



# City of Newberry Budget Workshop

June 15, 2020  
5:30 p.m.

25440 West Newberry Road  
Newberry, Florida 32669

## MINUTES

### CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Marlowe called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Marlowe asked to amend the agenda. Adding Public Comments as item 1, making Discussion of Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget item 2.

**Motion made by Commissioner Marden to approve the amended agenda.**

**Seconded by Commissioner Coleman.**

**Voting Yea: Commissioner Coleman, Commissioner Farnsworth, Commissioner Marden, and Commissioner Norfleet.**

**MOTION PASSED 4-0**

### VIRTUAL QUORUM CHECK

Mayor

Jordan Marlowe

Commissioners

Ricky Coleman  
Monty Farnsworth  
Tim Marden  
Paul Norfleet

City Manager

Mike New

City Clerk

Judy Rice

Staff:

Director of Finance and Administration  
Director of Planning and Economic Development  
Fire Chief  
Director of Recreation

Dallas Lee  
Bryan Thomas  
Ben Buckner  
Travis Parker

Absent:

Commissioner  
City Attorney

Rocky McKinley  
Scott Walker

## AGENDA ITEMS

### 1. Public Comments

Mr. Milton McNeill presented a letter and petitions<sup>1</sup> from the surrounding homeowners requesting SW 46<sup>th</sup> Avenue be paved.

Manager New explained that the City maintains the road, however it is a County owned road. Discussion of Capital Improvements will be at another workshop in which the petitioners are encouraged to participate.

### 2. Discussion of Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget

Manager New and Director Lee provided an overview of the 2020-2021 Operating and Capital Budget.

Director Lee reviewed the budget timeline. A few important dates are:

- July 13<sup>th</sup> Commission votes on Preliminary Fire Assessment Rates
- July 27<sup>th</sup> Commission votes on Preliminary Millage Rate
- August 24<sup>th</sup> Commission votes on Final Fire Assessment Rates
- September 14<sup>th</sup> First Budget Hearing
- September 28<sup>th</sup> Second Budget Hearing

Manager New reviewed the budget guidelines and policies.

He reviewed the accomplishments from the last budget:

- Increase in General Fund Reserves (\$1.4m as of FYE 2019)
- Diversification of revenues
  - Franchise fees-electric and natural gas
  - Local option fuel tax
  - Mosquito control fee
- Increased funding for public safety
- Increased funding for repair and replacement of assets (infrastructure, facilities, vehicles)
- Funded expansion of infrastructure (SR26 Water main)
- Development of equitable water and wastewater rates
- Competitive electric rates
- Lowered solid waste rates

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**1 See Exhibit A.**

- Continued funding of Economic Development initiatives
- Save residents approximately \$750k annually by contracting for law enforcement services (\$190/resident)

Manager New presented items for Commission consideration:

- Revenue diversification
- Millage rate
- Law enforcement
- Personnel expenses
- Capital Improvement Program (CIP)- Renewal/Replacement and Expansion/Enhancement
- Utility rate adjustment
  - Price index rate adjustment proposed for utility rates.

There is no proposed change in Fire Assessment.

Manager New then reviewed the long-term considerations:

- Facility expansion
  - City Hall
  - Police Station
- Street and roads
  - Repaving/maintaining existing paved streets
  - Paving existing unpaved streets in urban core
  - Paving existing unpaved streets in rural areas
- Law enforcement

Director Lee reviewed the revenues. He explained where the tax dollars are going between the County, School Board, and City.

Manager New discussed revenue diversification and revenue options.

Manager New explained the impact of COVID-19 to sales tax and the State of Florida.

Director Lee went over the expenses: unsure of how COVID-19 will affect these.

## COMMENTS

### City Manager

The next meeting on Monday, June 22, will be in City Hall with social distancing in place. Zoom platform will still be used for citizens to ask questions and make comments.

**Mayor**

Newberry Watermelon Festival is on Saturday, June 20.

Thanked everyone who helped make the parent led 2020 NHS graduation go smoothly.

**Commission**

Commissioner Marden spoke on a few concerns. He wants to forgo the merit increases to avoid any lay-offs.

**MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Signed and approved this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of June 2020.

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Jordan Marlowe, Mayor

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Judy S. Rice, City Clerk