

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE STUART CITY COMMISSION
HELD ON SEPTEMBER 13, 2010
AT 5:15 P.M. IN THE CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS
121 SW FLAGLER AVENUE
STUART, FLORIDA 34994**

Roll call was answered by:

Mayor Michael Mortell

Vice Mayor Carol Waxler

Commissioner James A. Christie (ABSENT)

Commissioner Jeffrey A. Krauskopf

Commissioner Mary Hutchinson

Also present were:

City Manager: Dan Hudson

City Attorney: Paul J. Nicoletti

City Clerk: Cherie White

Vice Mayor Waxler led the Pledge of Allegiance.

TENTATIVE BUDGET AND PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE PUBLIC HEARING

- 1. City Manager – Explanation of the change in the proposed millage necessary to fund the FY 2010-2011 City's General Fund Budget, as required by The Florida Legislature.**

City Manager Hudson gave a brief overview regarding the proposed budget. He said the direction that the City Commission gave was to keep the same millage rate as is currently, which is 4.3329. He explained that is a reduction in taxes, or TRIM standards is a reduction of 12 ½ percent tax reduction.

- 2. General Public – Comments and questions from the general public regarding the proposed tentative budget and proposed millage rate.**
- 3. City Commission – Discussion by the City Commission and the City Manager of any questions or amendments to the proposed tentative budget.**

Commissioner Krauskopf complimented Vice Mayor Waxler's on her letter to the editor below:

As reported by the Stuart News, I have decided not to run for a fourth term as city of Stuart commissioner for Group III. I want to thank the voters of the city for allowing me to serve them for the last six years. These past years have had their challenges with the hurricanes and, most recently, the economic downturn.

I wanted to take the opportunity to let the residents, property owners, and business people in the city know how proud I am of the city and all of its employees. The ad valorem tax rate not being increased for the last three years did not happen by accident. It took foresight and hard work of the city staff, most notably City Manager Dan Hudson and Financial Services Director Dorothy Zaharako, who began planning for the downturn four years ago, when the city began the process of living within its means, just like all of us have had to do.

The city is fortunate that it had, and continues to have, the staff in place to make it through these trying times. Kudos to all of the employees of the city who have sacrificed and worked very hard over the last several years to keep the city within its budget, while maintaining the quality of service we all expect and enjoy in the city of Stuart.

Carol S. Waxler Stuart

Commissioner Krauskopf also said he would like to thank all those who put this great budget together.

Vice Mayor Waxler stated that this is not something that happened by accident, this is a process that we have been dealing and working on for at least 4 years. “ I am very, very proud of everyone, because I know they have tightened their belts, and unfortunately we have had to lose a small number of employees, and I think we all regret that but we have to live within our means.

Mayor Mortell arrived.

4. City Commission – Adoption of tentative millage rate resolution for FY 2010-2011 recomputed in light of any changes to the proposed budget.

a. RESOLUTION 98-2010 Adopting the Tentative Millage Rate for the Fiscal Year 2010-2011.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER HUTCHINSON; MOVED APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 98-2010.

SECOND: COMMISSIONER KRAUSKOPF

Resident Armond Pasquale stated, in a formal comment that the rate was too high.

ROLL CALL

MAYOR MORTELL	YES	COMMISSIONER KRAUSKOPF	YES
VICE MAYOR WAXLER	YES	COMMISSIONER HUTCHINSON	YES

5. City Manager – Announcement that the adopted tentative millage rate does not exceed the rolled back rate and in fact is less than the rolled back rate.

City Manager Hudson announced that the City Commission just adopted the millage rate of 4.3329 tentatively and is properly characterized as a reduction of 12 ½ % in the tax rate.

6. City Commission – Adoption of tentative budget resolution for FY 2010-2011, including any changes made to the proposed City budget.

- a. RESOLUTION 99-2010 Adopting the Tentative Budget for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2010, and ending September 30, 2011.**

MOTION: COMMISSIONER HUTCHINSON; MOVED APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 99-2010.

SECOND: COMMISSIONER KRAUSKOPF

Resident Armond Pasquale stated, in a formal comment that the rate was too high.

ROLL CALL

MAYOR MORTELL

YES

COMMISSIONER KRAUSKOPF YES

VICE MAYOR WAXLER

YES

COMMISSIONER HUTCHINSON YES

7. City Manager – Announces the second and final public hearing on the final millage rate and the final annual budget on September 27, 2010 at 5:15 p.m.

City Manager Hudson announced the final budget hearing will be held on September 27, 2010 at 5:15 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT 5:22 pm

ATTEST:

Cheryl White, CMC, City Clerk

Michael Mortell, Mayor

**Minutes to be approved at the Regular Commission
Meeting This 27th Day September 2010**