

MINUTES  
CITY COMMISSION MEETING  
September 9, 2015

The City Commission met this date in a budget workshop session. 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	:	Heyward H. Strong, Jr.
	:	Joe Morgan
	:	Clark (Tom) Browning, IV
City Clerk	:	Tammy Johnson
Police Chief	:	Joe Hart
General Manager VBCS	:	James Butler
Fire Chief	:	Mark Norris
Library Director	:	David Weatherford
Recorder	:	Beth Millsaps

Others in attendance: (Not inclusive) Amber Elledge (camera), Marcia Sanders (Bay Beacon), Nita Greene, Jeff and Renee Becker

Mayor Arnold said that Comm. Hamilton would not be attending this evening.

**BUDGET**

Budget

Mayor Arnold welcomed the audience to the first of two public hearings regarding the budget for 2015, he said this budget would begin on 1 October 2015 once approved and run through to 30 September 2016. Mayor Arnold said if the Commission recommended to approve the budget presented tonight it would be for a total budget of \$7,664,290. He said the tentative budget included a 1.5 milage ncrease in ad valorem, decrease in health insurance, .25 cent increase in variable water rate, 29% liability insurance, 1.5 merit raise increase to be administered by the department heads as they see fit. Mayor Arnold said this meeting had been announced by TRIM notice and the final hearing on the budget would be September 22, 2015 at 6 PM, until the budget is adopted it is consider under discussion.

Mayor Arnold read Resolution No. 08-09-09-15, a resolution adopting the tentative levying of ad valorem taxes for fiscal year 2016; providing for an effective date. With General Fund \$2,956,540, Utility Fund \$1,388,590, Stormwater \$45,075, CATV Fund \$1,683,800, Street Fund \$358,085, Sanitation Fund \$779,700 for a total \$7,664,290. The tentative millage rate as of 1 October 2015 \$5.024 per \$1000 valuation. The tentative adopted millage rate is greater than the rolled-back rate of \$4.3870 by 15.17%. COMM. STRONG MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 08-09-09-15 A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE LEVYING OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016 AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. COMM. BROWNING SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE COMMISSION 4 TO 0 AT 6:07 PM. Mayor Arnold said that the increase in the rate would be to put aside \$70,000 in escrow to purchase a new fire truck within the next few years.

Mayor Arnold said this would be the first reading of Ordinance No. 668, an ordinance adopting the budget for fiscal year commencing 1 October 2015; repealing conflicting ordinances and providing for an effective date. COMM. STRONG MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 668 AS READ. COMM. MORGAN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE COMMISSION 4 TO 0 AT 6:10 PM. Mayor Arnold said the seconded and final reading of Ordinance no. 668 will be the final public hearing on 22 September at 6 PM.

**CATV PROBLEM**

Mrs. Nita Greene, 184 Chicago Avenue, said she was attending the meeting this evening because over the weekend channels 3 and 5 were horrible and she and her daughter had been unable to watch football. Mr. Butler and Comm. Strong had a brief discussion with Mrs. Greene regarding her cable and internet situation.

CATV  
Problem

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business to be brought before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 6:26 PM.

Adjourn

---

John B. Arnold, Jr.  
Mayor

---

Heyward H. Strong, Jr.  
Chair, VCA

ATTEST:

---

Tammy Johnson, CMC  
City Clerk

September 9, 2015

\*\*\*The DVD labeled September 9, 2015 contains the audio and video of this meeting and will be kept as a permanent part of these minutes.\*\*\*