

**CITY OF TAVARES  
MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 3, 2015  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
4:00 p.m.**

**COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT**

**ABSENT**

Kirby Smith, Mayor  
Bob Grenier, Vice Mayor  
Lori Pfister, Councilmember  
Lisa Johnson, Councilmember  
Robert Speaks, Councilmember

**STAFF PRESENT**

John Drury, City Administrator  
Robert Q. Williams, City Attorney  
Susie Novack, Deputy City Clerk  
Bob Tweedie, Economic Development Director  
Brad Hayes, Utility Director  
Lori Houghton, Finance Director  
Lori Tucker, Human Resources Director  
Chris Thompson, Public Works Director  
Tammey Rogers, Community Services Director  
Richard Keith, Fire Department  
Jacques Skutt, Director of Community Development  
Stoney Lubins, Police Chief

**I. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Rick Fountain, Pastor, First Baptist Church of Tavares, gave the invocation and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**II. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. He noted the first of two public hearings would be held at 5:05 p.m. for the Tentative Millage Rate for FY 2015-2016 (Resolution 2015-11) and the Tentative Budget for FY 2015-2016 (Resolution 2015-12). He said the public would be able to speak on those two items at that time.

Mayor Smith advised that there were hearing devices available by the front door. He asked for those who wished to speak on a specific item in the agenda to please fill out the Request to Speak forms and turn into the Police Chief or Deputy City Clerk. He asked that cell phones be muted or turned off.

**III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

1  
2 Mayor Smith asked if there were changes to the agenda, there were none.

3  
4 **MOTION**

5  
6 **Robert Speaks moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Bob Grenier. The motion**  
7 **carried unanimously 5-0.**

8  
9 **IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

10  
11 **MOTION**

12  
13 **Lori Pfister moved for approval of the August 19, 2015 City Council Regular Meeting and**  
14 **Budget Workshop Minutes, seconded by Robert Speaks. The motion carried unanimously**  
15 **5-0.**

16  
17 **V. PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

18  
19 **Tab 2) Presentation on 2040 Transportation Plan by the MPO**

20  
21 TJ Fish, MPO Director, provided a high level overview of the MPO 2040 (long range) Plan which  
22 included an update on the Wekiva Parkway Project scheduled to open in 2019, and the SR19  
23 Widening Project with a design completion in 2016 and widening placed in a 10-15 year range.  
24 He said the Howey Bridge will go under design in 2015 and construction in 2016. When the  
25 SR19 four lane widening occurs in 10-15 years, an additional bridge structure will go in at that  
26 time for the two additional lanes. The project could get bumped up if new funding comes into play.

27  
28 Mr. Fish noted that a study was conducted on Old US 441 approximately 10 years ago to widen  
29 to 3 lanes with a regional trail in the corridor from Tavares to Mount Dora which could ultimately  
30 link Tavares to a 250 mile coast-to-coast trail. He said the county has determined that the road is  
31 in such poor condition from a pavement standpoint that they are going to resurface soon delaying  
32 the 3 lane construction project unless the City pushes for it with the County. Mr. Fish said it is a  
33 possible eco tourism opportunity for north Lake County if we can make those trail connections.

34  
35 Mr. Fish said the MPO is asking each city to look at their 5 year capital programs to help address  
36 sidewalk needs around schools. He discussed LakeXpress route changes and possible future  
37 connectivity enhancements in the Golden Triangle area as well as other regional projects. Mr.  
38 Fish said he is available for questions.

39  
40 Mayor Smith asked for questions from Council.

41  
42 Councilmember Speaks said it would be cost effective and convenient if the state would 4 lane  
43 the Howey Bridge and that the City should encourage the local legislators to see if the project can  
44 be changed.

