



Town of Ponce Inlet

Town Council Special Meeting Minutes

July 14, 2016

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5 **1. CALL TO ORDER:** Pursuant to proper notice, Mayor Smith called the meeting to order
6 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at 4300 South Atlantic Avenue, Ponce Inlet, Florida.

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8 **2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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10 **3. ROLL CALL:**

11 **Town Council:**

12 Mayor Smith, Seat #1

13 Councilmember Milano, Seat #2

14 Vice-Mayor Hoss, Seat #3

15 Councilmember Perrone, Seat #4

16 Councilmember Paritsky, Seat #5

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18 **Staff Members Present:**

19 Ms. Cherbano, Deputy Clerk

20 Chief Fabrizio, Police Chief

21 Mr. Gunter, General Manager of Public Works

22 Ms. Hunt, Recording Secretary

23 Mr. Joulani, Director, Planning and Development

24 Ms. McColl, Finance Manager

25 Chief Scales, Fire Chief

26 Ms. Witt, Town Manager

27 Ms. Zengotita, Parks, Rec & Museum Educator

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29 **4. Additions, Corrections or Deletions to the Agenda – None**

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31 **5. Proposed budget for fiscal year 16/17 and forecast for 17/18:**

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33 • **Town Manager's presentation** – Ms. Witt read from her memorandum dated
34 July 6, 2016 (attached), outlining the proposed budget and delineating specific purchases and
35 project proposed in the FY 16/17 budget; and provided a forecast budget for FY 17/18. She
36 noted two corrections within the memorandum:

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38 – the Police Department (page 2):

- 39 ○ has a four-year vehicle rotation program, not three-year;

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41 – the Town's debt service (page 3):

- 42 ○ Stormwater Improvements – 11th (not 12th) year of a 20-year loan;

- 43 ○ Town Hall buildings – 12th (not 13th) year of a 20-year loan;

- 44 ○ Water System Improvements – 1st (not 2nd) year of a 20-year loan.

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46 • **Town Council discussion** – Vice-Mayor Hoss referenced the canal dredging issue
47 and recommended taking \$30,000 from Reserves to pay for a marine engineering professional
48 to evaluate and provide costs for addressing the problem. Councilmember Perrone concurred
49 with Vice-Mayor Hoss. Councilmember Milano concurred as well. Councilmember Paritsky

50 requested that this item be added to a future agenda accompanied by a staff report, so that
51 members of the public would have the opportunity to weigh-in on this matter. Mayor Smith noted
52 that he agrees with Council's comments on this. Ms. Witt said the Town Attorney has been
53 briefed on this issue.

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55 Councilmember Milano asked if the FRS costs could be stated in the budget and highlighted in
56 the budget memo, as these changes are mandated each year by the Florida Legislature.
57 Councilmember Perrone commended Ms. Witt for her budget preparation and quick responses
58 to questions. He asked about the duties of the proposed additional police officers. Ms. Witt said
59 the officers will cover a "swing shift" and Chief Fabrizio explained that the officers will also cover
60 shifts for call-ins, vacations, special details, and extra patrols.

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62 Councilmember Perrone asked if there is a way last year's roll-back rate, which is the current
63 rate for FY 15/16, can be adopted while maintaining the same budget. Ms. Witt explained that
64 would require a reduction of approximately \$45,000 in the proposed budget and she provided
65 examples of certain items that could be removed from the proposed budget in order to reduce it
66 by this amount. Councilmember Perrone expressed concerns for fixed-income households and
67 stated that if we can trim the budget and still provide the same services, then we have an
68 obligation to do so. Vice-Mayor Hoss noted that the out-of-pocket tax increase for homesteaded
69 properties is very minimal and the Town's services are superior. Vice-Mayor Hoss noted that
70 homesteading is a personal choice and Mayor Smith added that those who own more than one
71 home generally recognize that it is an expensive "toy" and they accept that.

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73 • **Public Comment** - None

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75 **6. ADJOURNMENT.** Mayor Smith adjourned the meeting at 7:14 p.m.

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77 Respectfully submitted by:

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Jeaneen Witt, CMC, Town Manager/Town Clerk
83 Prepared by: Peg Hunt, Town Board Secretary