

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

September 15, 2010

A meeting was held at the Murdock Administration Complex in Room 119, Port Charlotte, Florida.

Members present were: Chairman Starr, Commissioner Loftus, Commissioner Skidmore, Commissioner Cummings, Commissioner Duffy, Interim County Administrator Sandrock, County Attorney Knowlton, and Deputy Clerk Lansing. The following members were absent: None

The meeting was called to order at **5:01 PM**, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. County Administrator

1. Opening Comments:

Mr. Sandrock mentioned this is the first of two required Public Hearings, explained the purpose of the hearing, thanked the Board for their consideration of the MSTU, expressed appreciation to citizens and all levels of staff for their diligence and input over the past few years, and commended Gordon Burger and his team for their hard work.

B. County Budget Officer

2. Review of FY10/11 Budget Process:

Mr. Burger provided a detailed overview of the Meeting Agenda and Proposed County Budget, noted the process is specific per State Statute, paralleled a visual PowerPoint presentation, responded to Board inquiries, explained changes since the July 8, 2010 Workshop, and indicated the specific Board Action necessary to adopt the changes listed on Page 9 of the Agenda.

COMMISSIONER DUFFY MOVED TO ADOPT CHANGES FROM JULY 8, 2010 WORKSHOP AS LISTED ON PAGE 9, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOFTUS

Commissioner Skidmore commented on the importance of the Charlotte Behavioral Center partnership and Jay Glenn's contributions especially in this economy.

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

I. AD VALOREM - COUNTYWIDE FUNDS

Mr. Burger explained the approval process as related to the Tentative Rates and Budgets, read the Countywide Millage Rates and Funds into the record, and announced public comment would be limited to these millage rates and budgets only. (The proposed countywide millage rate of 6.0892 mills is under the rollback rate of 6.6777 mills by 8.81%)

Public Comment: None

COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS MOVED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DUFFY

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS MOVED TO ADOPT THE TENTATIVE COUNTYWIDE AD VALOREM MILLAGE RATE AND THE COUNTYWIDE TENTATIVE BUDGET AS READ INTO THE RECORD BY THE CHARLOTTE COUNTY BUDGET OFFICER, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DUFFY

MOTION CARRIED 3:2. COMMISSIONER LOFTUS, COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE OPPOSING.

II. Voted Debt Service Fund (Environmentally Sensitive Lands) - AD VALOREM

Mr. Burger read the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Millage Rates and Proposed Budgets into the record and indicated there was no need for Public Comment since this is a voted millage.

COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS MOVED TO APPROVE THE ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE LANDS MILLAGE RATES AND PROPOSED BUDGETS AS READ INTO THE RECORD, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DUFFY

Commissioner Skidmore questioned whether future reduction opportunities would be available. Mr. Burger remarked this millage did not meet its obligation and explained the debt service process further.

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

III. AD VALOREM - MUNICIPAL SERVICE TAXING UNITS - MSTUs

Mr. Burger read the following MSTU millage rates, roll back rates, and proposed budgets into the record: Greater Charlotte Street Lighting District, Stump Pass Beach Renourishment Unit, Don Pedro/Knight Island St/ Dr Unit, Manasota Key Street & Drainage Unit, Charlotte Public Safety Unit, and Sandhill Municipal Service Taxing Unit.

Public Comment:

Steve Schoff discussed his concerns with the increase in the Public Safety budget.

Frieda Perry remarked on issues related to her personal property values.

Mr. Holmberg discussed salt water intrusion and expressed opposition to the Stump Pass project. **Chairman Starr** said he would arrange a meeting with County Engineer, Dan Quick and Mr. Holmberg.

COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

Chairman Starr asked Mr. Burger to explain how the Public Safety budget increase had been calculated.

COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS MOVED TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED AGGREGATE COUNTY MILLAGE RATE OF 8.1727 WHICH IS 7.73% UNDER THE CURRENT YEAR AGGREGATE ROLLBACK RATE OF 8.8570 MILLS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DUFFY

Commissioner Skidmore discussed other committees, funding, and millage rates.

MOTION CARRIED 3:2. COMMISSIONER LOFTUS, COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE OPPOSING.

COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS MOVED TO ADOPT MSTU BUDGETS AS READ INTO THE RECORD ON PAGES 11-21, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DUFFY

MOTION CARRIED 3:2. COMMISSIONER LOFTUS, COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE OPPOSING.

- IV. **NON-AD VALOREM FUNDS AND MUNICIPAL SERVICE BENEFIT UNITS (MSBU) (AS DETAILED ON PAGES 4-6 IN THE AGENDA)**
 - A. **SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS (NON-MSBU)**
 - B. **ENTERPRISE/INTERNAL SERVICE FUNDS**
 - C. **SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS - MSBU_s**

Public Comment:

Edwidge Cherisme mentioned his property value concerns and asked how county property evaluations are handled.

COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS MOVED TO ADOPT, BY ONE MOTION, THE BUDGETS OF THE REMAINING NON-AD VALOREM FUNDS, AS LISTED ON PAGES 4 THRU 7, TOTALING \$602,312,285, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DUFFY

Commissioner Skidmore commented on the need to limit annual non-ad valorem assessments in the future.

MOTION CARRIED 4:1. COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE OPPOSING.

COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS MOVED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2010-081 STARTING ON PAGE 11 TO ADOPT MSBU RATES AND TO ADOPT MSBU BUDGETS AS LISTED ON PAGES 6 & 7, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DUFFY

MOTION CARRIED 4:1. COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE OPPOSING.

Mr. Burger announced the final budget hearing date. *Commissioner Skidmore* explained in detail why he voted against the budget.

ADJOURNED: 6:00 PM

Signature on file in Commission Minutes
Chairman

ATTEST:

**BARBARA T. SCOTT, CLERK
OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND
EX-OFFICIO TO THE BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**By: Signature on file in Commission Minutes
Deputy Clerk**

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