



CITY OF BELLE ISLE, FL
CITY COUNCIL BUDGET WORKSHOP
Held in City Hall Chambers 1600 Nela Avenue

Tuesday, August 29, 2023 * 6:00 pm
MINUTES

Present was:

Nicholas Fouraker, Mayor
District 2 Commissioner – Anthony Carugno
District 3 Commissioner – Karl Shuck
District 4 Commissioner – Randy Holihan – Via Zoom
District 5 Commissioner – Beth Lowell
District 7 Commissioner – Jim Partin

Absent was:

District 1 Commissioner – Ed Gold
District 6 Commissioner – Stan Smith

1. Call to Order

Mayor Fouraker called the workshop to order at 6:05 pm. The Clerk confirmed the quorum. Also present were Interim City Manager Grimm, Acting Chief Millis, Public Works Director Phil Price, Finance Director Tracey Richardson, and Acting Clerk Heidi Peacock.

Comm Carugno joined the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

2. Invocation and Pledge to Flag

Comm Shuck gave an invocation and led the Pledge to the Flag.

3. Citizen's Comments

Mayor Fouraker called for citizen comments.
There being none, he closed citizen comments and opened for Council discussion.

4. Budget Discussion FY 2023-2024

a. Review of Proposed Budget FY 2023-2024

Interim City Manager Grimm presented a current ARPA expenditure summary and reviewed the responses to City Council questions on the FY 23/24 proposed budget at the August 29th workshop.

Comm Partin asked the following for clarification,

Q10: Who prepares and submits the documents to FEMA, and when was the submittal date? CM Grimm said the City Manager is the staff contact for submittals. He noted that he found that the application was submitted after Hurricane Nicole.

Q11: What has caused the negative fund balance this year and greater next year? CM Grimm said the fund is not for massive repairs but mainly maintenance. At some point, the City must establish a different stormwater repair and replacement funding system. Ms. Richardson said all the pipe failures, emergency repairs, and stormwater projects have come out of this fund and are unsustainable. We have a Stormwater Assessment Study underway, which may help update the current assessments and ERUs if needed.

Comm Partin asked for an update on the Sol Project Grant reimbursement. CM Grimm said he met with DEP, and the City will not receive reimbursement since the work was completed before the grant approval. They will send the City a letter stating the reasons behind the denial of the total cost of \$196,000. Mayor Fouraker said that by the next Council meeting, he would like to understand how that process works if the Council was not part of the approval.

Comm Carugno stated that funds budgeted for the move of the Police Department and Boat Dock may be better utilized for Stormwater projects.

b. Police Department Pay Plan 2023-2026

CM Grimm presented a memo from the Police Advisory Board supporting several factors pertinent to evaluating the proposed 15% salary increase and its merits. He also provided the current Police Pay Plan 23/26 for Council review and discussion at the September 5th and 19th meetings. A budget amendment will follow with approval of the Police Pay Plan.

Comm Holihan asked if 20% is normal for a contribution for 401K. CM Grimm stated that the State retirement average is 23-27% for most sworn officers.

c. Budget Calendar

CM Grimm provided a copy of the budget calendar for reference. He stated that the First Budget Hearing will be on September 5 and Adoption on September 19.

5. Adjournment

There being no further business, Mayor Fouraker closed the Budget workshop at 6:29 pm.