

**CITY OF FORT MEADE, FLORIDA  
WORKSHOP MEETING  
TUESDAY, JULY 16, 2013**

A Workshop Meeting of the Fort Meade City Commission was held at 6:00 PM Tuesday, July 16, 2013 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 Cochrane.

**2. ROLL CALL:**

Mayor	Rick Cochrane	Present
Vice Mayor	Bob Elliott	Present*
Commissioner	Barbara Manley	Present
Commissioner	Maurice Nelson	Present
Commissioner	Jim Watts	Present

\*Commissioner Elliott arrived at 6:14 P.M.

**Staff Present**

City Manager	Fred Hilliard	Present
City Attorney	Tom Cloud	Present
City Planner	April Brown	Present
Deputy City Clerk	Melissa Newman	Present
Finance Director	James Mel Parker	Present
Electric Superintendent	Jackie Cannon	Present
Water and Wastewater	Robbie Ward	Present
Public Facilities	Mike Bolin	Present
	Roc Eiland	Present
Gas Superintendent	Winston Russell	Present

**3. DISCUSSION OF FY 2013-2014 PROPOSED BUDGET**

City Manager Fred Hilliard opened the discussion and handed it over to Finance Director Mel Parker. Mr. Parker went through the budget line by line.

Commissioner Nelson inquired about the county 9<sup>th</sup> cent gas tax. Mr. Parker stated that was a county tax distributed to the municipalities.

Mayor Cochrane questioned the accuracy of the accounting of the land fill.

Mr. Parker explained all the revenue account projections.

City Manager Hilliard stated there would need to be an increase in residential solid waste collection due to an increase in rates.

Mr. Parker explained that the property and casualty insurance was distributed to the departments based on the total property insured value so the line item for liability has changed considerably.

Mr. Parker added that the Help of Fort Meade had moved their offices to an adjoining building and would need more money for utilities. Mrs. Pricella Perry stated that the thrift store does make money. Commissioner Manley suggested a cap at \$6,000.00 to aid the Help of Fort Meade.

Commissioner Nelson questioned the line item for fireworks. City Manager Hilliard stated that was to have a committee to help raise money for fireworks for the next 4<sup>th</sup> of July activities.

City Manager Hilliard stated we needed to add a line item to the general fund under planning and land use for the DEO grant of \$15,000.00 for the vision program.

Mr. Parker stated the Fire Department wanted to purchase a brush truck.

Ms. Kay Jackson stated the library will be going to the e-library express, which means less hard copy books and more electronic and more up-to-date.

Mr. Parker stated there were a few capital improvements needed in the Electric Department such as the oil switches for the sub-station, the line improvements on Hwy 98 East, a 5 ton crimper and a one-man bucket truck and a digger truck.

Mr. Parker stated the Water and Wastewater Departments have a deficit.

Gas Department is still in negotiation to be sold.

City Manager Hilliard stated the City Mobile Home Park rates need to be increased to cover operating expenses.

Mr. Parker stated Solid Waste has had three rate increases to the City without any increase to the residents.

Mr. Parker stated Stormwater Department is in big trouble. There is a rate study being done and rates need to be raised.

Commissioner Nelson stated she would like to see raises for staff.

City Manager Hilliard recommended a 2% either one time cost-of-living raise or a 2% salary adjustment.  
Commissioner Nelson and Commissioner Watts asked if all departments got the necessary items they requested.

Mr. Eiland stated they would like to look into new playground equipment.

Commissioners agreed to have another workshop session on Tuesday, July 23, 2013 at 6:00 P.M.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion Commissioner Manley, second Commissioner Nelson to adjourn the workshop meeting of the Fort Meade City Commission on Tuesday, July 16, 2013 at 7:52 P.M. Motion carried with all yeas.

  
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**Rick Cochrane, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

  
**Melissa Newman, Deputy City Clerk**

