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Town of Ponce Inlet

Town Council Special Meeting Minutes

September 10, 2020

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Pursuant to proper notice, Mayor Smith called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at 4300 South Atlantic Avenue, Ponce Inlet, Florida.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Smith led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **ROLL CALL:**

Town Council:

Mayor Smith, Seat #1

Councilmember Milano, Seat #2

Vice-Mayor Hoss, Seat #3

Councilmember Perrone, Seat #4

Councilmember Paritsky, Seat #5

Staff Members Present:

Ms. Cherbano, Human Resources Director/Deputy Clerk

Mr. Disher, Assistant Director; Planning & Development Department

Ms. French, Cultural Services Manager

Chief Glazier, Police Chief

Ms. Hugler, Office Manager (FD)

Mr. Joulani, Director; Planning and Development Department

Ms. McColl, Finance Manager

Mr. Miller, Public Works Manager (Interim)

Chief Scales, Fire Chief

Ms. Witt, Town Manager

4. **Additions, Corrections or Deletions to the Agenda.** There were no changes.

5. **Tentative Millage Rate and Budget for Fiscal Year 2020/2021:**

A. **Resolution 2020-09, adopting a tentative millage rate for fiscal year 2020/2021.**

Ms. Witt read Resolution 2020-09 into the record as required by law: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF PONCE INLET, VOLUSIA COUNTY, FLORIDA ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATE FOR THE LEVYING OF AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAXES FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES ON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY WITHIN THE TOWN FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2020 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021; STATING THE PERCENTAGE BY WHICH THE MILLAGE TO BE LEVIED IS ABOVE THE ROLLED BACK RATE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTING RESOLUTIONS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Florida law requires the Town Council of the Town of Ponce Inlet, Florida, to pass a resolution or ordinance establishing the tentative millage rate for levying ad valorem property taxes for municipal purposes on all taxable property within the Town limits of the Town

48 of Ponce Inlet, Florida, for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2020, and ending September 30,
49 2021; and

50

51 WHEREAS, Florida law requires said resolution or ordinance to state the millage rate to
52 be levied, and also, to state the percentage by which the millage rate to be levied is above the
53 rolled-back rate as computed pursuant to Florida law; and

54

55 WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Ponce Inlet, Florida, has duly considered
56 the budgetary requirements of the Town and is now acting in accordance with the terms, provisions
57 and procedures contained in Section 200.065, Florida Statutes at this duly advertised public
58 hearing.

59

60 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN
61 OF PONCE INLET, FLORIDA:

62

63 SECTION 1. ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAX
64 MILLAGE RATE: The tentative millage rate for the Fiscal Year commencing on October 1, 2020
65 through September 30, 2021 is 5.9 mills, which equals \$5.90 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for
66 the purpose of raising income in the sum of \$5,600,980.

67

68 SECTION 2. PERCENTAGE BY WHICH THE MILLAGE TO BE LEVIED IS ABOVE
69 THE ROLLED BACK RATE: The percentage by which this millage rate to be levied is above
70 the rolled-back rate of 5.7359 mills (as computed pursuant to Florida law) is 2.86%.

71

72 SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY: If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this
73 Resolution is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, that
74 holding in no way affects the remaining portions of this Resolution.

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76 SECTION 4. CONFLICTING RESOLUTIONS: All Resolutions in conflict herewith are
77 hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

78

79 SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE: This Resolution shall become effective immediately
80 upon adoption.

81

82 Ms. Witt provided a Powerpoint presentation outlining the Town's organizational chart, the Vision
83 statement, the Mission statement, the reserve policy (operating funds), and a chart showing the
84 comparison of proposed composite millage rates. She noted that there is a maximum of 2.3%
85 increase in property taxes, based on current market value. She reviewed the revenue chart,
86 outlining where general fund monies come from and the general fund expenditure chart, outlining
87 expenses by department. She provided a 10-year budget comparison for informational purposes.
88 Councilmember Perrone asked about the fire department expenses. Ms. Witt clarified that this
89 covers 15 employees: 12 to cover the crews, 1 deputy chief, 1 chief, and 1 office manager. Mayor
90 Smith confirmed that the budget document is essentially the same as the one provided in July. Ms.
91 Witt advised that it was, other than trueing up with final numbers as they came in. Councilmember
92 Perrone stated he received an email from a resident expressing concerns about a proposed tax hike;
93 and noted that this person is a renter not a property owner. Mayor Smith opened public comment
94 – hearing none, he closed public comment.

95

96 Councilmember Paritsky moved to approve Resolution 2020-09, adopting a tentative millage rate
97 of 5.9 mills for fiscal year commencing October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021, seconded
98 by Vice-Mayor Hoss. The motion PASSED 5-0, with the following vote: Councilmember Paritsky
99 – yes, Vice-Mayor Hoss – yes; Mayor Smith – yes; Councilmember Perrone, Councilmember
100 Milano – yes.

101
102 **B. First Reading of Ordinance 2020-09, incorporating the final audited budget of**
103 **fiscal year 2018/2019, amending the budget for fiscal year 2019/2020, and adopting the**
104 **budget for fiscal year 2020/2021.** Ms. Witt read the ordinance by title only. AN ORDINANCE
105 OF THE TOWN OF PONCE INLET, FLORIDA INCORPORATING THE FINAL AUDITED
106 BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019 WHICH BEGAN ON OCTOBER 1, 2018 AND
107 ENDED ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2019; AMENDING THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-
108 2020 WHICH BEGAN ON OCTOBER 1, 2019 AND ENDS ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2020;
109 ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 WHICH WILL BEGIN ON
110 OCTOBER 1, 2020 AND ENDS ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2021; PROVIDING FOR
111 SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; AND PROVIDING
112 FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Ms. Witt explained that the millage rate must be adopted before
113 the budget is considered, pursuant to State Truth in Millage requirements. She stated she has added
114 the 2% pay increase effective October 1st and noted that staff has removed the funds for proposed
115 projects with grant monies from the budget as some grants require that these funds not appear in a
116 budget in advance of award. These funds can be created later in the year if warranted. She stated
117 this will reduce the amount reflected in the Special Funds to \$4,441,401; everything else in this
118 budget is essentially the same as the one presented to Council at the July budget workshop. Mayor
119 Smith opened public comment – David Israel, 87 Calumet Ave., stated that the person who
120 complained about higher taxes actually is a voter and lives on Marsh Court. Mayor Smith closed
121 public comment.

122
123 Councilmember Paritsky moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2020-09, incorporating
124 the final audited budget of fiscal year 2018/2019, amending the budget for fiscal year 2019/2020,
125 and adopting the budget for fiscal year 2020/2021, seconded by Vice-Mayor Hoss. The motion
126 PASSED 5-0, with the following vote: Councilmember Paritsky – yes, Vice-Mayor Hoss – yes;
127 Councilmember Milano – yes, Councilmember Perrone – yes, Mayor Smith – yes.

128
129 Ms. Witt reminded everyone that the 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony will be held virtually
130 tomorrow beginning at 8:46 a.m. on the Town’s Facebook® page.

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132 **6. ADJOURNMENT.** Mayor Smith adjourned the meeting at 6:26 p.m.

133
134 Respectfully submitted by:

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136
137
138 _____
139 Jeaneen Witt, CMC, Town Manager/Town Clerk
Peg Hunt, Town Board Secretary