

MINUTES
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
September 18, 2014

The City Commission met this date in special session in the Commission Chambers. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM with the following in attendance.

Mayor	:	John B. Arnold, Jr.
Commissioners	:	Kay Hamilton
	:	Joe Morgan
	:	Clark (Tom) Browning, IV
City Clerk	:	Tammy Johnson
City Administrator	:	Carl Scott
Police Chief	:	Joe Hart
Fire Chief	:	Mark Norris

Others in attendance: (Not inclusive) Mike Matthews (camera), Mary Gardner, Mike Griffith (Bay Beacon)

Comm. Strong is out of town this evening.

1. FINAL BUDGET HEARING

Mayor Arnold said the announcement for this evening's meeting was published in the Northwest Florida Daily News on September 16, 2014, it appears as a notice for proposed tax increase. Mayor Arnold said the Commission has decided tentatively not to increase the ad valorem tax rate but because the city's evaluation of property from this year to last year is a few dollars more then more dollars have been approved to us. Mayor Arnold said this is the final night for action in regards to the budget, we have held many meetings and workshop. Mayor Arnold said the total budget for fiscal year 2015 is before the Commission for their perusal. He said total budget is \$7,252,915, General Fund \$2,821,515, Stormwater Fund \$45,075, Street Fund \$364,285, Utility Fund \$1,444,790, CATV Fund \$1,594,100 and Sanitation Fund \$781,900. Mayor Arnold said there are several contributing factors to the slight decrease, 14% rate decrease in our employee health insurance is the major item, 4.524% ad valorem rate same as last year, 2% COLA for all employees except for the Police Department where the patrolman will receive a \$1.00 an hour raise with the dispatchers receiving \$.50 more an hour. He said we also had 6.5% rate increase in worker's compensation, a \$75,000 3 year loan to the Utility Fund, also contains \$2 increase in single family sewer rate. Mayor Arnold said Mrs. Johnson had spoken to the auditor today and he had some changes which she has reflected in the latest budget.

Mrs. Johnson said when she talked to the auditor he had noticed where she had claimed [Type a quote from the document or the summary of an interesting point. You can position the text box anywhere in the document. Use the Drawing Tools tab to change the formatting of the pull quote text box.] some revenue two times. She said the state sends money that goes into the General Fund and a portion of that goes into the Street Fund, then we receive other revenue that comes from communication sales tax from the state it goes into the General Fund with a portion going into the CATV Fund. Mrs. Johnson said she was counting that twice so that had caused the reduction of \$113,000 to the budget, she said she took it out of revenue and expenses so it was basically a wash. Mrs. Johnson said she made changes to health insurance for every department and reduced the health insurance stipend also.

a. Resolution No. 08-09-18-14 - Final Millage

Mayor Arnold read Resolution No. 08-09-18-14, a resolution of the City of Valparaiso, Florida adopting the final levying of ad valorem taxes for fiscal year 2015; providing for an effective date. COMM. HAMILTON MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 08-09-18-14 AS READ. COMM. BROWNING SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH A 4 TO 0 VOTE OF THE COMMISSION. Resolution No. 08-09-18-14 was adopted at 6:08 PM.

b. Ordinance No. 657 Adopt FY 2014 Budget – Final Reading

Mayor Arnold read Ordinance No. 657, an Ordinance adopting the budget for the City of Valparaiso, Florida, for the fiscal year commencing 1 October 2014; repealing conflicting ordinances; and providing for an effective date. COMM. BROWNING MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 657 AS READ. COMM. HAMILTON SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE COMMISSION 4 TO 0. Ordinance No. 657 was adopted at 6:10 PM.

Mayor Arnold said we now have a new fiscal budget for 2015 and wanted to thank everyone for their hard work and diligence, we had numerous meetings that were attended and a lot of behind the scenes work. He said Mrs. Johnson did a magnificent job.

Mayor Arnold said there was some information regarding the employee's health insurance that needed to be discussed, he said Mrs. Johnson supplied some of the history. Mrs. Johnson said quite a few years ago when insurance sky rocketed the city decided it would pay 55% of the family coverage for employees, Mayor Arnold said at the time it had been 50/50. Mrs. Johnson said the hope was that a sometime in the future the insurance would go back down and the city would go back to paying 50% of the family coverage, she said with the 14% reduction in our insurance that employee would be paying less even if the city went back to paying 50% of the coverage. She said they would pay less than they paid last year. COMM.

Final
Budget
Hearing

Resolution
No. 08-09-
18-14
Final
Millage

Ordinance
No. 657
FY 2015
Budget

HAMILTON MADE A MOTION TO HAVE EMPLOYEES PAY 50% OF THE FAMILY HEALTH COVERAGE. MAYOR ARNOLD SECONDED THE MOTION. After a brief discussion, COMMISSION VOTED 4 TO 0 TO APPROVE THE MOTION.

City Hall
Side Wall
Repair

2. CITY HALL SIDE WALL REPAIR

Mr. Scott said we had received three quotes out of the eight we solicited for. He said one partnered with one of the businesses submitting a quote, two were not interested and two others did not respond. He said they were all pretty close for stucco repair with Adams Plastering and Stucco being the lowest at \$2,800, Mr. Griner for \$3,000 and Mr. Raymond Johnson for \$3,500. Mr. Scott recommends awarding the job to Adams for \$2,800 and adding the extra \$800 to replace the wood trim around the eight windows with EIFS banding because it is a stucco base and we would no longer have any wood trim making it pretty solid from now on. He said all three suggested using an acrylic base paint, seals the stucco and water cannot penetrate. COMM. BROWNING MADE A MOTION TO HIRE ADAMS PLASTERING AND STUCCO TO DO THE OUTSIDE REPAIR AT THE CITY HALL BUILDING. COMM. HAMILTON SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE COMMISSION 4 TO 0. Mayor Arnold asked that Mr. Scott oversee the operation and that he would sign the proposal in the morning.

Adjourn

ADJOURN

There being no further business to be brought before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:20 PM.

John B. Arnold, Jr.
Mayor

Heyward H. Strong, Jr.
Chair, VCA

ATTEST:

Tammy Johnson, CMC
City Clerk

September 18, 2014

The DVD labeled September 18, 2014 contains the audio and video of this meeting and will be kept as a permanent part of these minutes.