



CITY OF NORTH MIAMI BEACH
Public Budget Hearing
Julius Littman Performing Arts Theater
17011 N.E. 19th Avenue
North Miami Beach, FL. 33162
Wednesday, September 13, 2023
6:00pm

Mayor
Acting Mayor Jay Chernoff
Commissioner McKenzie Fleurimond
Commissioner Daniela Jean
Commissioner Michael Joseph
Commissioner Phyllis Smith
Commissioner Fortuna Smukler

City Manager Mario A. Diaz

Interim City Attorney John Herin

City Clerk Andrise Bernard, MMC

Public Budget Hearing Minutes

ROLL CALL OF THE CITY OFFICIALS

The Public Budget Hearing was called to order at 6:03pm.
Present at the meeting were Acting Mayor Jay Chernoff, Commissioner McKenzie Fleurimond, Commissioner Daniela Jean, Commissioner Michael Joseph (arrived after roll call), Commissioner Phyllis Smith, and Commissioner Fortuna Smukler.

LEGISLATION

Resolution No. R2023-75 Tentative Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2024 (Sheron Stewart, Budget Administrator)

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING AND ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE LEVYING OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI BEACH FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 IN THE AMOUNT OF 6.1000 MILLS, WHICH IS 12.54% HIGHER THAN THE ROLLED-BACK RATE, TO BALANCE THE GENERAL FUND; ESTABLISHING THE ROLLED BACK RATE TO BE 5.4204 MILLS; ESTABLISHING THE DEBT SERVICE MILLAGE RATE AT 0.4111 MILLS; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Interim City Attorney John Herin read the title of Resolution R2023-75 into the record.

Acting Mayor Chernoff opened the hearing for **PUBLIC COMMENT**.

City Clerk Andrise Bernard read the rules of public comment and the pledge of civility into the record.

The following person(s) made comments on the record:

1. Mubarak Kazan

The hearing was closed for **PUBLIC COMMENT**.

City Manager Mario Diaz and City Attorney John Herin provided an explanation of Resolution R2023-75 and advised that the item should be voted on after a substantive discussion regarding Resolution R2023-76.

Motion to table Resolution R2023-75 until after discussion and before a vote on Resolution R2023-76 made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Smukler.

Roll Call Vote: Fleurimond - **No**, Jean - **Yes**, Joseph - **No**, Smith - **Yes**, Smukler - **Yes**, Chernoff - **Yes**

MOTION PASSED 4-2 with Commissioner Fleurimond and Commissioner Joseph opposed.

Resolution No. R2023-76 Adopting the Tentative Fiscal Year 2024 Budget (Sheron Stewart, Budget Administrator)

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2023 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2024; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SCRIVENER'S ERRORS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Interim City Attorney John Herin read the title of Resolution R2023-76 into the record.

Acting Mayor Chernoff opened the hearing for **PUBLIC COMMENT**.

City Clerk Andrise Bernard read the rules of public comment and the pledge of civility into the record.

The following person(s) made comments on the record:

1. Susan Sandness
2. Irene Pilinger
3. Barbara Kramer
4. Mubarak Kazan
5. Lynn Su
6. Luis Solessi
7. Janice Coakley

The hearing was closed for **PUBLIC COMMENT**.

City Manager Mario Diaz presented a comprehensive review of the tentative Fiscal Year 2024 Budget.

The Acting Mayor and Commission discussed the proposed budget.

Motion to approve reducing the line-item amount regarding the Small Business Expo from \$20,000 to \$10,000 made by Commissioner Smukler.

The motion died for lack of a second.

Motion to approve a line item in the amount of \$5,000 towards promoting voting awareness instead of \$12,000 for a 'Rock the Vote' event made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Smukler.

Voice Vote: **MOTION FAILED 3-3** with Commissioner Fleurimond, Commissioner Jean, and Commissioner Joseph opposed.

Motion to approve removing the line item in the amount of \$6,500 for each member of the City Commission made by Commissioner Smukler, seconded by Commissioner Smith.

The motion was withdrawn.

Motion to approve a moratorium on City events for one year and use the money for the Library, Police Department, and/or another reason made by Commissioner Smukler, seconded by Commissioner Smith. Commissioner Smukler stated that the City should have Halloween, Snow Fest, Christmas Tree Lighting, and Hanukkah/Menorah Lighting events.

Commissioner Smith withdrew her second to the motion.

Motion to approve the City Manager to match and/or increase funding for programs that benefit residents directly from Phase 1 of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) made by Commissioner Jean, seconded by Commissioner Joseph.

Commissioner Jean stated that the services should include scholarships, mortgage assistance, and home rehab.

Voice Vote: **MOTION FAILED 3-3** with Acting Mayor Chernoff, Commissioner Smith, and Commissioner Smukler opposed.

Motion to approve hiring five additional police officers made by Commissioner Smukler, seconded by Acting Mayor Chernoff.

The motion was withdrawn.

Motion to table Resolution R2023-76 until after a vote on Resolution R2023-75 made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Joseph.

Voice Vote: **MOTION PASSED 6-0.**

Motion to re-introduce Resolution R2023-75 regarding the proposed millage rate made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Joseph.

Interim City Attorney John Herin read the title of Resolution R2023-75 into the record and announced that the Second Public Budget Hearing will be on September 27, 2023.

Motion to approve Resolution R2023-75 made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Fleurimond.

Roll Call Vote: Jean - **No**, Joseph - **Yes**, Smith - **Yes**, Smukler - **Yes**, Fleurimond - **Yes**, Chernoff - **Yes**

MOTION PASSED 5-1 with Commissioner Jean opposed.

Motion to re-introduce Resolution R2023-76 regarding the proposed budget made by Commissioner Fleurimond, seconded by Acting Mayor Chernoff.

Interim City Attorney John Herin read the title of Resolution R2023-76 into the record.

Motion to approve Resolution R2023-76 made by Commissioner Smukler, seconded by Acting Mayor Chernoff.

Roll Call Vote: Joseph - **No**, Smith - **No**, Smukler - **Yes**, Fleurimond - **Yes**, Jean - **No**, Chernoff - **Yes**

MOTION FAILED 3-3 with Commissioner Jean, Commissioner Joseph, and Commissioner Smith opposed.

The previous vote was discussed.

Motion to approve Resolution R2023-76 made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Smukler.

Roll Call Vote: Smith - **Yes**, Smukler - **Yes**, Fleurimond - **Yes**, Jean - **No**, Joseph - **No**, Chernoff - **Yes**

MOTION PASSED 4-2 with Commissioner Jean and Commissioner Joseph opposed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Commission, the hearing was adjourned at 11:51pm.

ATTEST:

(SEAL)

Andrise Bernard, MMC, City Clerk