



# City of Palm Coast Minutes CITY COUNCIL BUDGET HEARING

City Hall  
160 Lake Avenue  
Palm Coast, FL 32164  
[www.palmcoastgov.com](http://www.palmcoastgov.com)

**Mayor David Alfin**  
**Vice Mayor Ed Danko**  
**Council Member Cathy Heigher**  
**Council Member Nick Klufas**  
**Council Member Theresa Pontieri**

---

**Wednesday, September 20, 2023**

**5:15 PM**

**CITY HALL**

---

**City Staff**

**Denise Bevan, City Manager**

**Neysa Borkert, City Attorney**

**Kaley Cook, City Clerk**

- Public Participation shall be in accordance with Section 286.0114 Florida Statutes.
- Other matters of concern may be discussed as determined by City Council.
- If you wish to obtain more information regarding the City Council's agenda, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 386-986-3713.
- In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 286.26, Florida Statutes, persons needing a reasonable accommodation to participate in any of these proceedings or meeting should contact the City Clerk at 386-986-3713, at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.
- City Council Meetings are streamed live on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/user/PalmCoastGovTV/live>.
- It is proper meeting etiquette to silence all electronic devices, including cell phones while meeting is in session.
- Any person who decides to appeal any decision of the City Council with respect to any matter considered at this meeting will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose, may need to hire a court reporter to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

*Mayor Alfin called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.*

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG AND A MOMENT OF SILENCE**

**C. ROLL CALL**

*City Clerk Kaley Cook called the roll. All members were present.*

**D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Public Participation shall be held in accordance with Section 286.0114 Florida Statutes. And pursuant to the City Council's Meeting Policies and Procedures:

- (1) Each speaker shall at the podium, provide their name and may speak for up to 3 minutes.

(2) The Public may provide comments to the City Council relative to matters not on the agenda at the times indicated in this Agenda. Following any comments from the public, there may be discussion by the City Council.

(3) When addressing the City Council on specific, enumerated Agenda items, speakers shall:

(a) direct all comments to the Mayor;

(b) make their comments concise and to the point;

(c) not speak more than once on the same subject;

(d) not, by speech or otherwise, delay or interrupt the proceedings or the peace of the City Council;

(e) obey the orders of the Mayor or the City Council; and

(f) not make any irrelevant, impertinent or slanderous comments while addressing the City Council; which pursuant to Council rules, shall be considered disorderly.

(4) Any person who becomes disorderly or who fails to confine his or her comments to the identified subject or business, shall be cautioned by the Mayor and thereafter must conclude his or her remarks on the subject within the remaining designated time limit.

Any speaker failing to comply, as cautioned, shall be barred from making any additional comments during the meeting and may be removed, as necessary, for the remainder of the meeting.

Members of the public may make comments during the public comment portion of the meeting. Please be advised that public comment will only be permitted during the public comment portions of the agenda at the times indicated by the Chair during the meeting.

*Al Hurley shared about trouble hearing the Council meetings online and also shared concerns about tennis courts and lots of large trucks on road.*

*Vice Mayor Danko shared that he has also heard complaints regarding hearing the meeting.*

## **E. PRESENTATIONS**

### **1 PRESENTATION - FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 BUDGET**

*Helena Alves, Director of Financial Services, and Gwen Ragsdale, Budget & Procurement Manager, presented the topic to Council. Topics presented included: budget presentation timeline, Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Summary, 5 Year Capital Improvement Plan, Millage Rate Options, Next Steps, and where residents can find additional budget information.*

*Mayor Alfin asked if there is a deadline for the usage of the ARPA Funds.*

*Ms. Alves responded yes and explained that contracts have to be in place by December 31, 2024, and funds have to be expended by December 31, 2026.*

*Vice Mayor Danko asked about a Stormwater Permit for the Old Kings Road project.*

*Mr. Cote provided a response.*

*Ms. Alves explained that this is an opportunity for Council to direct staff to reduce the capital outlay for the specific project discussed on Tuesday and to move those funds to contingency so they can roll into fund balance.*

*Mayor Alfin asked if all Council Members understand the suggestion and if there is a consensus.*

*Vice Mayor Danko asked about the spending of the money and agreement of the committee to do so.*

*Attorney Borkert provided a response that the money has to be spent in accordance with the funding agreement and City Resolution.*

*City Council provided consensus to make the change as described by Ms. Alves.*

*Mayor Alfin shared that the reason that City Council doesn't have any questions is because of the many questions that have been asked over the course of the budget preparation process.*

*Mayor Alfin asked if there has ever been a rollback before.*

*Ms. Alves said that she would need to verify that information.*

*Ms. Bevan explained that it is in the definition of a full rollback versus just a decrease in the millage.*

*City Council held discussion on rollback, full back, and decrease in the millage.*

*Council Member Pontieri spoke about cell coverage and dollars dedicated strictly to emergency communications. Council Member Pontieri asked if we really rely on cell coverage from an agency standpoint when it comes to emergency communications.*

*Chief Berryhill provided a response regarding the communications systems and the automatic vehicle location response utilized by the Palm Coast Fire Department and Flagler County Sheriff's Office.*

*Mayor Alfin asked what happens to the budget after the meeting and when the budget becomes active.*

