

City of Auburndale Commission Minutes September 20, 2022

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City of Auburndale held September 20, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in the Commission Room of City Hall, after having been properly advertised, with the following members present: Mayor Dorothea Taylor Bogert, Commissioners: Keith Cowie, Richard Hamann, Jack Myers, and Bill Sterling. Also, present were: City Manager Jeffrey Tillman, City Attorney Frederick J. Murphy Jr., Assistant City Manager Amy Palmer, and Police Chief Andy Ray.

Mayor Dorothea Taylor Bogert declared a quorum present, and the Meeting was opened with prayer by Associate Pastor Randy Schneider, Legacy Community Church, and a salute to the flag.

Motion by Commissioner Myers, seconded by Commissioner Hamann, to approve Minutes of the City Commission Special Workshop and Meeting of September 8, 2022. Upon vote, all ayes.

City Manager Jeffrey Tillman announced that Marsha Johnson of City staff will be calling to collect RSVPs for the Ridge League of Cities meeting being hosted in Winter Haven on October 13. He announced the passing of Ernie Bostelman, Jr., who passed away last Thursday and was a 42-year Planning Commissioner.

Public Works Director John Dickson presented Jorge Escobedo of the Public Utilities Division with his longevity plaque for five years of service.

City Manager Tillman presented Police Chief Andy Ray with his longevity plaque for 10 years of service.

Mayor Taylor Bogert recognized Greater Auburndale Chamber of Commerce President Alex Cam, who was in attendance.

Mayor Taylor Bogert asked if there was public comment on any item not on the agenda. There was no public comment.

1. PUBLIC HEARING – FY 2022-2023 TAX MILLAGE LEVY & ANNUAL BUDGET

Mayor Taylor Bogert closed the Regular Meeting and opened the Public Hearing.

City Manager Tillman said the Public Hearing has been advertised in accordance with the Florida Statutes regarding the method of fixing tax millage. This Public Hearing is the second of two (2) required Public Hearings. The first Public Hearing was held on September 8, 2022.

The proposed Budget for FY 2023 is balanced with Total Revenue and Total Expenditures of \$70,511,020 before interfund transfers. Expenditures include general operating expenses of \$44,355,409. Capital Improvements of \$25,953,740 and Contingency Reserve of \$201,871. He presented changes and adjusted Contingency figures. The Proposed FY 2023 and 2024 Budgets include all changes made during the Regular City Commission meetings of April 18, 2022 (Payroll), May 16, 2022 (Capital Outlay), June 20, 2022 (Expenditures), and July 18, 2022 (Revenues).

Revenues from ad-valorem taxes for FY 2023 and FY 2024 are estimated at \$7,740,000 and are based upon the operating millage rate of 4.2515.

In addition to revenues being balanced, all five funds are balanced – including the General Fund, Community Redevelopment Agency Fund, Utility Fund, General Fund Impact Fees Fund, and the Utility Fund Impact Fees Fund.

The FY 2023 Budget also includes the proposed Five-Year Schedule of Capital Improvements (CIP) for the City's Public Safety, Parks and Recreation and Public Works Departments. This schedule, which is a requirement of the City's Comprehensive Plan, assists the City Commission in prioritizing future capital needs throughout the City and is updated annually during the budget process to include a "new fifth year".

A balanced FY 2024 Budget (2nd Year Budget) is also being presented for the Commission's conceptual approval. The FY 2024 Budget will be reviewed by City Staff and the City Commission during the next Budget update process in order to accommodate needs that have arisen since the planned budget was prepared.

Changes to the proposed Biennial Budget will be presented by staff during the Public Hearing and before Commission action.

The proposed Ordinances were prepared by the Finance Director and reviewed by the City Manager and City Attorney. The proposed Ordinances were approved on first reading on Thursday, September 8, 2022 and are being presented for second and final reading.

He said staff recommends approval of the proposed Ordinance establishing the tax millage levy at 4.2515 mills which is a 12.6% increase over the rolled-back rate of 3.7761 mills and the proposed Ordinance adopting the FY 2023 and FY 2024 Annual Budgets.

