



CITY OF COCONUT CREEK SPECIAL CITY COMMISSION MINUTES

**Government Center
4800 W. Copans Road
Coconut Creek, Florida**

**Date: September 12, 2024
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Meeting No. 2024-0912SP
First Budget Public Hearing**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Sandra L. Welch called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

PRESENT UPON ROLL CALL:

Mayor Sandra L. Welch
Vice Mayor Jacqueline Railey
Commissioner Joshua Rydell
Commissioner John A. Brodie
Commissioner Jeffrey R. Wasserman
City Manager Sheila N. Rose
City Attorney Terrill C. Pyburn
City Clerk Joseph J. Kavanagh

Mayor Welch asked all to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

City Attorney Pyburn noted that the meeting was being conducted live with a quorum physically present and explained the procedures for the meeting.

INPUT FROM THE PUBLIC

Maria Block, 5673 NW 39 Avenue, Coconut Creek, commented on how welcomed her family felt since moving to Coconut Creek. She commented that the City's recreation programs show the importance placed on children in the community and shared suggestions for new programming, including cooking classes for all ages and Lego-based therapy.

Patricia Snyder, 4140 NW 9 Court, Coconut Creek, shared that she had recently lost her 89-year-old friend Ruby Johnson, and discussed Ms. Johnson's contribution to the community. She stated she was happy to see that three (3) memorial sites were proposed to recognize special loved ones in the community and noted she hoped the budget would be approved.

Finance and Administrative Services

- ORD
2024-036** AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE CITY'S OPERATING PROPERTY TAX AT 6.8988 MILLS FOR THE 2025 FISCAL YEAR. (FIRST READING)(FIRST PUBLIC HEARING)

City Attorney Pyburn read the Ordinance title into the record.

MOTION: Rydell/Railey – To approve Ordinance No. 2024-036 on first reading.

Finance and Administrative Services Director Peta-Gay Lake presented the proposed operating Millage Rate and budget. She explained the proposed Millage Rate of 6.8988 mills represented a 14.72 percent increase over the rollback rate of 6.0134 and represented a 7.02 percent increase over the current Millage Rate. She stated adopting the Millage Rate was necessary to sustain service levels and was a 0.68 percent decrease from the rate included on the proposed property tax document mailed to residents in August.

Continuing, Ms. Lake provided a brief overview of the City's Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) Budget. She stated despite the challenges of inflation, competing priorities, and the associated impacts it had on financial operations, and guided by community input and the City Commission directives from the March 14 Strategic Planning Workshop, the proposed budget addressed the community's needs, desires, and priorities. She advised that three (3) clear priorities were identified during the workshop, including Fire Station 113, Police Department improvements, and MainStreet, and the FY25 budget begins the important work of funding these critical capital priority projects in the upcoming years. She stated in spite of these challenges, staff was presenting a balanced budget, which included a four percent wage and salary range increase for staff and an increase in the City's contribution to the high-deductible healthcare plan. She stated the budget focused on addressing the community's needs, priorities, and desires in alignment with the Strategic Plan, taking into consideration the City's ability to sustain the costs into an uncertain economic future. She stated the City's residents deserve and insist on quality municipal services, provided in a productive and efficient manner, while deriving the greatest value for dollars spent. She noted staff believed the FY25 budget accomplished the priorities and expectations.

Mayor Welch opened the public hearing.

Marcelle Blot, 4795 NW 14 Street, Coconut Creek, stated she was present to learn more about how the City applied its taxes. She commented that she was a new homeowner in Coconut Creek and received a letter saying her taxes would nearly double.

Ms. Lake stated she would walk Ms. Blot through the assessment process to further explain.

There were no further questions or comments from the public, and Mayor Welch closed the public hearing.

Upon roll call, the Ordinance passed on first reading by a 5-0 vote.

2. **ORD 2024-037** AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE FISCAL YEAR 2025 OPERATING AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BUDGET AS THE CITY'S OFFICIAL BUDGET. THIS ORDINANCE WILL APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR OPERATING CITY DEPARTMENTS AND CAPITAL PROJECTS FROM OCTOBER 1, 2024, TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2025. (FIRST READING)(FIRST PUBLIC HEARING)

City Attorney Pyburn read the Ordinance title into the record.

MOTION: Rydell/Wasserman – To approve Ordinance No. 2024-037 on first reading.

Mayor Welch opened the public hearing.

Spiro Edgos, 4909 NW 108 Terrace, Coral Springs, shared what a privilege it had been for his company, The Bin Doctor, to serve Coconut Creek and its residents for the past five (5) years. He stated the City had amazing foresight to offer the service to its residents and noted it would be opened as a private service at the end of the City agreement.

Laura McDermott, 3906 NW 56 Street, Coconut Creek, spoke on behalf of The Women’s Club of Coconut Creek regarding changes to the City’s special events grant application. She commented that the organization has had a lack of support for advertising and marketing. She inquired about opportunities for The Women’s Club to partner as co-sponsors of events with the City. She noted the organization was grateful for the funding received in past years and recommended in the FY25 budget.

