

**TOWN OF MELBOURNE VILLAGE
SPECIAL COMMISSION/BUDGET HEARING
MINUTES**

**Thursday, September 16, 2021
6:30 PM – Town Hall/Zoom**

I. Call to Order at 6:30 pm by Mayor Niemann

II. Pledge of Allegiance Led by Mayor Niemann

III. Roll Call

Present were Mayor Niemann, Vice Mayor Calenda; Commr's Jones, Murphy, McCharles (online), Anderson, Ingram, Town Clerk Collen, Attorney Richardson, and Heather Roberts (Online).

IV. Final Millage and Budget for 2022

Prior to Hearing Richard Jones stated he was concerned that the procedure for adoption of the millage and budget was not correct via Charter and adopted only via ordinance. Attorney Richardson responded and cited various Florida law to show that the Towns Charter was the actual document in confliction with state law and the Town can adopt via the resolution. Mr. Jones retracted his concern. **Commissioner Murphy motioned** for Attorney Richardson to ratify the Resolution through an additional ordinance. **Commissioner Jones 2nd**. After discussion Mayor Niemann; Commr's Anderson, Jones, Ingram, McCharles, and Murphy voted yes, and Vice Mayor Calenda voted no. The **motion carried**.

IVA. Public Comment

*Opportunity was given to both in person individuals and online individuals.

* Suzan Bryant: Produced a document based off her current tax bill and was concerned that her tax bill had increased by \$390.45 a year of which \$215.52 will go to the Town. After discussion it was determined that some homes based off valuation would be more while others would be less.

*Richard Jones: Advised the math that was provided to average valuation of homes was not correct. Mayor Niemann stated she will send him her excel sheets of the sample homes she had calculated. Mr. Jones further advised he was concerned that he Storm water budget was in-accurate. Mayor Niemann advised the storm water was looked

at by the auditor, accountant and finance chair and determined to be the number presented.

*Sue Ditty (Online): Advised the Commission her tax bill increased \$24.32 a year with \$15.72 going to the Town.

IVB. The Town Clerk read out loud the current millage rate for the Fiscal Year as 9.8103 mills, which is greater than the rolled-back rate of 9.3214 mills by 5.24%. Mayor Niemann advised the reason for the increase was to build reserves as recommend by the Finance Committee.

IVB1. Adoption of Millage

Motion by Vice Mayor Calenda to adopt the current millage rate for 2022 as 9.8103 which was 5.24% over the rollback rate as presented in Resolution 2021-02. **Commr. Anderson 2nd the motion. The motion passed unanimously** by all commissioners voting yes.

IVB2. Adoption of Budget

*Commr. Jones encouraged all Town Department heads to make it a goal to keep looking after their respective budgets. After discussion it was determined to move some money to the Towns website to better promote the Town and make the material ADA compliant. There was also a discussion for employee raises and four employees were given pay rate adjustments and others will receive a 2% raise as noted in the budget.

*Commr. Anderson admonished the need to show appreciation and further value toward employees given the current inflation rates and was regretful the Town could not pay more at this moment.

*Commr. Jones asked the Town Clerk to prepare multiple percent rates to be considered by November's meeting.

*Attorney Richardson will create an ordinance out of the Towns abundance of caution to solidify the Towns resolutions of budget.

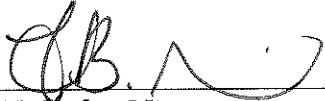
Motion by Vice Mayor Calenda to accept the current budget as presented in Resolution 2021-03. **Commr. Anderson 2nd the motion. The motion passed unanimously** by all commissioners voting yes.

V. Adjournment by Mayor Niemann at 8:23 pm

Next Meeting will be a Regular Commission on September 28, 2021

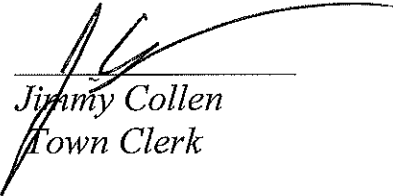
Please note: *Minutes are not a verbatim transcript and those wishing to have a transcript may request a copy of the recorded discussion.*

If an individual decides to appeal any decision made by the Town Commission with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, a record and transcript of the proceedings will be required and the individual will need to ensure that a verbatim record and transcript of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based and will be acceptable in a court of law (FS286.0105). Such person must provide a method for recording and transcribing the proceedings verbatim as the Town does not provide such a record or transcript. In accordance with the Americans Disabilities Act and Section 286.26, Florida Statutes, persons needing special accommodations for this meeting shall, within a reasonable time prior to the meeting contact the Office of the Town Clerk (321) 723-8300.



Tabitha Niemann
Mayor

ATTEST:



Jimmy Collen
Town Clerk