

M I N U T E S

SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING
SOUTH PASADENA, FLORIDA

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2014
COMMISSION CHAMBERS - 7:00 P.M.

MAYOR CALABRIA CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 7:00 P.M. THE INVOCATION WAS GIVEN BY VICE MAYOR PENNY. ALL PARTICIPATED IN THE PLEDGE TO THE FLAG.

ROLL CALL: COMMISSIONERS BRUCE HOWRY, MAX ELSON, GAIL NEIDINGER, VICE MAYOR ARTHUR PENNY AND MAYOR DAN CALABRIA. ALSO PRESENT: CITY CLERK CARLEY LEWIS, CITY ATTORNEY DAVID OTTINGER, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR GARRY ANDERSON, FINANCE DIRECTOR JAMES GRAHAM, COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DIRECTOR NEAL SCHWARTZ, AND DEPUTY CITY CLERK BRIANNA WETHERWAX.

PEOPLE'S FORUM

Resident June Fruland, Pasadena Isle, spoke regarding the city's financial status. She stated that she heard at a recent meeting that the city has 5-7 years before it could be bankrupt. She encouraged the Commission to shop for a City Attorney.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

PUBLIC HEARING

- RESOLUTION NO. 2014-16 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL LEVYING OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015, PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Calabria stated this is the second and final public hearing on the 2014-2015 budget. The purpose of this hearing is to amend, if necessary, and adopt a millage rate and final budget. The following will be accomplished:

1. Determine the millage rate to fund the budget; adopt a millage rate.
2. Receive both the public and City Commissioners' comments regarding the budget and answer questions.
3. Pass a resolution setting the millage rate to be levied and adopt a budget for the 2014-2015 fiscal year.

Finance Director Graham read Resolution No. 2014-16 in its entirety.

SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2014 - 7:00 P.M.

Mayor Calabria opened the public hearing at 7:09 p.m.

Resident Jeri Gammage, Pasadena Isle, spoke regarding the city budget. She questioned what the proposed tax increase would be for a \$100,000 house. She stated that she appreciates the Commission's work on the budget.

In response to Ms. Gammage, Vice Mayor Penny spoke regarding tax increases. He stated that based on taxable values, taxes would increase \$31.20 per year/\$2.60 per month for a \$100,000 home, \$46.80 per year/\$3.90 per month for a \$150,000 home, and \$93.60 per year/\$7.80 per month for a \$300,000 home.

Resident Billie Williams, Pasadena Isle, spoke regarding city spending. She questioned where city money is going.

There being no further public comment, Mayor Calabria closed the public hearing at 7:13 p.m.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER HOWRY, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ELSON TO PASS RESOLUTION NO. 2014-16.

Vice Mayor Penny spoke regarding the city budget. He stated that the Commission spent a lot of time going through the budget and evaluated costs. He stated that the city lost \$400,000 annual income from Pinellas County for the unincorporated fire district. He further stated that the Commission maintained the millage rate for 5 years while property values decreased by using reserve funds. He spoke regarding red light camera revenues and noted that they are trending down. He noted that the city will still have one of the lowest millage rates in the county.

Commissioner Neidinger stated that 80% of the budget is nondiscretionary including salaries and benefits. She noted that some expenses were rolled forward to save money.

Commissioner Elson spoke regarding the budget. He stated that the city is not overstaffed. He stated that there has not been a millage increase in 4-5 years and the proposed increase is relatively minor.

Commissioner Howry spoke regarding the millage rate. He stated that reserves are monies already collected from tax payers and they do not always need to increase. He stated

SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2014 - 7:00 P.M.

that reserves are used when necessary.

In response to Mayor Calabria, Mr. Graham stated that the General Fund is \$5,174,865 for the proposed budget and was \$5,057,470 for the previous year. He noted that the difference is a 2.3% increase.

Mayor Calabria spoke regarding the budget process. He stated that there must be a way to reduce the budget and spoke regarding the employee expense reduction incentive program. He stated that the city knew it would lose the funding for the unincorporated fire district and noted that the city did not bid on it.

