

**CITY COMMISSION BUDGET WORKSHOP**  
**MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 2017**  
**6:00 P.M.**  
**COMMISSION CHAMBERS, CITY HALL**  
**8 W BROADWAY STREET**  
**FORT MEADE, FLORIDA 33841**

A Budget Workshop of the Fort Meade City Commission was held at 6:00 PM Monday, August 14, 2017 at the City Hall Commission Chambers, 8 West Broadway, Fort Meade, Florida.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:**

The Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Mayor Manley.

2. **ROLL CALL:**

Mayor	Barbara Manley	Present
Vice Mayor	Richard Cochrane	Present
Commissioner	Robert Elliott	Absent
Commissioner	Maurice Nelson	Present
Commissioner	James Watts	Present

**Staff Present**

City Manager	Fred Hilliard	Present
City Attorney	Thomas Cloud	Absent
Deputy City Clerk	Melissa Newman	Present
Finance Director	Breanna Smith	Present

3. **FY 2017/2018 Budget Work Session:**

Ms. Breanna Smith stated that after the budget was pared down to what we couldn't live without, she consulted with the City's CPA and it was recommended that the best way to move forward without borrowing money that would have to be paid back at a higher interest rate would be to borrow previous year profits that we have booked to the electric fund. Ms. Smith stated that measures need to be put in place to put more money on reserve but at this point the general fund is not strong enough to fund itself from its own reserves so due to lack of options this is what needs to be done.

Mr. Fred Hilliard stated that they spoke with the CPA, Mike Brynulfson and went through several different scenarios and this was the best option. He stated that the budget was solid but we do have a shortfall.

Commissioner Nelson asked about what was removed from the wish list. Ms. Nelson asked what happens to the items that have been budgeted for in previous budgets but have not been purchased, was it rolled over? Mr. Hilliard responded that it was not rolled over but used to balance the budget due to other line items that were over budget. Commissioner Nelson asked where the rent money from East Coast Migrant that was supposed to be used for recreation went and why it

wasn't being used at the community center. Mr. Hilliard stated that that money was never allocated to only recreation.

Mayor Manley asked about the fund balance brought forward in this budget report that wasn't in the previous report. Ms. Smith stated that this is to balance that fund budget from its reserve, if it was a surplus carried forward that is the profit we expect to make to put in the reserves.

Ms. Nelson asked when are we going to do something to improve some of these items. We have talked about it and budgeted it for years and years and nothing has been done, such as the recreation center.

Mr. Hilliard stated that is why he would like to implement the fire assessment to increase the revenue to the general fund.

Ms. Manley stated that we cannot continue to balance the budget this way and Mr. Hilliard stated that this is why we have to manage the budget better.

Mayor Manley questioned every department that was cut. Ms. Manley questioned cutting the Citrus Connection line item stating that this is something that she feels should stay in the budget this year and have discussion later of whether or not to keep it in the budget next year.

Commissioner Nelson stated she wants to see the renovations to the Community Center put back in the budget stating that if you put the money into renovating you will recoup the money if it is a nice facility to have events at.

After much discussion, it was decided to bring these items back to the next regular meeting for a vote.

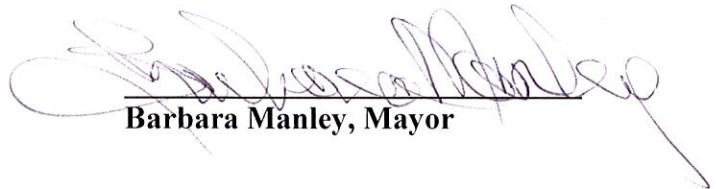
4. **COMMENTS**

None.

5. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion Commissioner Nelson, second Commissioner Elliott to adjourn the Budget Workshop of the Fort Meade City Commission on Wednesday, August 14, 2017 at 7:15 P.M.

**Motion carried with all yeas.**



Barbara Manley, Mayor

ATTEST:



Melissa Newman, Deputy City Clerk