45

1 Vice Mayor Grenier asked if the bridge replacement included merging. Mr. Fish confirmed. He  
2 said that the bridge right of way will include the 4 lane design and the FDOT is purchasing the  
3 property in front of Royal Harbor which was once considered for commercial development.  
4

5 Mr. Fish said that the Tavares Chamber Board met and is interested in partnering with the City to  
6 find a solution to address the tourism and visitor center needs on the weekends. He said the  
7 board members would be attending the September 16 City Council Meeting.  
8

9 **Tab 3) City Flags**

10  
11 Mr. Drury said the City Council approved the city flag in 2013 with the America's Seaplane City  
12 logo. As staff has moved forward with ordering the city flags, an issue has arisen with the  
13 reproduction. The primary issue is that when words are present on a flag, a double sided flag  
14 with a screen in the middle and three sheets of fabric is required to be sewn together which  
15 affects the cost and flying capability. Flying a flag with no words and only a symbol will result in  
16 using one piece of fabric, which improves the affordability, flying, and is more consistent with  
17 traditional flag design.  
18

19 Mr. Drury provided a Ted Talk video by Roman Mars who is an authority on flags and their  
20 design, and speaks on the topic of city flags in particular including recommendations by the North  
21 American Vexillology Association.  
22

23 Mr. Drury thanked the Mayor and City Council for letting him show the video. He said a city flag  
24 is important and will be around for a hundred years, and that staff would bring back for  
25 consideration in the future.  
26

27 Mayor Smith asked for questions from Council.  
28

29 **VI. SEARING IN BY CITY ATTORNEY AND DISCLOSURE OF EXPARTE CONTACTS**

30  
31 **VII. READING OF ALL ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS – GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

32  
33 Ms. Novack read the following Ordinance at first reading into the record. Mayor Smith noted  
34 there is no discussion at first reading.  
35  
36

37 **ORDINANCE 2015-14**

38  
39 **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY OF TAVARES BY**  
40 **ANNEXING UNDER THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE INTERLOCAL**  
41 **SERVICE BOUNDARY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF TAVARES AND**  
42 **LAKE COUNTY APPROXIMATELY 2.14 ACRES NON-CONTIGUOUS**  
43 **PROPERTIES, CONSISTING OF THREE PARCELS OF LAND GENERALLY**  
44 **LOCATED APROXIMATELY 400 FEET WEST OF THE INTERSECTION OF LANE**  
45 **PARK ROAD AND CAMP ROAD, FROM COUNTY AGRICULTURAL TO CITY C-2**  
46 **(HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL); SUBJECT TO THE RULES, REGULATIONS AND**



1 OBLIGATIONS ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF TAVARES COUNCIL;  
2 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

3  
4 ORDINANCE 2015-19

5  
6 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TAVARES, FLORIDA, REZONING  
7 APPROXIMATELY 2.28 ACRES OF PROPERTY GENERALLY LOCATED ON THE  
8 NORTHEAST CORNER OF NELSON STREET AND U.S. HWY 441 FROM A MIX OF  
9 RSF-1 (RESIDENTIAL SINGLE FAMILY) AND C-2 HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL TO C-2  
10 HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL; SUBJECT TO THE RULES, REGULATIONS AND  
11 OBLIGATIONS ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF TAVARES COUNCIL; PROVIDING  
12 FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

13  
14 ORDINANCE 2015-20

15  
16 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TAVARES, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE  
17 TAVARES COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FUTURE LAND USE MAP 2020,  
18 PROVIDING FOR A CHANGE OF FUTURE LAND USE DESIGNATION ON  
19 APPROXIMATELY 2.28 ACRES OF PROPERTY GENERALLY LOCATED ON  
20 THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF NELSON STREET AND U.S. HWY 441 FROM  
21 A MIX OF LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL TO WHOLLY  
22 COMMERCIAL; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND CONFLICTS;  
23 PROVIDING FOR TRANSMITTAL; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE  
24 DATE.

25  
26 **VIII. CONSENT AGENDA**

27  
28 Mayor Smith asked if anyone in the audience would like to speak on consent agenda item Tab 4.

