Special Meeting, 1st, Budget Hearing

September 6th, 2016
6:01 P.M.
SPECIAL MEETING
1st BUDGET HEARING

SEPTEMBER 6th, 2016

The first Budget hearing of the North Miami City Council was held in the Council Chambers of City Hall on Tuesday, September 6th, 2016, beginning at 6:03 p.m.

(Phonetic spelling of each speaker’s name may be used throughout the minutes unless correct spelling is known.)

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Mayor Smith Joseph: All right. It is now three minutes past 6 P.M. We’re gathered here today to have our First Budget Meeting. I believe that’s the main item and there is a second item on the agenda, which we will discuss about…after we take a five minute recess at the end of the Budget meeting. At this point and time we’ll stand up for pledge…we’ll do roll call first.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Joseph Here
Councilwoman Keys Here
Councilman Bien-Aime Here
Vice-Mayor Desulme Here
Councilman Galvin Here

City Clerk Etienne: Mayor, we have a quorum.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Joseph: Thank you very much. Let’s stand up for Pledge of Allegiance.

3. INVOCATION

None

4. ORDER OF BUSINESS

None
5. **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Mayor Joseph: Thank you. Let’s go straight to Tab A, Mr. Clerk.

City Clerk Etienne: Tab A and just for the record I have to read the entire ordinance…the entire resolution in its entirety.

**TAB A**

City Clerk Etienne: (reads resolution by title only)

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA, ADOPTING A TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATE OF 7.5000 MILLS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016 – 2017; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND FOR ALL OTHER PURPOSES.**

City Clerk Etienne: Whereas, the City of North Miami Florida (CITY) has considered an operating budget for Fiscal Year 2016 – 2017 in accordance with the provisions of Section 200.065 Florida Statutes 2016 and whereas, the millage rate necessary to fund the City’s operating budget for Fiscal Year 2016 – 2017 is 7.5000 mills which is less than 1% below the roll back. And whereas, in accordance with Section200.065 (5) Florida Statutes as amended from time to time, a majority vote of the Mayor and City Council is required to adopt a rate of up to 7.5000 mills. And whereas, the Mayor and City Council find that the adoption of the proposed tentative millage rate for Fiscal Year 2016 – 2017 is in the best interest of the City. Now therefore be it duly resolved by the Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami, Florida. Section 1, adoption of tentative millage rate. The Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami, Florida hereby adopt 7.5000 mills as the tentative millage rate on assessed property value necessary to fund the City’s Fiscal Year 2016 – 2017 operating budget. Section 2, effective date; this resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption. Passed and adopted by a blank vote of the Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami this blank day of blank 2016.

Mayor Joseph: Thank you. Mr. Manager.

City Manager Spring: Through the Mayor. We’ll have a quick presentation from our Budget Director to go over a PowerPoint with regards to our millage recommendations, some of the budget highlights and some of the details. For the purpose of this item, the item is the millage rate reading but we will be presenting both the millage rate impacts as well as the General Operating Budget for the purpose of the
discussion. But the second item will be specifically for the tentative adoption of the first reading of the Budget. So I just want to make sure that was clear on the record.

Assistant Budget Director Henley: Good evening Mayor and Council, Terry Henley Budget Office. And what I’ll be going over is a brief presentation on your preliminary budget for Fiscal Year 2016 – 2017. There’s five topics that we’re going to go over. We’ll first go over the total budget for all funds. Then the General Fund specifically, its revenues and expenditures. The Enterprise Funds, Stormwater, Water & Sewer and then I’ll go over Capital and Operational Enhancements. What’s new in this year’s budget compared to last year and then I’ll have some summary points. This year’s budget is proposed at $149,957,446.00. Now 44% of your budget is your General Fund at 66 million approximately. For Water & Sewer, a little more than 52 million or 35%. At $2.7 million is Stormwater and then Transportation and all other funds comprise as the remainder of your budget. This slide represents your General Fund Budget and what it’s looked like the last few year’s. If I could draw your attention to the red bar, you’ll see that our current year budget is a little more than $60 million dollars. But the right bar, your proposed budget is $66.5 million. So how did we go up 9% or roughly $6 million dollars? Well we had a $4.4 million check from SoliMia and that money went into your reserves. The remaining $1 million is Operational and Capital enhancements. That includes new Police and in sourcing of the Building Department and Utility Billing. And I’ll go over those in more detail in the coming slides of those Operational enhancements. Now your General Fund revenues, that’s what this slide represents and you’ll see that tax revenue will be up 13% and this is due to the new construction that was not on the tax roll in the prior year. License and permit revenue that will go up this year due to the strategic in sourcing of the Building Department where we remove the contract. Where we had to share 70% of our revenues and now we are keeping 100% of our Building Permit Revenue, so that’s why that category is up. Fines and forfeit is down 12% and this is due to trickling effect that the removal of the red light camera program has had. Miscellaneous revenue did not change and non-revenues are up due to the increase reverse that the City is building. This slide represents what your millage rates look like the last five or so years. You can see that in 2013 it was as high as 8.1. And in the last three years we’ve had the same millage rate of 7.9336. This year this proposed budget is a balanced one that uses 7.5000, which is a tax cut. This slide represents the three millage rate options that we did during our Budget workshop. The yellow is the existing rate of 7.9336. And if you compare it to option C, the below the roll back rate of 7.5000 you’ll see that it’s approximately $1 million difference. But we were able to balance with the 7.5 being proposed. This slide represents your General Fund expenses by department. I’m going to go over a few of the departments to highlight of interest. You’ll see that the Building Department is up $300,000.00 and that’s because the removal of the contract and the higher of bringing employees in-house. Code is up about 25% and that’s because they received new positions last year. And those positions, the pension is finally being realized this year because we pay pension a year behind. Also there’s $120,000.00 supplemental that was funded for the demolition of abandoned properties. Next, non-
departmental is up 45%. And this is the major reason why your budget is up $6 million. You’ll see that the majority of it is in here in non-departmental where the reserves are higher. Also of interest, Police is up about $700,000.00 because they include eight new positions this year compared to last year. And you’ll see that Parks & Rec and Public Works those are slightly down but that’s just due to the completion of several projects including Citywide Capital, Sasso Pool, Biscayne Landing allocation, (name inaudible) Park and Tennis court rehabs from last year. This slide represents the Capital Enhancements budgeted for this year and you’ll see that there’s more than $5 million in Water & Sewer Capital. And sidewalks, $1 million dollars this year for installation or repair. Traffic calming $300,000.00, street resurfacing $260,000.00, Downtown Revitalization $232,000.00, body cameras are in here for the Police Department at $120,000.00, (inaudible) replacement of technical equipment, this is new computers and technology at almost $115,000.00. We also have air conditioning units for MoCA and the Library and books and that’s at $88,000.00 and $80,000.00 respectively. Roadway medians and curve repair at $50,000.00. Transit shelter installation at $49,000.00. Our Police use of training simulator at $35,000.00. We had budgeted WIFI in all our community centers next year at $20,000.00. And we’re also going to have our Channel 77 being on AT&T. This slide is your Operational Enhancements. And what this slide includes is a number of new positions. We had (inaudible) about 38 positions that are new, 32 in the General Fund. And you also see non-departmental request for the North Miami Blue Fest at $150,000.00. $100,000.00 for trees, $20,000.00 for each district. District 3, Pocket Park Enhancements and Enchanted Forest Improvements, and that’s all in one line item at the very top. And then the number of new positions that we are able to do. Enterprise Funds, you’ll see Stormwater is about $2.8 million dollars. This is pretty much the same as last year. Operating expenses in it were at 54%, personnel is only 22% and reserves and internal services as seven and 1%. This is your Water & Sewer Budget it’s almost $52 million dollars and it includes personnel at less than 10%, operating expenses at 17%, internal services at 30% and then you’ll have 10% in Capital and another 34% in Reserves waiting to be moved over for Capital. Now this is the last slide and what’s different this year than last year? What can we take away with this year’s budget? Well this year’s budget it proposes tax cuts by bringing the millage rate from 7.9336 to 7.5. We also enhanced services and we were able to do that by maximizing existing resources by looking at contracts and bringing things in house including the Building Department and Utility Billing. And last this Budget it proposes a more robust reserve. You have your existing $5 million that can only be touched by resolution. $2.7 million in unrestricted reserve, $2 million in restricted for Cagni and another $1 million almost in unrestricted capital in operational reserve. And that concludes the presentation. Thank you.

Mayor Joseph: Do you have anything more to add Mr. Manager before we go to the public?
City Manager Spring: One…I just wanted to do one clarification with regards to the listing for the sidewalk and installation at a million dollars. Those funds can be used for streets and sidewalk installation and repair. So I wanted to make that clarification.

Mayor Joseph: For streets and sidewalks?

City Manager Spring: Yes.

Mayor Joseph: Well you know I went over that with you right before the meeting. So which one, that will be only $1.3 million dollars.

City Manager Spring: In total it’s just over $1.5 million between streets, sidewalks, traffic calming.

Mayor Joseph: We’re going to come back to the dais after the opportunity for the public to be heard. So I guess at this time we’ll open the discussion for Public Hearing. Anyone who has any suggestions, questions, concerns about the budget based on the presentation you just saw? I believe…the backup information is it listed also online?

Assistant Budget Director Henley: Yes.

Mayor Joseph: So people can have access to it. But I see no one coming for Public Hearing. Public Hearing is closed. Members of the dais.

City Manager Spring: Through the Mayor I need to make one clarification. There was one sentence added to the resolution disclosure that needed to be made in the second whereas. It read previously whereas the millage rate necessary to fund the City’s operating budget for Fiscal Year 2016 – 2017 is 7.5000 mills which is -0.3203 below the rollback rate of 7.5241. So I just need to make that addition to the record.

Mayor Joseph: Thank you. Miss…Madame Councilwoman.

Councilwoman Keys: I’ll be quick. Budget Department, Terry, Arthur great job. The City looks healthy and I’m real pleased. I didn’t have any major changes. A couple of things on the wish list, I’m not sure if we’re going to be able to do that. Is one, I’d like to get a Park Ranger who would be a roving Park Ranger for the entire City. To make sure that our Parks are locked at night and whatever else Park Rangers do, make sure that they’re clean. Make sure they’re safe and go around and check on that. If that has to be a full time but we need Parks closed at night and they’re not being closed. I’m still very adamant, I know it says we have eight new Officers. I don’t know if that means we have eight new bodies. And I’m still very strongly feel we need more Traffic Officers
throughout the City. Everybody is complaining. There are specific areas that we really must have more traffic. And after certain incidents that happened in my neighborhood actually Saturday, people were coming around. We need better night patrol throughout…I’m saying Keystone needs it. Well Sans Souci is going to want it. Well if they want it, the entire City deserves it. It should not just be for one neighborhood. But I really would like to see enhanced night patrols our City. And that’s when a lot of the burglaries and crimes are happening. I would like to see, I know we need a Minimum Housing Officer, we only have two. We have about 500 commercial properties and I really believe that another Minimum Housing Officer is required. And as far as streets, I actually made a comment that I felt that we did not have enough money set aside for street repair. There are a lot of streets in our City that are full of holes and potholes. And I know maintenance comes out and fixes them but I want to make sure we have adequate money. And I do agree that the items for street surfacing and sidewalk repair should be combined so it could be used for street paving also. I think the 300 you mentioned for traffic calming is not really for it, it’s for circles and bumps. That’s all I have to say.

Mayor Joseph: Mr. Galvin.

Councilman Galvin: Thank you Mr. Mayor, I just have one question right now. And that is regarding the $2 million restricted to Cagni Park listed as the budget highlights. Can you give us more insight into what that means?

City Manager Spring: That is the money from the original or the most recent purchase proceeds we received from the selling the land to SoliMia that was set aside to be our portion of the grant or the redo of the Cagni Park which is in partnership with Dade County giving us GOB and the School Board. In fact ironically or today I actually met with the School Board on the items and let them know we had our money there. So you already passed a resolution allocating the money. So this is just us appropriating it as far as the Budget is concerned.

Councilman Galvin: Gotcha but do they have an idea of when they’re finally going to get started on that?

City Manager Spring: The holdup has been…and this is not really pointing fingers. The staff at the School Board has been kind of adamant about us having the GOB money already in the account prior to execution of the joint agreement. I went over there today to have a discussion with some of the School Board members regarding at least allowing us 90 days to get the money transferred from the County. That money is already allocated but they do have to do an administrative appropriation change, which everyone is very well aware of and onboard of. So it’s just a matter of hey give me 90 days and not 24 hours to put all the money in the account. So it is moving and we’re, matter of fact the remarks I made to School Board members today was, we’re ready to move.
Councilman Galvin: That’s going to be exciting for everybody. Okay, that’s the only question I have Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Joseph: Thank you very much. Again to resonate with Madame Councilwoman, last meeting we had and I believe all five of us if not maybe four out of five did express the need for more money for streets. And thus far we see only $1.5 million allocated for that. I would like to see much more money allocated for streets. Like I always said, this City is 90 years old and 10 years from now we’ll be celebrating our centennial. And I would like to see more streets being repaired, restructured, if we can…I don’t know if we can come up with any actual amount. I would ask, I would recommend and if I could get some support to see if we can get another million allocated for streets. Because upon analyzing and researching and asking questions from different engineers, I do understand that it does cost a lot of money just to redo like maybe like five blocks or one street. And a couple of months ago we had some money allocated and I picked three different streets and thinking that we were going to do like maybe several blocks and we couldn’t…I had my bubble burst. And we ended up redoing only four or five blocks now.

