



CITY OF BELLE ISLE, FL
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL CALLED SESSION

Held in City Hall Chambers 1600 Nela Avenue

Wednesday, July 26, 2023, * 6:30 pm

AGENDA

Present was:

Nicholas Fouraker, Mayor
District 1 Commissioner – Ed Gold
District 2 Commissioner – Anthony Carugno
District 3 Commissioner – Karl Shuck
District 4 Commissioner – Randy Holihan-Zoom
District 5 Commissioner – Beth Lowell
District 6 Commissioner – Stan Smith
District 7 Commissioner – Jim Partin-

Absent was:

na

1. Call to Order and Confirmation of Quorum

Mayor Fouraker called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm, and the Clerk confirmed the quorum. Also present were Attorney Langley, Interim CM Grimm, and Yolanda Quiceno, City Clerk.

2. Invocation and Pledge to Flag

Comm Partin gave the invocation and led the pledge to the flag.

3. Millage Rate for FY 2023/2024

a. Discussion on Setting Maximum Millage Rate for FY 2023/2024

CM Grimm said the City must submit the Maximum Millage Levy Calculation Preliminary Disclosure form, Florida Department of Revenue Form DR-420MM-P, to the Orange County Property Appraiser by noon on July 28, 2023. This form calculates the maximum tax levy allowed under Florida Statutes and requires the City to set a proposed millage rate. The City cannot adopt a final millage rate higher than the proposed one without restarting the process and mailing each taxpayer a revised Notice of Proposed Property Taxes. At the July 21st meeting, the Budget Committee recommends setting the millage at 4.4018.

Comm Carugno moved to set the proposed millage rate on Form DR-420MM-P to 4.4018 for the fiscal year 2023/24 and have the City Manager submit it to Orange County by July 28, 2023.

Comm Partin seconded the motion.

Council discussed and shared their concerns with not setting the maximum and leaving the rate at 4.4018. They discussed that not setting a maximum rate leaves no room for an emergency and will lock in the amount for the year. Some of the confusion for residents is understanding the proposed maximum amount required for posting and the approved millage.

On July 18, the Council agreed to have the Budget Committee recommend the maximum rate at their July 21st meeting. CM Grimm noted that the budget Committee recommended keeping the millage rate at 4.4018.

For the record, Comm Carugno stated that the previous City Manager is gone, and it is not ethical to talk about someone as was done in the Budget Committee meeting.

Council opened for public comment.

Gary Meloon residing at Matchett Road, spoke in favor of a millage rate of 4.4018 and is opposed to a proposed increase in the future.

After discussion, the motion passed 4:3 with Comm Smith, Comm Holihan, and Comm Shuck, nay.

4. Zoom Participation

- a. Approval of Comm Holihan's Request for an Extension to Zoom Participation

Comm Gold moved to approve the extension for Zoom participation for Comm Holihan through August.

Comm Lowell seconded the motion, which passed 6:1 with Comm Smith, nay.

5. Adjournment

With no further business, Mayor Fouraker called for a motion to adjourn.

The motion passed unanimously at 6:50 pm.