Mayor Calabria spoke regarding red light cameras. He stated that Senator Brandes is against red light cameras and is proposing that money should not go to an organization's general fund if the cameras are for safety. He noted that St. Pete Beach and Treasure Island do not have red light cameras.

Commissioner Howry questioned the relevance of Mayor Calabria's opinions on the red light cameras in the budget discussion.

VOTE:	COMMISSIONER HOWRY	AYE
	COMMISSIONER ELSON	AYE
	VICE MAYOR PENNY	AYE
	COMMISSIONER NEIDINGER	AYE
	MAYOR CALABRIA	NO

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

. ORDINANCE NO. 2014-01 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA, FLORIDA, ADOPTING FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE - THIRD AND FINAL READING.

Finance Director Graham read Ordinance No. 2014-01 by title.

Mayor Calabria opened the public hearing at 7:29 p.m.

SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2014 - 7:00 P.M.

Resident Larry Galantis, Pasadena Isle, questioned if there is a statutory reason for not reducing the nondiscretionary 80% of the city's budget.

In response to Mayor Calabria, Mr. Graham said that the Fire Department has 18 personnel out of the city's 38 employees.

Commissioner Neidinger stated that health insurance has increased.

Mr. Galantis spoke regarding reducing services. He questioned if the city needs its own Fire Department.

Vice Mayor Penny spoke regarding response times. He stated that the city currently has one of the lowest response times in the county.

Discussion ensued regard South Pasadena's Fire Department.

Mr. Galantis suggested hiring an efficiency expert.

In response to Mr. Galantis, Vice Mayor Penny stated that the money spent on the corridor plan was from Penny for Pinellas.

There being no public comment, Mayor Calabria closed the public hearing at 7:37 p.m.

Commissioner Elson spoke regarding a recent traffic accident in which a city vehicle was totaled. He stated that the truck needs to be replaced.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER ELSON, SECONDED BY VICE MAYOR PENNY TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 2014-01 AS FOLLOWS: INCREASE FUND BALANCE - CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUND BY \$30,000 FROM \$1,096,140 TO \$1,126,140, THEREBY INCREASING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUND - TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES AND FUND BALANCES BY \$30,000 FROM \$1,865,340 TO \$1,895,340, AND INCREASE PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION APPROPRIATIONS-CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUND BY \$30,000 FROM \$768,500 TO \$798,500, THEREBY INCREASING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUND - TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS AND TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS AND RESERVES FROM \$1,865,340 TO \$1,895,340.

SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2014 - 7:00 P.M.

Mr. Graham stated that Commissioner Elson's motion is to increase expenditures by \$30,000 as a result of the traffic accident. He stated that the replacement value of the vehicle was \$8,000.

Discussion ensued replacing the totaled truck.

Commissioner Howry said that the funds to replace the truck are capital funds that come from Penny for Pinellas. He stated that the budget is being adjusted to move the money.

Mr. Graham spoke regarding government accounting and revenue sources. He discussed the General Fund, Capital Improvements Fund, and Enterprise Funds. He stated that the General Fund is for day to day expenses and the Capital Improvements Fund is for capital items.

VOTE:	COMMISSIONER ELSON	AYE
	VICE MAYOR PENNY	AYE
	COMMISSIONER NEIDINGER	AYE
	COMMISSIONER HOWRY	AYE
	MAYOR CALABRIA	AYE

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED


MOTION WAS MADE BY VICE MAYOR PENNY, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER NEIDINGER TO PASS ORDINANCE NO. 2014-01 AS AMENDED ON THIRD AND FINAL READING.

VOTE:	VICE MAYOR PENNY	AYE
	COMMISSIONER NEIDINGER	AYE
	COMMISSIONER HOWRY	AYE
	COMMISSIONER ELSON	AYE
	MAYOR CALABRIA	AYE

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2014 - 7:00 P.M.



Dan Calabria, Mayor

ATTEST:



Carley Lewis, City Clerk
09-17.14s