



FORT MYERS BEACH TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBERS
2523 ESTERO BOULEVARD
FORT MYERS BEACH, FLORIDA 33931

**MANAGEMENT & PLANNING
WORK SESSION**

MINUTES

Monday June 20, 2011

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kiker called the Management and Planning Work session to order at 9:02 AM. Present along with Mayor Kiker was Vice Mayor Raymond, Council Members Kosinski, List and Mandel, Town Manager Stewart, Town Clerk Mayher and Director of Finance Wicks.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. 2012 BUDGET PROCESS

Town Manager Stewart presented the proposed FY 2012 budget; there's a \$750,000 gap between expected revenues and what the budget shows. Recommend a tax day again, and earlier to get a formula to calculate taxes, depending on property taxes and valuation. May consider a public services tax on all utilities – not communications as that is handled by the State – gas, water & electric are possible; recommending taxing only electric. If the Town acted now, December or January would be the earliest to take effect. Does Council want to hear a presentation regarding a public service tax? Yes.

Finance Director Wicks – General fund expenditures are greater than \$6 million. Intend to hire an investment counselor. Revenues are flat. The Council will set a tax rate for the TRIM notice tonight; can lower but cannot raise once set. One new full time employee in Community Development related to short term rental program. In setting the levy, 10% above the roll-back rate requires a unanimous vote. Proposed reorganizations in Parks & Recreation, Community Pool, Cultural Resources and Newton Park. Questioned what millage would it take to cover the gap, Ms. Wicks responded 1.2747. Staff recommends setting the levy at 1.1 and

through the process the budget would be balanced with a combination of increased taxes and services fees, anticipated revenues and cuts.

Council discussed the Historic Preservation Board and the Vista program, how to actively collect and capture island history, and suggested allocating \$40-\$50,000.

In other matters, Council Member Kosinski mentioned an upcoming event he is working on through the American Legion for the WWII veterans. The event is scheduled for the weekend of August 14 and will be a coast to coast event with color guard, 21 gun salute, taps and dinner. Mr. Russell Grasso is a local WWII vet who was awarded the bronze star, is 91 years old and never received it. Senator Nelson's office is assisting in this. The vets clubs would like to work with the Town on this ceremony and request the Town provide vans for transportation.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

10:45 AM

Adopted _____ With/Without changes. Motion by _____

Vote: _____

Michelle D. Mayher, Town Clerk

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