

**TOWN OF DAVIE  
SPECIAL MEETING  
FIRST FY 2014 BUDGET HEARING  
SEPTEMBER 3, 2013**

**1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m. and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Present at the meeting were Mayor Paul, Vice-Mayor Caletka and Councilmembers Hattan and Starkey. Councilmember Luis was absent. Also present were Town Administrator Lemack, Town Attorney Rayson and Assistant Town Clerk Roig recording the meeting.

Vice-Mayor Caletka made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Hattan to excuse Councilmember Luis' absence. In a voice vote, with Councilmember Luis absent, all voted in favor. (Motion carried 4-0)

**3. PUBLIC HEARING**

Ordinances First Readings (Second and Final Readings to be held on September 18, 2013)

3.1 AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF DAVIE, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING THE MILLAGE RATES TO BE LEVIED FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2013 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2014; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Lemack explained that the increase in the proposed 5.0829 millage rate was 5.6% greater than the current rate and 9.14 % greater than the rollback rate. He reported on the budget outlook: proposed millage rate increase; fire assessment increase which is offset by a solid waste assessment decrease; comprehensive pension reform for general and non-represented employees; maintaining 25% policy for general fund reserves; no use of general fund reserves to balance the budget; no reduction of services or layoffs; significantly reduced use of non-recurring revenue; increased use of a blended model to offer services (contractual and employees).

Budget and Finance Director Bill Ackerman compared the 2013 and 2014 budgets and explained the increases and decreases. He noted that 66% of the budget was for public safety; he recalled that in 2009, 59% had been dedicated to public safety.

Mr. Ackerman pointed out adjustments since the last budget workshop. Setting the millage rate at 5.0829 would bring in an additional \$1.8 million; an increase in the assessment roll resulted in an increase in revenue of \$100,000; the bus bench agreement Council approved would add \$30,000 in revenue and the conduit financing plan for Nova would add \$50,000 in revenue.

Notable changes to general fund expenses included an increase of \$1.1 million in wage adjustments for general and non-represented employees; a \$770,000 decrease due to pension adjustments; a \$100,000 savings in janitorial expenses; a \$10,000 increase in education expenses for general employees; a \$59,000 increase in the CRA tax incremental financing payment; a \$47,000 decrease in general insurance expense and a \$750,000 decrease in Boys and Girls Club expenses

Mr. Ackerman continued by describing position changes since the last workshop: the town clerk's office would replace a part-time assistant with a full-time assistant; planning and zoning would replace a planner III with a planner II and housing and community development would replace a programs specialist with a grants coordinator.

Mr. Ackerman discussed the millage rate and tax assessment since 2006 and compared the millage rates and fire assessments of municipalities in Broward County. He summarized that the proposed millage rate would result in the following for a \$200,000 home: an increase in ad valorem taxes of \$57.89 per year; an increase in debt service of \$7.75 per year; a decrease in the solid waste assessment of \$36.83 and an increase in the fire assessment of \$36.00.

Mr. Rayson read the ordinance by title. A second public hearing would be held on September 18.

Mayor Paul announced that the Town of Davie's tentative operating millage rate to be levied for fiscal year 2014 was 5.0829 mils, which was 9.14% greater than the rollback rate of 4.6572 mils. The tentative voted debt service millage rate for the fiscal year 2014 was .8621 mils.

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Mayor Paul opened the public hearing portion of the meeting.

John Toole asked why the millage rate was increasing and asked why the fire assessment had increased. Mr. Lemack explained that this was “an innovative way of not having an additional tax on the millage side, but creating more revenue by giving a reduction from the solid waste and adding back to the fire assessment.” Mayor Paul added that this year, they had included the capital improvement plan in the General fund, resulting in an increase.

Mr. Toole remarked that the fire assessment had also increased by \$30 in 2010 and the only reason given had been, “We’re still less than most towns.” He felt there should be a need other than an increase in pension plans. Mr. Lemack explained that the Town was not generating the revenue it had several years ago.

As no one else spoke, Mayor Paul closed the public hearing portion of the meeting.

Vice-Mayor Caletka said he had spoken with Mr. Wesley from FPL about the Town’s \$250,000 lower revenue from FPL and Mr. Wesley informed him that the Town should have received additional franchise fees because the rates had gone up. Vice-Mayor Caletka opposed the proposed millage rate because he believed it should be offset by this additional \$250,000. Mr. Ackerman reported revenue from FPL had in fact not increased this year. Mayor Paul asked about the discrepancy and Mr. Ackerman agreed to speak to FPL.

Councilmember Hattan made a motion, seconded by Mayor Paul to approve the proposed millage rate of 5.0829. In a roll call vote, the vote was as follows: Mayor Paul - yes; Vice-Mayor Caletka - no; Councilmember Luis - absent; Councilmember Hattan - yes; Councilmember Starkey - yes. (Motion carried 3-1)

3.2 AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF DAVIE, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF DAVIE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2013 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2014; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Rayson read the ordinance by title. A second public hearing would be held on September 18.

Mayor Paul opened the public hearing portion of the meeting.

Beth Azore, Hope Outreach board member, stated they had limited their request for funding to \$40,000 as the Town had requested, but the Council had voted to contribute only \$30,000. She said the help Hope provided to the Town’s citizens helped ensure life and safety. Ms. Azore said the \$10,000 went a significant way. Mayor Paul had not reviewed information Mr. Azore had sent in an email and said she would take time to do that and Council could make a decision based on the information later on.

As no one else spoke, Mayor Paul closed the public hearing portion of the meeting.

Councilmember Starkey made a motion, seconded by Mayor Paul to pass the annual budget for fiscal year 2014. In a roll call vote, the vote was as follows: Mayor Paul - yes; Vice-Mayor Caletka - no; Councilmember Luis - absent; Councilmember Hattan - yes; Councilmember Starkey - yes. (Motion carried 3-1)

4. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss and no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 5:36 pm.

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor/Councilmember

\_\_\_\_\_  
Town Clerk