

**CITY COUNCIL BUDGET WORKSHOP
CITY OF BELLEAIR BEACH
July 17, 2017
4:00 P.M.**

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Leslie Ford Notaro, followed by a Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Roll Call: Present were Councilmembers Julie "Jewels" Chandler, Pamela Gunn, Mitchell Krach, and John Pietrowski; Mayor Leslie Ford Notaro, Vice Mayor Wanda Schwerer, City Manager Nancy Gonzalez, City Clerk Patricia Gentry, Finance Officer Melanie Kruszona, and Community Services Director Lynn Rives. Councilmember Jeril Cohen was unable to attend.

1. Discussion and review of FY 2017/2018 Budget.

Discussion followed regarding the IT budget increase to replace the seven-year-old computer server; salary increases for staff; capital projects; replacement of the retiring city manager; that the hiring of a city manager is decided by City Council, there are no guidelines or requirements in the city code or state statutes dictating the process; that the budget workshop was not the proper forum to explore the issue of hiring a city manager but must be restricted to budget issues; that the communication service tax revenue projection from the State of Florida had decreased due to legislation; the suggestion that the City contact Linda Fisher of Forward Pinellas to help the City obtain grants [a response was received from Ms. Fisher after the workshop and prior to publication of these minutes stating "I haven't been doing much grant work for the past couple of years, and haven't kept up in researching what programs are available."] Community Services Director Rives advised that savings plans had been created and increased for replacement of the Community Center roof, and the HVAC system. Bayside Park playground upgrades will be in this budget and future savings plan in order to be able to pursue matching funds for grants; repair on the 7th Street boat ramp – there are 75% boating improvement grants for that also, and he continues to look for stormwater grants and is proposing saving funds to be able to match the grant; savings accounts for bridge replacement, future bridge repairs, valley curbs and stormwater improvements; Mr. Rives advised that while working for the City of Oldsmar he had obtained \$10 million dollars in various types of grants; he also itemized other future projects; he stated that when he had previously done undergrounding projects he had gone directly to the utility for a price which included the engineering and design in order to avoid a middleman and to get a lower price; he suggested to start matching funds for a SWFWMD grant and he will be attending the upcoming session for stormwater projects. Finance Officer Kruszona stated that there are 10 years

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left on the Community Center building loan; she reviewed the three options of either using the undesignated funds from the capital projects that had been budgeted for but not done in the past, cutting capital projects, or raising the millage rate to cover the budget shortfall. Consensus of City Council was to cover the budget shortfall from capital projects undesignated funds and not to raise the millage rate. Maintenance of the Belleair Shore accesses used by Belleair Beach residents was discussed.

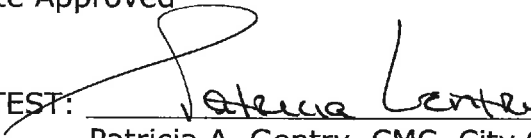
ADJOURN

MOTION was made by Councilmember Krach to adjourn the meeting.

Motion passed 6-0.

August 7, 2017
Date Approved

APPROVED: 
Leslie Ford Notaro, Mayor

ATTEST: 
Patricia A. Gentry, CMC, City Clerk