



City of Venice

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

Meeting Minutes City Council

Wednesday, September 5, 2018

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, Vice Mayor Bob Daniels, Council Member Richard Cautero, Council Member Fred Fraize, Council Member Charles Newsom and Council Member Margaret Fiedler

ALSO PRESENT

City Attorney Kelly Fernandez, City Manager Ed Lavallee, City Clerk Lori Stelzer, Finance Director Linda Senne, and Controller Joe Welch.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Linda Senne and Joe Welch.

I. PUBLIC HEARING

ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

[ORD. NO.](#)
[2018-33](#)

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 2019; and Providing an Effective Date

Ms. Stelzer clarified the millage terms to include the current millage, which is 3.600 mills, is the millage that was set last year, on which the last ad valorem taxes were calculated. The rolled-back millage is the rate required to collect the same amount of money as last year with this year's valuation, which is 3.4453 mills. The tentative operating millage is 3.700 mills, which was set by council in July, sent out in the TRIM notices from the Property Appraiser's office and represents an amount 7.39% greater than the rolled back rate. The voted debt service millage is .6380 mills.

Mayor opened the public the public hearing.

No written communication was received and no one signed up to speak.

Mayor Holic closed the public hearing.

Ms. Stelzer read the ordinance by title only.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Daniels, seconded by Council Member Fiedler, to approve Ordinance No. 2018-33 on first reading and schedule for final reading.

Discussion ensued on red tide's effect on the economy.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Mayor Holic, Ms. Gates, Vice Mayor Daniels, Mr. Cautionero, Mr. Fraize, Mr. Newsom and Ms. Fiedler

[ORD. NO.
2018-34](#)

An Ordinance Approving and Adopting the Official Budget of the City of Venice, Florida, for the Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2018 and Ending September 30, 2019; 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.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Daniels, seconded by Council Member Fraize, to approve Ordinance No. 2018-34 on first reading and schedule for final reading.

Discussion ensued on fire department funding, property taxes, increasing the millage rate for fiscal year (FY) 2019, and charter officer salary increases.

An amendment to the budget was made by Council Member Newsom, seconded by Vice Mayor Daniels, to increase compensation for the city manager from 3.5% to 10% and city clerk from 3.5% to 5% for FY19.

Discussion followed on charter officer duties, functions, and responsibilities, funding availability, proposed percentage, workforce, and salaries of neighboring communities.

The amendment carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Vice Mayor Daniels, Mr. Cautionero, Mr. Fraize, Mr. Newsom and Ms. Fiedler

No: 2 - Mayor Holic and Ms. Gates

Discussion ensued on aspects of the budget, including general fund reserves, contingencies available for 2019 needs, millage rate, future expenses coming over the next three to five years, adequacy of reserves, fire department pension funding, additional homestead exemption, parks, zero based budgeting exercise, revenues, red tide impacts, budget guidelines, distribution of the revenues as a result of the millage increase for FY19, earmarking revenues, and the fire department's general fund budget.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Ms. Gates, Vice Mayor Daniels, Mr. Causero, Mr. Fraize, Mr. Newsom and Ms. Fiedler

No: 1 - Mayor Holic

Mr. Lavalley thanked council members and staff for their support during the budget process.

II. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 5:57 p.m.

ATTEST:

Mayor - City of Venice

City Clerk