29  
30 **MOTION**

31  
32 Robert Speaks moved for approval of the consent agenda [Tab 4) Acceptance of Justice  
33 Assistance Grant to Purchase Golf Cart for Police Department], seconded by Bob Grenier.  
34 The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

35  
36 **X. ORIDNANCES/RESOLUTIONS**

37  
38 **FIRST READING**

39  
40 **Tab 7) Ordinance 2015-14 – Annexation and Rezoning of 2.14 Acres – 1912 Lane Park Road**  
41 **– South Side of Lane Park Road on Lake Harris**

42  
43 **Tab 8) Ordinance 2015-15 – Small Scale Future Land Use Amendment – 2.14 Acres – 11912**  
44 **Lane Park Road – County Rural to City Commercial**

45  
46 **Tab 9) Ordinance 2015-16 – Rezoning of the Peninsula – 213 Acres – From Planned**  
47 **Development Zoning to Residential Suburban RSF-A – City Initiated Rezoning**

1  
2 **Tab 10) Ordinance 2015-17 – Amendment to Land Development Regulations to Create New**  
3 **Zoning District – RSF-2 for Single Family with 60 Feet Lots**

4  
5 **Tab 11) Ordinance 2015-18 – Amendment to Land Development Regulations – Increasing**  
6 **Allowable Building Height in Commercial Downtown District to 84 Feet**

7  
8 **Tab 12) Ordinance 2015-19 – Rezoning of 2.28 Acres for Flowers Food – RSF-1 (Residential**  
9 **Single Family) to C-2 (Commercial) – Northeast Corner of Nelson Street and U.S. 441**

10  
11 **Tab 13) Ordinance 2015-20 – Small Scale Future Land Sue Amendment – 2.28 Acres – Low**  
12 **Density Residential to Commercial – Northeast Corner of Nelson Street and U.S. 441**

13  
14 **SECOND READING**

15  
16 **RESOLUTIONS**

17  
18 **XI. GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

19  
20 **Tab 14) Request to Connect to City Sewer from Church of Christ**

21  
22 Mr. Drury said the Church of Christ (located at Alfred Street and New Hampshire Avenue)  
23 requested a waiver from sewer connection fees. City ordinances do not permit the city to waive  
24 impact fees on property and it would normally be recommended that the request be denied. Staff  
25 has researched the historical issues related to why this property was not connected in 1970 when  
26 sewer was made available under what was referred to then as the 'Old Town Assessment.'  
27 When the city acquired its first central sewer plant from Lake Francis, the city sewer service was  
28 extended to the 'Old Town' area. Residents and businesses in that area were assessed based  
29 on a frontage foot basis with a separate tap fee. The Old Town Assessment included the church  
30 property, however, it is likely that the Church could not physically connect because the  
31 connection at the time was gravity fed and not the grinder pump and pump stations that exist  
32 today. Mr. Drury said that all of the residents, not for profits, and commercial businesses were  
33 treated the same, and had the church been able to physically connect in the 1970's it would have  
34 paid \$900.00 (\$250 to connect plus 130 feet at \$5 per foot along Alfred Street per Resolution 77-  
35 1). Council has the option to charge the full impact fee in the amount of \$3130 or to charge \$900  
36 that they would have paid had they been able to physically connect when it was available in the  
37 '70's.

38  
39 Mayor Smith asked for questions from Council.

40  
41 Councilmember Pfister inquired about the billing history and asked when the church was able to  
42 connect to the sewer. Mr. Drury said the church has been paying their water bill since the  
43 connected, and will pay for sewer once it is connected. He said they are now able to connect to  
44 the city sewer with the upgrades that have been made.

45  
46 Mayor Smith asked Ms. Burleigh if she had any historical background that she could share.  
47

1 Betty Burleigh said she thought everyone had to connect and were charged so much per foot.

2  
3 Mayor Smith asked Attorney Williams about connections for those with failing septic tanks and if  
4 anyone has gone through the process in the past.

5  
6 Attorney Williams said that since he became the City Attorney in 1984 there have been a few  
7 times that older homes in the old town area had not been connected to the sewer for one reason  
8 or another. He said the City honored the old town tap fee from an assessment that was done in  
9 1975-76.

10  
11 Mayor Smith invited the representative for the Church of Christ to come forward. He asked if he  
12 had any records of payment.

13  
14 Carey Rada, P.A., said that they did not have record of payment toward a connection fee.

15  
16 Mayor Smith and Vice Mayor Grenier stated their support for the church paying a \$900  
17 assessment fee.

