



# City of Venice

401 West Venice Avenue  
Venice, FL 34285  
www.venicegov.com

## Meeting Minutes City Council

---

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

5:01 PM

Council Chambers

---

### Budget Public Hearing

#### CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Holic called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

#### ROLL CALL

**Present:** 7 - Mayor John Holic, Council Member Jeanette Gates, Council Member Bob Daniels, Vice Mayor Richard Cautero, Council Member Charles Newsom, Council Member Margaret Fiedler and Council Member Helen Moore

#### ALSO PRESENT

City Attorney Kelly Fernandez, City Clerk Lori Stelzer, City Manager Ed Lavallee, and Deputy City Clerk Danielle Lewis.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bob Vedder.

#### I. PUBLIC HEARINGS

##### A. ORDINANCES – FINAL READING

###### ORD. NO. 2019-31

An Ordinance of the City of Venice, Sarasota County, Florida, Adopting the Final Levying of Ad Valorem Taxes for the City of Venice for Fiscal Year 2020; and Providing an Effective Date

Ms. Stelzer stated the operating millage rate is greater than the rolled back rate by 3.31%. The rolled back rate is 3.5815 mills. The operating millage to be levied is 3.700 mills. The voted debt service millage to be levied is .6200 mills; and the City of Venice is the taxing authority.

Mayor Holic opened the public hearing.

Ms. Stelzer noted written communication received after the agenda was posted will be included as part of the record.

Mr. Vedder, 603 Four Bays Drive, Nokomis, commented on the downtown project, the city hiring an irrigation specialist for all of the extra plantings,

and recommended the city hire more staff to maintain the new trees and landscaping.

Mr. Lavallee noted that forty positions were requested across all city departments but the intention has been to keep the tax rate as low as possible.

Discussion ensued on the duties of the irrigation specialist and the extra plantings downtown.

Mayor Holic closed the public hearing.

**A motion was made by Council Member Daniels, seconded by Council Member Gates, that Ordinance No. 2019-31 be approved and adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Mayor Holic, Ms. Gates, Mr. Daniels, Vice Mayor Cautero, Mr. Newsom, Ms. Fiedler and Ms. Moore

[ORD. NO.](#)  
[2019-32](#)

An Ordinance Approving and Adopting the Official Budget of the City of Venice, Florida, for the Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2019 and Ending September 30, 2020; Providing That Disbursements Shall Not Exceed Fund Budgets Without City Council Approval, and Granting the Authority to the City Manager to Make Certain Departmental Transfers Within the Approved Fund Budgets

Ms. Stelzer read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Holic opened the public hearing.

Ms. Stelzer noted written communication was included in the agenda packet.

Mike Rafferty, 989 Cayman Avenue East, spoke to the tax increase at Bay Indies, millage increase, and read from his e-mail to city council dated September 21, 2019.

Mr. Holic closed the public hearing.

**A motion was made by Council Member Daniels, seconded by Council Member Gates, that Ordinance No. 2019-32 be approved and adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Mayor Holic, Ms. Gates, Mr. Daniels, Vice Mayor Cautero, Mr. Newsom, Ms. Fiedler and Ms. Moore

## II. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor - City of Venice

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk