



**BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING**  
**JULY 30, 2001, AT 6:00 P.M.**  
**CITY HALL, 116 FIRST STREET,**  
**NEPTUNE BEACH, FLORIDA**

---

Pursuant to proper notice a Preliminary Budget Workshop Meeting of the City Council of the City of Neptune Beach was held July 30, 2001 at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 116 First Street, Neptune Beach, Florida.

Attendance:

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mayor Richard A. Brown  
Vice Mayor Robert D. Shimp  
Councilor J. W. "Buddy" Crout  
Councilor Ronald D. Patronik  
Councilor Harriet M. Pruette  
City Manager Richard A. Linn  
City Clerk Lisa Volpe

Director of Finance Steve Ramsey  
Director of Public Works John Galen  
Building Official Dan Arlington  
Deputy City Clerk Karla Strait  
Assistant to the City Manager Terry Klein

ABSENT:

City Attorney Christopher A. White

Call to Order/Roll Call

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Adjustments

ADJUSTMENTS: The adjustments since the last budget meeting was the elimination of the mincey muck tractor from the Local Option Gas Tax and a pick up truck from the Street Department.

Projected Final

PROJECTED YEAR END FINAL: The 2000-2001 budget was adopted with the anticipation of the need for using \$275,000 in reserves. The projected 2000-2001 year-end final was a revenue surplus of \$81,909 without having used any of the reserved \$275, 000.

Assessed Value

The estimated assessed property value for year 2001-2002 was \$395,844,534.

**DISCUSSION**

City Manager Linn responded "no" to the question of whether the City of Jacksonville charged a fee to collect taxes stating it was a county service.

Councilor Crout stated the millage rate should support the expenses of the approved budget without reserve funds.

Vice Mayor Shimp felt that according to the projected 2001-2002 budget the millage rate did not need to be raised.

City Manager Linn explained the projected surplus of \$81,909 was the difference between the liabilities and revenues up to September 30, 2001.

City Manager Linn stated that the telecommunications tax and garbage franchise fees would generate more income this year.

City Manager Linn reported the city had rolled back the millage rate for the last 11 years and the cost of gas, staff, etc. was going up.

Vice Mayor Shimp stated that the water & sewer rates had increased and there would also be a storm water utility tax coming up this year. Shimp encouraged rolling back the millage rate, adding that the city was operating efficiently.

Mayor Brown reminded council that the purpose of the meeting was to set a preliminary rate in order to meet the state deadline and added that it could be decreased but not increased. City Manager Linn stated it was what the tax collector needed to notify the taxpayers of the estimated tax liabilities prior to the adoption of the budget.

Mayor Brown urged council to follow the staff recommendation and set the "not to exceed millage rate" at last years level. Mayor Brown was concerned that too many years of rolling back the rate would create false expectations and a bigger increase would be required in the future. He added that we were not doing anyone a favor by having the highest fees and reducing the millage rates and that property taxes were deductible.

Councilor Crout stated that the year was not over until October 1, 2001 and there may not be a surplus of \$81,909.

City Manager Linn recommended not setting the rate any lower than was currently.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard A. Brown, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa Volpe, CMC, City Clerk

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_