

TOWN OF OCEAN BREEZE
MINUTES OF THE FINAL BUDGET AND MILLAGE RATE HEARING FOR FY 2024/2025
Wednesday, September 25, 2024 – 6:00 p.m.
Ocean Breeze Resort Clubhouse, Pineapple Bay Room
700 NE Seabreeze Way, Ocean Breeze, FL – 6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order – President Kelley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

- Pledge of Allegiance – Mayor Ostrand led the Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call – Present: Mayor Karen Ostrand, President Sandy Kelley, Vice-President Kevin Docherty, Council Members Gina Kent and Matthew Squires
Absent – Council Member Heller
- Staff Present – Town Management Consultant, Terry O’Neil; Town Financial Consultant, Holly Vath; Permit Processor, Pam Orr; Town Attorney, Gemma Torcivia

2. Proposed Millage for Fiscal Year 2024/2025 – Holly Vath, Town Financial Consultant – Ms. Vath reminded the Council that the millage rate was set at .8 mills at the Tentative Budget and Proposed Millage Rate Hearing. She stated that there were no changes made to the budget at the Tentative hearing. She advised the Council that the rolled-back rate was .7471 and if they decided to continue with the .8 mills, that would be 7.08 percent above the rolled-back rate. She asked for comments from the Council.

President Kelley stated that she believed the that Council was agreeable with .8 mills.

President Kelley asked for comments from the public.

There were none.

Town Clerk, Kim Stanton, read Resolution #352-2024 into the record. **A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF OCEAN BREEZE OF MARTIN COUNTY, FLORIDA ADOPTING THE FINAL LEVYING OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE TOWN OF OCEAN BREEZE, MARTIN COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024/2025; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

President Kelley asked for comments from the public.

There were none.

President Kelley asked for comments from the Council.

There were none.

Vice-President Docherty, seconded by Council Member Squires, made a motion to adopt Resolution #352-2024 to set the final millage rate at .8 mills.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Kelley, Squires, Kent, Docherty; No: None; Absent: Heller; Motion Passed: 4-0

3. Proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2024/2025 – Financial Consultant, Holly Vath – Ms. Vath advised the Council that the proposed expense budget was \$305, 095 in which general fund reserves, in the amount of \$73,993, would have the be utilized. She spoke about the general fund reserves balance and stated that the budget had not changed since the tentative budget meeting.

Town Clerk, Kim Stanton, read Resolution #353-2024 into the record. **A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF OCEAN BREEZE, MARTIN COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024/2025; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

President Kelley asked for comments from the public.

George Ciaschi, 261 NE Coastal Drive, Ocean Breeze, asked what would happen if the reserves were fully used.

Mr. O’Neil stated that staff believed that the \$180,000 in the reserve was an adequate amount to address the closeout issues and that in the future, the millage rate may increase slightly. He explained that the Town was looking into a possible utility tax to diversify revenue sources.

President Kelley asked for further comments from the public

There were none.

President Kelley asked for comments from the Council.

There were none.

Vice-President Docherty, seconded by Council Member Kent, made a motion to adopt Resolution #353-2024.

President Kelley asked for further comments from the public and from the Council.

There were none.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Docherty, Squires, Kent, Kelley; Absent: Heller; No: None; Motion Passed: 4-0

President Kelley asked about the hurricane preparedness pamphlet.

Mr. O’Neil spoke about the information provided to the Council and the public.

4. Announcements – Meetings to be held at the Ocean Breeze Resort Clubhouse, Pineapple Bay Room, 700 NE Seabreeze Way, Ocean Breeze, Florida:

- Regular Town Council Meeting, Monday, October 14, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.
- Regular Town Council Meeting, Tuesday, November 12, 2024, at 10:30 a.m.
- Regular Town Council Meeting, Monday, December 9, 2024, at 10:30 a.m.

Mr. O’Neil explained that the Supervisor of Elections would be handling the canvassing of the votes for the Town of Ocean Breeze and that the election results would be certified no later than November 16th.

Vice-President Docherty and Mayor Ostrand spoke about the 2024 election candidates, registering to vote, grants, and the Indian River Drive refurbishment.

Discussion ensued regarding grants, grants administration, "eCivis," Florida League of Cities, public safety barrier wall and the City of Stuart.

President Kelley asked about posting the initial results of the election at the Town office.

5. Adjourn – Council Member Squires, seconded by Vice-President Docherty and Council Member Kent, made a Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6.25 p.m.

All in Favor: Kelley, Docherty, Kent, Squires

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Stanton

Town Clerk

Minutes approved: November 13, 2024