There were no further questions or comments from the public, and Mayor Welch closed the public hearing.

City Manager Rose commented on the City’s relationship with nonprofit organizations in the community and noted the revision to the grant program included acknowledging the importance of treating all of the groups equally.

Commissioner Rydell asserted that he believed if a nonprofit was holding events on City property, they should be supported across all forums in the City, whether it be a video on Instagram, a banner, or inclusion in the Cocogram. He stated there was a benefit to the residents, and there was a clear distinction between this and advertising individual businesses. Discussion continued.

City Manager Rose advised that staff would create a draft policy and bring it back to the Commission for review. Commissioner Rydell highlighted the balance of needs and wants required to balance the FY25 budget and save the residents as much as possible. He stated people were happy with The Bin Doctor service and some associations were looking into establishing their own relationships. Mayor Welch concurred. She noted there were many residents interested in continuing the service on their own. Vice Mayor Railey added that she hoped someday the City could get back to offering the service.

Upon roll call, the Ordinance passed on first reading by a 5-0 vote.

3. **RES 2024-131** A RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE FUNDING AND PROVISION OF FIRE RESCUE PROTECTION SERVICES, FACILITIES, AND PROGRAMS IN THE CITY OF COCONUT CREEK, FLORIDA; ESTABLISHING THE RATE OF ASSESSMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025; IMPOSING FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES ASSESSMENT AGAINST ASSESSED PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY; AND APPROVING THE ASSESSMENT ROLL. (PUBLIC HEARING)

Mayor Welch read the Resolution title into the record.

MOTION: Rydell/Brodie – To approve Resolution No. 2024-131.

Finance Director Lake explained the Resolution set the Fire Rescue Assessment for FY25, which was intended to recover the cost of fire rescue services. She stated the rate would be \$302.96 for single family and \$272.67 for multi-family per year, representing a seven percent (7%) increase over 2024 due to increased costs and to incorporate provisions of the collective

bargaining agreement. She advised this was lower than the ten percent (10%) increase advertised in the TRIM notice.

Commissioner Rydell highlighted that the fire response time had improved and continually gone down. Fire Chief Gary confirmed.

Mayor Welch opened the public hearing. There were no questions or comments from the public, and Mayor Welch closed the public hearing.

Upon roll call, the Resolution passed by a 5-0 vote.

4. **RES 2024-132** A RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTE IN THE CITY OF COCONUT CREEK; ESTABLISHING THE RATE OF ASSESSMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025; RE-IMPOSING SOLID WASTE SERVICE ASSESSMENTS AGAINST ASSESSED PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY; AND APPROVING THE ASSESSMENT ROLL. (PUBLIC HEARING)

Mayor Welch read the Resolution title into the record.

MOTION: Rydell/Wasserman – To approve Resolution No. 2024-132.

Finance Director Lake explained the Resolution set the Solid Waste Assessment for single homes for FY25. She stated the rate would be \$312.48 for single family homes per year, representing an 8.87 percent decrease from the current rate due to removal of the bin cleaning and sanitizing twice per year and reduction of administrative charges.

Commissioner Rydell asked about the timeline for resizing receptacles to meet the needs of residents. City Manager Rose stated staff had already reached out to those who had made the request and noted smaller bins would be an option moving forward.

Mayor Welch opened the public hearing. There were no questions or comments from the public, and Mayor Welch closed the public hearing.

Upon roll call, the Resolution passed by a 5-0 vote.

5. **RES 2024-113** A RESOLUTION RATIFYING AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER, OR DESIGNEE, TO EXECUTE THE ATTACHED COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF COCONUT CREEK AND THE LOCAL 3080 METRO-BROWARD PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS, INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS, DISTRICT 16, COCONUT CREEK, FLORIDA.

Mayor Welch read the Resolution title into the record.

MOTION: Wasserman/Rydell – To approve Resolution No. 2024-113.

Human Resources Director Pam Kershaw presented the City's first Fire Rescue Collective Bargaining Agreement along with Fire Chief Gary and Local 3080 District Vice President Captain Wyatt Adams. She stated the City and Union had worked collaboratively over the past ten (10) months, holding twenty (20) public bargaining sessions to come to a mutually-beneficial

agreement that described the compensation, benefits, and conditions of employment for Fire Rescue personnel. She recognized the members of the bargaining team briefly and advised that the members had voted favorably to ratify the agreement earlier in the week.

Commissioner Brodie asked if the firefighters were happy with the agreement. Captain Adams reiterated that the Fire Rescue Department had voted in favor of the agreement. Commissioner Brodie recognized positive feedback received on how the members of the Department treated the residents of Coconut Creek.

Vice Mayor Railey thanked all those involved in the collective bargaining process for their efforts and noted aspects of the agreement were retroactive.

Mayor Welch thanked the men and women of the first Coconut Creek Fire Rescue Department and stated she was extremely proud.

There were no questions or comments from the public on the item.

Upon roll call, the Resolution passed by a 5-0 vote.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Joseph J. Kavanagh, MMC
City Clerk

Date