



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 27, 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 6:15pm.

Present at the meeting were Commissioner McKenzie Fleurimond, Commissioner Daniela Jean, Commissioner Michael Joseph, Commissioner Phyllis Smith, and Commissioner Fortuna Smukler.

Acting Mayor Jay Chernoff appeared and participated remotely via telecommunications/electronic media.

Interim City Attorney John Herin stated that individual participation of a Commissioner to appear and attend remotely is allowed and quoted the opinion of an Attorney General.

Motion to approve for Commissioner Jean to chair the hearing made by Commissioner Fleurimond, seconded by Commissioner Joseph.

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

MOTION PASSED 5-1 with Commissioner Smukler opposed.

LEGISLATION

Resolution No. R2023-93 Adopting the Final Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (Sheron Stewart, Budget Administrator)

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING AND ADOPTING THE FINAL MILLAGE RATE FOR THE LEVYING OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI BEACH FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2023 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 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; AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OR DESIGNEE TO DO ALL THINGS NECESSARY TO EFFECTUATE THIS RESOLUTION; 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 R2023-93 into the record.

Commissioner Jean 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. Luis Solessi
2. Bruce Lamberto
3. Mubarak Kazan
4. Lynn Su
5. Jeb Handwerger

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

City Manager Mario Diaz provided an explanation of the proposed resolution regarding the millage rate and the City Commission discussed the item.

Motion to approve made by Commissioner Joseph, seconded by Commissioner Smith.

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

MOTION PASSED 5-1 with Commissioner Jean opposed.

Resolution No. R2023-94 Adopting the Final Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (Sheron Stewart, Budget Administrator)

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2023 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2024; AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS APPROPRIATED IN THE FINAL BUDGET; ACKNOWLEDGING THE LEVY AND COLLECTION OF TAXES ON REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY AND OTHER REVENUES NECESSARY TO MEET THE EXPENDITURES PROVIDED IN THE FINAL BUDGET; PROVIDING FOR THE AUTHORIZATION TO REAPPROPRIATE CAPITAL OUTLAY LINE ITEMS AND ENCUMBERED PURCHASES IN THE 2022-2023 FISCAL YEAR TO THE 2023-2024 FISCAL YEAR; PROVIDING FOR TRANSMITTAL BY THE CITY CLERK; CONFIRMING ADDITIONAL POWERS AND CONDITIONS; AUTHORIZING ENCUMBRANCES AND CARRY FORWARD; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Commissioner Jean 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. Nancy Donahue
2. Susan Sandness
3. Melissa Winchester
4. Lorenzo Hall
5. Bernadette Cunningham
6. Felicia Douglas
7. Clara Jenkins
8. Bruce Lamberto

9. Kelly Gonzalez
10. David Zapen
11. Lynn Su
12. Freddy Berrio
13. Tana West
14. Jason
15. Alex Sanchez
16. Jose Gonzalez
17. Denny
18. Vivian Calvet
19. Lisbeth Ortiz
20. Leandro Ortiz
21. Matthew
22. Mubarak Kazan
23. Jeb Handwerger

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

The City Commission took a recess at 8:37pm and the meeting was resumed at 9:00pm.

Kelly Gonzalez of ProKel Mobility appeared before the City Commission and provided information regarding the ridership, routes, schedules, vehicles, and operating costs of the NMB trolley.

Commissioner Jean directed City Clerk Andrise Bernard to read an email from former Chief Financial Officer Marcia Fennell.

Assistant City Manager Alan Cohen provided a presentation including budget accomplishments such as enhancing public safety, investing in employees and positions, investing in the community, investing in technology, improving aesthetics and functionality, increasing focus of economic development, improving transparency and relevance, insourcing activities, investing in the library, improving risk management, and improving the Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

Assistant City Manager Alan Cohen discussed general fund changes including the addition of a deputy director for the library, a police officer, and a youth soccer program and a funding reduction for FPL streetlights, voter registration, and employee leave payouts and presented 5 year budget projections, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, past CIP authorizations, enterprise funds (water, sewer, solid waste, stormwater, and building), and disclosures.

The City Commission discussed the proposed annual budget for fiscal year 2023-2024.

Motion to approve to extend the hearing to 12:30am made by Commissioner Fleurimond, seconded by Commissioner Jean.

MOTION FAILED 2-4 with Acting Mayor Chernoff, Commissioner Joseph, Commissioner Smith, and Commissioner Smukler opposed.

Motion to amend Resolution R2023-94 to include hiring a headhunter for positions allocated in the water plant, leaving the trolley service as is for the next 6 months and allocating funds from the CITT, adding a police officer, adding a deputy director for the library, \$12,000 for a youth soccer program, reducing funding for FPL street lights, reducing employee leave payouts, reducing voter registration funding, and bringing back two policies made by Commissioner Smukler, seconded by Commissioner Smith.

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

MOTION PASSED 5-1 with Commissioner Joseph opposed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Commission, the hearing was adjourned at 12:01am.

ATTEST:

(SEAL)

Andrise Bernard, MMC, City Clerk