Mayor Taylor Bogert asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

Mayor Taylor Bogert closed the Public Hearing and reopened the Regular Commission Meeting.

2. ORDINANCE #1716 ADOPTING FY 2023 TAX MILLAGE LEVY

City Manager Tillman said Ordinance #1716 adopts the 2023 Tax Millage Levy of 4.2515.

City Attorney Frederick J. Murphy Jr. read Ordinance No. 1716 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AUBURNDALE, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING THE TAX LEVY FOR THE YEAR 2022 ON ALL PROPERTY WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF AUBURNDALE AS SHOWN BY THE 2022 ASSESSMENT ROLL: ESTABLISHING THE MILLAGE RATE AT 4.2515, WHICH IS A 12.6% INCREASE OVER THE ROLLED BACK RATE OF 3.7761, AND PROVIDING FOR THE APPLICATION THEREOF; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE**, by title only.

Motion by Commissioner Hamann, seconded by Commissioner Sterling, to approve Ordinance #1716 adopting FY 2023 Tax Millage Levy, as read on second and final reading by title only. Upon vote, all ayes.

3. ORDINANCE #1717 ADOPTING FY 2023 & FY 2024 ANNUAL BUDGETS

City Manager Tillman said staff recommends approval of Ordinance #1717 – Adopting FY 2023 and FY 2024 Annual Budgets.

City Attorney Frederick J. Murphy Jr. read Ordinance No. 1717 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AUBURNDALE, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 ANNUAL BUDGET; CONCEPTUALLY APPROVING THE FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 ANNUAL BUDGET; ADOPTING THE FIVE (5) YEAR SCHEDULE OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS (CIP); AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE**, by title only.

Motion by Commissioner Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Hamann, to approve Ordinance #1717 adopting FY 2023 & FY 2024 Annual Budgets, as read on second and final reading by title only.

Commissioner Hamann asked if Ordinance #1716 makes the City the lowest millage rate in Polk County?

City Manager Tillman said it would be dependent upon what other cities would do as they go through their budget approval process. The City was the second lowest for this current fiscal year. Other cities are looking at increasing their millage rate. There is the potential for Auburndale to become the lowest by maintaining it at 4.2515 mills.

City Attorney Murphy said we are not sure what the City of Bartow will do.

City Manager Tillman said the City of Bartow is looking at increasing their millage rate.

Upon vote, all ayes.

4. ORDINANCE #1718 AMENDING MUNICIPAL IMPACT FEES / 2022 RATE STUDY

City Manager Tillman said Ordinance #1718 amends the Municipal Impact Fees based on the 2022 Rate Study completed by Raftelis. He yielded to Finance Director Christopher Reeder.

Finance Director Reeder said in April 2022, the City Commission authorized Raftelis Financial Consultants, Inc. to conduct a comprehensive study of the City's municipal impact fees which include Police, Fire and Parks & Recreation impact fees. The last comprehensive review of the City's Municipal impact fees was completed 16 years ago in December 2005 and provided 3% adjustments through 2009. Since the previous study was completed, the City has experienced tremendous growth requiring the need for additional public facilities to service new residents including a park in north Auburndale, an additional fire station, and additional police officers.

The 2022 Municipal Impact Fee Study (Study) completed by Raftelis provides a thorough review of projected Police, Fire, and Parks & Recreation revenues compared to the City's Two-Year Budget, Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan, operational expenses, transfers, estimated inflation, and debt service requirements. The Study also provides an updated review of projected populations, land use designations and demand for services related to Police, Fire and Parks & Recreation services applied to new development and re-development to maintain existing service levels. The proposed Ordinance adjusts impact fees based on the findings and recommendations of the Study.

Finance Director Reeder referred to a chart depicting the implementation plan.

City Manager Tillman said Ordinance #1718 implementing the proposed Police, Fire, and Parks & Recreation impact fee structure has an effective date of January 1, 2023. This will allow any development currently in the works to take advantage of the current rates.

