

MALABAR TOWN COUNCIL BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING
August 10, 2010 7:00 PM

This meeting of the Malabar Town Council was held at Town Hall at 2725 Malabar Road.

A. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Chair Thomas Eschenberg. The prayer and pledge were led by District 3 Council Member Steve Rivet.

B. ROLL CALL:

MAYOR/CHAIR

TOM ESCHENBERG

VICE-CHAIR:

JEFF MCKNIGHT, excused

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

NANCY BORTON

BRIAN VAIL

STEVE RIVET

MARISA ACQUAVIVA

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:

BONILYN WILBANKS

TOWN CLERK/TREASURER:

DEBBY FRANKLIN

Clerk noted for record that Council Member McKnight called in this afternoon as sick.

C. WORKSHOP ACTION:

1. Review 2010/2011 Fiscal Year (FY) Proposed Budget

Mayor stated he wanted to go over his papers and then hear from TBRB Member Pat Reilly on their Board's recommendations.

Mayor's first page had wages for PW and FD and his averaging. The other sheet he listed each council person's taxable value from the property appraiser and showed the affect it would have on each using the current millage and the proposed 1.8 millage. It translates to dollars. The dollars are not real high. \$4-\$5 to \$10-\$70 increase or from 3% to 11% or 19%. Vail's actually goes down.

At the bottom of his sheet, regarding cost of fire services from county vs. town, he looked up his brother's house in Grant Valkaria and adjusted it out. He equalized the taxable value. The non-ad valorem assessments and the ad valorem at .6187. G-V also pays their garbage as non-ad valorem on their tax bill. They also have a millage rate of 1%. If we suddenly went to county for fire services, Mayor figures he would have to pay an extra 200.00. Rivet asked what the median taxable value of the homes in Malabar.

Pat Reilly, 1925 Howell Lane, TBRB consensus was don't touch the reserves. Where are the reserves shown in budget. Franklin said they are not shown in the budget but on the balance sheet. They would like to look at employee benefits package with other cities. They would also like to see how much town has spent on each line item. Next year add a column to show how much was spent in the previous years so they can see trends. How much was spent vs. how much was budgeted. For revenues, remove the monies from the reserves – don't use. Also what is the source of the TIFT? Franklin explained the source of the TIFT monies and stated the budgeted amount represents the money for projects budgeted last year and not spent plus the projects proposed for this year. If the reserves are used, then interest will be affected. Reduce overall 20%. Did you consider the Palm Bay issue? The fire control, the budget estimates were low compared to the actual expense. They do not support the FD budget. They would like a cost analysis. What would be the cost to the town and to the residents? Invest in the infrastructure and provide fire hydrants. New Gradall vs. used Gradall. Many members thought all machinery is fixable. Compared to spending 60K a year for 5 years. They wanted to know if it would have an affect on the budget if you outsourced this and millings. They see the money in the millings and never see anyone put any millings down.

Rivet said that FD had opportunity to rent out room at FD make money and Council turned it down at last meeting.

Mayor sat in on Taxpayer Budget Review Board Meeting. He thanked them. He said it was interesting listening to their comments.

TA BW looked at the recommendations from the TBRB and acted on them. She gave a copy to Pat Reilly showing what other cities pay for benefits. She had also implemented the columns with the actual monies spent. She only added last year. At bottom of Mayor's question about the increase in FRS. Wages didn't go up but FRS did because the State sets the rates.

She also just got insurance rates from broker and BCBS came in at 12% instead of 14% increase. The WC was also adjusted by codes the FLC uses for their premiums.

They do have more information regarding the Gradall. More information will be provided to Council on the differences at the Council meeting when the decision will be made.

Left the new Gradall with the numbers and dropped some of the equipment. If you are not going with the tractor you can cut the head also. Dropped one of the heads.

Revenues:

TA went through the revenues that changed. Mayor met with them Monday and she agreed to some adjustments. Also adjusted Special Event by increasing it. Training for FD was increased based on discussion with Chief. There have been conversations regarding the Chief leaving and going to a paid station. TA confirmed that if he left he has said he would continue to train at no charge.

Interest was reduced down to 3K.

The amount put in the TIFT money was explained by Franklin.

Lowered reserved monies used to balance budget.

Restricted funds are from the Dev Rec Funds. The 8745. is an estimate from the Park Board to re-do Huggins Park. Franklin said the balance in the Developers Rec Fee account is about 27K.

Any questions: Acquaviva asked about the zero in revenues collected this year in new dev rec fees. There are no new projects so no new fees have come in. These are fees developers pay in lieu of constructing recreational facilities.

Mayor stated he hopes the Council uses the next budget workshop. Starting with the 001-329 series, he would like to have Roger produce a list of where this money is going to come from. Where did this money come from? TA said she could explain now. Mayor said to have for next workshop meeting. Mayor said it is something that we need to track.