*Ms. Alves responded that the budget becomes active October 1st.*

*Mayor Alfin asked if the budget gets filed with the State.*

*Ms. Alves provided a response on filing requirements.*

## **RECESS CITY COUNCIL AND CONVENE THE SR 100 CORRIDOR CRA BOARD**

*City Council recessed and convened the SR 100 Corridor Redevelopment Agency at 5:37 p.m.*

**F. SR 100 CORRIDOR CRA RESOLUTIONS**

**2 RESOLUTION 2023-108 ADOPTING THE SR 100 CORRIDOR COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024**

*Attorney Borkert read the title into the record.*

*Mayor Alfin announced that The SR 100 Corridor Community Redevelopment Agency Board hereby proposes to adopt a budget with total appropriated expenditures and reserves of \$2,912,077.*

*Public Comment:  
There were none.*

**Pass**

**Motion made to approve by Vice Mayor Danko and seconded by Council Member Pontieri**

**Approved - 5 - Mayor David Alfin, Vice Mayor Ed Danko, Council Member Nick Klufas, Council Member Theresa Pontieri, Council Member Cathy Heigher**

**ADJOURN THE SR 100 CORRIDOR CRA BOARD AND RECONVENE CITY COUNCIL**

*The SR 100 Corridor Redevelopment Agency adjourned at 5:41 p.m. and City Council reconvened.*

**G. CITY RESOLUTIONS**

**3 RESOLUTION 2023-109 ADOPTING THE MILLAGE RATE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024**

*Attorney Borkert read the title into the record.*

*Mayor Alfin announced that the City of Palm Coast proposes to levy a millage rate of 4.2570 mills. This is an increase of 0% from the rolled-back rate of 4.2570 mills.*

*Public Comment:  
There were none.*

*Mayor Alfin announced that the City of Palm Coast proposes to adopt a millage rate of 4.2570 mills.*

**Pass**

**Motion made to approve by Vice Mayor Danko and seconded by Council Member Pontieri**

**Approved - 5 - Mayor David Alfin, Vice Mayor Ed Danko, Council Member Nick Klufas, Council Member Theresa Pontieri, Council Member Cathy Heigher**

**4 RESOLUTION 2023-110 ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024**

*Attorney Borkert read the title into the record.*

*Mayor Alfin announced that the City of Palm Coast proposes to adopt a budget with total appropriated expenditures and reserves of \$357,748,234.*

*Public comment:  
There were none.*

*Mayor Alfin announced that the City of Palm Coast proposes to adopt a budget of \$357,748,234.*

*Mayor Alfin announced that the City Clerk must forward a copy of the resolution adopting the final millage to the Property Appraiser, the Tax Collector, and the State of Florida Department of Revenue within 3 days.*

**Pass**

**Motion made to approve by Vice Mayor Danko and seconded by Council Member Pontieri**

**Approved - 5 - Mayor David Alfin, Vice Mayor Ed Danko, Council Member Nick Klufas, Council Member Theresa Pontieri, Council Member Cathy Heigher**

**5 RESOLUTION 2023-111 APPROVING THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 FLEET REPLACEMENT/PURCHASE PROGRAM AND ASSOCIATED PURCHASE ORDERS FOR FLEET VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT AS APPROVED IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET**

**R20230111**

*Attorney Borkert read the title into the record.*

*Matt Mancill, Director of Public Works, provided an overview of the item.*

*Public Comment:  
There were none.*

**Pass**

**Motion made to approve by Vice Mayor Danko and seconded by Council Member Pontieri**

**Approved - 5 - Mayor David Alfin, Vice Mayor Ed Danko, Council Member Nick Klufas, Council Member Theresa Pontieri, Council Member Cathy Heigher**

*Mayor Alfin spoke about coming to the end of what was a 6-month process.  
Mayor Alfin shared that City Council has worked through the good days, the bad*

*days, and every other day in-between, with great energy and great effort. Mayor Alfin asked City Council to applaud City staff who made it possible for City Council to get through this.*

*Council Member Pontieri thanked Ms. Alves and Ms. Bevan.*

*Council Member Heighter shared a final thank you for everyone who participated in helping City Council get to this point.*

*Council Member Klufas shared a thank you to staff for hard work and continued efforts and thanked Council for the clarity and communication.*

#### **H. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Remainder of Public Comments is limited to three (3) minutes each.

*Gene Dowd thanked all first responders, spoke about the two new members who joined Council, and spoke about discussion of last year's budget hearing. Mr. Dowd shared about a lack of attendance at City meetings. Everyone on this staff deserves a thank you from citizens*

#### **I. DISCUSSION BY CITY COUNCIL OF MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

*Council Member Pontieri congratulated the Palm Coast Fire Department on winning the fire truck pull at the prior evening's Food Truck Tuesday event. Council Member Pontieri thanked staff for a wonderful event and thanked Advent Health for continuing to raise awareness for breast cancer.*

#### **J. DISCUSSION BY CITY ATTORNEY OF MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

*There were no comments.*

#### **K. DISCUSSION BY CITY MANAGER OF MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

*City Manager Bevan thanked City Council for the kind words for staff and for making this a successful budget preparation and adoption.*

#### **L. ADJOURNMENT**

*The meeting was adjourned at 5:53 p.m.*

*Respectfully submitted by: Kaley Cook, CMC, FCRM  
City Clerk*