



MINUTES
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 2023, 5:30 P.M.
NEPTUNE BEACH CITY HALL
116 FIRST STREET
NEPTUNE BEACH, FLORIDA 32266

Pursuant to proper notice, a Special City Council Meeting of the City Council of the City of Neptune Beach was held on Wednesday, July 26, 2023, at 5:30 p.m., at Neptune Beach City Hall, 116 First Street, Neptune Beach, Florida 32266.

Attendance:

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mayor Elaine Brown
 Vice Mayor Kerry Chin
 Councilor Lauren Key
 Councilor Nia Livingston (*absent*)
 Councilor Josh Messinger

STAFF:

City Attorney Zachary Roth
 City Manager Richard Pike
 CFO Jaime Hernandez
 Parks and Sustainability Director Colin Moore
 City Clerk Catherine Ponson

**Call to
 Order/Roll
 Call/Pledge**

Mayor Brown called the Special Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**Tentative
 Proposed
 Millage Rate**

Tentative Proposed Millage Rate. Mayor Brown explained that this is for the millage rate to be presented to Council.

Chief Financial Officer Jaime Hernandez stated that he asked this meeting as it is required by the State for Mayor and Council to be advised of the proposed millage rate for the ensuing year. He reported that he is proposing an increase from 0.3656 to 4.038. This is a .67 cent increase per thousand dollars. This will be certified to the Property Appraiser.

Mr. Hernandez presented information showing the breakdown of the percentages and amounts. He confirmed that this is only for the certification and is not setting the millage rate.

Mr. Hernandez answered Vice Mayor Chin's inquiry that that this meeting was called as Council must be advised of the proposed millage rate prior to submitting the certification to the property appraiser by August 4, 2023.

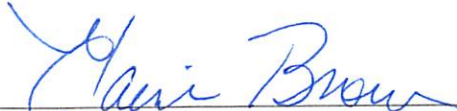
Mr. Roth confirmed Vice Mayor Chin's question that the threshold of a millage rate increase that requires a super-majority vote by Council is one-half (0.5) mil.

Councilor Messinger expressed he is a firm believer that we should be actively seeking a CRA and actively looking to work with COJ to keep more tax dollars. There are more conversations to be had before we would have a 20% increase. He would like to exhaust all options. We do need long-term revenue streams, and a big part of that is keeping that tax dollars here.

Mr. Hernandez advised he would submit the certification to the property appraiser and continue the budget process.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Special Meeting adjourned at 5:41 p.m.


Elaine Brown, Mayor

ATTEST:


Catherine Ponson, CMC
City Clerk

Approved: 28-07-2023