New revenue accounts added this year – 349.7010 and the 349.9000. It is not something you can budget. Mayor said we should budget some amount. Same with lien search. Consensus to put in 500.00 in background, 300 in liens and 300.00 in fines and forts. Also add 500.00 to 366.1000 and for 369.9020 bump it up to 950.00

Last comment is on dev rec fee. Why not make the amount 15K. ok

Expenditures:

BWF – Stated that this budget remained pretty much the same as last year.

511 – Legislative

TA added 2 staff members under Mayor and 2 staff members under council for when we host SCLC. We did purchase the CD recorder.

Mayor asked what the 375.00 for membership for Palm Bay Chamber. TA said for current business that we have, it is support. She gets an opportunity to participate in the community. Booth didn't go but

we are a member. Rivet said that is a pretty squishy response. Can she name an interest that we were helped on? Stuart Borton said it is an organization of businesses to encourage outside businesses to make Malabar their home. Many businesses in our area. Emerge program if you can hire a person for 8 weeks. Workforce Development is paying the wages for 75 new employees. The Chamber had an integral part in this. Rivet agrees it is a benefit to businesses but what about taxpayers? Jobs, resources, assistance. Malabar is easy to work with. Borton said it is the same as Civ Mil, you participate in a small amount. We have fewer members. Leave it in for now. Do you want to look at the 375.00 for civ-mil. Mayor said he could mention two past benefits from civ-mil: Booth said he could not get FEMA to pay and he spoke with Weldon at a Civ-Mil meeting and we got paid in 2 weeks. The road study for Malabar Road was done because he met with FDOT person at a meeting.

512 – Executive, BWF explained the FICA and life insurance was adjusted down. It also dawned on her that we were budgeting the full premium instead of just the 75%. Has been for all the years. So she reduced to the 75%. The long term/short term is 100% because the employer pays. Before you tonight is the plans submitted by insurance broker. The amounts for BCBS are what is shown in budget. Once Council looks over it they will decide.

WC for all departments has been adjusted.

Dropped her membership for EAF as it did not benefit her. Acquaviva asked about physicals – she did drop all of FD and reduced new employees and renewals for Town employees.

513 – Finance and Administration,

Went over the adjustments. Any questions. Just a comment on the warranty for computer. The hard drive and power supply are what go out. In his budget he does not have 1500. in computer. He does have 3000 in contingency just in case. TA said the experience was that her motherboard went out. She did leave it in. He allowed money for it. Rivet said the home computer is used 3-4 hours a day and this one is running continuously. He sells to computer manufacturers and he is amazed they last that long.

514 – Legal –

Allowed 3K for possible court costs. Rivet said there is a good chance it will go to court and we will prevail. Leave it at 35K? Rivet would like to add money to it. He does not think this is the best estimate. TA will work on increasing this.

515 – Comp Plan

Adjusted definition

519 – General Government

Town Engineer Morris Smith was here when TA met with a council person over budget. He asked if he should cut his bill. So 519.3100 may come back with a lower amount. Regarding the stimulus projects – he met with contractor and Morris Smith. The drawings by Bill Stephenson have many errors. We may want to pursue this with Stephenson. She gave example of the stop signs. Mayor asked about Weber and Atz project. She sent today's pictures of the sod sliding off to FDOT. It is too steep – they are going to rip-rap.

TA said she went to every vendor and asked them to lower. netDirect agreed to reduce by 10%. Taylormade said they won't reduce their rates. We may re-bid. Cleaning will not be increased.

Promotional Activities added the 500 bonus proposed by Franklin and added Blanca to this for total of 3K. This does not include TA or TC/T.

Mayor asked about 4900 – part of the charges for the appraisals. Will there be any appraisals? Hard to say if they pursue the school house.

522 – FD

She met with Chief and Dan and one of the things they came up with was the Friends of the FD those donations could be used for certain purchases. Also the pay per call. Also have initiated a program that by June of next year, they have to sign form that they want to participate. The long/short/dental was given to Joe because we needed a tenth person.

The physicals were reduced to zero and the netDirective reduced by 10%. Reduced phones and electric. The lease for the copier was increased by \$14.00 to provide for a scanner. The repairs have been done all this year with the grease trap being repaired.

Borton asked about the 2K for Explorers – it is not for them – a budget adjustment will need to be done.

Mayor asked Dan to address a couple items. Physicals was reduced to zero and also the matching money for grants. He pulled that money out for badges, uniforms. Those items do not have a direct affect on day to day activities or safety but they are important. Take those items including the grant matching money and that comes to 10K. If we don't get it, then the safety is not affected. The fund raisers can bring in money. Make the CPR classes donations. He already had 10 students for September class. He is not going to charge anything. Brian asked if you have to show you have the funds available. Dan said you must have that money. If you have to have 5% for the VAP and is due by April. Brian said in the past there has been a line item. To make a choice between a 10K what if fund or having a paid part time FF. If we only raise 500 for Forestry, then they will match the other 500. He is looking at this from an entirely different perspective. Borton asked if they could raise money now. Dan doesn't think 10K is too lofty. That is what they will shoot for. If they don't make any money then they will only have faded shirts. No one gets hurt.

