

CITY OF CALLAWAY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
1ST BUDGET HEARING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 5, 2023 – 5:01 P.M.

The Callaway Commission met for the first budget hearing session with Pam Henderson, Mayor, David Griggs, Mayor Pro tem, and Commissioners Scott Davis, Bob Pelletier, and Kenneth L. Ayers, in attendance. Also present were Eddie Cook, City Manager; Amy Myers, City Attorney, Janice L. Peters, City Clerk; David Schultz, Finance Director; Tim Legare, Leisure Services Director; Bill Frye, Public Works Director, Bonnie Poole, Code Enforcement Director, and David Joyner, Fire Chief.

**PUBLIC HEARING – PRESENTATION OF THE TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR
BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2023**

Public Announcement – Ad Valorem Tax Rate (Trim Notice)

City Clerk Peters read the public announcement as follows:

Pursuant to Section 200.065(2)(e), F.S., “Notice of Tentative property Taxes for the City of Callaway, Florida” (TRIM NOTICE) the proposed ad valorem rate for the Fiscal Year 2023/24 was advertised to be a maximum of 2.9900 mils. This millage rate would be greater than the current years rolled-back rate of 2.5499 mils. After reviewing revenue projections and proposed expenditure levels for the 2023/24 Fiscal Year, the General Fund budget is balanced at a tentative rate of 2.7500 mils, which is more than the current year’s roll back rate by 0.2001, an increase of 7.8500%. This means 2.7500 mils is to be levied to fund the Fiscal Year 2023/24 Budget.

Tentative FY2023/24 Budget and City Manager’s Budget Message

Review tentative budget and points of discussion.

City Manager Cook recognized staff for their efforts to streamline the budget adding there is no increase.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mayor Henderson called for public participation.

The following citizens commented:

- Jeff Carnahan, 7752 Shadow Bay Drive, asked about the expenditures for picnic tables.
- Fred Philp, 246 Morning Creek Way, commented on the water increase.
- Kim Sandoval, 7758 Betty Louise Dr., asked about the base rates the County charges the City of Callaway.

Resolution No. 23-22 Tax Assessments for Abatement Liens

City Attorney Myers read Resolution No. 23-22 by headnote as follows:

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CALLAWAY,
FLORIDA, RELATING TO NUISANCE ABATEMENT WITHIN THE CITY;
CONFIRMING THE INITIAL ASSESSMENT RESOLUTION; PROVIDING
AUTHORITY AND DEFINITIONS; CREATING THE NUISANCE ABATEMENT
ASSESSMENT AREA; AMENDING AND APPROVING THE NUISANCE
ABATEMENT ASSESSMENT ROLL; PROVIDING FOR THE IMPOSITION OF THE**

NUISANCE ABATEMENT ASSESSMENTS; PROVIDING FOR COLLECTION OF THE ASSESSMENTS PURSUANT TO THE UNIFORM ASSESSMENT COLLECTION ACT; PROVIDING FOR THE EFFECT OF THIS RESOLUTION; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATELY EFFECTIVE DATE.

City Manager Cook advised this is for abatement fees to be added to the respective homeowner's taxes.

Mayor Henderson called for Public Participation; there was none.

Motion:

Motion was made by Commissioner Griggs and seconded by Commissioner Davis to approve Resolution No. 23-22. Motion carried unanimously upon roll-call vote.

Resolution No. 23-23 FY2023/24 Tentative Ad Valorem Tax Rate

Consideration of Resolution levying a General Fund Ad Valorem Rate of 2.7500 mils.

City Attorney Myers read Resolution No. 23-23 by headnote as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CALLAWAY OF BAY COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE LEVYING OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023/24 AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

City Manager Cook reiterated that the Ad Valorem is not increasing.

Mayor Henderson called for Public Participation; there was none.

Motion:

Motion was made by Commissioner Ayers and seconded by Commissioner Pelletier to approve Resolution No. 23-23, levying a tentative Ad Valorem Rate of 2.7500 mils for FY2023/24. Motion unanimously upon roll-call vote.

Resolution No. 23-24 FY2023/24 Tentative Budget

Consideration of Resolution adopting a tentative budget effective October 1, 2023.

City Attorney Myers read Resolution No. 23-24 by headnote as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF CALLAWAY OF BAY COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023/24 AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Discussions were as follows:

- Picnic Table Cost Comparisons – Gore Park vs Other Parks, which are similar.
- PA System Replacement
- VAC/CON Truck Purchase – \$500,000 cost vs Repairs. Removed pending a detailed repair quote.

Public Participation:

Fred Philp, 246 Morning Creek Way, spoke on the VAC/CON Truck issue advising staff make a detailed plan.

Discussion continued as follows:

- Leisure Services Staff
- Utility Billing & Code Enforcement Directors Salaries – Commissioner Pelletier recommended increasing their salaries by \$8,000 now instead of splitting \$4,000 now and \$4,000 in the following year’s budget, Commission agreed. City Manager Cook’s August 17th email regarding their salaries was referenced. UB Director’s personal vehicle use was also discussed.
- Commissioner Griggs pointed out that the Vermeer Vacuum Excavator is not an excavator, as indicated in the notes.
- Additional LEO added for traffic enforcement. Mayor Henderson requested that officer’s position be tracked.

Mayor Henderson called for Public Participation.

Motion:

Motion was made by Commissioner Pelletier and seconded by Commissioner Ayers to approve Resolution No. 23-24, adopting the tentative budget for FY2023/24 as amended. Motion carried unanimously upon roll-call vote.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mayor Henderson asked for Public Participation; there was none.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, motion was made to adjourn at 5:55 p.m.

Janice L. Peters, MMC, City Clerk

Attest:

Pam Henderson, Mayor