



**TAVARES CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 18, 2019 – 4:00 PM
TAVARES CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
201 EAST MAIN STREET, TAVARES**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

**Troy Singer, Mayor
Lori Pfister, Vice Mayor
Amanda Boggus, Council Member
Kirby Smith, Council Member - *Absent*
Roy Stevenson, Council Member**

STAFF PRESENT

**John Drury, City Administrator
Bob Williams, City Attorney
Susie Novack, City Clerk
Mike Fitzgerald, Community Development Director
Bob Tweedie, Economic Development Director
Tamera Rogers, Community Services Director
Lori Houghton, Finance Director
Richard Keith, Fire Chief
Stoney Lubins, Police Chief
James Dillon, Public Works Director
Phil Clark, Utilities Director
Crissy Bublitz, Human Resources Director
Mark O'Keefe, Public Communications Director**

TAVARES HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Betty Burleigh, Librarian/Historian and Board Member

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Singer called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. He asked those present to silence their cell phones and noted hearing devices are available. Mayor Singer asked those who would like to speak on an agenda item to complete a Request to Speak form.

II. INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Tab 1. Reverend Kenneth H. Frey, Union Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

Reverend Kenneth H. Frey, Union Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, provided the invocation and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Drury said staff had no changes to the Agenda.

MOTION

Lori Pfister moved to approve the Agenda, seconded by Amanda Boggus. The motion carried unanimously 4-0.

IV. PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

None.

V. SWEARING IN BY CITY ATTORNEY AND DISCLOSURE OF EXPARTE COMMUNICATIONS

Attorney Williams stated there was one quasi-judicial matter before Council at second reading [Tab 4 – Ordinance 2019-17 – Rezoning – 11.55 Acres East of SR19, West of CR561, 140 Feet North of Daily Drive – Amsdell Storage, LLC]. He gave the oath to those who wished to provide testimony.

Attorney Williams asked Council if they had any exparte communications to disclose. The following disclosures were made:

- Vice Mayor Pfister Pfister – None.
- Council Member Boggus – None.
- Council Member Stevenson – None.

Mayor Singer declared a conflict of interest as his wife leases space from the applicant for business purposes.

VI. READING OF ALL ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS INTO THE RECORD

VII. CONSET AGENDA

Mayor Singer asked for comments from the audience regarding any item on the Consent Agenda. There were none.

MOTION

Amanda Boggus moved for approval of the Consent Agenda [Tab 2 - August 7, 2019 Regular and Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes; Tab 3 – Verandah Park – Final Plat], seconded by Roy Stevenson. The motion carried unanimously 4-0.

Tab 2. Approval of the August 7, 2019 City Council Regular and Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes

Approved on the Consent Agenda.

Tab 3. Verandah Park – Final Plat

Approved on the Consent Agenda.

VIII. RESOLUTIONS

None.

IX. ORDINANCES – PUBLIC HEARING

First Reading

None.

Second Reading

Tab 4. Ordinance 2019-17 Rezoning 11.55 Acres – Amsdell Storage, LLC – East of SR19, West of CR 561

Mr. Fitzgerald made the following presentation:

The subject property consists of approximately 11.55 acres located east of SR-19, west of CR-561, approximately 140 feet north of Dailey Drive. The property is currently owned by Amsdell Storage Ventures XXXIV, LLC and contains one (1) commercial building, nine (9) self-storage mini warehouse buildings, and approximately three (3) acres of vacant land. The property is zoned as a Planned Industrial Development (PD) per Ordinance 1998-10, amended by Ordinances 2004-18 & 2017-19 allowing a mixture of commercial uses and industrial storage uses. The owner of the property wishes to eliminate the commercial portion and convert the building to additional personal storage capacity. In addition the owner is proposing to construct new mini-warehouse storage buildings and RV & boat parking

areas on the vacant parcels. The applicant is requesting a rezoning from Planned Development (PD) to Industrial (I) as result of eliminating the commercial aspect and proposing increased industrial storage use that is limited under the current Planned Development. The property is surrounded by a mixture of industrial, commercial, and residential property.

