

CITY OF MELBOURNE, FLORIDA  
MINUTES –SPECIAL MEETING BEFORE CITY COUNCIL  
SEPTEMBER 4, 2001

A special meeting of the City Council was held in the City Hall Council Chamber, 900 E. Strawbridge Avenue, and was called to order to 7:30 p.m. by Mayor John A. Buckley.

1. All present gave the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.
2. Roll call.

Present:	John A. Buckley	Mayor
	Cheryl Palmer	Vice Mayor, District 5
	Ed Palmer	Council Member, District 2
	Pat Poole	Council Member, District 3
	Grace Walker	Council Member, District 4
	Loretta Isenberg-Hand	Council Member, District 6
	Henry J. Hill	City Manager
	Suzanne Novak	Assistant City Attorney
	Cathleen A. Wysor	City Clerk
	Bud Emerson	Assistant City Manager
	Amy W. Elliott	Director of Finance
	Karen Windsor	Budget Officer
Absent:	Richard Contreras	Council Member, District 1 (out of town)

Mr. Hill opened with a presentation and overview of the proposed 2001-2002 budget. The presentation included discussion on the notice of proposed property taxes; city's budget calendar; millage rate (4.5228 mills); budget total (\$99,603,506); millage rate history; Melbourne property valuation since 1987; new growth portion of the valuation; residential construction; comparison of proposed tax rates with other municipalities in Brevard County Melbourne ranked ninth out of the other 15 cities; total by major fund (General, Water & Sewer, Golf Courses and Airport); chart of sources of revenues in the General Fund; chart of expenditures in the General Fund; and major goals included in the proposed budget.

3. PUBLIC HEARING: Proposed 2001-2002 Budget

Mayor Buckley opened the public hearing.

Robert Bauer, 5061 Park Lake Drive, Melbourne, representing the Melbourne Municipal Band, commented that the budget includes little or nothing for the cultural arts development in the city. He noted that the band and the Melbourne Community Orchestra use the Auditorium; the members are pleased with the recent cosmetic changes. Mr. Bauer listed the number of concerts, trade shows, and other activities conducted at the Auditorium. He concluded by stating the band and orchestra are privileged to receive some support from the city; that is the only way they can stay in business.

4. COUNCIL ACTION RE: Adoption of proposed millage rate for the 2001-2002 fiscal year.

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For information: The proposed millage rate of 4.5228 is .0683 mills (1.53%) above the rollback rate of 4.4545 mills. The proposed millage rate is the same as the current year rate.

Moved by Hand/Poole to establish a millage rate of 4.5228 for the 2001-2002 fiscal year. Motion carried unanimously.

5. COUNCIL ACTION RE: Adoption of a tentative budget for the 2001-2001 fiscal year.

Council gave preliminary approval for the 2001-2002 proposed budget of \$86,525,886 at the July 19 workshop meeting. Staff is recommending that Council act on the following revisions to the budget:

Recommend adding the 2001-2002 proposed budget for the Airport Fund detailed below. That budget was adopted by the Airport Authority at its August 15 meeting.

Operating Revenues	\$ 7,483,970
Non-Operating Revenues	1,426,450
Contributed Capital	3,635,000
Non-Revenue Transfers	<u>457,200</u>
Total Revenues	\$13,002,620
Operating Expenditures	\$ 6,273,259
Capital Outlay	4,294,550
Contingency & Intrafund Transfers	<u>2,434,811</u>
Total Expenditures	\$13,002,620

Several revisions are recommended to General Fund Non-Departmental accounts for consideration at this meeting. Following Council approval of grants for non-profit organizations at the July 24 Council meeting, individual account budgets for the 11 non-profit organizations are recommended totaling \$88,995. The funding for the Grants-in-Aid is available in the Non-Departmental Grant Program Expense Account. Staff recommends that the balance of the \$11,005 in Grant Program Expense be moved to Contingency. Also, a decrease is recommended in the Non-Departmental Transfer to Housing and Community Development of \$2,500 due to an incorrect revenue allocation in the SRF Housing and Community Development budget. The correct transfer from the SHIP budget is \$61,611 or \$2,500 more than shown in the 2001-2002 proposed budget. The increase in the transfer from SHIP offsets the decrease in the transfer from the General Fund to Housing.