18  
19 **MOTION**

20  
21 **Bob Grenier moved to approve Option 2, staff recommendation [Charge the Church of**  
22 **Christ the impact fee (assessment & connection) that they would have paid back in the**  
23 **1970's had they been able to connect of \$900], seconded by Lori Pfister. The motion**  
24 **carried unanimously 5-0.**

25  
26 **Tab 15) Date for Coven Plaque for Pavilion on the Lake**

27  
28 Ms. Rogers said that staff previously brought forward a suggestion to create a plaque  
29 memorializing Mr. Coven for his contributions to building the original Pavilion on the Lake. She  
30 said the city asked the Tavares Historical Society to reference their documents and come up with  
31 a determination and recommendation to Council on the date that should be applied to the plaque.  
32 She said the historical society has suggested that the date of 1913 be referenced on the plaque  
33 for the date that the original Pavilion was built. She said that Ms. Smith is available for questions.

34  
35 Mayor Smith asked for questions and comments from Council.

36  
37 **MOTION**

38  
39 **Bob Grenier moved to approve the wording on the historical marker, seconded by Lori**  
40 **Pfister. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

41  
42 **Tab 16) Process of Property Assessments for Lighting District**

43  
44 Attorney Williams said that the city pays for most streetlights in the downtown and some  
45 subdivisions. He noted that other subdivisions pay for their own street lights when they have  
46 private streets or decorative lights. Attorney Williams said that street lighting is one of the

1 municipal improvements that the law (Chapter 170) allows a city to make and to assess like  
2 sidewalks and sewer.

3  
4 Attorney Williams said that Council asked staff for other options to pay for street lighting other  
5 than funding out of the General Fund. He said the city can also fund street lights by creating  
6 street lighting districts and assessing the cost among the people who will benefit. An assessment  
7 has to be adopted according to law and can be collected through the property appraiser or  
8 included in utility billing. There are procedures that must be followed including notifying the  
9 citizens by first class mail and holding hearings. He said the procedures are similar to the city's  
10 fire assessment which is included on the Utility bills and there are advantages and disadvantages  
11 either way you collect the cost (property appraiser or including on a utility bill). Attorney Williams  
12 said that in order to support an assessment, the city would need a basis of analysis study which  
13 will determine the amount of benefit for each person. There will be a cost for a study. Attorney  
14 Williams said street lighting is recognized as a valid municipal purpose and paying for lighting  
15 through the General Fund is legal as well. He discussed the City of Castleberry's street light  
16 assessment as an example of completing a study and implementing an assessment.

17  
18 Ms. Houghton noted a handout had been provided which depicts the current costs of street  
19 lighting at approximately \$320,000 per year. Mayor Smith asked what millage rate reduction the  
20 amount equates to and Ms Houghton stated a ½ mil.

21  
22 Mayor Smith invited Marcel DeMaria, Lake Elsie, to speak. Mr. DeMaria said that the Lake Elsie  
23 community is being reviewed for lighting and when the assessment discussion came up it put  
24 their community on hold. He said that an assessment would greatly affect their HOA budget  
25 which includes 84 homes. He asked for Council's consideration of their upcoming budgeting time  
26 requirements when making decisions. Mr. DeMaria said that he had new Century Management  
27 contact information that he would provide to Ms. Houghton after the meeting.

28  
29 Mayor Smith asked for questions from Council.

30  
31 Attorney Williams said the city would not receive any monies through an assessment until at least  
32 FY16-17 or even the following year due to the length of the process.

33  
34 Mayor Smith noted that a decision regarding Lake Elsie would be made within the next few  
35 weeks.

36  
37 Councilmember Pfister said she did not want to keep putting the residents off and inquired about  
38 going forward with a vote.

39  
40 Vice Mayor Grenier said that he wished for time to review the information that has been provided.

41  
42 Attorney Williams said a motion was not needed as there was a motion from a previous meeting  
43 to table the item and it is still open. Discussion was held and there was a consensus that staff  
44 would bring back two agenda items to the next meeting; Lake Elsie and a Lighting District.

45  
46 **IX. PUBLIC HEARING – FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016 MILLAGE & BUDGET – READING OF**  
47 **MILLAGE & BUDGET RESOLUTIONS – 5:05 P.M.**

1  
2 Mayor Smith called the Public Hearing to order at 5:05 p.m.

