



CITY OF WINTER GARDEN

CITY COMMISSION BUDGET HEARINGS AND REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

September 3, 2020

BUDGET HEARINGS and **REGULAR MEETING** of the Winter Garden City Commission were called to order by Mayor Rees at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, 300 West Plant Street, Winter Garden, Florida. An Opening Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance given.

Present: Mayor John Rees and Commissioners
Lisa L. Bennett – District 1 Bob Buchanan – District 2
Mark A. Maciel – District 3 Colin Sharman – District 4

Also Present: City Manager Mike Bollhoefer, City Attorney A. Kurt Ardaman, City Clerk Angee Grimmage, Assistant City Manager of Administrative Services Frank Gilbert, Assistant City Manager of Public Services Jon Williams, Community Development Director Stephen Pash, Economic Development Director Tanja Gerhartz, Finance Director Laura Zielonka, Fire Chief Matt McGrew, Information Technology Director Chad Morrill and Police Chief Stephen Graham

BUDGET HEARINGS

1. **FIRST READING AND PUBLIC HEARINGS TO ADOPT PROPOSED BUDGETS AND MILLAGE RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020/2021**

- A. **Ordinance 20-33:** AN ORDINANCE LEVYING TAX UPON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY OF WINTER GARDEN, FLORIDA, FOR THE TAX YEAR BEGINNING ON OCTOBER 1, 2020, AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

City Attorney Ardaman read Ordinance 20-33 by title and stated that the City Commission of the City of Winter Garden hereby adopts, establishes and levies a millage rate for ad valorem taxation of real and tangible personal property within the City of Winter Garden for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2020, and ending on September 30, 2021, at the rate of 4.5000 mills (\$4.5000 for every \$1,000 of assessed valuation) upon the assessed valuation of property within the corporate limits of the City of Winter Garden, Florida. This millage rate is greater than the rolled back rate of 4.3428 mills by 3.62 percent.

Finance Director Zielonka stated that this ordinance keeps the millage rate flat at 4.5000. Staff recommends approval and noted their availability for answering any questions.

Mayor Rees opened the public hearing; reading a dedicated phone number and instructions for the public's participation in this meeting. After waiting several minutes and receiving no public calls or comments, he closed the public hearing.

Motion by Commissioner Sharman to approve Ordinance 20-33 with a second reading and public hearing scheduled for September 17, 2020. Seconded by Commissioner Buchanan and carried unanimously 5-0.

- B. **Ordinance 20-34:** AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING AND ALLOCATING ALL REVENUE AND FUNDS OF THE CITY OF WINTER GARDEN, FLORIDA, FOR THE TAX YEAR BEGINNING ON OCTOBER 1, 2020, AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

City Attorney Ardaman read Ordinance 20-34 by title and the following excerpt:

It is anticipated that there will be available for use and disbursement from the general funds of said City, revenue in the following amounts:

Collection of Ad Valorem	\$17,714,856
Revenue other than Ad Valorem	<u>23,304,398</u>
TOTAL REVENUES AVAILABLE FOR EXPENDITURES	\$41,019,254

Finance Director Zielonka stated that this Ordinance allows the allocation of budgeted revenues to be used for the planned appropriations; noting that the information is detailed in the budget book. She referenced the highlighted presentation of the budget as provided at the last meeting and noted the availability of staff for any questions.

City Manager Bollhoefer addressed an issue of the City currently experiencing a decrease in Police Officers. He shared information of the past fluctuation in the number of Police Officers; noting that the City is now down by 15 officers. He addressed current issues across the country regarding Police Officers, the City's reallocation of its active officers, and mandated officer training by the State. The City proposes hiring non-sworn officers for handling traffic accidents, routine items and completing investigations. This item would be brought to the City Commission for consideration.

City Manager Bollhoefer noted the City's plans to address speeding issues in certain targeted areas by increasing Police presence. These efforts would start on Marsh Road and then Daniels Road.

Commissioner Buchanan inquired as to the loss of Police Officers having anything to do with the COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Mr. Bollhoefer expressed that he did not think so and noted the national news coverage and some newer officers rethinking their career choice. He expressed that it is unknown where all this is going. Mr. Bollhoefer stated that he and Police Chief Graham would review all options moving forward. The current focus being the hiring of non-sworn officers to help alleviate some of the menial tasks.

Mayor Rees opened the public hearing; reading a dedicated phone number and instructions for the public's participation in this meeting. After waiting several minutes and receiving no public calls or comments, he closed the public hearing.

Motion by Commissioner Sharman to approve Ordinance 20-34 with a second reading and public hearing scheduled for September 17, 2020. Seconded by Commissioner Bennett and carried unanimously 5-0.

- C. **Ordinance 20-35:** AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING AND ALLOCATING ALL REVENUE AND FUNDS OF THE COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CRA) OF THE CITY OF WINTER GARDEN, FLORIDA, FOR THE TAX YEAR BEGINNING ON OCTOBER 1, 2020, AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

City Attorney Ardaman read Ordinance 20-35 by title and the following excerpt:

It is anticipated that it will be available for use and disbursement from the CRA funds of the City, revenue in the following amounts:

Collection of Ad Valorem	\$ 798,484
Revenue other than Ad Valorem	<u>809,484</u>
TOTAL REVENUES AVAILABLE FOR EXPENDITURES	\$1,607,968

Finance Director Zielonka stated that this budget was presented to the CRA Advisory Board and unanimously approved. Staff also recommends approval.