Any development of the property will be in accordance with the City's Land Development Regulations. Prior to the issuance of any Building Permits for this property compliance with all applicable regulations will be required.

The underlying Future Land Use designation of Industrial (IND) does not change and is compatible with the requested Industrial (I) zoning district.

Mayor Singer declared a conflict of interest and said his wife leases a unit from the applicant for business purposes.

Mayor Singer passed the gavel to Vice Mayor Pfister.

Vice Mayor Pfister asked for questions or comments from the Council. There were none.

Vice Mayor Pfister asked for questions or comments from the audience. There were none.

MOTION

Amanda Boggus moved for approval of Ordinance 2019-17, seconded by Roy Stevenson. The motion carried 3-0 with Troy Singer abstaining.

Vice Mayor Pfister passed the gavel back to Mayor Singer.

Tab 5. Ordinance 2019-18 Water, Wastewater, Reclaim Utility Rate Study

Ms. Houghton made the following presentation:

In order to meet revenue sufficiency requirements for Water, Wastewater, Reclaim, and Stormwater debt (bank loans, bonds, and State Revolving Loans), a utility rate study for the Utility Funds is generally accomplished every five (5) years.

A Rate Study was completed in May 2009 and presented to the City Council on June 18, 2009. This study recommended automatic annual rate increases for water, wastewater and reclaim water of 1% + CPI. Council approved this recommendation.

A subsequent Rate Study was completed in September 2014, and presented to the City Council on November 9, 2014. This Rate Study

recommended no change to Ordinance 2009-22, therefore automatic rate increases of 1% + CPI remained in effect. Council approved this recommendation.

On August 21, 2019, a current Rate Study was presented to the City Council by the City's Rate Consultants, Mike Rocca, Principal Consultant and Joe Williams, Senior Consultant of Raftelis. The Study recommends a small decrease in water rates, but a small increase in wastewater rates. The Study recommends suspending the automatic 1%+CPI increases until October 2023, and implementing proposed rates that provide for an average combined rate increase over a four year period of approximately 1.95% for a residential customer with monthly consumption of 4,000 gallons.

FISCAL YEAR	WATER RATES	WASTEWATER RATES	COMBINED*
<i>FY 2019-2020</i>	<i>-1.00%</i>	<i>5.50%</i>	<i>3.05%</i>
<i>FY 2020-2021</i>	<i>0.00%</i>	<i>5.50%</i>	<i>3.46%</i>
<i>FY 2021-2022</i>	<i>0.00%</i>	<i>2.00%</i>	<i>1.34%</i>
<i>FY 2022-2023</i>	<i>0.00%</i>	<i>0.00%</i>	<i>0.00%</i>
4-Year Average			1.95%

****Table Assumes Monthly Consumption of 4000 Gallons***

Ordinance Number 2019-18 has been prepared based on the City's Rate Consultant's recommendations and as presented to the City Council. Ordinance 2019-18 includes proposed rate tables for Reclaim, Water, and Wastewater rates, and provides for an implementation date of October 1, 2019 for the proposed rates.

Ms. Houghton introduced Mike Rocca and Joe Williams of Raftelis Financial Consultants. Mr. Rocca provided a high-level overview of past and the existing rate studies. He noted past rates were adjusted by the rate of inflation plus 1%. He said the city has been successful in avoiding major rate increases by implementing this plan over time. Mr. Rocca noted major capital improvements to water and wastewater systems are funded through rate adjustments and costs are equitable and reasonable as required by Florida statutes. Mr. Rocca said that during the current rate study it was determined that the amount of revenue to be generated could be reduced due to both good management and growth of the system. Mr. Rocca said that a rebalancing is now necessary that will generate the amount of revenues needed to continue to address covenants.

