

**SPECIAL MEETING
JULY 29, 2008**

A Workshop Meeting of the City Commission of the City of Delray Beach, Florida, was called to order by Mayor Rita Ellis in the First Floor Conference Room at City Hall at 6:00 p.m., on Tuesday, July 29, 2008.

Roll call showed:

Present - Commissioner Gary P. Eliopoulos
 Commissioner Fred B. Fetzer
 Commissioner Woodie McDuffie
 Mayor Rita Ellis

Absent - None

Also present were - David T. Harden, City Manager
 Robert A. Barcinski, Assistant City Manager
 Susan A. Ruby, City Attorney
 Chevelle D. Nubin, City Clerk

Mayor Rita Ellis called the special meeting to order and announced that it had been called for the purpose of considering the following Items:

SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

1. **RESOLUTION NO. 31-08/SPECIAL EVENT REQUEST/31st ANNUAL ROOTS CULTURAL FESTIVAL:** Consider approval of Resolution No. 31-08 supporting and endorsing the 31st Annual Roots Cultural Festival to be held August 8-10, 2008 and consider approval of the special event request for the Parade on August 9 starting at 3:00 p.m., Health Clinic on August 9 from 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. at Pompey Park, Prayer Breakfast on August 9 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Pompey Park, the Festival at Old School Square on August 8 & 9 from 4:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. and the Gospel Fest on August 10 from 2:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Old School Square. Commission is also requested to grant a temporary use permit per LDR Section 2.4.6(F) for the use of City facilities, rights-of-way and parking lots, to authorize banners on the event site, use of a City generator, use of tables and chairs, and staff support for security, traffic control, EMS assistance, barricading, signage, cleanup and trash removal with event signage and banners to be posted no more than ten (10) days prior to the event, and to authorize the waiver of Pompey Park rental fees.

Robert Barcinski, Assistant City Manager, presented this item. Alberta McCarthy, Roots Cultural Chairperson, was also present to answer questions. Mr. Barcinski asked for the approval of Resolution No. 31-08 which would support and endorse the 31st Annual Roots Cultural Festival to be held August 8-10, 2008 and consider approval of the special event request. He stated that the estimated cost for the event is \$11,583.00; and the producer will pay approximately \$4,200.00.

Mr. Eliopoulos motioned to approve Resolution No. 31-08 and the special event request, seconded by Mr. Fetzer. Upon roll call, the Commission voted as follows: Mr. Fetzer –Yes; Mr. McDuffie –Yes; Mayor Ellis –Yes; Mr. Eliopoulos –Yes; Said motion passed 4-0.

2. **DETERMINE THE PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE FOR FY 2009:** Consider approval of the adoption of the proposed millage rate for the FY 2009 budget.

David T. Harden, City Manager, presented this item. He stated that the back-up material included reductions that the Department Heads requested to get the City below the rollback rate adjusted for Amendment No. 1 which is 6.449 mills. He stated that the Police and Fire pension costs were below the projected costs. He discussed what the additional cuts would be at the 6.1449 millage rate. In addition, he talked about the impact on the maintenance of parks, loss of programs, sidewalk and road repairs that could result if the millage rate is set at 6.1449. Mr. Harden recommended the Commission adopt the proposed millage rate for FY 2009 budget at 6.449.

Mr. Fetzer asked if the rollback rate is adopted tonight, and Commission reviews the budget and finds additional cuts would they have until the end of September to reduce the millage.

Mr. Harden advised Commission has two (2) opportunities to reduce the millage further on September 3rd and September 16th.

Mr. Eliopoulos advised that his concern is the citizens' welfare, safety and maintenance. He recommended caution in these areas with regards to cuts. He advised that he appreciated the second list and he recommended going with the rollback rate of 6.449.

Mayor Ellis recommended the millage rate of 6.449. She stated some things on the list could be cut but other things she would be opposed to cutting. Mayor Ellis advised money is not really being saved when you cut maintenance.

Mr. McDuffie asked how many of the positions proposed to be eliminated are occupied at this time.

Mr. Harden stated four (4) positions are occupied in the first list and seven (7) positions in the second list. He stated this does not include part-time which would make fourteen (14) positions.

Mr. Eliopoulos asked how other municipalities handle animal control. He advised he would like to find the value of positions rather than the salaries.

Mr. McDuffie stated that he compared both spreadsheets from the back-up material and he found major cuts in maintenance that the City would later regret.

Mr. Fetzer referenced the e-mail responses he sent to Mr. Harden regarding the millage rate calculations and reserves. He stated other Cities are keeping their millage rate flat by raiding their reserves.

Mr. Harden stated that the City's current reserves are at 17%. He discussed how other Cities kept their millage rate steady.

Mr. Fetzer advised he does not see reserves being a solution and he supported the millage rate at the rollback rate on the condition that over the next two (2) months reviews will continue to determine additional cuts.

Mr. Eliopoulos concurs with Mr. Fetzer.

Mr. Harden discussed a severance package for employees that are close to retirement.

Mr. McDuffie supports constructing severance packages for senior employees. He stated he would like to keep some of the junior employees since the City will be faced with losing its senior employees soon.

Mr. Harden warned against age discrimination, but stated if some of the senior employees could be enticed it would be to the City's benefit.

Mr. Eliopoulos supports severance packages.

Mr. Fetzer also supports severance packages.

Mayor Ellis advised the City to continue to review its options and remain open with regards to the budget.

Mr. Eliopoulos asked how this affects the average citizens with regard to taxes.

Mr. Harden explained the difference would be \$.30 per thousand.

Mr. McDuffie motioned to approve the proposed millage rate at the rollback rate of 6.449 per Amendment No. 1 for FY 2009, seconded by Mr. Eliopoulos. Upon roll call, the Commission voted as follows: Mr. McDuffie –Yes; Mayor Ellis –Yes; Mr. Eliopoulos –Yes; Mr. Fetzer –Yes; Said motion passed 4-0.

3. Review and accept the Downtown Development Authority's *proposed* millage rate for FY 2009. **(ADDENDUM)**

Mayor Ellis advised that the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) proposed a millage rate of one (1) mil.

Mr. Harden advised that their millage rate last year was approximately .88. Their rollback rate this year is approximately .98.

Mr. Fetzer asked if they go above the rollback rate what would be the approval requirements.

Susan Ruby, City Attorney, advised it would have to be two-thirds majority vote.

Mr. Eliopoulos asked if there was back-up with DDA's request.

Mr. Harden advised there is no back-up.

Mr. Eliopoulos recommended that someone from DDA come before Commission to answer questions since there is no back-up to support their proposed millage rate.

Mr. Fetzer motioned to approve the DDA's proposed millage rate of one (1) mil, seconded by Mr. Eliopoulos. Upon roll call, the Commission voted as follows: Mayor Ellis -Yes; Mr. Eliopoulos -Yes; Mr. Fetzer -Yes; Mr. McDuffie -Yes; Said motion passed 4-0.

Mayor Ellis adjourned the Special Meeting at 6:55 p.m.



City Clerk

ATTEST:



MAYOR

The undersigned is the City Clerk of the City of Delray Beach, Florida, and the information provided herein is the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the City Commission held on Tuesday, July 29, 2008, which Minutes were formally approved and adopted by the City Commission on August 5, 2008.



City Clerk

NOTE TO READER: If the Minutes you have received are not completed as indicated above, this means they are not the official Minutes of the City Commission. They will become the official Minutes only after review and approval, which may involve amendments, additions or deletions to the Minutes as set forth above.