3  
4 Ms. Novack read Resolution 2015-11 and Resolution 2015-12 in their entirety as follows:  
5

6 **RESOLUTION 2015 - 11**  
7

8 **A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A FINAL MILLAGE RATE OF 6.6166 FOR THE**  
9 **CITY OF TAVARES, FLORIDA, FOR AD VALOREM TAXES FOR FISCAL**  
10 **YEAR 2015-2016; SETTING FORTH THE PERCENT BY WHICH THE**  
11 **MILLAGE RATE IS GREATER THAN THE "ROLLED-BACK" RATE.**  
12

13 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF**  
14 **TAVARES, FLORIDA:**  
15

16 **WHEREAS, the City of Tavares of Lake County, Florida on**  
17 **September 3, 2015, adopted the 2015-2016 Fiscal Year Tentative Millage**  
18 **Rate following a public hearing as required by Florida Statute 200.065.**  
19

20 **WHEREAS, the City of Tavares of Lake County, Florida, following**  
21 **due public notice as required by law, held a second public hearing on**  
22 **September 16, 2015, as required by Florida Statute 200.065 on the 2015-**  
23 **2016 Millage Rate; and**  
24

25 **WHEREAS, the gross taxable value for operating purposes not**  
26 **exempt from taxation within Lake County has been certified by the County**  
27 **Property Appraiser to the City of Tavares as \$675,210,640.**  
28

29 **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City of Tavares of**  
30 **Lake County, Florida, that:**  
31

- 32 1. **The City of Tavares Fiscal Year 2015-2016 operating millage rate to be**  
33 **levied is hereby set at 6.6166 mills, which millage rate is greater than the**  
34 **rolled back rate of 6.5547 by .94%.**  
35  
36 2. **The voted debt service millage rate is set at .4068 mills for Fiscal Year**  
37 **2015-2016.**  
38  
39 3. **This Resolution will take effect immediately upon its adoption.**  
40

41 **PASSED AND RESOLVED this 16th day of September 2015 by the**  
42 **City Council of the City of Tavares, Florida.**  
43

44 **RESOLUTION 2015 - 12**  
45

46 **A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF**

1           **TAVARES, FLORIDA, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2015 - 2016.**  
2

3           **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF**  
4 **TAVARES, FLORIDA:**  
5

6           **WHEREAS, a public hearing on the proposed 2015-2016**  
7 **budget was held at the Tavares City Hall Council Chambers in the City of**  
8 **Tavares, Florida, Lake County, Florida on Thursday, September 3rd, 2015**  
9 **at 5:05 p.m., as required by Florida Statutes 200.065; and**  
10

11           **WHEREAS, the general public was given an opportunity to**  
12 **express its views pertaining to the proposed budget, and**  
13

14           **WHEREAS, the City Council approved the tentative budget**  
15 **for 2015-2016, and**  
16

17           **WHEREAS, a second public hearing on the proposed 2015-**  
18 **2016 budget was held in the Council Chambers at the Tavares City Hall,**  
19 **201 East Main Street in the City of Tavares, Florida, on Wednesday,**  
20 **September 16, 2015, at 5:05 p.m.,**  
21

22           **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Budget for**  
23 **2015-2016 fiscal year for the City of Tavares, Florida is hereby adopted by**  
24 **the Tavares City Council in the amount of \$37,006,432 at public hearing**  
25 **this 16<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2015.**  
26

