt Service Fund, for a total of 4.0287; the motion was seconded by President Pro-Tem McLendon. On roll call the motion carried 4/0; Councilman Brooks, President Pro-Tem McLendon, Councilman McDonald and President Wyett cast affirmative votes; Councilman Goldblum was not present

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at the meeting.

- F. Discussion and Adoption (with changes, if any) of Resolution No. 53-04 - Adopting Final Budget for FY2005

Town Manager Elwell read Resolution No. 53-04 by title:

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, 2004, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2005; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

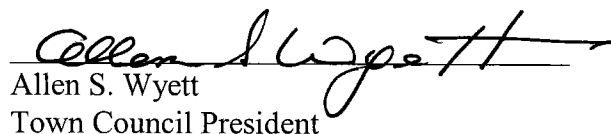
Councilman Brooks moved adoption of Resolution No. 53-04, approving the final budget for all funds for fiscal year 2005. The motion was seconded by President Pro-Tem McLendon, and carried 4/0 on roll call; Councilman Brooks, President Pro-Tem McLendon, Councilman McDonald and President Wyett cast affirmative votes; Councilman Goldblum was not present at the meeting.

V. ANY OTHER MATTERS

There were none.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting of September 23, 2004, recessed to September 27, 2004, recessed to September 30, 2004, was adjourned at 5:12 p.m. on September 30, 2004.


Allen S. Wyett
Town Council President


Mary A. Pollitt
Town Clerk