Mayor Rees opened the public hearing; reading a dedicated phone number and instructions for the public's participation in this meeting. After waiting several minutes and receiving no public calls or comments, he closed the public hearing.

Motion by Commissioner Maciel to approve Ordinance 20-35 with a second reading and public hearing scheduled for September 17, 2020. Seconded by Commissioner Buchanan and carried unanimously 5-0.

- D. **Ordinance 20-36:** AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WINTER GARDEN, AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATIONS OF CITY FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-21 IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 3 SECTION 30 (5) OF THE CITY CHARTER OF THE CITY OF WINTER GARDEN, FLORIDA, AND FLORIDA STATUTE 166.241 FOR THE PURPOSE OF FULFILLING THE FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS OF THE CITY

City Attorney Ardaman read Ordinance 20-36 by title only. Finance Director Zielonka stated that this Ordinance is for the appropriations as outlined in the budget book. She noted the availability of staff for answering any questions.

Mayor Rees opened the public hearing; reading a dedicated phone number and instructions for the public's participation in this meeting. After waiting several minutes and receiving no public calls or comments, he closed the public hearing.

Motion by Commissioner Bennett to approve Ordinance 20-36 with a second reading and public hearing scheduled for September 17, 2020. Seconded by Commissioner Sharman.

Mayor Rees noted that he would submit his list of questions to staff for distribution to the City Commission so as not to have duplications.

Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

REGULAR MEETING

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Commissioner Buchanan to approve regular meeting minutes of August 27, 2020 as submitted. Seconded by Commissioner Sharman and carried unanimously 5-0.

3. PRESENTATION

A. **Proclamation 20-04** proclaiming Diaper Need Awareness Week was read by Mayor Rees. Mayor Rees stated that on behalf of Sharon Lyles, CEO of the Central Florida Diaper Bank and the citizens of Winter Garden he would like to thank everyone for their participation in this program. He spoke further regarding the need, its costs to families and encouraged everyone to participate in the diaper drive.

4. REGULAR BUSINESS

A. **Recommendation to approve SITE PLAN for 12201 W. Colonial Drive (C-Life Church), subject to conditions**

Community Development Director Pash stated that this is a request to approve a site plan for 12201 W. Colonial Drive. He noted the past operation of businesses at this location and stated that the property has now been purchased by C-Life Church. He informed of the applicant going through a site plan review with the Development Review Committee (DRC) as well as working with Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to incorporate better entrances and exits. He noted that they have cross access with a neighboring development, spoke of some building improvements, installation of landscaping, and adherence to requirements of the State Road 50 Overlay. Staff recommends approval, subject to conditions.

There was discussion on the ease at which the applicants worked with the City to meet required improvements, the location of the property, access to the property and traffic.

Motion by Commissioner Buchanan to approve SITE PLAN for 12201 W. Colonial Drive (C-Life Church), subject to conditions. Seconded by Commissioner Bennett and carried unanimously 5-0.

5. **MATTERS FROM PUBLIC** – There were no items.

Mayor Rees opened the public hearing; reading a dedicated phone number and instructions for the public's participation in this meeting. After waiting several minutes and receiving no public calls or comments, he closed the public hearing.

6. **MATTERS FROM CITY ATTORNEY** – There were no items.

7. **MATTERS FROM CITY MANAGER**

Golf Carts

City Manager Bollhoefer addressed issues that the City is experiencing with golf carts speeding and underage drivers. He spoke of driver licenses, other requirements and the need to begin enforcement. He indicated that there would be notifications sent to resident.

Mr. Bollhoefer also spoke of issues relating to being a golf cart friendly community, possibilities of expanding golf cart zones and creation of short zones for access. He noted the formation of a committee for reviewing options and potential alternatives being brought back to the City Commission for review. He expressed that the City is not voting to approve golf carts, but determining that the streets are safe; as to avoid potential issues of liability.

Mr. Bollhoefer reiterated that these golf cart issues would be brought back to the City Commission for review, however, the process of enforcement on underage drivers would start soon.

Mayor Rees inquired as to whether the enforcement would also focus on golf cart drivers travelling on unauthorized streets and sidewalks. Mr. Bollhoefer confirmed that this focus could also be accomplished, however, issues would need to be addressed in phases.

Mr. Bollhoefer addressed the issue of modified golf carts exceeding the criteria of a golf cart definition.

There was discussion on notifications to resident, enforcement, driver license versus age requirements, City restrictions for operating a golf cart, State requirements and potential liabilities.

Non-sworn Traffic Police Officers

City Manager Bollhoefer noted that one additional issue in his conversations with Police Chief Graham relating to the non-sworn officers was that those taking on the task, may find that they like this and want to pursue a career in this field. He stated that should they decide to pursue being a sworn officer, the City could send them to school at night. He expressed that this might be a good option for gaining Police Officers.

