

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

SEPTEMBER 5, 2024

A Public Hearing on Proposed County Budget Fiscal Year 2024/2025 was held at the Charlotte Harbor Event and Conference Center, 75 Taylor Street, Punta Gorda, Florida.

The following members were present: Vice Chair Constance, Commissioner Deutsch, Commissioner Doherty, and Commissioner Tiseo. Also in attendance were: County Administrator Flores, County Attorney Knowlton, Minutes Clerk Savino, and Minutes Clerk Welsh. The following members were absent: Chair Truex.

The Meeting was called to order at 5:01 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Review of FY2024/2025 Budget Process

Gordon Burger, Budget and Administrative Services Director gave a brief overview of Agenda, Stages of the Budget Process, Calendar – 1st Year, and Calendar – 2nd Year.

2. Millage Rates

Mr. Burger gave a brief overview of Assessed Valuation, Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Property Valuations, Neighboring Counties – Valuation Increase, Ad Valorem Revenues as Presented July 17th, 2024, Revised Ad Valorem Revenues, Valuation Impact on Homestead Tax Bill (Charlotte County Millage Only), How Your Tax Dollar is Spent FY 2024/2025, Tentative Millage Rates as of July 17th, 2024, Tentative Millage Rates, FY 2024/2025 Summary of Adjustments, Ad Valorem Long Range Projection - Assumptions & Variables, General Fund: Revenues vs Expenditures Updated Projection, Five Year Financial Plan – Revenue/Expenditures, Updated Long Range Projection, Capital Projects – Expenditures by Category vs. Capital Ad Valorem, and Lighting District Long Range Projection.

Vice Chair Constance discussed Five Year Financial Plan – Revenue/Expenditures and Capital Projects – Expenditures by Category vs. Capital Ad Valorem.

3. Presentation of Budget

Mr. Burger gave a brief overview of Total County Budget, Net Amended Budgets, Net Budget – Capital vs Operating, BCC Countywide Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Count As of 10/1/2023, BCC Countywide Occupied FTE Count, Charlotte County: 20 Year Debt Breakdown, Debt Breakdown, Ad Valorem Reserves, and Reserves, and Adopt Tentative Millage Rates.

Vice Chair Constance commented on Net Amended Budgets, Reserves, Debt Breakdown, project funding,

4. Public Hearing to Adopt County-wide Tentative Millage Rate and Proposed Budget RES 2024-130 / RES 2024-131

Mr. Burger read into record County-wide tentative millage rate and proposed budget, responded to Valuation Impact on Homestead Tax Bill (Charlotte County Millage Only), Charlotte County School Board, and How Your Tax Dollar is Spent FY 2024/2025.

Public Input

Cathy Kruse declined to speak.

Sam Besase mentioned bridges, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), flooding, Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs), Rotonda West Association, overgrowth, paving program, cost increases, Municipal Service Benefit Unit (MSBU), parks, River Road, street lighting, reimbursements, and Hurricane Ian.

Jim Kauffman spoke against County-wide Tentative Millage Rate and Proposed Budget, remarked on property tax and valuation, income, Truth In Millage (TRIM) Notice, and homeowner's insurance rates.

Tammy Kalin noted Charlotte Ranchettes, Code Enforcement, law enforcement, public services, financial impacts, and property taxes.

David Kalin spoke to Property Appraiser, TRIM notices, MSBU, road maintenance, drainage, Charlotte Ranchettes, public services, Bermont Road, Public Works, budget, and spending.

Kevin Davis discussed Charlotte Ranchettes, challenges, MSBU, flooding, Hurricanes Charley and Ian, tax dollars, road maintenance, and public services.

David Kesselring commented on budget, savings options, Economic Development Department, Murdock Village, Sunseeker, Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA), tax rolls, Tax Increment Financing (TIF) loans, and millage rates.

Leon Moyer mentioned budget, paving program, spending, cost, and manual labor.

James Fuccillo noted spending, budget, Economic Development Plan, tax rolls, overdevelopment, revenues, property valuations, TRIM notices, income, homeowner's insurance rates, and impacts.

Crystal Stone spoke to Charlotte Ranchettes, TRIM notices, public services, drainage, roadway conditions, and safety.

Stacy Wear, Charlotte County Clerk of the Circuit Court and County Comptroller Finance Director discussed Clerk's Office budget, reduction, efficiency, transparency, accountability, and requested approval.

Kat Pellegrino remarked on infrastructure improvements, flooding, Pinellas County, moratorium, community outreach, and budget.

Todd Radek mentioned TRIM notice, property assessment, insurance rates, taxes, and seasonal residents and visitors.

Victoria Hooker commented on budget, tax dollars, economy, inflation, savings, and spending.