The proposed Ordinances were prepared by the Finance Director and reviewed by the City Manager, Public Utilities Director, and City Attorney – and the Fire Chief, Police Chief, and Parks and Recreation Director. The proposed Ordinance was approved on first reading on Thursday, September 8, 2022 and is being presented for second and final reading. He said staff recommends approval. City Staff also presented the 2022 Municipal Impact Fee Study completed by Raftelis during a Special City Commission Workshop on Thursday, September 8, 2022 at 6:30 P.M. in the Commission Room at City Hall prior to the Regular City Commission Meeting and at a Second Special City Commission Workshop Meeting this evening at 6:30 P.M. in the Commission Room at City Hall on September 20, 2022 prior to the Regular City Commission Meeting on September 20, 2022 at 7:00 P.M. in order to discuss the extraordinary circumstances regarding the recommendation for raising the amount of the Impact Fees as set forth in the 2022 Municipal Impact Fee Study completed by Raftelis.

City Attorney Frederick J. Murphy Jr. read Ordinance No. 1718 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF AUBURNDALE, FLORIDA, MAKING FINDINGS AND AMENDING THE SCHEDULE OF RATES FOR POLICE, FIRE, AND PARKS AND RECREATION IMPACT FEES COLLECTED BY THE CITY OF AUBURNDALE, FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; A REPEALING CLAUSE; AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE CORRECTION OF SCRIVENER'S ERRORS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE**, by title only.

Mayor Taylor Bogert asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

Motion by Commissioner Sterling, seconded by Commissioner Hamann, to approve Ordinance #1718 amending Municipal (Police, Fire, Parks & Recreation) Impact Fees, as read on second and final reading, by title only.

Commissioner Myers said that his nay vote on this item does not indicate his lack of support for Fire, Police, and Parks and Recreation. He just thinks there are other ways to fund it. Fire and Police protection is one of the most essential things a government does, to keep the City safe.

Commissioner Hamann says growth has to help pay for this. I am not for growth not paying for itself.

William Voigt, 2406 Lake Lena Boulevard, asked if a developer who has an ongoing project but does not break ground and sits on or stalls the project – would they still be subject to current impact fees?

City Manager Tillman answered January 1, 2023 is the implementation period (90 days). If the project has not broken ground by January 1, they would be subject to new fees.

Commissioner Cowie said it is when they pull the permit is when they pay the fee. If they pull the permit before January 1, 2023, they get the old (current) fee. After January 1, 2023, they get the new (proposed) fee.

Upon vote, four ayes and Commissioner Myers voting nay.

5. AGREEMENT WITH LAKELAND AREA MASS TRANSIT FOR BUS SERVICE

City Manager Tillman said the Lakeland Area Mass Transit District is the legal entity responsible for the operation and management of the public transportation system within Polk County. For several years, the City of Auburndale has agreed to participate in funding a portion of the fixed route services currently being operated through the city boundaries. This includes those services provided by the Purple Line, formerly Route 12, and Route 50 that run through and stop within the city limits.

The proposed Service Agreement is for two (2) years, through September 30, 2024, and keeps the allocation of \$81,529.51 in FY 2023 and FY 2024. Earlier this year, Erin Killebrew-Kinlaw of Citrus Connection made a presentation to the Commission regarding the status of transit in Auburndale. Funding for the bus service is included in the current FY 2023 and planned FY 2024 Budgets.

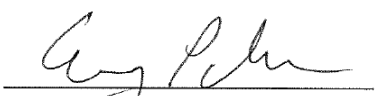
The proposed Service Agreement was prepared by the Lakeland Area Mass Transit District and reviewed by the City Manager and City Attorney. Staff recommends approval.

Mayor Taylor Bogert asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

Motion by Commissioner Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Hamann, to approve the Agreement with Lakeland Area Mass Transit for Bus Service. Upon vote, all ayes.

The Meeting was adjourned at 7:23:44 PM.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Minutes are true and correct


 Amy Palmer, Assistant City Manager