



Indian River County Florida

Draft Meeting Minutes

Board of County Commissioners

Joseph H. Earman, District 3, Chairman

Susan Adams, District 1, Vice Chairman

Joseph Flescher, District 2

Deryl Loar, District 4

Laura Moss, District 5

John A. Titkanich, Jr., County Administrator

William K. DeBaal, County Attorney

Ryan L. Butler, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller

Indian River County
Administration Complex
1801 27th Street, Building
A
Vero Beach, Florida,
32960-3388
www.indianriver.gov

Wednesday, September 13, 2023

5:01 PM

Commission Chambers

Preliminary Budget Hearing 2023/24

1. CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Present: 4 - Chairman Joe Earman
Commissioner Joseph Flescher
Commissioner Deryl Loar
Commissioner Laura Moss

Absent: 1 - Vice Chairman Susan Adams

2.A. A MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR FIRST RESPONDERS AND MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES

2.B. INVOCATION

Sheriff Eric Flowers, Indian River County Sheriff's Office

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Deryl Loar

4. BUDGET OVERVIEW BY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR JOHN A. TITKANICH, JR.

4.A. Supplemental Budget Message

Chairman Earman, before turning the meeting over to County Administrator John Titkanich, announced the absence of Vice Chairman Adams who was attending the Florida Association of Counties Policy Conference.

County Administrator Titkanich, in his letter dated September 13, 2023, highlighted on the budgetary changes occurring during and after the July 12th

Budget Workshop. He noted the adjustment to the current year's Sebastian Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) payment and the anticipated increase in the Tourist Development Tax Revenues. He stated staff had been notified by the Department of Revenue that due to the recently passed House Bill 7063, effective July 1, 2023, an ordinance imposing or levying additional Tourist Tax required a referendum during a General Election on the increase.

County Administrator Titkanich concluded that since the budget had been advertised and adjustments would be made after the Budget was adopted, staff would bring back an ordinance on the reallocation of the tourist tax.

4.B. Proposed Budget

County Administrator John Titkanich announced the total proposed budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023/2024 was \$506,901,540. He utilized a PowerPoint presentation to highlight the major impacts to the proposed budget: a tax roll increase of 13.8% countywide and 14.3% in the unincorporated areas; an agreed-to Sheriff's Office funding increase of \$5.9 million; continued funding of School Resource Officers at a 50% split with the School District; a mandatory retirement rate increase (including Constitutional Officers); deferred maintenance, capital, and renewal and replacement expenses; and a total increase of 33.78 full-time positions. He reiterated due to the recently passed legislation, the County could not levy additional Tourist Tax without a referendum. He stated the changes that increased the total budget by \$665,811 would be adjusted after the budget was adopted since it had been advertised and publicized so therefore the changes would be made consistent with the Department of Revenue's ruling in the statute. He concluded with the adjustment was the current year's Sebastian Community Redevelopment Area payment that affects the General Fund and Aggregate's rolled-back rate.

5. AD VALOREM FUNDS

A. Ad Valorem Millage and Ad Valorem Budget

General Fund

Proposed millage is 3.5475 and is 10.78% above rolled back rate of 3.2022. The proposed budget is \$132,409,629

County Administrator John Titkanich announced the General Fund proposed millage rate is 3.5475, 10.78% above the rolled-back rate of 3.2022. The proposed budget is \$132,409,629.

Commissioner Flescher mentioned at the Metropolitan Planning Organization meeting, the members voted unanimously for an additional two hours to the current GoLine system in order to supplement the transportation needs of the workforce. He noted the possibility of a Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) funding match. County Administrator Titkanich stated staff would be coordinating with the FDOT in regard to available funding and would bring it back to the Board once they receive clarification on the costs to the County.

Chairman Earman opened the public hearing. There being no speakers, the Chairman closed the hearing.

There were no proposed amendments to the budget.

