

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 – 2024 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE; ORDINANCE 604 AD VALOREM TAX ORDINANCE; 605 2023 - 2024 BUDGET FOR FY 2023 - 2024 WITH THE BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS FOR THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA, HELD IN THE WARD RIDGE BUILDING, September 08, 2023, at 5:01 P.M.

The following were present: Mayor Buzzett, Commissioners Hoffman, Kerigan, Langston, and Lowry. City Manager Jim Anderson, City Clerk Charlotte Pierce, City Attorney Clinton McCahill, and Officer Nichols were also present.

The purpose of the Special Meeting was Ordinance 604 – 2023 / 2024 Ad Valorem Tax Millage Rate First Public Hearing; Ordinance 605 – 2023 / 2024 Budget Public Hearing;

City Attorney –

Ordinance 604 Ad Valorem Property Taxes 2023 – 2024, Public Hearing, First Reading

No one from the public wished to address the Commission.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, second by Commissioner Kerigan, to have the First Reading of Ordinance 604. All in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

Attorney McCahill read Ordinance 604 in its entirety.

The Ad Valorem Property Tax Millage Rate for Municipal Purposes to be levied on the taxable property within the City limits of the City of Port St. Joe for the Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024, is set at the rate of 3.5914 mills. The percentage by which this millage rate to be levied is more than the rolled-back rate of 3.1043 mills (computed pursuant to Florida law) is 15.69%

Ordinance 605 Budget 2022 – 2023, Public Hearing, First Reading:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Hoffman, second by Commissioner Lowry, to have the First Reading of Ordinance 605.

Christy McElroy expressed her concerns about money in the budget. Mr. Anderson responded there is \$50,000 for a City complex, \$313,000 in the Recreation Budget, and \$1,000,000 in a separate fund for a sports complex

Robert Branch stated he feels that Commissioner Hoffman has changed from supporting the Field of Dreams four years ago to supporting the Benny Roberts Baseball Field on Tenth Street.

Attorney McCahill read Ordinance 605 by Title only.

Voting for the Motion were Commissioners Hoffman, Lowry, Kerigan, and Langston. Mayor Buzzett voted no. Motion passed 4-1. Mayor Buzzett stated that he had nothing against the employee but feels this is just creating future employee issues. Commissioner Langston shared that the Commissioners need to stick to the City Charter, let supervisors and the city manager resolve employee issues and if they can't, the employee could then go to a Commissioner.

No other citizens wished to address the Commission.

Discussion items by Commissioners

There were no other issues to be addressed by the Commissioners.

Motion to Adjourn

Mayor Buzzett adjourned the meeting at 5:40 P.M.

Approved this 17th day of October 2023.



Rex Buzzett, Mayor

10/17/23

Date



Charlotte M. Pierce, City Clerk

10/17/23

Date