City Manager Spring: It was two.

Mayor Joseph: Let’s say four for now. So redoing streets is not cheap. It’s not a cheap business but unfortunately it’s part of our growing pain and we know North Miami is being looked at by many different groups of demographic people. And we’re trying to put the City in such a state where we can attract different people from different ages; teenagers, college students. I think our streets are some of the primary things that we need to look at. And the second thing I want to bring out is, the Blue Fest. The Blue Fest is…I’m glad to see that it’s coming to fruition. About what six, seven months ago maybe I contemplated the idea of having wine and food festival in the City. And with that I approached the FIU Hospitality Department. Since a lot of people don’t know that they’re the ones who actually started wine and food…South Beach Wine and Food Festival, so why not North Miami. Because no city in this area has really come up with something like that. And every city has its signature thing that they do and we’re trying to position our City to have some signature events that people look forward to attending every year. But after a couple of meetings with them and they kind of taught us that wine is kind of pretty much…not phasing out but there’s actually a new generation of people who are more inclined to having craft beer as opposed to a red wine. So they convinced us that the Blue Fest or crafted beer or Blue Fest would be more ideal. And we agreed with that and I think as recently as last week Mr. Manager you were on the phone with their attorneys.

City Manager Spring: That is correct sir. We were finalizing the agreement with them and it will be officially North Miami Blue Fest.
Mayor Joseph: So in many meetings they tried to crush the name North Miami, they wanted to do their own name. And I said no, we came up with the idea to do this joint venture. I want the name North Miami in it because that’s the name we’re actually sending out there. So we are rebranding…

Councilwoman Keys: Have we discussed this at a Council meeting?

City Manager Spring: The administration has been kind of working on it. I know the Mayor had mentioned it previously. So we…given the timing and everything, we thought it would be appropriate to bring it as part of the Budget appropriation. The actual item and all that stuff will have to come back to the full Commission for consideration. So we have…so we’re just allocating the money but…

Mayor Joseph: But as you know I cannot talk to you in private. But the Manager was charged with the mission of letting everybody know.

Councilman Galvin: And I guess I’m confused too. What? What are you talking about? We’re partnering with FIU for the event?

City Manager Spring: We are working on…we’re in the process of working on a partnership with the University to basically joint venture with them on a festival that they started.

Councilman Galvin: How come that wasn’t brought up in my Budget summarization this morning?

City Manager Spring: If I missed it, I know we only have a few minutes with you on it this morning. But…

Councilman Galvin: How much is it?

City Manager Spring: The allocation is $150,000.00.

Councilman Galvin: When will it be?

City Manager Spring: In like the November timeframe.

Councilman Galvin: Of 2016?

City Manager Spring: 2016.

Councilman Galvin: Okay well I’ll look forward to learning more.
City Manager Spring: I will make sure we give you a briefing after that. And again, the document…

Councilman Galvin: I’m looking forward…

City Manager Spring: The document is still not…I would have to…I still have to bring all of it to the Council.

Councilwoman Keys: Will we get all this before our second Budget Hearing?

City Manager Spring: Yes.

Councilwoman Keys: And if we don’t like what we’re seeing the $150,000.00 could be…it’s a big allocation.

Mayor Joseph: You will like what you read.

Councilwoman Keys: I’m not against it, I just want to make sure that we just didn’t agree to $150,000.00 tonight and all of a sudden there’s some festival we haven’t talked about.

City Manager Spring: No you still have to…I have to bring back a full item back to the Board.

Councilwoman Keys: So hopefully we’ll get it before our final Budget Hearing.

City Manager Spring: Yes you will.

Councilwoman Keys: Okay, thank you.

Mayor Joseph: Thank you. I think I may have one more item or one more point to make but I…it slipped my mind now. So I’ll yield to Vice-Mayor at this time.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Okay thank you Mr. Mayor. For clarification, are we on the tax rate or are we dive right into the Budget?

