

**AGENDA MINUTES
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
CITY HALL, 501 W MEADOW STREET, LEESBURG, FL
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2022 5:30 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The City of Leesburg Commission held a regular meeting on Thursday, September 15, 2022, at Leesburg City Hall. Mayor Pederson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with the following members present:

Commissioner Jimmy Burry
Commissioner John Christian
Commissioner Jay Connell
Commissioner Dan Robuck
Mayor Mike Pederson

Also present were City Manager (CM) Al Minner, City Clerk (CC) J. Andi Purvis, the news media, and others.

INVOCATION

The invocation was previously given at the Carver Heights/Montclair Area Community Redevelopment Agency meeting held earlier this evening.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no public comments offered.

3. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND NON-ROUTINE ITEMS:

A. Public Hearing on the Proposed millage and Proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2022-23.

CM Minner stated the budget, as discussed over the summer, pretty much remains the same. There were a few changes in the enterprise funds and they firmed up some capital expenditures. The millage rate stays at 4.0192, which is a little bit of an increase. There will be a five percent salary increase for all employees. This is the last year for the CBA agreements. We will begin new CBA agreements for both police and fire. The fleet leases stay at seventy-five percent. The fire assessment rates will remain the same. The health insurance rates remain the same and educational programs will continue. Property

liability is up five percent. There is no appropriation of fund balance in the general fund. There is a transfer from the general fund to capital projects for improvements to the John L. Johnson Park fence for one hundred and eighty thousand dollars. We currently have five hundred and thirteen full-time positions, which includes eleven new employees. However, tonight, during the CRA meeting, we did add a new position. The draft budget was one eighty-six and it rounded out at two hundred and twenty-three million dollars. The big change was the modification to the electric fund because that constantly changes. We had to add an additional thirty million dollars to that. The water and wastewater funds are up a bit because both funds have some projects that were previously noted. The water and wastewater projects deal with growth and development. The cash reserves are at thirteen million dollars, which is a reasonable number. It is not crazy big and it is not desperately small either. With capital projects, we have three capital projects set aside, which total six hundred and eighty thousand dollars. We have the partnership building remodel at two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, the Pat Thomas field at another two hundred and fifty thousand and the John L. Johnson Park at one hundred and eighty thousand. With the electric fund, they modified that due to the increase in the power cost adjustment. The water fund change was for additional money for the main replacement on US 27 (Middlesex to CR 48). That increases the size of the straw to get water down to the south. They added a Stock Subdivision change outs and some ground storage tanks to Highland Lake that will come out of the reserve. These are in preparation for new growth. With the water rate increase, we talked about the ten percent increase. With wastewater, that pretty much remains the same. They received some cash from SSUC, which was their early buyout, so they shifted some money around to prepare for a plant project. They also added some money for force mains. The city needs to be prepared. We need to make sure we have our water and wastewater mains working in conjunction down south with US 27. The staff is in the process of figuring out how we want to get those mains situated for growth with all the annexations. He is putting together a presentation which he hopes to bring forward in the next sixty days. It will be more for the developers, where the city can say we want the developers to develop in this type of matter. We will also talk about water, wastewater, roads and the potential location of a fire department. The developers will pay for this through impact fees. After they build it, it will then be dedicated to the city. That is how they modified the budgets.

Mayor Pederson asked for comments from the Commission and the public. There were none.

1. Announce the name of the taxing authority, the rolled back rate, and the millage rate to be levied.

BD McDaniel stated the name of the taxing authority is the City of Leesburg, Florida. The current year rolled back rate is 3.6583. The proposed millage rate of 4.0192 is 9.87% higher than the current year rolled back rate. The millage rate to be levied is 4.0192 miles per \$1,000.

2. Discuss the proposed aggregate millage rate.

BD McDaniel said on July 11th the Commission approved the tentative millage rate of 4.0192 mills per \$1,000. This is an increase from the prior fiscal year. Whereas, the proposed budget was developed using 4.0192 mills per \$1,000. Therefore, the tentative millage rate of 4.0192 mills per \$1,000 represents a 9.87% increase from the current year rolled back rate, which is attributable to additional expenses and is a tax increase under TRIM guidelines.

3. Request comments from the public regarding the millage rate.

Mayor Pederson requested comments from the commission and the public regarding the tentative budget. There were no comments offered.

4. **Resolution of the City Commission of the City of Leesburg, Florida tentatively adopting 4.0192 mills as the Fiscal Year 2022-23 millage rate for the City of Leesburg, Florida, representing the current year proposed aggregate millage rate of 4.0192 which is 9.87% more than the current year rolled back rate of 3.6583 mills; and providing an effective date.**

ADOPTED RESOLUTION 11,170

Commissioner Christian introduced the resolution to be read by title only. CC Purvis read the resolution by title only.

Commissioner Robuck made a motion to adopt the resolution and Commissioner Christian seconded the motion.

Mayor Pederson requested comments from the Commission and the audience.

Commissioner Connell remarked that he knows by the guidelines this is considered an increase, but the millage is staying exactly the same as it is right now. **BD McDaniel** said yes. **Commissioner Connell** said he wanted to go on the record so everyone does not think we actually increased the millage by that much. It is just by the guidelines considered an increase.

The roll call vote was:

Commissioner Christian	Yes
Commissioner Burry	Yes
Commissioner Robuck	Yes
Commissioner Connell	Yes
Mayor Pederson	Yes

Five yeas, no nays, the Commission adopted the resolution.

5. **Request comments from the public regarding adoption of the tentative 2022-23 budget.**

Mayor Pederson requested comments from the public regarding adoption of the tentative 2022-23 budget. There were no comments offered.

6. **Resolution tentatively adopting the Fiscal Year 2022-23 budget.**

ADOPTED RESOLUTION 11,171

Commissioner Christian made a motion to adopt the resolution and Commissioner Robuck seconded the motion.

The roll call vote was:

Commissioner Burry	Yes
Commissioner Robuck	Yes
Commissioner Connell	Yes
Commissioner Christian	Yes
Mayor Pederson	Yes

Five yeas, no nays, the Commission adopted the resolution.

7. Announce the tentatively adopted millage rate.

BD McDaniel stated the tentatively adopted millage rate to be levied is 4.0192 mills per \$1,000.

8. Establish and publicly announce the date, time and place for the public hearing to finally adopt the millage rate and the Fiscal Year 2022-23 budget.

BD McDaniel announced the date to finally adopt the millage rate and the fiscal year 2022-23 budget is scheduled for Monday, September 26, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers at City Hall.

4. ROLL CALL:

Commissioner Christian thanked the commission and city staff, including the city manager and budget director, who worked hard to adopt this budget. Even though we are in tough economic times, we made this happen.

Commissioner Burry had no further comment.

Commissioner Robuck echoed Commissioner Christian's comments, especially thanks to the budget director for always having a great budget. She has been doing it every year that he has been on the commission and they seem to get better every year in terms of the information that is provided. He thanked her and the department heads.

Commissioner Connell had no comment.

Mayor Pederson thanked the city manager, budget director and the finance director. The budget meetings this year were the shortest he has attended. That is a compliment to the staff for bringing a good budget to the commission.

5. ADJOURN:

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES NEEDING ASSISTANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY OF THESE PROCEEDINGS SHOULD CONTACT THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT, ADA COORDINATOR, AT 728-9740, 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING.

F.S.S. 286.0105 "If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Commission with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, they will need a record of the

proceedings, and that for such purpose they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based." The City of Leesburg does not provide this verbatim record.

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.