A motion was made by Commissioner Flescher, seconded by Chairman Earman, to adopt the tentative millage rate of 3.5475, 10.78% above the rolled back rate of 3.2022, for the General Fund. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Chairman Earman, Commissioner Flescher, Commissioner Loar, and Commissioner Moss

Absent: 1 - Vice Chairman Adams

A motion was made by Commissioner Flescher, seconded by Commissioner Moss, to adopt the tentative budget of \$132,409,629 for the General Fund. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Chairman Earman, Commissioner Flescher, Commissioner Loar, and Commissioner Moss

Absent: 1 - Vice Chairman Adams

M.S.T.U.

Proposed millage is 1.1506 and is 10.55% above rolled back rate of 1.0408. The proposed budget is \$49,903,560.

County Administrator John Titkanich stated the Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU) proposed millage rate is 1.1506 and is 10.55% above the rolled back rate of 1.0408. The MSTU proposed budget is \$49,903,560.

Chairman Earman opened the public hearing. There being no speakers, the Chairman closed the hearing.

There were no proposed amendments to the budget.

A motion was made by Commissioner Loar, seconded by Commissioner Moss, to adopt the tentative millage rate of 1.1506, 10.55% above the rollback rate of 1.0408, for the Municipal Service Taxing Unit. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Chairman Earman, Commissioner Flescher, Commissioner Loar, and Commissioner Moss

Absent: 1 - Vice Chairman Adams

A motion was made by Commissioner Loar, seconded by Commissioner Flescher, to adopt the tentative budget in the amount of \$49,903,560 for the Municipal Service Taxing Unit. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Chairman Earman, Commissioner Flescher, Commissioner Loar, and Commissioner Moss

Absent: 1 - Vice Chairman Adams

Transportation Fund

Proposed budget is \$23,238,226.

County Administrator John Titkanich announced the proposed Transportation Fund budget is \$23,238,226.

Chairman Earman opened the public hearing. There being no speakers, the Chairman closed the hearing.

There were no proposed amendments to the budget.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moss, seconded by Chairman Earman, to approve the tentative budget of \$23,238,226 for the Transportation Fund. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Chairman Earman, Commissioner Flescher, Commissioner Loar, and Commissioner Moss

Absent: 1 - Vice Chairman Adams

Emergency Services District

Proposed millage is 2.3531 and is 10.45% above rolled back rate of 2.1305. The proposed budget is \$59,144,806.

County Administrator John Titkanich announced the Emergency Services District proposed millage is 2.3531 and is 10.45% above the rolled back rate of 2.1305. The proposed budget is \$59,144,806.

Chairman Earman opened the public hearing. There being no speakers, the Chairman closed the hearing.

There were no proposed amendments to the budget.

A motion was made by Commissioner Flescher, seconded by Commissioner Loar, to adopt the tentative millage rate of 2.3531, 10.45% above the rolled back rate of 2.1305 for the Emergency Services District. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Chairman Earman, Commissioner Flescher, Commissioner Loar, and Commissioner Moss

Absent: 1 - Vice Chairman Adams

A motion was made by Commissioner Flescher, seconded by Commissioner Moss, to adopt the tentative budget in the amount of \$59,144,806 for the Emergency Services District. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Chairman Earman, Commissioner Flescher, Commissioner Loar, and Commissioner Moss

Absent: 1 - Vice Chairman Adams

Aggregate

Proposed millage is 6.1307 and is 10.68% above rolled back rate of 5.5389.

County Administrator John Titkanich announced that the proposed aggregate millage is 6.1307 and is 10.68% above the rolled back rate of 5.5389. The rate is used for comparison purposes and does not require adoption by the Board.

Chairman Earman opened the public hearing. There being no speakers, the Chairman closed the hearing.

No Action Taken or Required

6. INDIAN RIVER COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SITTING AS SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL DISTRICT BOARD

The Board of County Commissioners reconvened as the Board of Commissioners of the Solid Waste Disposal District. The minutes will be approved at an upcoming meeting.

