

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

SEPTEMBER 24, 2024

A Public Hearing on Proposed County Budget 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, Commissioner Constance, Commissioner Deutsch, Commissioner Doherty, and Commissioner Tiseo. Also in attendance were: County Administrator Flores, County Attorney Knowlton, Minutes Clerk Savino, Minutes Clerk Welsh, and various County staff members. The following members were absent: None.

The Meeting was called to order at 5:13 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

1. Announce Total Proposed Net Budget

Gordon Burger, Budget and Administrative Services Director gave a brief overview of Agenda and Total Proposed Net Countywide Budget.

2. Public Hearing

3. Board Discussion

4. Adopt Final Millage Rates and Budgets by Resolution

1. Ad Valorem – Countywide Funds RES 2024-162 / RES 2024-163

Mr. Burger read into record County Wide millage rates and funds.

Public Hearing

James Fuccillo commented on budget, transparency, attendance, July 17, 2023 Municipal Service Benefit Unit (MSBU) Public Hearing, notifications, cost, and Truth in Millage (TRIM) notice.

Jack Vanderhayden discussed attendance, publications, tax rates, public services, Port Charlotte Beach Complex, Sunseeker, and Hurricanes Ian.

Jeff Lustig mentioned budget, Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU), MSBU, Charlotte County Sheriff's Office (CCSO), inmates, Family Services Center, Charlotte Behavioral, Florida Department of Health (FDOH), and Amendment 4.

William Matthews, Charlotte County Clerk of the Circuit Court and County Comptroller Assistant Finance Director noted budget, reduction, excess funds, efficiency, transparency, accountability, and requested approval.

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

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

Chair Truex spoke to government accounting, process, statutory requirements, budget, and Capital Improvement Projects (CIP). **Commissioner Constance** commented on July 17, 2023 MSBU Public Hearing, misinformation, meeting attendance, tax rates, TRIM notices, Homestead Exemptions, September 5, 2024 Public Hearing on Proposed County Budget FY 2024-2025, budget process, and transparency. **Commissioner Tiseo** discussed transparency, County website, misinformation, September 7, 2023 and September 19, 2023 Public Hearings on Proposed County Budget FY 2023-2024, attendance, budget documents, and TRIM notices.

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2024-162 ADOPTING A FINAL COUNTY-WIDE MILLAGE LEVY FOR CHARLOTTE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024/2025, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DEUTSCH

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2024-163 ADOPTING A FINAL COUNTY-WIDE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER TISEO

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

II. Voted Debt Service Fund (Environmentally Sensitive Lands) – Ad Valorem RES 2024-164 / RES 2024-165

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

Commissioner Constance mentioned debt balance, millage rate, land acquisitions, and budget process.

Public Comment

Dave Kesselring spoke to millage rate, maintenance, and land acquisitions.

COMMISSIONER CONSTANCE MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2024-164 ADOPTING A FINAL SERIES 2008 (GOB) DEBT SERVICE FUND MILLAGE LEVY FOR CHARLOTTE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DOHERTY

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

COMMISSIONER CONSTANCE MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2024-165 ADOPTING A FINAL SERIES 2008 (GOB) DEBT SERVICE FUND BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DOHERTY

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

III. Ad Valorem – Municipal Service Taxing Units – MSTUs RES 2024-166 / RES 2024-167

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

Public Hearing

Jeff Lustig noted MSTU funds and funding sources.

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

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

Chair Truex commented on citizen initiated projects and requests, MSTU, MSBU, and needs. **Commissioner Constance** discussed Ad Valorem Taxes, MSBU, methodology, Non-Ad Valorem Assessments, and TRIM notice. **Commissioner Tiseo** mentioned annual tax bill, Ad Valorem Taxes and Non-Ad Valorem Assessments categories, and methodology.

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2024-166 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 MSTU FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AND SANDHILL MUNICIPAL SERVICE TAXING UNIT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024/2025, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER TISEO

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2024-167 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 2024-2025, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CONSTANCE

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

IV. Non-Ad Valorem Funds and Municipal Service Benefit Units (MSBU) RES 2024-168

Mr. Burger read into record Non-Ad Valorem Funds and Municipal Service Benefit Units (MSBUs), responded to Homestead Exemption, and reduction.

Public Hearing

Jack Vanderhayden spoke to TRIM notices, Ad Valorem Taxes, and Non-Ad Valorem Assessments.

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

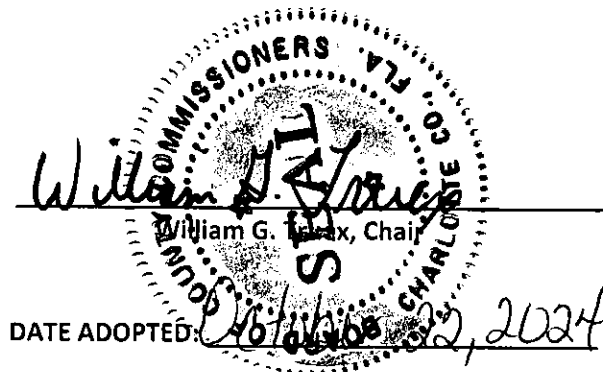
MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

Commissioner Constance noted methodology, Ad Valorem Taxes, Non-Ad Valorem Assessments, meeting attendance, and budget process. **Commissioner Deutsch** commented on inflation, impacts, costs, millage rates, public services, and reduction. **Commissioner Tiseo** discussed September 5, 2024 Public Hearing on Proposed County Budget FY 2024-2025, Valuation Impact on Homestead Tax Bill (Charlotte County Millage Only), reduced millage rate, TRIM notice, and tax bill.

COMMISSIONER CONSTANCE MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2024-168 ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGETS FOR THE REMAINING SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS, DEBT SERVICE FUNDS, ENTERPRISE FUNDS AND MSBU FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 TOTALING \$1,728,594,009, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DOHERTY

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

ADJOURNED: 5:52 pm


DATE ADOPTED: October 22, 2024

ATTEST:

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

By: 
Deputy Clerk