



MINUTES OF THE HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS TOWN COUNCIL
BUDGET WORKSHOP SESSION HELD JULY 13, 2021

Mayor MacFarlane called the Town Council Workshop Meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.
Mayor MacFarlane led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Members Present:

Martha MacFarlane, Mayor
Ed Conroy, Mayor Pro-Tem
Marie V Gallelli, Councilor
Rick Klein, Councilor
George Lehning, Councilor (Arrived 4:24 pm.)

Staff Present:

John Brock, Town Clerk
Sean O’Keefe, Town Administer
Tara Hall, Library Director
John Ernest, Public Services Director
Rick Thomas, Police Chief
Pat Miller, Chair of Parks & Rec. Board

New Business

1. Discussion: Proposed Town Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022

Town Administrator, Sean O’Keefe, gave an overview of the proposed budget and explained how to interpret the included spreadsheets that were included in the budget packet. Mr. O’Keefe gave the presentations on the General Overview, Overall Revenues, Legislative, Town Hall, Impact Fees, and other General Government budgets.

Pat Miller, Chair of the Parks & Recreation Board presented the budget proposal for the Parks & Recreation Board, to include the Special Events Committee, Special Events (Christmas Event), and the Cemetery. Mayor Pro-Tem Conroy suggested that the Finance Director should look into how much the sales of previous lots in the cemetery have added to the Town’s reserves. Mayor Pro-Tem Conroy stated that the Town Council should look at the rates that the Town is selling Cemetery lots for and perhaps raise them.

Tara Hall, Library Director, presented the budget for the library. Director Hall also spoke about what grants she has applied for that would assist the library.

John Ernest, Public Service Director, presented the Public Works Department, Transportation, and Utility Fund’s budgets. Mayor Pro-Tem Conroy stated that Howey Garden Club had planted the landscaping in around Town Hall and if the Town was going to update the landscaping around Town Hall the Garden Club should be notified prior to any changes.

Rick Thomas, Police Chief, presented the Police Retirement Fund, Police Advance Training, Police Department and Code Enforcement’s budgets. Mayor Pro-Tem Conroy stated that he would like to hear more about the body camera cost and tasers costs in a future meeting.

Mr. O’Keefe reminded everyone that the next budget workshop would be on Thursday July 29, 2021 at 9am.

Public Comments

Pat Miller, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Chair – The basketball court fence looked bad and should be replaced or fixed in the future.

Sal Gallelli, 1104 N Tangerine Blvd – Mr. Gallelli asked if police cars that dealers were not able to sell due to the world-wide chip shortage could use chips from old cars. Mr. Gallelli wanted to know how much the Police Officers used their body cameras.

Doug Hower, 444 Bellissimo Place - Mr. Hower complimented the staff and suggested that the budget this year was a big improvement over the previous years.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Conroy to adjourn the meeting; Councilor Gallelli seconded the motion.

The Meeting adjourned at 06:05 p.m. | **Attendees: 14**

Mayor MacFarlane

ATTEST:

John Brock, Town Clerk