

**Minutes of Special City Council Meeting
held Wednesday, September 3, 2014, at 6:00 P.M.
In the Council Chambers, 11 North 3rd Street,
Jacksonville Beach, Florida.**



CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Charles Latham called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor: Charlie Latham

Council Members: Keith Doherty Steve Hartkemeyer Christine Hoffman (*Absent*)
Tom Taylor Phil Vogelsang (*Absent*) Jeanell Wilson

Also present was City Manager George Forbes, and City Clerk Judy Bullock.

PURPOSE OF MEETING

Mayor Latham advised that the purpose of the meeting was to adopt a Proposed Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2015 and a Tentative Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2015.

Mayor Latham read the following statement:

The first item to be discussed is the Proposed Millage Rate.

- The budget for the City of Jacksonville Beach was prepared using a millage rate of \$3.9947 mills. The rolled back rate is \$3.8994 mills. The proposed millage rate of \$3.9947 mills is 2.4% more than the rolled back rate.

The second item to be discussed is the Tentative Operating Budget.

- The tentative operating budget for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 is \$153,947,972.

Public Hearing

At this time, Mayor Latham opened a Public Hearing on the Proposed Millage Rate and Tentative Operating Budget.

Seeing no one who wished to address the Council, Mayor Latham closed the Public Hearing.

PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE – FY 2015

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Hartkemeyer, to adopt the Proposed Millage Rate for Operating Purposes of \$3.9947 mills.

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Discussion

Mr. Forbes advised that the City is proposing a lower millage rate 2.4% less than last year's rate of \$4.0947 mills and that the budgeted property tax revenue of \$7,705,293 is \$278,961 less than the amount received in 2008.

Mr. Taylor extended his appreciation to the City Manager and staff for the excellent job they do of keeping the City in excellent financial condition. He added that our sister cities could learn from Jacksonville Beach.

Roll call vote: Ayes -Doherty, Hartkemeyer, Taylor, Wilson, and Mayor Latham; motion carried unanimously.

TENTATIVE OPERATING BUDGET – FY 2014-2015

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Hartkemeyer, to adopt the Tentative Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 of \$ 153,947,972.

Mr. Forbes explained that the tentative operating budget is 14% lower than the current year's budget.

Roll call vote: Ayes – Hartkemeyer, Taylor, Wilson, Doherty, and Mayor Latham; motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Latham extended his appreciation to the city employees and elected officials for a great year. Under the leadership of City Manager George Forbes and Finance Officer Harry Royal, the City is once again in sound financial condition. This year's budget is 14% less than the previous year. The union contracts and pension system are sound. The millage rate will be lowered this year and our electric rates have decreased. The City will be debt free in less than six years and the future is very bright for the city and its citizens.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business coming before the Council, Mayor Latham adjourned the meeting at 6:07 p.m.

Submitted by: Judy L. Bullock
City Clerk

Approval:

/s/William C. Latham

William C. Latham, Mayor

Date: September 15, 2014