

**CITY OF PUNTA GORDA, FLORIDA
CITY COUNCIL BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2020, 5:01 P.M.**

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: Carey, Cummings, Matthews, Miller, Prafke

CITY EMPLOYEES PRESENT: Kristin Simeone, Finance; Rick Keeney, Public Works; Chuck Pavlos, Utilities; Pam Davis, Police; Ray Briggs, Fire; City Manager Kunik; Incoming City Manager Murray; City Clerk Smith

Mayor Prafke called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

City Manager Kunik read an email public comment from Mr. Jerry Risely who suggested the millage rate should be lowered.

Mayor Prafke confirmed there was no public comment from the audience.

BUDGET PUBLIC HEARINGS

A Resolution Adopting a Final Millage Rate for the levying of Ad Valorem Taxes for the City of Punta Gorda, Florida for Fiscal Year 2020/2021.

Mayor Prafke read the resolution by title. She announced the calculated rollback rate for the City was 3.3469 mils, while the proposed millage rate to be levied was 3.4337 mils, which was 2.59% higher than the calculated rollback rate.

Ms. Kristin Simeone, Finance Director, explained the FY 2021 General Fund Ad Valorem tax revenue increase better matched current revenues with current expenditures, would ensure revenue sufficiency as other revenue projections had decreased due to the COVID-19 pandemic, funded the City's paving and drainage improvement programs as well as emergency vehicles and fleet equipment replacements, allowed the City to continue with expected service levels, provided for Information Technology improvements and improved the General Fund Operating Reserve.

Councilmember Matthews **MOVED** approval of the resolution adopting a final millage rate of 3.4337, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Cummings.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

An Emergency Ordinance of the City of Punta Gorda, Florida, Adopting a Budget for Fiscal Year 2020/2021, Making Appropriations; Providing for Conflict and Severability; and Providing an Effective Date.

Mayor Prafke read the ordinance by title.

Ms. Simeone stated the ordinance would adopt a final budget of \$133,483,830, adding without the interfund eliminations the amount would be \$104,535,317.

Councilmember Matthews **MOVED** approval of the Ordinance adopting a budget for Fiscal Year 2020/2021, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Cummings.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk