

CITY OF MACCLENNY
FIRST BUDGET WORKSHOP
August 7, 2014
5:45 p.m.

The City Commission met in special session, Thursday, August 7, 2014 with the following present: Mayor Gary Dopson, City Manager Phil Rhoden and Commissioners Floyd V. Bennett, Mark Bryant, Sam Kitching and Cecil Horne Jr.

Mayor Dopson called the budget workshop to order. Commissioner Bryant opened the meeting with prayer, followed by a pledge to the United States Flag.

Mayor Dopson stated how proud he was of the staff, City Manager and Mrs. Thompson for the excellent work on the budget this year.

Mayor Dopson acknowledged Mrs. Thompson, to give a brief overview of the 2014-2015 budgets. She stated this is based on 3.6000 mils, no increase in property taxes, and no employee raises. There is an 8% increase in health insurance for the same coverage. Due to some City locations being under insured or not insured, property insurance increased 7%. The City removed the HRA funding from each department this year due to \$118,423.00 already in the fund.

Ms. Thompson said this year's budget also includes an increase to retirement cost as follows:

Florida Retirement System:	From	To
Regular Class	6.95%	7.37%
Management Class	18.31%	21.14%
Elected Class	33.03%	43.24%
DROP	12.84%	12.28%
Special Risk	19.06%	19.82%

Switching the Firemen from the League to FRS saved the City on retirement costs with an overall reduction of approximately \$25,000.00.

Mrs. Thompson reviewed the general fund revenue regarding some increases proposed and also some decreases. Most of the increases were amounts projected by the state. The City will receive less money for communication service tax and municipal share of local option gas tax.

Mayor Dopson stated that each Commissioner came in one on one and reviewed the budget, spoke of any concerns and asked questions they had at that time.

Mrs. Thompson stated the increase in utility fund revenue of \$5400.00 is from a lease for antenna space on our water tower.

For the Commissioners budget, retirements decreased due to some of the commissioners are regular class, and some elected, and other current charges are increased due to election costs.

Mrs. Thompson reviewed the budget for each department page by page. City Manager's life and health insurance costs are reduced due to spousal coverage being dropped. Operating supplies increased due to fuel costs and not consumption.

The Office budget was reviewed showing \$5000.00 was removed from professional services where it was not being spent and moved to other line items as needed to cover actuals such as: postage, office supplies and equipment. A reduction in our Ad Valorem revenue of \$20,924.00 will be repaid to the School Board. City Manager Rhoden stated the ARC asked for an increase from \$7500.00 to \$8000.00. He stated he didn't want to do any increases because of the budget cuts and didn't include any new ones. Steve Jones had a request for \$1000.00 for a program he wants to start, and Macclenny Housing asked for their same agreement of lowering their pilot taxes from 10% to 7%. Mayor Dopson suggested for

future requests companies should show proof they are a non-profit organization and a statement of where might this money be used in their organization.

The City Attorney's budget was reviewed with no comments or questions.

The Law Enforcement budget was reviewed and Mrs. Thompson stated the Sheriff requested \$788,442 which included \$30,000 in capital outlay which would have come out of impact fees. The City is proposing to keep his budget the same as last year and will not pay any impact fees out of the general fund this year. Mayor Dopson stated by giving the Sheriff what he requested is \$40,000 more than the City receives in City ad valorem taxes. It seems foolish to payout to the Sheriff more than we are bringing in the City millage. Manager Rhoden spoke to County Manager, a County Commissioner and the Sheriff about where the City is and is going to be. He stated we could have cut \$125,000 from last year's budget but we will do everything possible to stay with the same amount. Manager Rhoden stated if we can fund them this year what we remove from the budget will be added to the necessary cuts next year, which is a significant amount of increase based on these projects coming. Mayor Dopson stated this has nothing to do with the Sheriff; it's a matter of necessity, in order to be able to fund infrastructure needs. Times are difficult and we are going to do everything we can not to increase the taxes.

Manager Rhoden complimented every department head about saving dollars in their department and not spending any unnecessary monies.

The Fire Department budget was reviewed. Mrs. Thompson and Chief Dugger worked very hard at getting his budget straight this year by moving monies where they can be spent. His overall increase was \$33,000 and the City saved way more than that on changing the firemen's retirement to FRS.

In reviewing the Building Department budget, Mrs. Thompson stated the decrease in salaries was due to an employee moving over to contract. There were no further questions or comments.

There were no questions or comments on the public safety budget.

The Solid Waste budget was reviewed and Mrs. Thompson stated this is the first year to evaluate Advanced Disposal. Contractual services is up by 2% due to our contract with Advanced Disposal. We are operating with less money in fuel and repairs. Our overall decrease is down \$2,646 from last year.

The Street department was reviewed with little comment. Mrs. Thompson stated the \$550,000 in improvements other than buildings is the expenditure of the loan. It's for paving and we have to show it coming in and then going out. We are \$50,134 less than last year's budget.

The Recreation Department was reviewed with no questions or comments

Mrs. Thompson stated Michelle is no longer a contract employee at Heritage Park. She is employed with benefits. With the park being utilized every day the operating supplies are a little more. Overall Michelle has netted \$14,000 for Heritage Park.

The Information Services budget was reviewed. The little increase is due to upgrading Code Red and to purchase a new server for the City.

The Water Department budget was reviewed. Mrs. Thompson stated the salaries came down due to an employee going under contract now. We added back in \$10,000 to emergency repairs to this year's budget, and \$5000 to help cover the cost of aging meters that need to be replaced.

The Sewer Department was reviewed with no questions or comments.

There were no questions or comments on the Rental Budget.

The Utility Capital Improvement Budget was reviewed with no questions or comments.

The Special Revenue Budget added \$700,000 for a CDBG Neighborhood Revitalization grant which the City will apply for when it opens.

The Impact Fee budget was reviewed with no questions.

There was discussion about dates and it was decided our next meeting for the Public hearing on tentative millage rate and budget will be on Monday, September 9th at 5:45 p.m. prior to our regular meeting at 6 p.m.

With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned.


MAYOR GARY DOPSON

ATTEST: 
CITY MANAGER/ CLERK Phil Rhoden