Physicals: The volunteers in Indialantic must have a physical form and background check done. They apply for a reimbursement after 6 months. He thinks the perspective of paying for physicals for new volunteers. We are supposed to have a physical every year. Acquaviva asked about using the physical from their insurance on their day jobs. Dan said it can be tracked with a spreadsheet and see if the volunteers can't pay then we can budget for them. He thinks there should be some money in there. There should be a plan for the recurring physicals. That is the complaint he has heard. TA said the criticism was that they weren't doing them, but they don't want to be paying for physicals for the front side of orientation.

Rivet said he agreed some money should be put there. Dan will also get with list of volunteers with insurance. TA also said

Recalculate FRS for 522.2200. number in definition vs. front page.

524 – BD

Adjusted the rates for those noted and changed the definition.

In process here, Denine got married. Rates went up. Acquaviva asked about insurance. The Town pays for 75% for employee and family. TA will check numbers for insurance.

TA will verify the WC rates for BD also.

539 – Public Works (PW)

Adjusted FICA and corrected for new rates. Added to definition page to explain the 25%.

Borton asked about pest control in fire department. It is covered under Massey contract.

541 – Streets and Roads (PW)

Adjusted unemployment down. Adjusted ditch spraying, cut that and keep mower head. The road grading was put back up to 8K. Repair and maintenance was increased. Road millings was reduced. Mayor wanted a list of roads we have. Mayor wanted her to use the list that grading was added to "A< B< C< and D. The millings should be used on the "D" roads first.

She left in the Gradall cost. She has looked at all the recommendations that were given. She also looked at the auction sites. She verified that Caterpillar will do inspections at the following costs. 89/hr, / per mile, and 89/hr for labor. If we buy elsewhere in the State, we have to get the equipment here. Mayor said the TBRB suggested getting an independent inspection.

Rivet said an auction is not the way to go.

Mayor said 541.5200 fuel, expended to date is not correct. He thinks the fuel number it could be reduced. We have spent 12K through July. He thinks it should be reduced. TA will talk to Tom and perhaps some money can be saved.

572 – Parks

Changed the name from contingency to dev rec fee and gave it its own number. Bumped up the restroom.

Acquaviva said the park restrooms were dirty. They discussed cleaning.

Mayor said on page 34, 572.3470, irrigation is at 1755.00. The amount looks low. Acquaviva was stunned by the amount paid for mowing. What do they mow? If we get a new mower head, we can take on more mowing. TA is re-bidding.

Golf Disc Park is being used by a league. It has gone from no mowing to 4 hours to now 8 hours.

TA said the mowing contractor also does fertilizer.

574 – Special Events

No changes

Mayor said prior to the first budget hearing, look at stormwater and it may have to change due to the stimulus project. She said the contractor is not going to make the August deadline.

Next budget workshop is set for 8/24/10 can they start at 7PM. Consensus to change that meeting to 8/31/10 at 7:30. Meeting on 8/24/10 is cancelled.

Mayor said he hoped Council read his memo and if they go with his budget and there will be no tax increase and use of reserves. TA said with the changes tonight her budget amount for use of reserves will be reduced.

Acquaviva asked how many hours are on Gradall. Tom said there are 5380 hours on current Gradall.

Acquaviva asked about memo from Tom – it is not an email; it is hard copy.

TA will put out memo on cost to out-source ditch cleaning using CDM; piggy back off of Grant Valkaria. Vail asked if TA had gotten cost if county did fire service. TA said she used 300 per household. Vail said he thinks we should keep out FD but we should check prices. Acquaviva said she thought the direction was to get those prices. Borton agreed. Chief Gianantonio said other cost if going with County is that the Town's ISO rating may drop and insurance costs would go up for residents. The County doesn't use the ISO rating.

Cost break out for outsourcing ditches. They only do a ditch once every five years. Mayor said what is the major ditch problem. The previous plan was to just keep digging the ditch deeper.

Tom Miliore, the cost to outsource then it will cost of 2500. to mobilize. Is he going to maintain the yard. Many other things to consider.

D. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, **MOTION:** Borton / Rivet to adjourn this meeting. **VOTE:** All **Ayes.** The meeting adjourned at 9: PM.

BY: Thomas M. Eschenberg
Mayor Thomas M. Eschenberg, Chair

ATTEST BY:

Debby K. Franklin
Debby Franklin, Town Clerk

8/16/2010
Date Approved