

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

SEPTEMBER 19, 2023

A Board Public Hearing on Proposed County Budget Fiscal Year 2023/2024 and Fiscal Year 2024/2025 was held at the Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center; 75 Taylor Street, Punta Gorda, Florida.

The following members were present: Chair Truex (via teleconference), Vice Chair Constance, Commissioner Deutsch, Commissioner Doherty, and Commissioner Tiseo. Also in attendance were: County Administrator Flores, County Attorney Knowlton, Minutes Clerk Johnston, and various County staff members. The following members were absent: None.

The Meeting was called to order at 5:01 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

County Administrator Flores highlighted Public Hearing on Proposed County Budget Fiscal Year (FY) 2023/2024 and FY 2024/2025.

Vice Chair Constance remarked on Hurricane Ian.

1. Announce Total Proposed Net Budget

Gordon Burger, Budget and Administrative Services Director gave a brief overview of Agenda and Changes made since September 7th.

2. Public Hearing

3. Board Discussion

4. Adopt Final Millage Rates and Budgets by Resolution

I. Ad Valorem – Countywide Funds RES 2023-167 / RES 2023-168

Mr. Burger read into record County Wide millage rates, roll back rates, and proposed budgets.

Public Hearing

Sheridan Southerland commented on budget, Englewood Utilities meeting, taxes, infrastructure, and Hurricane Ian.

Dawn Mann discussed budget, development, developers, contribution, infrastructure, Sunseeker, Fire/EMS, libraries, Hurricane Ian, and Cultural Center.

Crystal Evans mentioned surrounding counties, budgets, developers, infrastructure, landscaping, Port Charlotte Town Center Mall, impact fees, and Sunseeker.

David Kesselring noted surrounding counties, salaries, budgets, taxes, increases, cuts, and service levels.

David Grossman spoke to impact reports, Charlotte County Fire/EMS, Ad Valorem, taxes, hotel rooms, impacts, ethics, and upcoming elections.

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY MOVED TO CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DEUTSCH

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

Vice Chair Constance commented on September 19, 2023 Workshop, Mid-County Library, Cultural Center, budgets, and process. **Commissioner Deutsch** discussed Board meetings, budget, process, aesthetics, inflation, first responders, Sunseeker, by-rights, and waterfront accessibility. **Commissioner Tiseo** mentioned budget, process, cycle, utility extension, service levels, aesthetics, libraries, September 19, 2023 Workshop, Cultural Center, developer contributions, proportionate share, Sunseeker, voting conflict, by-rights, sign, cost, and transparency.

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2023-167 ADOPTING A FINAL COUNTY-WIDE MILLAGE LEVY FOR CHARLOTTE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2023/2024, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DEUTSCH

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2023-168 ADOPTING A FINAL COUNTY-WIDE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 AND APPROVE A PLANNED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DEUTSCH

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

II. Voted Debt Service Fund (Environmentally Sensitive Lands) – Ad Valorem RES 2023-169 / RES 2023-170

Mr. Burger read into record Environmentally Sensitive Lands millage rates and proposed budgets.

Public Comment - None

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2023-169 ADOPTING A FINAL SERIES 2008 (GOB) DEBT SERVICE FUND MILLAGE LEVY FOR CHARLOTTE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER TISEO

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

COMMISSIONER TISEO MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2023-170 ADOPTING A FINAL SERIES 2008 (GOB) DEBT SERVICE FUND BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 AND APPROVE A PLANNED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DEUTSCH

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

III. Ad Valorem – Municipal Service Taxing Units – MSTUs RES 2023-171 / RES 2023-172

Mr. Burger read into record Municipal Service Taxing Units millage rates, roll back rates, and proposed budgets.

Public Hearing

COMMISSIONER TISEO MOVED TO CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DOHERTY

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

COMMISSIONER TISEO MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2023-171 ADOPTING A FINAL 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 DOHERTY

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

COMMISSIONER TISEO MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2023-172 ADOPTING A FINAL 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 DOHERTY

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

IV. Non-Ad Valorem Funds and Municipal Service Benefit Units (MSBU) RES 2023-173

Mr. Burger read into record Non-Ad Valorem Funds and Municipal Service Benefit Units (MSBU's).

Public Hearing

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY MOVED TO CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DEUTSCH

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

Commissioner Doherty spoke to budgets, complexity, and public engagement.

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2023-173 ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGETS FOR THE REMAINING SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS, DEBT SERVICE FUNDS, ENTERPRISE FUNDS AND MSBU FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023/2024 TOTALING \$1,396,341,957 AND APPROVE A PLANNED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024/2025 TOTALING \$1,370,656,115, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DEUTSCH

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

ADJOURNED: 5:50 pm

William G. Truex

 William G. Truex, Chair

DATE ADOPTED: *October 10, 2023*

ATTEST:

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

By: *Roger D. Eaton*

Deputy Clerk