As a result of the above decrease to the Transfer to Housing & Community Development of \$2,500 and savings from Grant Program Expense of \$11,005 – Contingency will increase \$13,505. The new balance of the Contingency will be \$158,299. The total of the General Fund proposed preliminary budget does not change following these revisions.

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Revisions are also included for the Housing and Community Development budget in the Special Revenue Fund to correct the revenue accounts decreasing the Interfund Transfer from General Fund and increasing Intrafund Transfer from SHIP by \$2,500. The total of the Housing and Community Development proposed preliminary budget does not change following these revisions.

Additionally, revisions are recommended for the Capital Improvements Fund which will increase the fund total by \$75,000 for improvement to Leisure Services facilities. These improvements are funded by the Brevard County Recreation Bond monies.

Mayor Buckley referenced the addition of the Airport budget. Mr. Hill noted that several revisions were made to the agenda report (due to the Grants-in-Aid) and distributed to Council. He stated that the corrections do not change the total budget. The correct information is listed in the above excerpt from the agenda report.

Mayor Buckley stated that he received several calls about the new format for utility bills. He added that he would like to bring the issue up for reconsideration.

Moved by Buckley/C. Palmer to reconsider.

Mrs. Hand stated that she supports the new utility billing format.

The question was called. The vote was:

Aye: C. Palmer and Buckley

Nay: E. Palmer, Poole, Walker, and Hand

Motion carried.

Mayor Buckley stated that the 2001-2001 tentative budget is \$99,603,506.

Moved by Hand/E. Palmer for approval of the revisions proposed by staff resulting in a 2001-2002 tentative budget of \$99,603,506.

Mr. Palmer stated that he wants to ensure, especially in light of the improvements being made to the water plant, that the distribution system improvements remain on track. Regarding capital improvements, Mr. Palmer asked Council to keep in mind the discussion of a new or modified City Hall, the issue of the fire station located at the current City Hall site, and police and fire protection on the beachside.

Regarding the Auditorium, he noted that the facility serves a lot of people in the city and performs a usage that can't be tied to a dollar amount. The people who attend the concerts and shows bring their families, stay in hotels, buy gas, eat in restaurants, etc. The Auditorium is a financial engine for the City of Melbourne; it provides entertainment and brings in other funding.

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Mr. Hill confirmed for Mr. Palmer that the proposed budget has \$1 million in projects for the water distribution system and the five-year plan has identified \$5 million in water distribution projects. He agreed that it is a high priority.

Mrs. Poole said when it comes to the issue of City Hall and the fire station, she knows Council will make the right decision. Additionally, she noted that she is glad the (City Hall) issue will be decided by referendum. Mrs. Poole asked that in the future the Airport make a brief presentation on its budget.

Mrs. Walker commended staff on preparation of the budget.

Mrs. Palmer noted that Melbourne is ninth on the list out of 15 cities in Brevard County in terms of the millage rate. She stated that she is amazed at the quality of the city, its services, and condition of infrastructure are all maintained with the amount of revenue coming in. That is due to the efforts of the employees in each department.

Mrs. Hand said she totally supports the budget and goals. She added that she wants to do what we can to preserve the Auditorium; a lot of events are conducted there. With regard to a new City Hall, she would like the old Palms Theater site considered because of the area available for parking and other needs.

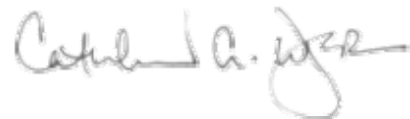
Mayor Buckley agreed that the city has done a fantastic job with the funding that is available; we have been frugal in the way we have handled money. He stressed that the city's service far exceeds other cities in the county, our recreation facilities are second to none, and we have unequalled police and fire service.

The question was called. Motion carried unanimously.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by E. Palmer/Walker to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.



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City Clerk – 9/14/2001

Approved by Council: \_\_\_\_\_