

**MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING – BUDGET WORKSHOP #1
OF THE STUART CITY COMMISSION**

**JULY 24, 2023
AT 3:30 PM
COMMISSION CHAMBERS
121 SW FLAGLER AVE.
STUART, FLORIDA 34994**

CITY COMMISSION

**Mayor Troy McDonald
Vice Mayor Becky Bruner
Commissioner Eula R. Clarke
Commissioner Christopher Collins
Commissioner Campbell Rich**

ADMINISTRATIVE

**Interim City Manager, Michael J. Mortell
Interim City Attorney, Paul J. Nicoletti
City Clerk, Mary R. Kindel**

ROLL CALL

3:32 PM

PRESENT: Mayor McDonald, Vice Mayor Bruner, Commissioner Clarke, Commissioner Collins, Commissioner Rich

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMENTS BY CITY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Clarke

- Thanked our Stuart Police Department for all their service.
- Commented two (2) new officers will be sworn in on Wednesday at 2 p.m. in our Public Safety Complex.

COMMENTS BY CITY MANAGER

None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**3:35 PM MOTION: Approve.
MOVED BY: Eula Clarke
SECONDED BY: Becky Bruner
Motion approved unanimously.**

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC (Non-Agenda Related) (3 Minutes Max.)

DISCUSSION AND DELIBERATION

1. FISCAL YEAR 2024 OPERATING BUDGET - WORKSHOP #1

Interim City Manager Michael Mortell briefly introduced the plan for today's presentation and turned it over to Mr. Boglioli.

Louis "Joly" Boglioli, Finance Director, presented the proposed 2023 Budget; reviewed All Fund Revenues, All Fund Appropriations, Fund Revenues vs. Department Requests, Factors for "Out of Balance", General Fund Revenues, and General Fund Revenue Highlights. He demonstrated the amount of sales tax to Stuart based on the current tax rate.

Interim City Manager Mortell commented that discretionary sales tax is not applicable in the City as the population does not meet the Florida Statute. Discretionary taxes are a large benefit to a community.

Mr. Boglioli continued and discussed the population, noting the latest total count is 18,764.

Interim City Manager Mortell added information on population build-out, based on 24,000 residents. Need to focus on ad valorem tax and other revenue sources to maintain the quality of life.

Commissioners asked questions and made comments pertaining to whether there was a "Plan B", ideas, or projections on City properties, ad valorem tax and the population factor, revenues, raising taxes/fees. In addition, brief comments on keeping rates lower and noted that the funds spent recently due to ARPA Funds, may have caused a feeling of spending. In terms of building affordable housing, we need future revenue and we must look to the future to see how to pay our bills. Spending less and generating more.

Mr. Boglioli reviewed General Fund Appropriations by Department, CRA Funds, Millage "Not to Exceed" Rate. The Commission was asked to select the "Not to Exceed Rate" today.

Special Commission Meeting Budget Workshop #2, was set for a date certain of August 14, 2023.

4:47 PM MOTION: Approve to adopt 5.25 not to exceed rate.

MOVED BY: Eula Clarke

SECONDED BY: Campbell Rich

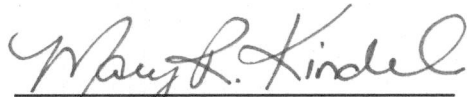
VOTE: 4/1


YES: Becky Bruner, Eula Clarke, Troy McDonald, Campbell Rich

NO: Christopher Collins

ADJOURNMENT

4:48 PM


Mary R. Kindel, City Clerk


Troy McDonald, Mayor

Minutes to be approved at the Regular Commission
Meeting this 14th day of August, 2023.