Mr. Williams said there are still a significant amount of capital projects for the city to complete over the next five years. He said FRS low interest and low-cost loans can be spread over generations who will benefit from those projects. Under the current ordinance the increase is expected to be a 3.5% average each year and Raftelis

recommends a water reduction and then holding the rate constant. He said it is recommended that wastewater increasing the first two years and the reduced the second two years for a total average increase of water and wastewater at 1.95% each year, which is less than the current ordinance.

Mayor Singer asked for confirmation that the recommendation is to reduce rates through Ordinance 2019-18 to an average of 1.95% each year, and if the city stays with the current ordinance then the rates will increase. Mr. Williams confirmed.

Jim Kehrig, 705 Juniper Way, said most homeowners in Tavares are retired and there are a significant number of seasonal citizens who do not use water for a portion of the year.

Rodney Diehl, 2400 Baywater, asked how water used by the Tavares Pavilion on the Lake is funded.

Mr. Drury noted the rates would increase on average 1.95% over a four-year period. He noted the inflation rate is 2% and the increase is consistent with the national inflation rate. Mr. Drury said the proposed rate is less than Umatilla and Mount Dora and the same as Eustis. Seasonal citizens are still charged the base rate as there is a cost to maintain the system and repay loans and bonds. Those residents are not charged for the water they do not use.

Mr. Drury noted the Pavilion is its own enterprise and operationally at its best in its history. He said the hope is that next year the Pavilion will break even operationally regarding income and expenses. He noted the Pavilion does not fund the water department and the water department does not fund the Pavilion. Mr. Drury asked those audience members who have additional questions to contact him. He said he is available any time with or without an appointment. Mayor Singer said the audience is also welcome to email or call each Council member.

Mayor Singer asked for the average increase per year under the current ordinance. Ms. Houghton said 2.93%. Ms. Houghton said the funds are used for water and wastewater operations, debt service and normal costs in the budget. She said they are not considered restricted but an operational fund with the pledge to fund debt.

Vice Mayor Pfister asked when the next rates study will be conducted. Ms. Houghton said the next study will begin in 2023.

MOTION

Lori Pfister moved to approve, seconded by Amanda Boggus. The motion carried unanimously 4-0.

X. GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Tab 6. School Resource Officer

Lt. Jones made the following presentation:

The Tavares Police Department (TPD) provides one police officer to the Tavares Elementary School as a school resource officer (SRO). This is the second year in which TPD provided such services.

The primary difference this year is that the LCSB will pay 100% of the cost of an SRO for the months that school is in session. This will be \$58,162.00.

Mr. Drury said an updated agenda summary was available in each Council member's folder.

Mayor Singer asked for questions from Council. There were none.

MOTION

Lori Pfister moved for approval, seconded by Roy Stevenson. The motion carried unanimously 4-0.

Tab 7. Tavares Opt-Out Option Regarding the Eustis ISBA

Mr. Drury made the following presentation:

Previously The City negotiated an Inter-local Service Boundary Agreement (ISBA) with Lake County and the surrounding cities of Tavares including Eustis. The agreement was successfully negotiated and executed by all the parties (Lake County, Tavares and surrounding Cities). The ISBA sets the future boundaries of a City.

Eustis is now negotiating an ISBA with Lake County. Attached is Eustis' resolution initiating ISBA negotiations with Lake County and Lake County's responding resolution. The Eustis ISBA is requesting:

- 1. Designation of all of the existing Eustis Joint Planning Area (JPA) as depicted in Exhibit A as the Interlocal Service Boundary Area, and*
- 2. Voluntary annexation of contiguous properties including annexation that creates enclaves and E-911 system addressing standards.*

Lake County has invited Tavares to the Eustis negotiations table in the formation of the Eustis ISBA which is protocol on ISBA formation. Both resolutions and the proposed boundary shown on Page 4 of Resolution 19-43, limits the proposed Eustis ISBA boundary to current Eustis Joint

Planning Area (JPA) which has been in existence since 1987. Therefore, as the ISBA proposed by Eustis will not affect Tavares, the invitation by Lake County to Tavares to participate in negotiations on the Eustis ISBA should be respectively declined in staff's opinion.

