

**CITY OF FORT MEADE, FLORIDA
COMMISSION BUDGET PLANNING WORKSHOP
JULY 14, 2016**

A Budget Planning Workshop of the Fort Meade City Commission was held at 6:00 PM Thursday, July 14, 2016 at the City Hall Commission Chambers, 8 West Broadway, Fort Meade, Florida.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM by Mayor Watts.

2. ROLL CALL:

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

*Commissioner Elliott arrived at 6:03 PM

Staff Present

City Manager	Fred Hilliard	Present
City Attorney	Thomas Cloud	Absent
Deputy City Clerk	Melissa Newman	Present
Public Works Director	Jackie Cannon	Present
Water and Wastewater	Robbie Ward	Absent
Streets/Stormwater	Mike Bolin	Present
Parks Supervisor	Roc Eiland	Present
Finance Accountant	Breanna Smith	Present
Recreation Director	Marcella Nelson	Present
Library Director	Jacqueline Rose	Present

3. DISCUSS PROPOSED FY 2016-2017 BUDGET

City Manager Fred Hilliard presented the commission with the expenditures and stated the revenue projections have not been completed.

Mr. Hilliard and staff put together a list of information showing the millage rates stating that if we went with the current millage of 5.6484 it would increase the budget by approximately \$10,000., if you used the rollback millage of 5.53 it would reduce the budget by approximately \$19,000 and if you used the maximum

allowed by the state at 6.2458 it would increase the budget by approximately \$67,000.

Mr. Hilliard stated that the budget shows a reduction in expenses in the Recreation Department which is in dire need of improvements, this is not a place to reduce the budget.

Mr. Hilliard stated the County is preparing the plans for the boat landing on Mt. Pisgah and will dedicate it to the City and the City will need to maintain it.

Mr. Hilliard stated on the expense side that the Electric Department was about even, the Water Department was up showing water line extensions, and Sewer Department was up about \$40,000., the Mobile Home Park is down about \$10,000 due to the tree trimming last year, Solid Waste is even and Stormwater is down about \$22,000 however he would like to look into this one.

Commissioner Nelson requested a layout of what equipment staff is requesting in this budget.

Commissioner Cochrane requested that they look into assessing a Fire Tax assessment. Mr. Hilliard stated he would get that information.

Commissioner Cochrane stated maybe the transfer from the electric department to the general fund should be raised. Mr. Hilliard stated he was against raising the transfer and stated he would like to use any extra money to extend utilities.

Mr. Hilliard stated that he just wanted to give the commission some ideas of where the budget is going.

The commission agreed to use the max amount allowed of the proposed 6.24 millage rate to begin the budget process.

Commissioner Manley inquired about converting the pension plan into a 457 plan.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 26, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

No action was taken.

4. COMMENTS

Mr. EJ King, Ft. Meade Neighborhood Development Project, 108 SW 3rd Street wanted to update the commission on the progress of the garden project stating that they have a projected budget of \$205,000, they are in the process of developing a full brochure and a full site plan is in progress. There will be 3 phases ½ in the first phase and ¼ in the two additional phases.

Mr. King requested the commission to include this project into the City's budget.

Ms. Peggy Payne, 200 S. Seminole Ave, stated to add to Mr. King's statements they are also working with the CEO of the YMCA in Lakeland, STRIVE Inc. and other partners as well. Ms. Payne stated that they will have a Community Unity Day on Saturday, August 27, 2016 and STEM+A will be there as well.

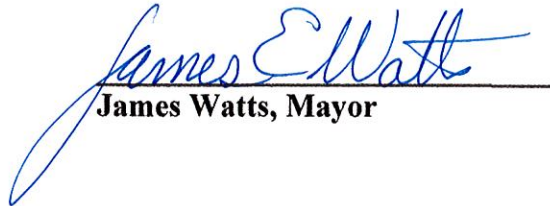
5. ADJOURNMENT

Motion Commissioner Cochrane, second Commissioner Elliott to adjourn the Budget Planning Meeting of the Fort Meade City Commission on Thursday, July 14, 2016 at 7:19 P.M.

Motion carried with all yeas.

ATTEST:


Melissa Newman, Deputy City Clerk


James Watts, Mayor