City Manager Spring: For the…and I think we have to be clear. For the purpose of the item that was read, this is the millage rate item.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: So with that said Mr. Manager, if we adopt your recommendation, which I do want to applaud administration for lowering the millage
rate. Would you have enough funding to do within the Proposed Budget, the $66 million that you are proposing to us?

   City Manager Spring: Yes.

   Vice-Mayor Desulme: Yes sir, I was saying after talking to us, you still would be in the timeframe of balancing the Budget?

   City Manager Spring: I still right now as we sit still have not having heard from Councilman Bien-Aime officially in this discussion. I do feel comfortable because we do have some reserve room to make some of the changes.

   Vice-Mayor Desulme: To make some adjustments.

   City Manager Spring: Make some adjustments and we can make some adjustments.

   Vice-Mayor Desulme: So whatever that we do tonight based on your proposal, if we adopt it, which I do like the 7.5, so we would be moving things around?

   City Manager Spring: Yes. And if you would allow me, through the Mayor. I think you’re knocking on a very important point. If you adopt this at first reading today at the 7.5, we can’t go up at the next meeting.

   Vice-Mayor Desulme: I know, we can go down.

   City Manager Spring: If you feel that we need to have a little bit more room as we work through the rest of the Budget process, then I would say perhaps to adopt a slightly higher millage number tonight and then go down at the last hearing. I think that would be legally sufficient.

   Vice-Mayor Desulme: So when we had our conversation, when we had our Budget meeting, we talked about that so that you would have enough room. I do feel comfortable with the 7.5 but right now the 7.9, that’s how much money additional. I think Terry you said it’s roughly about a million dollar more to the General Fund? So that’s not too bad because I know…the reason that I mentioned that, I know the Mayor talked about adding another million. Because I’m like where would this be unless we’re cutting some services and some other benefits within this timeframe. I’m not talking about the Budget yet. So I just want to put that on the record. Thank you.

   Mayor Joseph: Mr. Bien-Aime.
Councilman Bien-Aime: Mr. Manager in the Budget, 38 new employees is going to be added…38 including the eight Officers.

City Manager Spring: Yes sir.

Councilman Bien-Aime: Or plus?

City Manager Spring: That’s including. I know that number was thrown out there and I need to clarify something.

Councilman Bien-Aime: Terry just said that.

City Manager Spring: He’s right, the number is the number. But I wanted to clarify is, with regards to some of these positions, some of these are positions that you’ve already considered in the current Fiscal Year. For instance, the insourcing of the Meter Reader operation. Which is something that we brought back to the Council as part of this number. Also, you also have the insourcing our Building Department, which add a significant number of additional positions related to that. But when you talk about the net savings, we are in a position where we’ll be ahead financially in the Budget. But the head count does actually go up. So I just want to be clear, we’re just not adding an absolute 38 new positions with no kind of offset plan.

Councilman Bien-Aime: You said 38 new employees including the Building Department. That means they’re going to get rid of CAP Government?

City Manager Spring: Yes, we will be transitioning away from them. It won’t be a complete…it won’t happen immediately on day one and I think we will be…we’re budgeting to utilize some of their services still during the transition. But yes, the plan is to go to our full in-house Building Department; inspectors, the full company.

Councilman Bien-Aime: But should it be a partisan decision made by us to get rid of the contract?

City Manager Spring: This Budget and this offering that we’re making is a part of that policy decision. If you feel that you do not want to…for us to move in that direction, you would I guess drive that policy via this legislative vehicle.

Councilman Bien-Aime: But is the decision going to be more efficient for the department?

City Manager Spring: The operation will be more efficient. We will actually net and I have to be careful of the words I use because the Building Operations,
the revenue that it generates must support the operation specifically and solely. So we are resulting in a less expensive Building Department at the end of the day.

   Councilman Bien-Aime: Do you have…how many people are going to be added to the Building Department? How many employees are you talking about for the Building Department?

   Assistant Budget Director Henley: It will be five new positions in the Building Department.

   Councilman Bien-Aime: Where are they going to be sitting at because I don’t see space at the Building Department?

   City Manager Spring: They would be renovating the actual space down there in the building and I think they started some of that renovations anyways. Keep in mind, we’ve had the bodies the entire time, they were just CAP Government bodies. Now we will have our own bodies at the end of the day.

   Councilman Bien-Aime: Why did you remove a position from the Public Works Assistant Director and Contract Managers…a Contract Manager?

   Assistant Budget Director Henley: We didn’t remove any positions from Public Works.

   Councilman Bien-Aime: But you didn’t add any money into that for Public Works.