Fund Name	Fund Number	Estimated Revenues <sup>1</sup>	Reserve Appropriations <sup>3</sup>	Unappropriated Revenues <sup>2</sup>	Estimated Appropriations/Expenditures
General Fund	001	\$ 15,643,294	\$ -	\$ (49,599)	\$ 15,593,695
Water/Wastewater Utility	401	8,680,658	-	(9,078)	8,671,580
Water/Wastewater Impacts	441	1,102,979	12,021	-	1,115,000
W/WW RR&I Fund	443	300,000	-	(2,800)	297,200
SRF Construction Fund	444	-	-	-	-
W/WW SRF Loan	445	1,802,063	-	-	1,802,063
Sunset View Fund	447	109,852	-	-	109,852
Solid Waste	402	2,770,058	-	(134,090)	2,635,968
Stormwater	403	1,064,973	-	(63,504)	1,001,469
Seaplane Base Fund	405	730,567	-	-	730,567
Pavilion Fund <sup>5</sup>	406	672,647	-	(7,091)	665,556
Police Education	102	1,650	-	-	1,650
Community Redevelopment	105	170,008	-	13,992	184,000
Police Impacts	110	30,000	-	(20,000)	10,000
Fire Impacts	111	56,000	-	(46,000)	10,000
Forfeiture Fund	112	-	-	-	-
Park Impacts	114	48,000	-	(28,000)	20,000
Freedom Flag Fund	117	-	7,208	-	7,208
Fire Assessment Fund	122	1,619,134	-	-	1,619,134
Infrastructure Sales Tax	150	1,338,089	-	13,484	1,351,573
Grant Fund	151	290,000	-	-	290,000
Debt Service Fund	201	299,291	-	(8)	299,283
Capital Project Fund	301	-	-	-	-
Municipal Police Pension <sup>4</sup>	601	938,000	-	(732,745)	205,255
Firefighter's Pension <sup>4</sup>	602	1,507,800	-	(1,122,537)	385,263
General Employee Pension	603	-	-	-	-
Mildred Hunter Trust	605	166	-	(150)	16
Woodlea Park Playground Trust	606	133	-	(33)	100
		<b>\$ 39,175,362</b>	<b>\$ 19,229</b>	<b>\$ (2,188,159)</b>	<b>\$ 37,006,432</b>

<sup>1</sup> Estimated Revenues = anticipated revenue collections Test \$ 37,006,432

<sup>2</sup> Negative Reserve Appropriations assumes unappropriated revenues

<sup>3</sup> Positive Reserve Appropriations assumes appropriating (spending) an amount of reserves.

<sup>4</sup> Needs Pension Board approval.

<sup>5</sup> Special Revenue Fund.

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9

**This resolution will take effect immediately upon its adoption.**

**PASSED AND RESOLVED this 16th day of September, 2015, by the City Council of the City of Tavares, Florida.**

Mr. Drury said both Resolutions will be voted on during the September 16, 2015 hearing.

**Tab 5) Resolution 2015-11 – Tentative Millage Rate – FY 2015-2016**

11  
12  
13  
14  
15

Ms. Houghton said this is the first public hearing for the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Millage Rate and Budget. She said the Tentative Millage is required by law to be approved first, and then the Tentative Budget. She said that according to statute she is required to provide some salient points that support the Tentative Millage Rate that will be adopted tonight. She said the Tentative

1 Budget for the general fund provides for a Tentative Millage of 6.6166 mils and the Budget will be  
2 balanced at \$15,593,695. The following assumptions are taken into effect:

- 3
- 4 • Ad valorem millage rate of 6.6166 mils which is .94% above the roll back rate of 6.5547
- 5 mil. It is .1117 mils less than the current millage rate of 6.7283 mils or 1.66% less than
- 6 the current millage rate.
- 7 • Although the millage rate is less we do have to advertise it as a millage rate increase
- 8 because it does exceed the rollback rate by .94%.
- 9 • The assessed taxable value of \$675,210,640 which was certified by the Property
- 10 Appraiser office, a 6.22% in a value unadjusted for the TIF Funds.
- 11 • The budget does include a fire assessment at 100% of assessable cost, rates remain
- 12 unchanged from the prior year.
- 13 • The budget is balanced at \$15,593,695 which includes
- 14 ○ A 5% pay increase for employees
- 15 ○ FRS employer rates as published by the state of Florida Department of Retirement
- 16 ○ Staffing level increase of 1 new Police Officer at mid-year
- 17 ○ Full time Pavilion Coordinator and part time Pavilion Associate positions
- 18

19 Ms. Houghton said she read the salient points for the Tentative Millage and wanted to state for  
20 the record that budget workshops were held with City Council on July 1, July 15, July 15 when the  
21 Tentative Maximum Millage was set by Council, August 5, and August 19. The Tentative Budget  
22 has been prepared for the City Council based on all of the discussions at the workshops held to  
23 date. Staff recommends approval of Option #1, to approve Resolution 2015-11 as presented to  
24 Council.

25  
26 Attorney Williams confirmed that Council will approve a Tentative Millage Rate during this  
27 meeting, and then again September 16, 2015. He said it cannot be raised higher than the  
28 advertised notice without re advertising.