Mr. Drury noted the Eustis ISBA will not affect Tavares and believes the invitation should be declined.

Council Member Stevenson asked if a letter could be forwarded reflecting Tavares appreciation for the invitation and respectfully declining. Mr. Drury confirmed.

MOTION

Lori Pfister moved to approve Option 1 [City Council to opt out of negotiations on Eustis ISBA creation], seconded by Roy Stevenson. The motion carried unanimously 4-0.

Tab 8. "Impact Lake" invitation to Road Maintenance Funding Information Session

Mr. Dillon made the following presentation:

Attached in an invitation to elected officials for a road funding program information session on the 5-cent gas tax local option. Staff seeks information on how many Council members will be attending so as to properly advertise the attendance if more than one member plans to attend.

Mr. Dillon said staff is seeking Council members who would like to attend Impact Lake and said he is available for questions.

Mayor Singer said Lake County is conducting a study regarding a 5-cent gas tax. Mr. Drury said this is an invitation to meet with Lake County and each municipality to discuss whether a 5-cent local option gas tax is a resource that should be explored for funding Lake County roads, of which a portion would come to all of the municipalities. He said the informational meeting is scheduled to be held Clermont on October 16, 2019. Mr. Drury noted he and Mr. Dillon will also be attending the meeting and will report back to the Council.

Mayor Singer and Council Member Stevenson said they would attend.

Tab 9. Legislative Delegation Meeting

Mr. Drury made the following presentation:

Attached is an invitation to attend and present to the Lake County Legislative Delegation which is made up of Senator Stargel, Senator

Baxley, Representative Sullivan, Representative Sabatini and Representative Hage.

An opportunity is presented to discuss who will attend, present and what information should be presented. Below are some issues and funding request for consideration.

Issues to present:

- 1. Crossing Golf Carts over state roads at safe intersections where the city has a golf cart ordinance.*
- 2. Support the State Aviation Grant program that keeps our Airports and Seaplane bases connected together to improve transportation and economic development.*

Grant Funding Request:

- 1. Storm Water Improvements \$750,000*
- 2. History Museum \$2 million*
- 3. Senior Center \$\$1.6 million*
- 4. Library Expansion \$2 million*

Mr. Drury said an opportunity is presented to discuss who will attend a Lake County Delegation session at Lake Sumter State College. Mr. Drury said he has identified the following issues for Council to consider:

- Golf Cart Crossing Over State Roads - The city has gained approval for crossing SR 19 and is looking to include US 441.
- State Aviation Program - The city relies on the state aviation program to grow America's Seaplane City and look to our legislative delegation to continue to support the state aviation grant program. Mr. Drury said Tavares is one of few airports who receive grants from the state aviation program.
- Phase II Stormwater Program – The stormwater runoff program has been completed from Tavares High School to the lakefront. Mr. Drury said the stormwater needs to be extended to US 441. He said he would like to look at a \$750,000 grant for the High School and north. When a stormwater is repaired then roads are repaved and many roads in the downtown are repaved through stormwater grants.
- History Museum – The Tavares History Museum is moving into the train station the Fire Department was located. Grant Funding Request is \$2 million dollars.
- Senior Center – Moving Forward. Grant funding request is \$1.6 million dollars.
- Library Expansion – Moving Forward. Grant funding request is \$2 million dollars.

Mr. Drury said he is asking Council to approve these initiatives and then rank the four grant funding requests. He noted stormwater has a higher chance of statewide legislative appropriations rather than local programs.

Council Member Boggus noted her support for the grant fund ranking as presented.

Council Member Stevenson said he could attend the legislative meeting.

