

**CITY COUNCIL BUDGET WORKSHOP
CITY OF BELLEAIR BEACH
July 31, 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, 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. Councilmembers Jeril Cohen and Mitchell Krach were unable to attend.

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

Mayor Notaro reviewed Sec. 2-54(d) Work sessions, of the City Code of Ordinances regarding how work sessions are conducted differently from City Council meetings, quoting **"Only those persons who have previously indicated a desire to address the city council during a work session may speak to the issue, except any member of the city council may ask questions of any person in the council chambers or any other member of the public. Any member of the public may be heard on any matter on the agenda of a work session when approved by a majority of the city council and the mayor recognizes such person during the meeting"**

Finance Officer Kruszona stated there were only two changes:

- Undesignated funds would be used to balance the budget
- \$40,000.00 increase to capital projects for seawalls

Community Services Director Rives stated that the bids for the Harrison Avenue Seawall Repairs came in \$35,000.00 over the engineer's budget, so he would be asking Council to reject those bids at the next City Council meeting and he would put the project out for re-bid. After discussion with the engineer and other contractors, he believed the City may receive other bids. He explained that the funds budgeted for the 2019 capital plan to be spread out over 6-7 years must be shown to apply for a matching Land and Water Conservation Grant. He advised that any future improvements to Bayside Park, such as the replacement of the basketball court, would follow the Copley Design Associates concept approved by City Council so that there would not be a duplication of any part of the long-term plan. He explained that the funds for the 7th Street boat ramp were to apply for a Florida Boating Improvement Program grant which pays 75% for repairs. He was familiar with the grant program as he had secured a grant from them for

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another city. He explained that most grants are 50/50 and funds must be planned and budgeted in order to apply for grants. He stated the Public Works building cost had lowered to \$121,000.00 and would be on the next Council agenda.

Councilmember Gunn asked how the salaries for employees were determined. City Manager Gonzalez advised that the City no longer has COLA increases and the two employees who received 2% pay increases had attendance issues that affected their percentage increase.

Councilmember Chandler stated that she had done research and had requested the salary surveys for the City Manager, City Clerk, Finance Officer, and Community Services Director in comparable sized cities, and was very surprised to find that the City was at the low end of the surveys.

Councilmember Gunn stated that she had contacted the FCCMA's Senior Advisor Program to have them come explain their services. She told them she was "calling as a City Councilmember and I wasn't representing the City, and I said I was thinking about asking, putting you on the agenda if you could send a representative, and he said the best way to handle it is bringing it up in front of everyone, and they want Council to approve it"

Mayor Notaro advised that it could be brought up at a Council Meeting as an item to be put on an Agenda.

City Manager Gonzalez advised that would be a subject for a workshop, and there would also be an item on the August agenda on options how to hire a city manager.

ADJOURN

MOTION was made by Councilmember Chandler to adjourn the meeting.

Motion passed 5-0.

August 7, 2017
Date Approved

APPROVED: Leslie Notaro
Leslie Ford Notaro, Mayor

ATTEST: Patricia A. Gentry
Patricia A. Gentry, CMC, City Clerk