29  
30 Mayor Smith opened up the hearing to the public and asked if anyone wished to speak to Council  
31 on the Tentative Millage Rate or budget. There was none.

32  
33 **MOTION**

34  
35 **Robert Speaks moved for approval of Option 1 [Take Public input and approve the**  
36 **Tentative Millage for Fiscal Year 2016 as reflected in Resolution 2015-11], seconded by**  
37 **Lori Pfister. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

38  
39 **Tab 6) Resolution 2015-12 – Tentative Budget – FY 2015-2016**

40  
41 Ms. Houghton said the budget of \$15,593,695 is based on the Tentative Millage of 6.6166. She  
42 said the salient points remain the same. Staff recommends Option #1 – take public input and  
43 approve the Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2016 as reflected in Resolution 2015-12.

44  
45 Mayor Smith asked for comments and questions from Council.

46

1 Councilmember Pfister inquired about the employee fitness program. Mr. Drury said there is a  
2 budgeted amount and a program will be developed for the employees where the city will  
3 contribute up to 1/3 of the cost of an annual membership up to a set amount.  
4

5 Mayor Smith asked if \$7500 for the Chamber is still included in the budget. Mr. Drury confirmed,  
6 and said the funds will not be released to the Chamber until such a time that they provide the  
7 documentation that they are open on the weekends as conditioned. Councilmember Pfister  
8 inquired if the city could ask for a refund if they do not continue. Mr. Drury confirmed.  
9

10 Mayor Smith opened up the hearing to the public and asked if anyone wished to speak to Council  
11 on the Budget.  
12

13 Lou Buigas, Hoity Toity Mercantile, 206 W Main Street  
14

15 Ms Buigas said that as a merchant having the Chamber open on weekends would be beneficial.  
16

17 Ms. Buigas noted that there are 6 donation drop boxes by the Hardees on US441, and it is  
18 beginning to look unsightly. Mr. Drury said that staff will look into drop boxes in the future.  
19

20 Councilmember Pfister asked how much was included in the Budget for the Wayfinding program.  
21

22 Mr. Drury said Wayfinding is included in the 5 Year Capital Program and funded in FY17 but not  
23 the next fiscal year. He said there are 6 new wayfinding signs along US 441 and the entrance  
24 wayfinding sign at the hospital is under design; the old sign has been removed. He said there are  
25 signs at the parking garage and the kiosk signs at O'Keefe and across from City Hall have been  
26 completed. He said the project is 60% complete.  
27

28 Councilmember Pifster inquired about the gateway signs. Mr. Drury said one gateway sign will  
29 be completed this year by the hospital. Ms. Pfister asked about the seaplane at the fountain. Mr.  
30 Drury said the design is completed, the permitting is in place (two year process), and staff is  
31 working on obtaining a donated seaplane as well as funding for the bottom portion. He said staff  
32 will come back to Council with the modeling in a month.  
33

### 34 MOTION

35  
36 **Lori Pfister moved to approve the Tentative Budget for FY2016, seconded by Bob Grenier.**  
37 **The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**  
38

### 39 XII. OLD BUSINESS

40  
41 Vice Mayor Grenier asked how often signs are updated with new business establishment  
42 information. Mr. Drury said once a year and staff plans to recommend a digital sign next year.  
43

### 44 XIII. NEW BUSINESS

45  
46 None.  
47

1 **XIV. AUDIENCE TO BE HEARD**

2  
3 **Betty Burleigh**

4  
5 Ms. Burleigh said that in 1973 the City Council approved a record high budget of \$573,636 for the  
6 1973-1974 FY. Council also voted to keep the millage for taxpayers at 8 mils. Included in the  
7 expenditures were funds for a fire department including a salary for a Chief and money for  
8 equipment. Prior to that it was volunteer.

9  
10 **XV. REPORTS**

11  
12 **Tab 17) City Administrator**

13  
14 Mr. Drury said that after two years of applying for the rights to become an air carrier airport, the  
15 Tavares Seaplane Based Jones Brothers (JB SPB, Inc.) has received an Air Carrier Certificate  
16 from the FAA. He spoke about the significance of this achievement.

