



**BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING
AUGUST 22, 2000 AT 7:00 P.M.
CITY HALL, 116 FIRST STREET,
NEPTUNE BEACH, FLORIDA**

Pursuant to proper notice a Budget Workshop Meeting of the City Council of the City of Neptune Beach was held August 22, 2000, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 116 First Street, Neptune Beach, Florida.

Attendance: The following Council members and staff were in attendance:

Mayor George F. Vaughn, Jr.	City Clerk Lisa Volpe, CMC
Councilor Robert D. Shimp	Deputy City Clerk Karla Strait
Councilor Thomas A. Tankersley	Director of Finance John Herbst
Vice Mayor Jones (arrived 7:04)	Director of Public Works John Galen
Councilor Patronik (arrived 7:04)	Director of Public Safety William Brandt
City Manager Richard A. Linn	Building Official Dan Arlington

Absent:
City Attorney Christopher A. White

Call to Order/Roll Call The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Mayor Vaughn asked that the record show that Vice Mayor Jones and Councilor Patronik were not present.

Councilor Patronik was late because he was speaking with Public Works Director John Galen in the hallway.

City Manager Linn reported that staff had developed a revised budget in line with council directive to present a financial plan that used the roll back millage rate for ad valorem taxes and not using any reserves to balance the budget. Mr. Linn added that there were many cuts and that he did not feel comfortable with the revised budget.

City Manager Linn explained the major reductions in these line items:

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| Revenue | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Ad Valorem Taxes from (1,147,450) to (895,626) a reduction of 251,824.01.Personal Property Taxes from (43,690) to (34,102) a reduction of 9,588.Appropriated Fund Balance from (200,000.) to 0 a reduction of 200,000.Total reduction in revenue of 460,912. |
| Mayor & Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Travel and Per Diem from 5,500 to 750 a reduction of 4,750.Books, Subscriptions & Membership from 1,000 to 0.Total reduction in Mayor & Council Budget of 6,497. |
| City Manager's Office | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Other Contractual Service from 5,000 to 1,000 reduction of 4,000. |

- Travel & Per Diem from 2,500 to 500 a reduction 2,000.
 - Printing and Binding from 1,100 to 0 a reduction of 1,100.
 - Total reduction in City Manager's Office of 12,893.

- Finance Department
 - Repair and Maintenance from 4,500 to 3,500 a reduction of 1,000.
 - Printing and Binding from 2,000 to 1,000 a reduction of 1,000.
 - Total reduction in Finance Department 10,097.99.

- City Attorney
 - Professional Services from 25,000 to 15,000 a reduction of 10,000.
 - Operating Expenses from 1,500 to 500 a reduction of 1,000.
 - Travel and Per Diem from 2,000 to 1,500 a reduction of 500.
 - Total reduction in City Attorney Budge of 11,750.

- Community Development / Building Department
 - Building Regular Salaries from 96,418 to 75,683 a reduction of 20,735.
 - Professional Services from 25,000 to 3,000 a reduction of 22,000.
 - Other Contractual Services from 14,000 to 2,000 a reduction of 12,000.
 - Machinery & Equipment from 25,000 to 0 a reduction of 25,000.
 - Total reduction in Community Development / Building Department of 89,547.

- City Clerk's Office
 - Election Expenses from 6,500 to 4,000 a reduction of 2,500.
 - Total reduction in City Clerks Office 18,080.99.

- Non-Departmental
 - Other Contractual Services from 19,000 to 10,000 a reduction of 9,000.
 - Printing and Binding from 3,000 to 0 a reduction of 3,000.
 - Contingencies & Emergency from 20,000 to 8,000 a reduction of 12,000.
 - Total reduction in Non-Departmental 34,5000.

- Police Department
 - Police Regular Salaries from 950,800 to 914,306 a reduction of 36,494.
 - Life and Health Insurance from 63,522 to 48,700 a reduction of 14,822.
 - Building Improvements from 12,000 to 0 a reduction of 12,000.
 - Educational Courses from 6,000 to 1,500 a reduction of 4,500.
 - Total reduction in Police Department 88,109.99.

- Fire Department
 - No changes were made to the Fire Department.

- Animal Control
 - Animal Control Regular Salaries from 44,800 to 40,824 a reduction of 3,976.
 - Total reduction in Animal Control of 2,688.

- Street Department
 - Machinery and Equipment from 128,221 to 115,285 a reduction of 12,936.
 - Total reduction in Street Department of 130,309.

- Parks Department
 - Other Contractual Services from 10,000 to 4,500 a reduction of 5,500.
 - Repair & Maintenance from 10,000 to 7,500 a reduction of 2,500.
 - Machinery & Equipment from 15,219 to 0 a reduction of 15,219.
 - Total reduction in Parks Department of 29,614.

- Lifeguards/Beach Clean Up
 - Department went from a total of 168,825.01 to 142,000 a reduction of 26,825.01. To provide only the services at the level that Jacksonville reimburses the city.

City Manager Linn completed his report by stating that he had 37 years experience in government and this was the first time he had presented a budget that he did not feel was realistic.

Mayor Vaughn addressed the Council from the podium and stated that he was ashamed of what he had allowed to happen without voicing a greater opposition. Mayor Vaughn explained that the budget would only have increased \$111,000 had they not done anything. Mayor Vaughn went on to say that the actual fiscal year 2000 budget was 2,774,579 and that they had demanded that the City Manager create a budget of 2,796,010 a 14.2% decrease in his proposed budget. Mayor Vaughn disagreed with the actual proposed increase over the fiscal year 2000 budget of 482,343 or 17.4%. Mayor Vaughn felt that the city could not operate on the proposed fiscal year 2001 expenditures without cutting services. Mayor Vaughn congratulated Mr. Linn for doing the painstaking job of reducing the budget that he was instructed to do.

- For the Record Mayor Vaughn stated for the record that he was ashamed of his vote to roll the taxes back for the twelfth year in a row. He did not want to be a part of the further degradation of the budget process at this meeting. He dismissed himself at 7:50 p.m. and turned the gavel over to Vice Mayor Jones.
- Discussion Discussion ensued concerning: 1) educational courses, 2) having quarterly or biannual budget meetings, 3) pulling money out of reserves and, 4) quality of services.
- Major Concerns City Manager Linn stated that he was concerned about delays in services due to having to ask council for emergency funds for purchases that were outside the budget. Mr. Linn added that any emergency funds would have to be granted by ordinance that would require a first and second read causing at least a two-month delay in emergency purchases.
- Better Jacksonville Plan City Manager Linn stated that he anticipated extra revenue of 183,000 for the first year if the Better Jacksonville Plan was voted in favor of. Mr. Linn explained that the money could only be used for capital purchases and infrastructure.
- Discussion Council discussed the possibility of using the Reserve Fund Balance for emergency contingencies.
- Consensus: **TO USE \$275,000 FROM THE RESERVE FUND BALANCE ALLOWING THE CITY MANAGER TO PLUG \$125,000 BACK INTO THE BUDGET WHERE HE SAW FIT AND THE OTHER \$150,000 TO BE USED FOR EMERGENCIES BY RESOLUTION WITH COUNCIL APPROVAL.**
- Next Budget Meeting City Manager Linn suggested that Finance Director John Herbst send out the revised budget for council to review before the next meeting.
- Adjournment There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

George F. Vaughn, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Lisa Volpe, CMC, City Clerk

Approved: _____