

MINUTES OF THE FY 2023 - 2024 BUDGET WORKSHOP FOR THE BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS FOR THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE FLORIDA, HELD AT 2775 GARRISON AVENUE, September 5, 2023, AT 11 A.M.

The following were present: Mayor Buzzett, Commissioners Hoffman, Kerigan, and Langston. City Manager Jim Anderson, City Clerk Charlotte Pierce, Financial Director Mike Lacour, Police Chief Jake Richards, Public Works Director John Grantland, Surface Water Treatment Plant Superintendent Larry McClamma, and Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent Kevin Pettis, were also present. Commissioner Lowry was absent.

The purpose of the Workshop was to review the FY 2023 – 2024 Budget.

2023 – 2024 Budget

Mr. Anderson shared that, after a review of funds, there will be sufficient funds in the 2023-2034 Budget to cover the \$182,000 shortfall for the Downtown Water Line Replacement Project. This is the difference between a grant of \$675,426 and the Monolith bid of \$857,607.77.

Mayor Buzzett shared his concerns about raises for licenses and also asked that a specific request for an employee be removed from the Budget and handled in house.

Commissioner Hoffman suggested that, in the future, licenses with additional pay apply to new employees.

Christy McElroy questioned the involvement of individual Commissioners in personnel. She referenced the City Charter and that it states, "Employee issues go to the City Manager." She reminded the Commissioners of previous attempts by elected officials to get involved in personnel and that it was not good.

Commissioner Langston feels that if an employee is doing a job, they should be paid the same as the previous employee.

Commissioner Kerigan stated that there appears to be some discrepancies, and asked why an employee waited years to bring this up rather than go to a supervisor when the employee felt like it was an issue.

Commissioner Hoffman asked that the insurance split of the City absorbing 75% and the employee 25% of any additional increase in health insurance premium be considered for next year. He feels that the priorities for the coming year should be that the WWTP is in compliance, and that the City works with DEP on any issues.

Mr. Anderson reminded the Commissioners of the First Public Hearing for the 2023-2024 Budget Friday, September 8, 2023, at 5:01 P.M.

Citizens to be Heard

No one wished to address the Commission.

Discussion Items by Commissioners

Neither Mayor Buzzett nor the Commissioners had any additional items to discuss.

Motion to Adjourn

The First Public Hearing on the 2023-2024 is scheduled for Friday, September 22, 2023, also at 5:01 P.M.

There was no other business to discuss, and Mayor Buzzett adjourned the meeting at 11:40 A.M.

Approved this 26th day of September 2023.

Rex Buzzett
Rex Buzzett, Mayor

9/26/2023
Date

Charlotte M. Pierce
Charlotte M. Pierce, City Clerk

9/26/2023
Date