



**TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA
TOWN COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Jarvis Hall
4505 Ocean Drive
Tuesday, September 26, 2023
5:01 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Chris Vincent called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. Also present were Vice Mayor Edmund Malkoon, Commissioner Alfred “Buz” Oldaker, Commissioner Theo Pouloupoulos, Commissioner Randy Strauss, Town Manager Linda Connors, Town Attorney Susan Trevarthen, Deputy Town Manager/Public Works Director Ken Rubach, Assistant to the Town Manager Courtney Easley, Director of Budget and Finance Lucila Lang, Assistant Finance Director Edner Saint-Jean, Development Services Director Jhanelle Campbell and Town Clerk Katrina Adler.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

3. DISCUSSION ITEM

- a. **Resolution 2023-55 – A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA, FLORIDA ESTABLISHING AND ADOPTING THE FINAL TOWN AD VALOREM TAX MILLAGE RATE AT 3.9235 MILLS PER THOUSAND DOLLARS OF TAXABLE ASSESSED VALUE, WHICH IS 27.59% ABOVE THE ROLLED BACK MILLAGE RATE OF 3.0750 MILLS COMPUTED PURSUANT TO STATE LAW, FOR THE 2023 TAX YEAR; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

At this time Mayor Vincent opened public comment, which he closed upon receiving no input.

Commissioner Pouloupoulos made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Strauss, to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

- b. **Resolution 2023-53 – A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING THE FINAL FIRE ASSESSMENT RATE ON PROPERTY**

Lauderdale-By-The-Sea
Special Town Commission Meeting
September 26, 2023

THAT IS SPECIALLY BENEFITED BY FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2023 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2024, AND PROVIDING FOR MAXIMUM RATES FOR FUTURE FISCAL YEARS; CONFIRMING THE FINAL ASSESSMENT ROLLS AND LEVYING SUCH SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS.

At this time Mayor Vincent opened public comment, which he closed upon receiving no input.

Commissioner Poulopoulos made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Oldaker, to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

- c. Resolution 2023-56 – A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE ATTACHED FINAL TOWN BUDGET FOR THE 2023/2024 FISCAL YEAR; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

At this time Mayor Vincent opened public comment.

Ken Brenner, resident, stated that while the budget reflected ad valorem revenue and the expenses of contractual services, he had not seen a separate line item for emergency medical services (EMS). He also noted that there were a number of line items within the budget which appeared to be anomalies, including increases in Town Commission-related salaries and expenses, as well as increases to Visitor Center expenses.

With no other individuals wishing to speak at this time, Mayor Vincent closed public comment.

Town Manager Linda Connors reviewed the items mentioned during public comment, stating that the EMS budget is part of the General Fund rather than the Fire Fund, as the Town is not allowed to pay for EMS through the Fire Fund. The cost of EMS services has been reduced, as the Town is no longer paying for American Medical Response (AMR) to provide those services.

Town Manager Connors also addressed salaries, explaining that the intent is to clarify what portion of Staff services is used by each Department. She cited the Town Clerk as an example: because the Town Clerk spends a significant amount of time working for the Town Commission, 50% of her salary is under the Town Commission line item. Portions

Lauderdale-By-The-Sea
Special Town Commission Meeting
September 26, 2023

of the Town Manager's and Assistant to the Town Manager's salaries are included under the Visitor Center.

Town Manager Connors also addressed the Town's retirement fund, noting that the amount set aside for all employees' retirement was increased by the Florida Legislature the previous year. Insurance costs have also increased substantially.

Mayor Vincent asked if Staff is comfortable with the percentages of different Staff services by employees who perform work for different Departments, and requested clarification that this is regularly reviewed. Town Manager Connors confirmed this.

Commissioner Poulopoulos complimented Staff on their work on the budget, noting that he felt the way the budget was presented for this year was a significant improvement over the previous year.

Commissioner Poulopoulos made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Strauss, to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

4. ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to come before the Commission at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 5:14 p.m.



Mayor Chris Vincent

ATTEST:



Town Clerk

10/20/2023 | 6:43 AM PDT

Date