

MINUTES OF THE BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF BOCA RATON, FLORIDA  
TUESDAY, JULY 30, 2002  
7:00 PM

The budget workshop meeting of the City Council of the City of Boca Raton, Florida was called to order by Mayor Steven L. Abrams at approximately 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Steven L. Abrams  
Deputy Mayor Susan Haynie  
Council Member Dave Freudenberg  
Council Member Bill Hager  
Council Member Carol Hanson

Also attending the meeting were:

City Manager Leif J. Ahnell  
Office of Management and Budget Director Linda Davidson  
City Attorney Diana Grub Frieser  
Financial Services Director Mervyn Timberlake  
Development Services Director Jorge Camejo  
Police Services Chief Andrew J. Scott, III  
Fire Rescue Services Chief Bruce Silk  
Municipal Services Director Robert DiChristopher  
Recreation Services Director Mickey Gomez  
Utility Services Director Michael Woika

The purpose of the meeting is for review of the proposed budget for FY 2002-03.

The City Manager reported that the total proposed budget for FY 2002-03, including operations, transfers, fund balances/reserves is \$306,323,800. The recommended General Fund portion is \$94,732,000 and the total operating budget is \$230,615,600. It was noted that the proposed budget supports the goals and priorities that were established at the May 2002 goal setting sessions, while maintaining the City's outstanding AAA bond rating and a strong financial condition. He cautioned that economic conditions could result in changes in the budget during the year. Mr. Ahnell then noted the departments' cooperation in trimming their budgets in response to a tight budget year. He added that the budget reflects that proactive security measures and initiatives remain a top priority.

The City Manager advised that based on the proposed millage rate, the owner of a home with a \$175,000 taxable value would pay \$5.30 less ad valorem tax to the City than in FY 2001-02. The proposed operating millage is maintained at 3.15 mills; the debt service millage was reduced slightly, resulting in the \$5.30 decrease.

Mr. Ahnell then stressed the importance of taking a long-term outlook. He noted the impact of several capital projects: \$4 million for the Central Beach Renourishment Project (the City's share of the projected \$7 million cost); a two-year phase-in of the Pearl City project, sans the undergrounding of the utility lines; additional fire stations; expansion of library capacity; and the Boca Tech master development plan. The entire Capital Improvement Program (CIP) will be presented in September.

He added that the City, as a result of the recently signed Campus Development Agreement with Florida Atlantic University, is anticipating the receipt of a significant amount of money (\$9.83 million) from the State. Those monies will be used to fund various road projects, including Yamato Road and the western portion of the Spanish River Boulevard project.

Mr. Ahnell identified the sources of the major cost impacts and increases anticipated for FY2002-03 that will affect the General Fund. The identified areas are: police and fire salaries and benefits, police and fire pension benefits, new police and fire personnel, health insurance, property insurance and five new programs. New programs include \$35,000 in the City Clerk budget to cover the expenses associated with the fire facility General Obligation Bond Referendum Election in November, a new program in Development Services to increase occupational license revenue collections, an increase in the processing fees for Community Appearance Board applications and appeals, a Police Services program to fund Citywide security initiatives and improvements, and \$37,700 in the Recreation Services budget for the ongoing monitoring of the City's renourished beaches – a requirement of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

Nine new General Fund positions are proposed along with the elimination of a vacant secretarial position in Development Services, resulting in a net total of eight new positions. Three of the nine support the proposed new programs; the other six – two new police officers and four new firefighters -- support improved public safety services.

The FY 2002-03 budget also proposes new personnel or programs that will impact the Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund budget and the Information Technology Fund. The Water and Sewer Fund budget includes six new positions: an Instrumentation/Computer Technician, two Plant Electricians, two Water Treatment Plant Operators, and one Meter Reader. The Information Technology Fund budget proposes the addition of one additional Network Analyst in place of the contract labor now being utilized.

Following the City Manager's review of the City Council and City Manager Office budgets, each department's proposed budget was presented by the respective department head. Mr. Ahnell concluded by reviewing the non-divisional budget.

The budget workshop meeting of the City Council of the City of Boca Raton, Florida adjourned at approximately 9:05 p.m. on Tuesday, July 30, 2002. As each department's proposed budget was presented at this workshop, the second budget workshop meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, July 31, 2002 was cancelled.

---

Sharma Carannante, City Clerk