   Assistant Budget Director Henley: What page sir?

   Councilman Bien-Aime: Public Works Director. The Assistant Director…

   Assistant Budget Director Henley: The Assistant Director that’s paid out of the Water & Sewer Fund. So if you look at your Water & Sewer page that’s in there. And of the 38 positions, six of them are in Enterprise. Five from the Water & Sewer and one from the Stormwater.

   Councilman Bien-Aime: That mean you remove it from General Fund to the Enterprise Fund?

   Assistant Budget Director Henley: That was like that last year. This is the same as last year.
Councilman Bien-Aime: That mean I’m going to see the position in Water & Sewer right?

Assistant Budget Director Henley: Yes.

Councilman Bien-Aime: The Budget for the Police Department is down 2%?

Assistant Budget Director Henley: No it’s up $700,000.00.

Councilman Bien-Aime: From last year?

Assistant Budget Director Henley: Yes.

Councilman Bien-Aime: But you reduced the money for training by 2% if I’m not mistaken. Can you show it to me, Police Department training. I see less money than last year.

Assistant Budget Director Henley: What page are you on sir?

Councilman Bien-Aime: Do we have to go back with the millage rate first?

Vice-Mayor Desulme: I didn’t know. They said it makes sense…cause I’m lost here.

City Manager Spring: And I apologize. Typically yes, it is confusing. We are…the item in front of you is the millage rate item. I’m hearing your comments on the Budget. I know Vice-Mayor chose not to get into the…delve into the Budget.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Right now.

City Manager Spring: Right now.

Councilman Bien-Aime: We’re not finished with the millage rate, right?

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Can we do both right now or what is your suggestion?

City Attorney Cazeau: At the end of the day you have to come up with a millage rate tonight. I don’t know how you do that without discussing the Budget somehow. So I think we’re trying to balance discussing the Budget to kind of give you an idea of what millage rate to go with. And then we’re going to have a complete discussion on the Budget.
Vice-Mayor Desulme: What I was going to suggest, can we…I would feel comfortable but I don’t know how my colleagues would feel. If we leave it as is like we said the 7.9. And let’s discuss it and if you see anything then we put it at 7.5 our next meeting. And that’s just a suggestion cause it’s kind of like…so once we’re done, we’ll vote on both?

Deputy City Manager Sorey: Normally…we normally do the tentative millage rate first. However, since we are going to the roll back rate (inaudible) just to make sure that there’s nothing that comes up during the discussion. That’s why we are going through discussion in case we need to raise the rate.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: That’s what I’m saying. We know we can’t raise it past 7.9, so why don’t we vote that like we were going to do before and then if the Manager…after all of our concerns and we’ve gone through the Budget, you can make a recommendation whether we’re going to 7.5.

Mayor Joseph: Let me say, I mean for over about a year now we’ve been talking about the millage rate as to whether we could lower it and if we do, would we be able to balance the Budget and so forth. But having a Budget Department like we do and just a couple of weeks ago, we made this presentation about this award that our department received for the third consecutive time. Which is the most that any municipality has ever done. So it’s like you have a child and you know you’ve been bringing good grades home. He’s an A student. So that’s with all confidence I’ve gone over this book over and over during the weekend. So we just did labor Mr. Attorney during Labor Day. And after asking so many questions to Deputy Manager and Manager and the reassured me many times that with the 7.5 the Budget will be definitely balanced based on our requests that we’ve had in the past preliminary meetings and so forth. So I feel very confident with going with the 7.5 at this time. Because as long as we’re okay with all these interdepartmental…different department, what their budgets are. Most of them are up. As a matter of fact, most of them are up. So at the end of the day what you will see, is a reduction in taxes for the residents in the City of North Miami. So it can only be a good thing. Balancing the Budget and decreases the taxes at the same time. So not many governments can actually do that.

Councilman Galvin: Mr. Mayor, through you to the Staff. If we’re going to add another million dollars to sidewalk and street repairs, that millage rate must come up from 7.5. Or we must go line by line through the existing Budget tonight and cut one million dollars of something else out, whatever that might be. So if you…if we’re saying we want another million dollars for streets and sidewalks, that means that millage rates got to come up by three or four percentage…tenths of a point. Because otherwise we don’t have the revenue to be able to do that. So we…I totally get where Councilman Desulme’s coming from. If we want to add more, we either need to cut something out of
this tonight or we need to raise the millage rate tonight to be able to afford to do those things.

