

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 – 2025
BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE; ORDINANCE 611: AD VALOREM
TAX; ORDINANCE 612: 2024 - 2025 BUDGET FOR FY 2024 – 2025;
RESOLUTION 2024-06, 2024 – 2025 WATER AND SEWER UTILITY RATES;
RESOLUTION 2024-07, 2024 – 2025 PAY SCALE WITH THE BOARD OF CITY
COMMISSIONERS FOR THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA, HELD IN THE
WARD RIDGE BUILDING, September 17, 2024, at
5:01 P.M.**

The following were present: Mayor Buzzett, Commissioners Hoffman and Langston. City Manager Jim Anderson, City Clerk Charlotte Pierce, Finance Director Mike Lacour, Police Chief Jake Richards, and City Attorney Clinton McCahill, were also present. Commissioners Kerigan and Lowry were absent.

The purpose of the Special Meeting was Ordinance 611 – 2024 / 2025 Ad Valorem Tax Millage Rate First Public Hearing; Ordinance 612 – 2024 / 2025 Budget Public Hearing; Resolution 2024-06, 2024-2025 Water and Sewer Utility Rates; Resolution 2024-07, 2024-2025 Pay Scale.

City Attorney –

Ordinance 611 Ad Valorem Property Taxes 2024 – 2025, Public Hearing, Second Reading and Adoption

Mayor Buzzett asked for Public Input, but there was none as no one from the public attended the Meeting.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Hoffman, second by Commissioner Langston, to have the Second Reading and Adoption of Ordinance 611. All in favor; Motion carried 3-0.

Attorney McCahill read Ordinance 611 in its entirety.

The Ad Valorem Property Tax Millage Rate for Municipal Purposes to be levied on the taxable property within the City limits of the City of Port St. Joe during the Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2024, and ending September 30, 2025, is set at the rate of 3.5914 mills. The percentage by which this millage rate to be levied is more than the rolled-back rate of 3.2975 mills (computed pursuant to Florida law) is 8.91%.

Ordinance 612 Budget 2024 – 2025, Public Hearing, Second Reading and Adoption:

Mayor Buzzett asked for Public Input, but there was none as no one from the public attended the Meeting.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Langston, second by Commissioner Hofman, to have the Second Reading and Final Adoption of Ordinance 612. All in favor; Motion carried 3-0.

Attorney McCahill read Ordinance 612 by Title only.

Resolution 2024-06, 2024 – 2025 Water and Sewer Utility Rates

A Motion was made by Commissioner Hoffman, second by Commissioner Langston, to have a Moratorium on Water and Sewer Rates increase for FY 2024 – 2025. All in favor; Motion carried 3-0.

Resolution 2024-07, 2024 – 2025 Pay Scale

A Motion was made by Commissioner Hoffman, second by Commissioner Langston, to adopt the Pay Scale for FY 2024 – 2025. All in favor; Motion carried 3-0.

Citizens to be Heard

There was no public attendance at the meeting.

Discussion items by Commissioners

Mayor Buzzett shared that he had received several phone calls asking why the City did not use the roll back rate for taxes this year. He explained to the callers that the funds are being used for improvement within the City.

Commissioner Hoffman noted that he had spoken with County Administrator Michael Hammond and Assistant County Administrator, Clay Smallwood, III, and was told that the County has budgeted \$50,000 to be used by the City for a Splash Pad and \$75,000 to be used for bathrooms at Core Park. The County is asking that the City match their funds and get started on the projects. Commissioner Hoffman requested that these items be placed on the next Agenda.


He also shared that the County has purchased the property back from Willie Ramsey on Marvin Avenue and it could possibly be used for additional parking in the baseball park area.

There were no other issues to be addressed by the Commissioners.

Motion to Adjourn

Mayor Buzzett adjourned the meeting at 5:20 P.M.


Approved this 1st day of October 2024.



Rex Buzzett, Mayor

10/1/24

Date



Charlotte M. Pierce, City Clerk

10/1/24

Date