Vice Mayor Pfister said she is in support of the grant fund ranking and is interested in attending the legislative meeting.

Mayor Singer said he is in support of the grant fund ranking as presented and said he would like to attend.

MOTION

Lori Pfister moved to approve Option 1, accepting the ranking [1. Storm Water Improvements \$750,000, 2. History Museum \$2 million, 3. Senior Center \$1.6 million, 4. Library Expansion \$2 million] with Mayor Singer, Vice Mayor Pfister and Council Member Stevenson attending, seconded by Amanda Boggus. The motion carried unanimously 4-0.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

None.

XII. OLD BUSINESS

None.

XIII. HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

Tab 12. Tavares Historical Society

Ms. Burleigh provided a historical perspective on the Tavares & Gulf Railroad including the following highlights:

- 1881 - named the Tavares, Brookfield & Gulf Railroad.
- 1885 - named the Tavares, Apopka & Gulf Railroad.
- 1900 - named the Tavares & Gulf Railroad.
- In the early 1900's the railroad was in poor condition and there were frequent derailments.
- 1934 until its end, the Tavares & Gulf Railroad shared the depot facility with the Seaboard at Tavares.
- The last steam engine was sold for scrap July 1952.
- The final run for the Tavares & Gulf Railroad was December 29, 1969.

Ms. Burleigh commended Mr. O'Keefe on a recent city newsletter.

XIV. AUDIENCE TO BE HEARD

Lou Buigas, Ianthe Street, said Friday, September 20, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. will be the first annual Hispanic Heritage art opening at the Lake County Museum of Art. She invited all those present to attend.

XVI. REPORTS

Tab 13. City Administrator

Mr. Drury noted three (3) Council Members will be present at the October 2, 2019 City Council meeting as Mayor Singer and Council Member Boggus will be attending the America in Bloom Symposium.

Mr. Drury noted October 16, 2019 will be Council Member Smith's last City Council meeting. He said a farewell event will be held at 3:00 p.m. at City Hall just prior to the meeting and invited all who were present to attend and wish Council Member Smith well in his new endeavor.

Mr. Dillon said new city limit signs had been installed on all state roads in Tavares.

Ms. Rogers said Friday, September 20, 2019, is multi-layered evening of arts and culture with a concert to be held in Tavares Square.

Attorney Williams said a neighbor to the Garber rezoning and annexation that was recently approved by Council filed an appeal in the circuit court. He said his response is due in thirty (30) days.

Tab 14. City Council Member Reports

Council Member Stevenson commended Mr. O'Keefe on a recent city newsletter that included city projects. He said there are so many wonderful projects underway in the city.

Mayor Singer adjourned the meeting for a five (5) minutes recess at 4:58 p.m.

Mayor Singer re-adjourned the meeting at 5:05 p.m.

XV. BUDGET WORKSHOP

Tab 10. Public Hearing to Adopt Resolution 2019-07 Final Millage – FY 2019-2020

Mr. Drury provided the following budget highlights:

- The proposed debt service millage rate is decreased
- The proposed property tax rate is decreased

- The proposed 1.6% operational budget increase is less than the current inflation rate and significantly less than the forecasted inflation rate for the year the budget covers
- The proposed reserves for the City is increased
- The Florida Benchmarking Consortium continues to identify Tavares as one of the most efficient cities when compared to other Florida cities of similar size
- The budget addresses expanding the library, history museum, senior services program and the road paving program as well as rebuilding the Wooton Wonderland playground
- Calls for a complete rebuild of the Seaplane Base & Marina with 98% of the cost being paid by insurance proceeds
- Property values continue to grow in the city
- Due to the city's economic development program, new business startups including manufacturing and medical are at an all-time high including the newest downtown manufacturing company, Sunday Cool, which opened its doors with 65 new employees
- The Lake County Property Appraiser indicated Tavares had more businesses open in the past year than any other city in Lake County
- The Lake County Property Appraiser indicated Tavares has the greatest proposed millage rate decrease of any other city in Lake County