City Manager Spring: Can I? Through the Mayor. This is what I would suggest as the Manager and working with the Budget Staff. While I say I’m comfortable where we are. What I would ask so that we don’t have to go through this grueling step by step is, if you want to adopt a slightly higher millage rate tonight just for the sake of saying we have the room, allow us to go do the work. I still feel very confident and it was the reason why I made the recommendation to the Council, and hearing what you’ve been saying to me for the last 100 days about fiscal responsibility and so on and so forth. I would like to at least have the opportunity to go back and if you want a million, let me go see if I can hunt that million dollars with some of the room that I know we still kind of have in the Budget and balancing that with some reductions. Without going through the grueling task of line by line by line and I’m saying this from 13 years of budget experience and staying until six o’clock in the morning. We can go do that work and present…

Mayor Joseph: Well I forgot to make it…let me make it clear. My first priority is really decreasing taxes. And if we have to do that with the sacrifice of not having more streets repaired, so be it. Because I know that the people do…they’ve been crying out loud about different bills that they have and so forth. So decreasing the taxes is really more important matter to me than the…well repairing the streets is important as well. But I would rather forego some of that to make sure that we do have a decrease in taxes.

Councilman Bien-Aime: Are we discussing the millage rate? Okay that mean we stopped from discussing the Budget right? We’re going to come back on the Budget.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: The Mayor will let us know how we proceed.

Mayor Joseph: We’re doing the millage rate first.

Councilwoman Keys: Can I make a motion to approve the millage rate at 7.5 mills?

Councilman Bien-Aime: Can I say something on record before Councilwoman Keys? For the past nine, 10 months I’ve been sitting with either the Deputy City Manager when you were the acting City Manager and with the City Manager. And I said point blank that I will not vote for any Budget if we’re not going to reduce tax on the constituents. And I even asked you guys don’t try to balance your Budget by keeping the millage rate at 7.9. And that’s when I say that point blank and I keep my word. And I will prefer that we keep the millage rate at 7.5%. Then people can
have a break. Because when we had that situation where we have to increase tax on people and they get hurt. And now if we can have a break, if they have a break, if now things are better in the City in terms of financial it’s better than we have to give it back to the people. And I think it’s a good idea if we decrease taxes by lowering the millage rate at 7.5 and I’m for it. You have a million dollars for improvements and I think that’s enough because people do suffer with that water bill. And if you can give them a break with the property taxes, that’s a good thing for them.

Mayor Joseph: It’s a no brainer. I mean you decrease taxes, people have more money left in their pocket. It goes around in the economy. They have more money to spend. They go to their neighboring stores and they shop and they eat and that’s a good thing. So I would second your motion, Madame Councilman… I mean Councilwoman sorry.

City Clerk Etienne: Mayor, I was just informed by the City Attorney, I have to re-read the resolution in its entirety because of that addition to that…we’re on the millage rate. So now I’m going to…that slight correction. So let me go ahead and do this again.

City Clerk Etienne: (reads resolution by title only)

PROPOSED RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA, ADOPTING A TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATE OF 7.5000 MILLS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016 – 2017; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND FOR ALL OTHER PURPOSES.

City Clerk Etienne: Whereas, the City of North Miami Florida (CITY) has considered an operating budget for Fiscal Year 2016 – 2017 in accordance with the provisions of Section 200.065 Florida Statutes 2016 and whereas, the millage rate necessary to fund the City’s operating budget for Fiscal Year 2016 – 2017 is 7.5000 mills which is -0.3203 below the roll back rate of 7.5241. And whereas, in accordance with Section 200.065 (5) Florida Statutes as amended from time to time, a majority vote of the Mayor and City Council is required to adopt a rate of up to 7.5000 mills. And whereas, the Mayor and City Council find that the adoption of the proposed tentative millage rate for Fiscal Year 2016 – 2017 is in the best interest of the City. Now therefore be it duly resolved by the Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami, Florida. Section 1, adoption of tentative millage rate. The Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami, Florida hereby adopt 7.5000 mills as the tentative millage rate on assessed property value necessary to fund the City’s Fiscal Year 2016 – 2017 operating budget. Section 2, effective date; this resolution shall become effective immediately upon
adoption. Passed and adopted by a blank vote of the Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami this blank day of blank 2016.

City Clerk Etienne: I have a motion made by Councilwoman Keys to approve Tab A as is. That motion was then seconded by Mayor Smith Joseph.