17  
18 **City Clerk**

19  
20 None.

21  
22 **Human Resources**

23  
24 None.

25  
26 **Public Works**

27  
28 None.

29  
30 **Utilities**

31  
32 Mr. Hayes said his daughter is in the audience visiting from up North.

33  
34 **Police Chief**

35  
36 None.

37  
38 **Fire Chief**

39  
40 None

41  
42 **Community Services Director**

43  
44 None.

45  
46 **Finance Director**

47

1 Ms. Houghton said the final Millage and Budget Hearing will be held on September 16, 2015  
2 during the next Council Meeting. She said the city will be advertising a half page ad on Sunday  
3 September 13 to present the budget as required by the Florida Statutes.

4  
5 **Community Services**

6  
7 None.

8  
9 **Economic Development**

10  
11 **City Attorney**

12  
13 None.

14  
15 **Tab 18) City Council**

16  
17 **Councilmember Pfister**

18  
19 Councilmember Pfister noted the first football games of the season begin at 6:00 p.m.

20  
21 **Vice Mayor Grenier**

22  
23 **Plaques and Historical Markers**

24  
25 Vice Mayor Grenier noted that the memorial plaque to be placed at Pavilion on the Lake will be  
26 the 37<sup>th</sup> memorial plaque in Wooton Park. He said there are currently 36 memorial plaques  
27 including the 17 benches. He mentioned the bench dedications to Mrs. Bennye J. Kinsler  
28 (educator) and George Namlik Jr. Mr. Grenier said some of the civic organizations are  
29 represented through the Liberty Tree by the Azalea Garden Club, an old stone fountain plaque by  
30 the Kiwanis Club, the Tavares Womens Club, the Rotary, and the Playground Partners from  
31 Wooton Wonderland. He said the Wooton family has a dedication on the flagpole, Mayor Eugene  
32 Glenn is dedicated on the Little Free Library, and Babe Coven is dedicated on the large gazebo.

33  
34 Vice Mayor Grenier noted there are two historical markers on the base of the flagpole at the  
35 Clerk's building for William Rogers (Bank President who was married to a Duncan), and Slim  
36 Haywood. He asked that the city know what will be done with those markers before the building  
37 is demolished.

38  
39 **VJ Day**

40  
41 Vice Mayor Genier noted that the anniversary of VJ Day (Victory over Japan in WWII) was  
42 September 2<sup>nd</sup>. He said that he spent the day in Kissimmee speaking to eight 90+ year old  
43 veterans of WWII.

44  
45 **Councilmember Speaks**

46

1 Councilmember Speaks said the 50 star American Flag was designed by a gentleman that  
2 graduated from his high school in his home town; Robert Heft. He said that Mr. Heft was the  
3 Mayor of Napoleon, Ohio. Mr. Heft designed the flag as part of a history project where he had a  
4 B+ grade in his history class. He went back after congress adopted the flag and design and his  
5 teacher changed his grade to an A.

6  
7 **Councilmember Johnson**

8  
9 Councilmember Johnson said she wanted to remind everyone to wear blue on Friday in support  
10 of our fallen Police Officers.

11  
12 Councilmember Johnson thanked Chief Keith for reviewing and educating her on the City's  
13 emergency storm procedures. She said that if the city is ever in an emergency situation she feels  
14 very protected.

15  
16 **Mayor Smith**

17  
18 Mayor Smith welcomed Mr. Hayes daughter to Tavares.

19  
20 Mayor Smith asked Chief Lubins to relay a message to the Police Officers that he appreciates  
21 everything that they do, their professionalism, and that he knows the rest of the Council and  
22 community appreciate them.

23  
24 Mayor Smith said that in 1752 the British empire, including the colony of America, adopted the  
25 Gregorian calendar. He said that when the calendar was adopted there were wild riots because  
26 the people thought that the calendar took away 11 days of their lives.

27  
28 Mayor Smith noted it is National Bowling League Day.

29  
30 **Adjournment**

31  
32 There was no further business and Mayor Smith adjourned the meeting at 5:44.

33  
34 Respectfully submitted,

35  
36 \_\_\_\_\_  
37 Susie Novack, M.M.C.  
38 Deputy City Clerk