COMMISSIONER TISEO MOVED TO CLOSE PUBLIC INPUT, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DOHERTY

MOTION CARRIED 4:0

Vice Chair Constance spoke to TRIM notice, August 19, 2024 Budget Meeting, and millage rates. **Commissioner Deutsch** noted responsibility, inflation, construction costs, Charlotte Ranchettes, population, drainage, MSBU, public services, and partnership. **Commissioner Doherty** remarked on August 19, 2024 Budget Meeting, TRIM notices, reduction, Valuation

Impact on Homestead Tax Bill (Charlotte County Millage Only), and How Your Tax Dollar is Spent FY 2024/2025. Commissioner Tiseo discussed How Your Tax Dollar is Spent FY 2024/2025, millage rates, Valuation Impact on Homestead Tax Bill (Charlotte County Millage Only), General Fund, infrastructure, debt, solutions, seasonal residents, tourists, and sales tax.

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2024-130 ADOPTING A TENTATIVE COUNTY-WIDE MILLAGE LEVY FOR CHARLOTTE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER TISEO

MOTION CARRIED 4:0.

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2024-131 ADOPTING A TENTATIVE COUNTY-WIDE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER TISEO

MOTION CARRIED 4:0.

5. Public Comment Prior to the Adoption of the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Millage Rate and Proposed Budget RES 2024-132 / RES 2024-133

Mr. Burger read into the record Environmentally Sensitive Lands millage rate and proposed budget.

Vice Chair Constance mentioned debt, revenues, and challenges. Commissioner Doherty commented on values.

Public Input - None

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2024-132 ADOPTING A TENTATIVE SERIES 2008 (GOB) DEBT SERVICE FUND MILLAGE LEVY FOR CHARLOTTE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER TISEO

MOTION CARRIED 4:0.

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2024-133 ADOPTING A TENTATIVE SERIES 2008 (GOB) DEBT SERVICE FUND BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER TISEO

MOTION CARRIED 4:0.

6. Public Hearing to Adopt the MSTU Millage Rates and Proposed Budgets RES 2024-134 / RES 2024-135

Mr. Burger read into the record the Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU) millage rates and proposed budgets.

Commissioner Tiseo spoke to rollback rate, Charlotte Ranchettes, private roads, maintenance, publicly recorded easement, drainage, ownership, process, property owners and rights, Greater Charlotte Street Lighting and Stormwater Districts, and MSBU.

Public Input

Crystal Stone remarked on MSBU, Stormwater District, lighting, public services and safety, assessments, private roads, Charlotte Ranchettes, and education.

COMMISSIONER TISEO MOVED TO CLOSE PUBLIC INPUT, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DEUTSCH

MOTION CARRIED 4:0.

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2024-134 ADOPTING A TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATE TO BE LEVIED WITHIN THE GREATER CHARLOTTE STREET LIGHTING DISTRICT, STUMP PASS DREDGING MUNICIPAL SERVICE TAXING UNIT, DON PEDRO/KNIGHT ISLAND STREET AND DRAINAGE UNIT, MANASOTA KEY STREET AND DRAINAGE UNIT, CHARLOTTE COUNTY MUNICIPAL SERVICE TAXING UNIT FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND SANDHILL MUNICIPAL SERVICE TAXING UNIT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER TISEO

MOTION CARRIED 4:0.

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2024-135 ADOPTING A TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR GREATER CHARLOTTE STREET LIGHTING DISTRICT, STUMP PASS DREDGING MUNICIPAL SERVICE TAXING UNIT, DON PEDRO/KNIGHT ISLAND STREET AND DRAINAGE UNIT, MANASOTA KEY STREET AND DRAINAGE UNIT, CHARLOTTE COUNTY MUNICIPAL SERVICE TAXING UNIT FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND SANDHILL MUNICIPAL SERVICE TAXING UNIT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DEUTSCH

MOTION CARRIED 4:0.

7. Public Hearing to adopt proposed budgets for the remaining Special Revenue Funds, Debt Service Funds, Enterprise Funds and MSBU Funds RES 2024-136 / RES 2024-137

Mr. Burger read into record the proposed budgets for the remaining Special Revenue Funds, Debt Service Funds, Enterprise Funds, and MSBU Funds.

Public Hearing

David Kalin noted stormwater, public services, Florida Statute 298.66, requirements, Charlotte County Sheriff Bill Prummell, public drainage, MSBU, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), and tax dollars.

Crystal Stone discussed MSBU, assessments, public service, drainage issues, lighting, road maintenance, funding, law enforcement, Charlotte Ranchettes, and private property.

COMMISSIONER TISEO MOVED TO CLOSE PUBLIC INPUT, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DEUTSCH

MOTION CARRIED 4:0.


COMMISSIONER DOHERTY MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2024-136 ADOPTING ALL FINAL MUNICIPAL SERVICE BENEFIT UNIT RATES AS LISTED, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DEUTSCH

MOTION CARRIED 4:0.

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2024-137 ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE BUDGETS FOR THE REMAINING SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS, DEBT SERVICE FUNDS, ENTERPRISE FUNDS, AND MSBU FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024/2025 TOTALING \$1,728,594,009, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER TISEO

MOTION CARRIED 4:0.

ADJOURNED: 7:10 pm


William S. Truex
William S. Truex, Chair
DATE ADOPTED: Sept 24, 2024

ATTEST:

ROGER D. EATON, CLERK
OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND
EX-OFFICIO TO THE BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By: Amberlynn Eaton
Deputy Clerk