Ms. Novack read the following resolutions in their entirety on their second and final reading:

RESOLUTION 2019 - 07

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A FINAL MILLAGE RATE OF 6.9500 FOR THE CITY OF TAVARES, FLORIDA, FOR AD VALOREM TAXES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020; SETTING FORTH THE PERCENT BY WHICH THE MILLAGE RATE IS GREATER THAN THE "ROLLED-BACK" RATE.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAVARES, FLORIDA:

WHEREAS, the City of Tavares of Lake County, Florida on September 6, 2019, adopted the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year Tentative Millage Rate following a public hearing as required by Florida Statute 200.065.

WHEREAS, the City of Tavares of Lake County, Florida, following due public notice as required by law, held a second public hearing on September 18, 2019, as required by Florida Statute 200.065 on the 2019-2020 Millage Rate; and

WHEREAS, the gross taxable value for operating purposes not

exempt from taxation within Lake County has been certified by the County Property Appraiser to the City of Tavares as \$978,291,217.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City of Tavares of Lake County, Florida, that:

1. The City of Tavares Fiscal Year 2019-2020 operating millage rate to be levied is hereby set at 6.9500 mills, which millage rate is greater than the rolled back rate of 6.7733 by 2.61%.
2. The voted debt service millage rate is set at .2932 mills for Fiscal Year 2019-2020.
3. This Resolution will take effect immediately upon its adoption.

RESOLUTION 2019-08

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF TAVARES, FLORIDA, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2019 - 2020.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAVARES, FLORIDA:

WHEREAS, a public hearing on the tentative 2019-2020 budget was held at the Tavares City Hall Council Chambers in the City of Tavares, Florida, Lake County, Florida on Friday, September 6th, 2019 at 5:05 p.m., as required by Florida Statutes 200.065; and

WHEREAS, the general public was given an opportunity to express its views pertaining to the tentative budget, and

WHEREAS, the City Council approved the tentative budget for 2019-2020, and

WHEREAS, a second public hearing on the proposed 2019-2020 budget was held in the Council Chambers at the Tavares City Hall, 201 East Main Street in the City of Tavares, Florida, on Wednesday, September 18, 2019, at 5:05 p.m.,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Budget for 2019-2020 fiscal year for the City of Tavares, Florida is hereby adopted by the Tavares City Council in the amount of \$73,818,967 at public hearing this 18th day of September, 2019.

This resolution will take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Ms. Houghton made the following presentation:

The City Administrator and his staff have developed a budget for Fiscal Year 2020 for Council's consideration totaling \$73,818,967 that is fully balanced, and includes a fully balanced General Fund Budget of \$19,169,250. The Budget includes, among many other items, the following:

- 1. Similar Level of Service*
- 2. General Fund millage rate decrease (from 7.1119 to 6.950).*
- 3. Debt Service millage rate decrease (from .3052 to .2932).*
- 4. Increased reserve appropriations by \$42,832*
- 5. Fire Assessment level funded (no rate increase)*
- 6. Employee raises of 3.75%*
- 7. Healthcare increased cost of 3% for the Employer and the Employee*
- 8. Two new positions that are primarily funded by Enterprise Fund transfers:*
 - 1. Staff Accountant / Billing Analyst (FT)*
 - 2. Warehouse / Customer Service Assistant (PT)*
- 9. Increasing street paving budget from \$172,000 (plus grants) to \$225,000 (plus grants)*
- 10. Library expansion*
- 11. History Museum preliminary design services for grant application.*
- 12. Senior Center preliminary design service for grant application*
- 13. A new Public Works Facility*
- 14. Rebuilding the Seaplane Base and Marina*
- 15. Three new Police cars*
- 16. A new Beats On the Bricks Event*
- 17. Cemetery Improvements/Restrooms*
- 18. Rebuilding Wooton Wonderland Children's Playground*
- 19. Expanded Christmas lighting program*
- 20. Expanded 4th of July Fireworks program*

