

**MINUTES
TOWN OF LAKE CLARKE SHORES
FIRST PUBLIC HEARING 2017/2018 TOWN BUDGET
SEPTEMBER 12, 2017
6:30 P.M.**

I. A) CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:

Mayor Gregory Freebold called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

The following members and officials were present:

Gregory Freebold, Mayor
Valentin Rodriguez, Jr., Vice Mayor
Robert M. W. Shalhoub, President Pro Tem
Paul R. Shalhoub, Council Member
Daniel Clark, Town Administrator
Mary Pinkerman, Town Clerk
Wes Smith, Chief of Police
Charles Schoech, Town Attorney

The following member was absent:

John Studdard, Council Member

II. FIRST PUBLIC HEARING 2017/2018 TOWN BUDGET

A) Presentation - Dan Clark, Town Administrator

Mr. Clark discussed the following items regarding the General Fund and Utility Fund budgets dated September 12, 2017:

- Budget is balanced.
- Proposed millage rate is 6.2798 which is the same as last year.
- Current year rolled back rate is 5.9573.
- Taxable property values increased to \$239.3M which is 5.41% greater than last year.
- MSTU rate is unchanged at 3.4581.
- Merit increases of up to 3% for all staff and a salary adjustment for the Utility Supervisor.
- CRA Budget included in the Town budget and noted the amounts that the Town and County will be contributing to the CRA Trust Fund.

III. COUNCIL COMMENTS:

President Pro Tem Shalhoub – noted the debt service amount listed on page 5 of the budget and stated that once this debt has been paid he would like to see the Town obtain a loan to pay for the road resurfacing project, so that the road resurfacing could be completed in a shorter

period of time. He noted that the proceeds from the one cent sales tax increase could be used to pay the loan.

Vice Mayor Rodriguez – noted that the Town had plans in place to resurface the roadways years ago, but were put on hold. He noted that due to the one cent sales tax surcharge, the Town will begin resurfacing Nemec Road and then proceed from there. He noted that the Town’s portion of the money generated from the one cent sale tax surcharge has been allocated to be used only for the roadways in town.

Mayor Freebold – did not have any questions or comments at this time.

Council Member Shalhoub – did not have any questions or comments at this time.

IV. AUDIENCE COMMENTS:

Pamela Sharpe, 8340 Pine Tree Lane – asked about the 3% merit increases, Mr. Clark’s salary, the purchase of new vehicles, roadway repairs and the weed control for the waterways in town. It was noted that the merit increases are performance based, that half of Mr. Clark’s salary is paid from the General Fund and the other half from the Utility Fund, that the Police Department is replacing two of the older vehicles, and that the road repairs will begin soon.

Frances Carlton, 8432 Waterway Drive – noted that although the millage rate is the same, the amount that she pays in property taxes will be going up. She asked about the increases and decreases noted in various sections of the budget. Mr. Clark noted that in the past, some of the amounts that were in the budget were not in line with what was actually collected or spent. He noted that he made adjustments to bring the figures more in line to what they should be. He also noted that engineer fees have increased and that the Town allotted \$25,000 to assist with the Blueway Trails project, which if not used, will go back into reserves.

Pastor Stan Sneizek, 1910 Carissa Road – noted that he has been working on the church budget and knows the amount of time it takes to make a balanced budget. He thanked the Town for the work they put into the budget and for the balanced budget.

V. Adjournment

Council Member Shalhoub made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:52 PM, seconded by Vice Mayor Rodriguez. Motion approved (4-0).

Gregory Freebold, Mayor

Mary Pinkerman, Town Clerk