

**SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
September 17, 2008**

The City of Bradenton City Council met in special session in the City Hall Council Chamber, 101 Old Main Street, Bradenton, Florida on September 17, 2008 at 5:01 p.m.

Present: Mayor Wayne Poston; Vice Mayor and Councilman Ward I Gene Gallo; Councilwoman Ward II Marianne Barnebey; Councilman Ward III Patrick Roff; Councilman Ward IV Bemis Smith and Councilman Ward V Harold E. Byrd, Jr.

City Officials: Carl Callahan, City Clerk and Treasurer; Claude Tankersley, Public Works Director; William Lisch, City Attorney; Mark Souders, Fire Chief; Michael Radzilowski, Police Chief; Tim Polk, Department of Planning and Community Development Director; Staci Cross, Information Technology Director, and Carolyn Moore, Human Resources Director.

Press: The Herald.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Poston.

Mr. Callahan administered the oath to any individuals who wished to speak on any non-agenda items and during the public hearings.

RESOLUTION NO. 08-58**PUBLIC HEARING**

A RESOLUTION LEVYING TAXES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2008 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2009, AND PROVIDING FOR THE DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS ARISING FROM SAID LEVY; ALSO THE DISBURSEMENTS OF CERTAIN OTHER FUNDS.

RESOLUTION NO. 08-59**PUBLIC HEARING**

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE BUDGET AND SETTING REVENUES AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CITY OF BRADENTON, FLORIDA FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2008 - 2009, PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Callahan read the resolution that stated the millage rate was calculated at \$4.2843 mills with the rolled-back millage rate of 4.6380 reduced by 7.63%.

Anyone wishing to speak in favor or opposition please come forward, no one came forward, the public hearing was closed.

Carl Callahan gave a brief overview of what had to be done to make this budget balance and stated that currently with the Levying of Taxes there was a \$1.4 million deficit. He stated that there may be a need for the city at sometime to rely on the city's reserves. He stated the state was continuously sending lower revised revenue numbers and that there may be a time that the city would have to rely on past revenues or carry forward dollars.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 08-58 ~ Millage Rate was made by Vice Mayor and Councilman Gallo, seconded by Councilman Smith and carried 4-1 to approve with Councilwoman Barnebey in opposition.

Councilwoman Barnebey stated she would be voting against this budget as she had requested a take home vehicle policy but never received one. She stated that, to her knowledge, a policy had never been presented to this council throughout the last eight years that she has been a councilwoman.

Councilwoman Barnebey stated it was council's responsibility to put a policy into effect. She stated that there is a need for a plan to address situations when vehicles need to be replaced.

Councilman Byrd questioned whether or not there had been a take home policy in place.

Chief Radzilowski stated that there had been 3 or 4 recommended policies and they were trying to determine which policy would be the best policy to reimburse the city to take home a car.

Mr. Callahan stated that the budget reflected a reimbursement of \$50.00 a month from officers who lived outside the city limits. Officers who lived outside Manatee County would not be eligible to take vehicles home. He stated there would be no reimbursement requirement of officers who lived within the city limits.

Mr. Callahan stated that he would work out an overall plan for all of the city's fleet.

Councilwoman Barnebey asked Mr. Callahan for a monthly report on each department's budget.

Mr. Callahan stated he would furnish the reports at the Council/Department Heads workshops throughout the year.

Councilman Smith stated that as a businessman, he looked at take home vehicles as a benefit to the employees, like other benefits that were provided. He stated he would support this budget and asked that the issue of take home vehicles be revisited as a complete benefit package for next year's budget.

Councilman Roff stated he would support the resolutions and used Bradenton Police Officer Affolter as an example of someone who worked at night and sometimes had to report to court during the day to testify in criminal cases. He stated that Officer Affolter was at a break even point and would have to choose whether or not it would be beneficial for him to pay for the use of a police vehicle versus using his personal car and being reimbursed at the current mileage rate.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 08-59 ~ Budget was made by Vice Mayor and Councilman Gallo, seconded by Councilman Roff and carried 3-2 with Councilwoman Barnebey and Councilman Byrd in opposition.

General discussion: To look closely at the revenues and to determine services that the citizens expected at a reasonable cost and to what the taxpayers would be willing to pay for those services.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Poston adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

NOTE: This is not a verbatim record. An audio CD or DVD recording of the meeting is available for a fee upon request.