Previously the City Council discussed the proposed Fiscal Year 2020 Budget at the following public meetings:

- July 3rd – City Council Budget Workshop – (General Fund Presentation)*
- July 17th – City Council Budget Workshop – (Enterprise and Special Revenue Funds Presentation)*
- July 24th – City Council Budget Workshop – (Set Maximum Tentative Millage Rate)*
- August 7th – City Council Budget Workshop – (Capital Improvement Plan Presentation)*
- August 21st – City Council Budget Workshop*
- September 6th - First Public Hearing to Approve Tentative Millage Rate*

A Final Budget (all funds) has been prepared for the City Council based on discussions at the previous City Council Budget Workshops, and all subsequent changes have been included.

Approval of Resolution 2019-07 will set the Final Millage Rate for the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget.

Mr. Drury noted two audience members completed Request to Speak forms and said after the floor will be opened to the general public.

Darwin Bayston, 331 Shorewood Drive, thanked Mr. Drury, Ms. Houghton and Brett Jones, Budget Analyst for meeting with him and said they spent a substantial amount of their day accommodating his questions. He said he hopes everyone can come away with some general understanding of what is trying to be done for the city by the Council and management team that makes Tavares a great place to live. He said his comments are not meant to be critical or personal. He said the budget reflects an aggressive program and a plan that was developed several years ago for the downtown. He said residents experience a different picture outside of the downtown area. He said the road paving division is small and recommended the city conduct citizen surveys.

Vice Mayor Pfister left the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

Vance Jochim, 12619 Milwaukee Avenue, said the city has discussed increasing water and wastewater rates as well as making money operationally on the Pavilion but failed to include the allocation for debt for building the facility. He discussed Groveland and Lake County outsourcing services. He said the city approves high density development in areas that are unincorporated and does not listen to the surrounding county residents. He said the Lake County Property Appraiser reflects Tavares evaluations increasing 10.15% and said the homeowners will incur a tax increase because of the evaluation increase.

Mayor Singer asked for anyone in the audience who wishes to speak to step up to the podium.

Ralph Smith, 111 Lakeview Lane, said he has been a business owner in Tavares for 33 years. He said Mr. Drury is honest and transparent and the Tavares budget is better than some in the area. He noted a cut list and said there are plans for a \$520,000 improvement to concessions and a restroom at Woodlea Field and felt that was high.

Gary Santoro, Royal Harbor, commended the Council and staff and said job well done.

MOTION

Roy Singer moved to approve Resolution 2019-07 setting the final Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2019-20, seconded by Amanda Boggus.

Mayor Singer thanked staff for a wonderful job. He said the Council asked for a lower millage rate and it was accomplished.

The motion carried unanimously 3-0 at 5:33 p.m., with Lori Pfister absent.

Tab 11. Public Hearing to Adopt Resolution 2019-08 Final Budget – FY 2019-2020

Mr. Drury said there are two audience members who filled out Request to Speak forms. Vance Jochim passed.

Mayor Singer asked if any other audience members would like to speak. There were none.

Mayor Singer inquired about the extra monies from the Police Resource Officer savings. Council Member Boggus and Mayor Singer said they would like to place the monies in reserves.

Mayor Singer advised Ms. Houghton to place the \$18,152 savings from the Police Resource Officer into reserves. Ms. Houghton confirmed and said the total reserve appropriations to the General Fund for the year would be \$69,994.

MOTION

Amanda Boggus moved to adopt Resolution 2019-08, final budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 with the changes discussed, seconded by Roy Stevenson. The motion carried unanimously 3-0 at 5:36 p.m. with Lori Pfister absent.

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business and Mayor Singer adjourned the meeting at 5:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Susie Novack, MMC/FCRM
City Clerk