



City of Venice

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

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, September 13, 2016

5:01 PM

Council Chambers

BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

Broadcast

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Present: 5 - Mayor John Holic, Council Member Kit McKeon, Council Member Jeanette Gates, Council Member Richard Cautero and Council Member Fred Fraize

Absent: 2 - Council Member Bob Daniels and Council Member Deborah Anderson

ALSO PRESENT

City Attorney Dave Persson, City Clerk Lori Stelzer, City Manager Ed Lavallee, Recording Secretary Mercedes Barcia, and for certain items on the agenda: Finance Director Linda Senne

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Stelzer offered the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Cautero.

Mayor Holic recognized Frank Abbruzzino who is running for mayor.

I. PUBLIC HEARING

16-2210

Consideration of a Proposed Millage Rate for Year Ending December 31, 2016

Ms. Stelzer clarified the millage terms to include the current millage at 3.1000 mills that was set last year on which the last ad valorem taxes were calculated, the roll-back millage is the rate required to collect the same amount of money as last year with this year's valuation, which is 4.2376 mills, the tentative operating millage is 3.6000 mills that was set by council in July and represents 26.74% less than the rolled-back rate, and the voted debt service millage is .1660 mills.

Mr. Lavallee expressed appreciation for staff and council support.

Ms. Senne presented spreadsheets and spoke on proposed changes made to the general fund budget for fiscal year (FY) 2017 to include the city council's budget, city manager's budget, historical resources' budget, movement of funds into the one-cent sales tax, parks and recreation budget, law enforcement budget, information technology (IT) budget, transfers to the fleet fund, and proposed amount in reserves.

Ms. Senne followed on proposed changes to the one-cent sales tax fund to include IT operations and equipment, data center at fire station 3, historical resources, utility department relocation, Venice Gateway improvements, and city hall entryway improvements.

Ms. Senne responded to council questions regarding contribution to the relocation of sewer lines and place holders for projects approved by council.

Mr. Lavallee clarified the budget's review and procurement process.

Ms. Senne continued to discuss proposed changes to the airport, utilities, solid waste, stormwater, and fleet funds.

Ms. Stelzer clarified the rolled-back rate is actually 2.8856 and millage is 24.76% greater than the rolled-back rate.

Ms. Senne noted the maximum millage rate the city can set.

Mayor Holic opened the public hearing.

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

Mayor Holic closed the public hearing.

Discussion followed on approval of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) budget and a 3.5% raise proposal for the charter officers. Ms. Senne noted raises were already included in the budget.

A motion was made by Council Member McKeon, seconded by Council Member Gates, to approve the changes to proposed FY 2017 budget as a result of the budget workshop as presented to include \$196,470 for city hall entryway improvements, additional \$300,000 for solid waste automation, and leave \$52,500 for Osprey Ditch.

Mayor Holic provided an update on Osprey Ditch guardrail project.

Discussion ensued whether to remove the money or leave money as a placeholder in the budget.

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

A motion was made by Council Member McKeon, seconded by Council Member Gates, to give the charter officers a 3.5% raise for FY 2017.

Discussion ensued on clarification of the 3.5% raise in the city attorney's retainer.

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

[16-2211](#) Tentative Budget, Fiscal Year 2017

This item was discussed under 16-2210.

II. NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

[ORD. NO. 2016-14](#) 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 2017; and Providing an Effective Date

Ms. Stelzer read the ordinance by title only.

A motion was made by Council Member Gates, seconded by Council Member McKeon, to approve Ordinance No. 2016-14 on first reading and schedule it for final reading.

Discussion followed on health insurance costs, increase in fire and pension costs, ailing infrastructure needing improvement, utilizing general fund reserves to close budget gap for FY 2016, expenses exceeding revenue, general fund reserve estimate, and building reserves.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Mayor Holic, Mr. McKeon, Ms. Gates, Mr. Cautero and Mr. Fraize

Absent: 2 - Mr. Daniels and Ms. Anderson

[ORD. NO. 2016-15](#) An Ordinance Approving and Adopting the Official Budget of the City of Venice, Florida, for the Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2016 and Ending September 30, 2017; 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 Council Member McKeon, seconded by Council Member Fraize, to approve Ordinance No. 2016-15 on first reading and schedule it for final reading.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Mayor Holic, Mr. McKeon, Ms. Gates, Mr. Cautero and Mr. Fraize

Absent: 2 - Mr. Daniels and Ms. Anderson

III. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

ATTEST:

Mayor - City of Venice

City Clerk