Solid Waste Disposal District Budget (Non-Ad Valorem Special District)

A. Announce 2023/2024 Proposed Charge and Budget

- 1. \$100.69 per Residential Waste Generation Unit (\$151.04/House)
 (9.23% increase from current year)
 \$63.70 per Commercial Waste Generation Unit
 (15.42% increase from current year)
 Readiness-to-Use Fee \$36.76
 (11.94% increase from current year)

- 2. \$24,831,759 Budget

County Administrator John Titkanich outlined the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-2024 Solid Waste Disposal District (SWDD) proposed charges. The proposed budget was \$24,831,759.

Chairman Earman opened the public hearing. There being no speakers, the Chairman closed the hearing.

There were no proposed amendments to the budget.

A motion was made by Commissioner Flescher, seconded by Commissioner Loar, to approve the Solid Waste Disposal District rates of \$100.69 per Residential Waste Generation Unit (\$151.04/House); \$63.70 per Commercial Waste Generation Unit; and a Readiness-to-Use Fee of \$36.76 for the Solid Waste Disposal District. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Chairman Earman, Commissioner Flescher, Commissioner Loar, and Commissioner Moss

Absent: 1 - Vice Chairman Adams

A motion was made by Commissioner Flescher, seconded by Commissioner Moss, to adopt the budget in the amount of \$24,831,759 for the Solid Waste Disposal District. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Chairman Earman, Commissioner Flescher, Commissioner Loar, and Commissioner Moss

Absent: 1 - Vice Chairman Adams

The Board of Commissioners adjourned the Solid Waste Disposal District hearing,

and reconvened as the Board of County Commissioners of the Preliminary Budget Hearing meeting, continuing with the adoption of Non-Ad Valorem Assessment charges.

7. ADOPTION OF NON-AD VALOREM ASSESSMENT CHARGES

A. Announce 2023/2024 proposed charge for each Non-Ad Valorem Assessment District

County Administrator John Titkanich announced the proposed charge for the Vero Lake Estates Municipal Service Benefit Unit (MSBU) was \$50.00 per parcel acre, the East Gifford Stormwater MSBU was \$10.00 per parcel acre, and the North County Water Assessment was \$298.03 per parcel.

Commissioner Loar read into record the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 proposed charge for each Non-Ad Valorem Assessment District for Street Lighting.

Chairman Earman opened the public hearing. There being no speakers, the Chairman closed the hearing.

There were no proposed amendments to the budget.

A motion was made by Commissioner Flescher, seconded by Chairman Earman, to adopt the tentative charges read into the record for each of the Non-Ad Valorem Assessment Districts for Street Lighting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Chairman Earman, Commissioner Flescher, Commissioner Loar, and Commissioner Moss

Absent: 1 - Vice Chairman Adams

8. APPROVE NON-AD VALOREM DOLLAR BUDGETS

A. Announce 2022/2023 Proposed Budget

Special Revenue Funds \$44,517,269

Other Debt Service Fund \$500,000

Capital Projects \$52,511,479

Enterprise Funds \$69,351,969

Internal Service Funds \$50,492,843

County Administrator John Titkanich outlined the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 proposed Non-Ad Valorem dollar budgets.

Chairman Earman opened the public hearing. There being no speakers, the Chairman closed the hearing.

There were no proposed amendments to the budget.

A motion was made by Commissioner Loar, seconded by Chairman Earman, to adopt the tentative Non Ad Valorem Dollar Budgets for the Special Revenue Funds, Other Debt Service Funds, Capital Project Funds, Enterprise Funds, and Internal Service Funds. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Chairman Earman, Commissioner Flescher, Commissioner Loar, and Commissioner Moss

Absent: 1 - Vice Chairman Adams

9. ANNOUNCE TIME AND PLACE OF FINAL BUDGET HEARING

Chairman Earman announced that the Final Budget Hearing would be held at 5:01 p.m. on Wednesday, September 20, 2023, at the County Administration Building A, Commission Chambers, 1801 27th Street, Vero Beach, Florida.

10. ADJOURN

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 5:29 p.m.