



MINUTES OF THE FIRST BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE TOWN OF BRINY BREEZES, FLORIDA HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 11, 2012 AT 10:00 A.M. IN THE TOWN HALL, 4802 NORTH OCEAN BOULEVARD, BRINY BREEZES, FLORIDA.

### **CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & ROLL CALL**

Council President Sharon Kendrigan called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and led the pledge of allegiance. Roll call was taken by Deputy Town Clerk Cindy Corum.

### **IN ATTENDANCE**

Mayor Roger Bennett, Council President Sharon Kendrigan, Alderman/Town Clerk Pro Tem Nancy Boczon and Alderman Pete Fingerhut. Alderman Sue Thaler participated via tele-conference. Also present were Deputy Town Clerk Cindy Corum, Town Bookkeeper Linda Harvel and her daughter, Lesa Shoeman, and Briny Breezes Inc. General Manager Steve Best. Alderman Lowen Pooch was absent and Town Attorney Jerome Skrandel was at a required Local Mitigation Strategy meeting on behalf of the Town.

### **ADDITIONS, WITHDRAWALS, DELETIONS AND ARRANGEMENT OF AGENDA**

President Kendrigan added 'Discussion of Proposed Millage Rate' to the agenda.

### **DISCUSSION**

Mayor Bennett suggested the Town keep the current 10 mils millage rate. He reminded the Council that the Town had never collected the budgeted \$30,000 from Briny Breezes, Inc. the previous year. He said reducing the millage could put the Town in a financial bind if the Briny Breezes, Inc. Board decided to withhold funds again. Briny Breezes Inc. General Manager Steve Best said he thought the situation today was different than in past years. Alderman Fingerhut said he thought 10 mils was a 'no brainer and everyone should strive to keep costs close to last year. Council President Sharon Kendrigan agreed the millage rate should stay at 10 mils. Town Bookkeeper Linda Harvel reminded Council that cutting the millage rate limits future increases should the need arise, because by law the rate can only be increased again in incremental amounts. A consensus was reached to retain the millage rate at 10.

President Kendrigan said the new ad valorem revenue estimates received from the Palm Beach County Property Appraiser amounted to \$361,166 for the Town of Briny Breezes for the upcoming fiscal year. The Council also went over estimated revenues for Gas Taxes, Communications Services Tax and other anticipated revenues.

Deputy Town Clerk Corum said she had a concern about lumping the 5 cent and 6 cent Gas Taxes together. She said she felt they should be accounted for separately because State Statute mandates the 6 cent revenue is restricted to use for Capital Improvement as it relates to transportation expenditures in the Town's Comprehensive Plan, whereas the 5 cent revenue can be used for transportation expenditure such as road maintenance. Mrs. Harvel agreed to create a new account to keep the two Gas Tax revenues separate on the books.

Alderman Sue Thaler questioned whether the Alternative Fuel User Tax revenue was a different and separate revenue than Gas Tax, and why it was not included in the budget. Mrs. Harvel said she thought the Fuel User Tax was part of the 5 cent Gas Tax, but she would research that and report back at the next Budget Workshop. Also to be researched was the income the Town could expect to receive from the Local Option Sales Tax, as Mrs. Harvel believed the State had recently made significant increases in that revenue. Deputy Clerk Corum said she would call FMIT and check on the anticipated insurance premium payment for next year and report back at the next meeting.

**General Fund Expenditure Tentative Budget Adjustments:**

Tentative budget reductions were made for: Auditing Expense - as the Town is in the process of going out to bid; Building Permit Fees - as less permits are expected to be issued next year; and Clerk Charges for records requests - as most records requests are now filled via email.

Tentative budget increases were made for: Fire Protection - as the contract includes a 4% annual increase.

**Enterprise Fund Expenditure Tentative Budget Adjustments:**

Tentative budget increase was made to: Repairs and Maintenance – as several of the Town's sewer pumps may be approaching the end of their lifespan.

Tentative budget increase was made to: Water Utility Service; and Sewer Utility Service as costs were expected to increase for both.

A separate line item was to be added for Legal Advertising and Other Contractual Services for Jim Phillippi, the meter reader.

**Both Funds:**

Separate accounts were to be created for Auditing Services, Town Clerk and Bookkeeping Services, instead of grouping all three together in one account.

Mayor Bennett said (for the record) he was concerned that Alderman Poock did not attend this Budget Meeting because Mr. Poock spoke at the last meeting of working on an idea which would save the Town significant money. The Mayor wondered what Mr. Poock's ideas on this subject were.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made and seconded (Boczon/Fingerhut) to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 12:06 P.M.

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Mayor Roger Bennett

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President Sharon Kendrigan

SEAL

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Alderman Nancy Boczon

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Alderman Sue Thaler

ATTEST:

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Alderman Pete Fingerhut

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Cindy Lou Corum, Deputy Town Clerk

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Alderman Lowen Pock