

TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Office of The Town Clerk

PUBLIC HEARING CONDUCTED BY THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL REGARDING THE FY2004 BUDGET HELD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2003, AT 5:01 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by President William J. Brooks at 5:05 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers. The following Elected Officials were in attendance: Mayor Lesly S. Smith; President William J. Brooks; President Pro-Tem Norman P. Goldblum; Councilman Samuel C. McLendon; Councilman Jack McDonald; and Councilman Allen S. Wyett.

Also attending the meeting were: Town Manager Peter B. Elwell; Assistant Town Manager Thomas G. Bradford; Assistant to the Town Manager Sarah Hannah; Finance Director Jane Skittone; Assistant Finance Director Cheryl Somers; Police Chief Michael S. Reiter; Police Planner Lisa Gorman; Risk Manager Karen Temme; Public Works Director Albert P. Dusey; Fire-Rescue Chief Kent Koelz; Assistant Fire-Rescue Chief John DeLorio; Recreation Director Russell Bitzer; Information Systems Manager Spencer Wilson; Director of Planning, Zoning and Building Robert L. Moore; and Town Clerk Mary A. Pollitt.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilman Wyett made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by President Pro-Tem Goldblum and carried 5-0 on roll call.

III. PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE AND "TENTATIVE" FY2004 BUDGETS

A. Notice of Proposed Property Taxes

President Brooks announced that pursuant to notice of proposed property taxes which were mailed by the County Property Appraiser to each property owner, this public hearing was announced to discuss the Fiscal Year 2004 Proposed Millage Rates and Tentative General

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Fund, Debt Service Fund, and Other Funds Budget including the approval of Resolution No. 33-03 and Resolution No. 35-03.

B. Proposed Operating Millage

President Brooks said the FY2004 General Fund Proposed Operating Millage Rate of 3.9768 mills represents an 8.641% increase over the rolled -back millage rate of 3.6605 mills. He requested the Town Manager identify the reasons the ad valorem taxes are being increased above the rolled-back rate as required by State law.

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

Town Manager Elwell said the FY2004 Proposed Operating Millage Rate of 3.9768 mills is 8.641% higher than the rolled-back millage rate of 3.6605 mills, and factors contributing to the increase over the rolled-back rate are as follows:

1. As noted in Exhibit B, the tentative FY2004 General Operating Fund Budget of \$47,450,635 has decreased \$1,221,036 or 2.5% as compared to the FY2003 Adopted Operating Budget of \$48,671,671. He cited the major increases and decreases to the budget are summarized on Exhibit D and include an increases in the amount transferred to the Retirement Fund, Employee Pay for Performances and Competitive Pay Increases, and the Annual Transfer to the Equipment Replacement Fund. Mr. Elwell continued that decreases were made in the transfers to the Capital Improvement Funds and Various Contractual Service Accounts.
2. Exhibit C outlines the changes that were made to the budget since the proposed budget was presented to the Mayor and Town Council on July 7th and 8th of 2003 and include the addition of three shift commander positions in the Fire-Rescue Department; the restoration of prior budget cuts, and an increase in Contingency Account in the General Fund.

D. Comments and Questions from Public

There were none.

E. Discussion and Adoption (with changes, if any) of Resolution No. 33-03 - Adopting Proposed Operating and Debt Service Millage Rates for FY 2004

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RESOLUTION NO. 33-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF PALM BEACH, PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING PROPOSED MILLAGE RATES NECESSARY TO FUND THE TENTATIVE GENERAL (OPERATING) FUND AND DEBT SERVICE FUND BUDGETS FOR THE 2003 - 2004 FISCAL YEAR.

Councilman Wyett requested the Finance Director state the millage rate for FY2003 as compared to FY 2004?

Finance Director Skittone responded the FY2003 operating millage rate was 3.9706 and the proposed operating millage rate for FY2004 is 3.9768.

Mr. Elwell stated the total overall millage rate has declined from 4.0541mills to 4.0529 mills.

President Pro-Tem Goldblum made a motion to approve Resolution No. 33-03. The motion was seconded by Councilman McLendon and carried 5-0 on roll call.

- F. Discussion and Adoption (with changes, if any) of Resolution No. 35-03 - Adopting a Tentative Operating Budget, Debt Service Budget, and Budgets for Other funds for FY2004

RESOLUTION No. 35-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF PALM BEACH ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE GENERAL (OPERATING) FUND, DEBT SERVICE FUND, AND BUDGETS FOR OTHER FUNDS FOR THE 2003 - 2004 FISCAL YEAR.

President Pro-Tem Goldblum made a motion to approve Resolution No. 35-03. The motion was seconded by Councilman McLendon and carried 5-0 on roll call.

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- G. Second and Final Public Hearing to Adopt Final Millage Rates and Budgets will be on Thursday, September 18, 2003, at 5:01 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers

President Brooks announced this concluded the process of approving the Town's proposed millage rates and tentative budget for the year beginning October 1, 2003, and the final hearing will be on Thursday, September 18th.

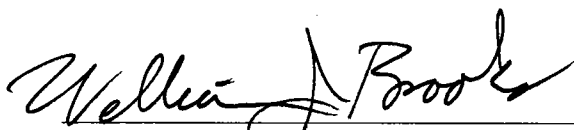
IV. ANY OTHER MATTERS

There were no other matters.

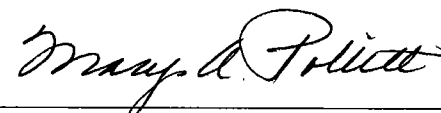
V. ADJOURNMENT

President Pro-Tem Goldblum made a motion for adjournment. The motion was seconded by Councilman McLendon and carried 5-0 on roll call.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:12 p.m.



William J. Brooks, Town Council President



Mary A. Pollitt, Town Clerk