

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

SEPTEMBER 7, 2023

A Public Hearing on Proposed County Budget Fiscal Year 2023/2024 was held at the Charlotte Harbor Event and Conference Center, 75 Taylor Street, Punta Gorda, Florida.

The following members were present: Chair Truex, Commissioner Constance, Commissioner Deutsch, Commissioner Doherty, and Commissioner Tiseo. Also in attendance were: County Administrator Flores, County Attorney Knowlton, and Minutes Clerk Welsh. The following members were absent: None.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:57 pm.

Citizen Input – Agenda Items Only

Matthew Cankar commented on September 7, 2023 Municipal Services Benefit Unit (MSBU) Public Hearing Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

Stacy Wear, Charlotte County Clerk of the Circuit Court and County Comptroller Finance Director discussed Clerk's Office budget, reduction, services, customer service, excess funds, and requested approval.

The following citizens spoke against the Proposed County Budget Fiscal Year 2023/2024: Dave Kesselring and Dave Kalin, Jr.

Gordon Burger, Budget and Administrative Services Director gave a brief overview of Agenda.

1. Review of FY2023/2024 Budget Process

Mr. Burger gave a brief overview of Stages of the Budget Process and Calendar.

2. Millage Rates

Mr. Burger gave a brief overview of Assessed Valuation, Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Property Valuations, Neighboring Counties: Valuation Increase, Valuation Impact on Homestead Tax Bill (Charlotte County Millage Only), How Your Tax Dollar is Spent FY 2023/2024, and Set Tentative Millage Rates.

3. Presentation of Budget

Mr. Burger gave a brief overview of General Fund: Five Year Financial Plan - Revenue/Expenditures (Thousands), Revenues vs Expenditures Updated Projection, Budget vs Cash Flow, Proposed 2023/2024 & 2024/2025 Total County-wide Budget, Net Amended Budgets, Net Budget - Capital vs Operating, BCC Countywide full-time equivalent (FTE) Count As of 10/1/2022, BCC Countywide Occupied FTE Count, Charlotte County 20 Year Debt

Position, Charlotte County Debt Breakdown, Ad Valorem Reserves, Reserves, Total Reserves - 10 Year History by Fund, 5 Year Budget History, and Approval of Tentative Rates and Budgets.

4. Public Hearing to Adopt County-wide Tentative Millage Rate and Proposed Budget RES 2023-148 / RES 2023-149

Mr. Burger read into the record County-wide tentative millage rate and proposed budget, replied to Hurricane Charley, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), funding, projects, process, and obligations.

Public Input

Sharon Pineo inquired on Federal funds, restrictions, and availability.

The following citizens spoke against County-wide Tentative Millage Rate and Proposed Budget: Dave Kesselring, Kat Pellegrino, and Matthew Cankar.

COMMISSIONER CONSTANCE MOVED TO CLOSE PUBLIC INPUT, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER TISEO

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

Commissioner Constance mentioned FEMA, Hurricanes Charley and Ian, obligation, process, and funding. **Commissioner Tiseo** noted community outreach, services, budget, validation process, and demands.

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2023-148 ADOPTING A TENTATIVE COUNTY-WIDE MILLAGE LEVY FOR CHARLOTTE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER TISEO

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2023-149 ADOPTING A TENTATIVE COUNTY-WIDE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 AND APPROVING A TENTATIVE PLANNED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DEUTSCH

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

5. Public Comment Prior to the Adoption of the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Millage Rate and Proposed Budget RES 2023-150 / RES 2023-151

Mr. Burger read into the record Environmentally Sensitive Lands millage rate and proposed budget, responded to term, Workshop, and options.

Public Input

Matthew Cankar spoke to funding, spending, and services.

Commissioner Constance commented on pay down rate, term, prepayment, revenue, restricted funds, and bond.

COMMISSIONER CONSTANCE MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2023-150 ADOPTING A TENTATIVE SERIES 2008 (GOB) DEBT SERVICE FUND MILLAGE LEVY FOR CHARLOTTE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DOHERTY

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

COMMISSIONER CONSTANCE MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2023-151 ADOPTING A TENTATIVE SERIES 2008 (GOB) DEBT SERVICE FUND BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 AND APPROVING A PLANNED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DOHERTY

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

6. Public Hearing to Adopt the MSTU Millage Rates and Proposed Budget RES 2023-152 / RES 2023-153

Mr. Burger read into the record Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU) millage rates and proposed budget.

Public Input

Dave Kalin, Jr. spoke against the MSTU Millage Rates and Proposed Budget.

COMMISSIONER CONSTANCE MOVED TO CLOSE PUBLIC INPUT, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DOHERTY

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2023-152 ADOPTING A TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATE TO BE LEVIED WITHIN THE GREATER CHARLOTTE STREET LIGHTING DISTRICT, STUMP PASS DREDGING MUNICIPAL SERVICE TAXING UNIT, DON PEDRO/KNIGHT ISLAND STREET AND DRAINAGE UNIT, MANASOTA KEY STREET AND DRAINAGE UNIT, CHARLOTTE COUNTY MUNICIPAL SERVICE TAXING UNIT FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND SANDHILL MUNICIPAL SERVICE TAXING UNIT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER TISEO

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2023-153 ADOPTING A TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR GREATER CHARLOTTE STREET LIGHTING DISTRICT, STUMP PASS DREDGING MUNICIPAL SERVICE TAXING UNIT, DON PEDRO/KNIGHT ISLAND STREET AND DRAINAGE UNIT, MANASOTA KEY STREET AND DRAINAGE UNIT, CHARLOTTE COUNTY MUNICIPAL SERVICE TAXING UNIT FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND SANDHILL MUNICIPAL

SERVICE TAXING UNIT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 AND APPROVING A PLANNED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CONSTANCE

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

7. Public Hearing to adopt proposed budgets for the remaining Special Revenue Funds, Debt Service Funds, Enterprise Funds and MSBU Funds RES 2023-154

Mr. Burger read into the record the proposed budgets for the remaining Special Revenue Funds, Debt Service Funds, Enterprise Funds, MSBU Funds, responded to Fire Fund, West Charlotte Stormwater Utility MSBU, budgetary impacts, and September 19, 2023 Final Budget Public Hearing.

Public Input

COMMISSIONER CONSTANCE MOVED TO CLOSE PUBLIC INPUT, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DEUTSCH


MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

Commissioner Doherty discussed September 19, 2023 Final Budget Public Hearing and Suncoast Waterway MSBU.

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2023-154 ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE BUDGETS FOR THE REMAINING SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS, DEBT SERVICE FUNDS, ENTERPRISE FUNDS, AND MSBU FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023/2024 TOTALING \$1,400,099,009 AND APPROVE A PLANNED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024/2025 TOTALING \$1,373,106,464, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER TISEO

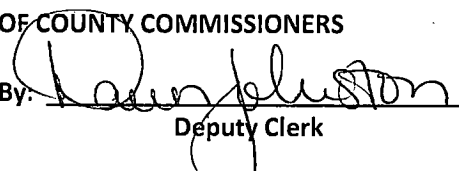
MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

ADJOURNED: 8:59 pm


The seal is circular with a dotted border. The outer ring contains the text "COMMISSIONERS" at the top, "FLA." on the right, "CHARLOTTE CO." at the bottom, and "COUNTY" on the left. In the center, the word "SEAL" is written vertically. A signature "William G. Truex" is written across the seal, and the text "William G. Truex, Chair" is printed below it.
DATE ADOPTED: September 26, 2023

ATTEST:

**ROGER D. EATON, CLERK
OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND
EX-OFFICIO TO THE BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

By: 
Deputy Clerk