ROLL CALL

Councilman Bien-Aime Yes
Vice-Mayor Desulme Yes
Mayor Joseph Yes
Councilman Galvin Yes
Councilwoman Keys Yes

City Clerk Etienne: Tab A has been approved with a 5 – 0 vote.

**TAB B**

City Clerk Etienne: And for the record again, I have to read this tab, which is an ordinance in its entirety.

City Clerk Etienne: (reads ordinance by title only)

PROPOSED ORDINANCE (FIRST READING) OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA, ADOPTING AND APPROVING THE BUDGET OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2016 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2017; AUTHORIZING THE AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION FOR THE OPERATION OF THE CITY FOR THE 2016-2017 FISCAL YEAR; AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS ESTABLISHED BY THE BUDGET; AUTHORIZING A “RETURN ON INVESTMENT” TRANSFER FROM THE WATER & SEWER UTILITY FUND TO THE GENERAL FUND; AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO IMPLEMENT BUDGET AMENDMENTS (REVENUE AND/OR EXPENDITURE) TO APPROPRIATE OR UNAPPROPRIATE FUNDS AS REQUIRED DURING THE FISCAL YEAR, AND TO AMEND THE PRIOR FISCAL YEAR BUDGET TO FACILITATE THE YEAR-END
CLOSING PROCESS; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL, SEVERABILITY AND FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

City Clerk Etienne: Whereas, the budget of the City of North Miami, Florida (CITY) for the Fiscal Year commencing October 1, 2016 and ending September 30, 2017 (attached hereto as “Exhibit 1”) was considered at public hearings held on September 6, 2016, and September 20, 2016, as required by Chapter 200, Florida Statutes; and whereas, the Mayor and City Council wish to approve and adopt the Budget of the City for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2016, and ending September 30, 2017, and to authorize that this amount be raised by taxation for the operation of the City for the 2016 – 2017 Fiscal Year. Now, therefore, be it ordained by the Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami, Florida that Section 1, Budget Approved and Adopted. The Budget of the City of North Miami for the 2016 – 2017 Fiscal Year, (attached hereto as ‘Exhibit 1’), is hereby approved and adopted. Section 2, Implement Budget Amendments. The City Manager is hereby, authorized to implement Budget amendments (revenue and/or expenditure), to appropriate or un-appropriate funds as required during the fiscal year, and to amend the prior fiscal year budget, to facilitate the year-end closing process. Section 3, Expenditure of Funds Appropriated in the Authorized Budget. Funds appropriated to the various departments in the Budget may be expended by the directors of each department by and with the approval of the City Manager in accordance with the provisions of the City Charter and applicable Ordinances. Expenditures of funds (including, but not limited to enterprise funds, internet service funds and expendable trust funds) under circumstances which additional revenues are generated by user fees or charges to offset the cost of supplying a service to residents or other City departments, shall not be limited by estimated appropriations, but rather by actual revenue, and to that extent, the actual revenue received shall be deemed to be appropriated. Section 4, Return on Investment of Water and Sewer Fund Assets. The Budget includes a transfer from the Water and Sewer Operation and Maintenance Fund to the General Fund representing the return on investment that taxpayers would receive if the utility were sold. The transfer for the 2016 – 2017 Fiscal Year is calculated at 6.5% of Fixed Assets as of September 30, 2015. This transfer may be made annually but will not exceed 7.5% of the utility’s net Fixed Assets. Section 5, Checks. All checks on City bank accounts shall be signed by any member of the City Council and the Finance Director. Section 6, Amount of Taxes. The approximate amount of $19,525,764.00 shall be the amount of gross taxes to be raised by the operating ad valorem tax levy authorized by Resolution of the Mayor and City Council. Section 7, Authority of Manager. The City Manager is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents and instruments and to do and cause to be done any and all acts and things necessary or proper for carrying out the transactions contemplated by this Ordinance. Section 8, Repeal. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict or inconsistent are repealed. Section 9, Severability. If any word, clause, phrase, sentence, paragraph, or Section of this Ordinance is held to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such declaration of invalidity shall not affect any other word, clause, phrase,
sentence, paragraph or Section of this Ordinance. Section 10, Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon passage on second reading. Passed and adopted by a blank vote of the Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami on first reading. This blank day of blank of blank 2016. And passed and adopted by a blank vote of the Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami on second reading this blank day of 2016.

Mayor Joseph: Thank you Mr. Clerk. We’ve already been discussing the item, so we actually did open it to the public. Do we need to reopen it? Public Hearing is now open again on the item on the Budget. I see no one coming so Public Hearing is closed. No, no go ahead. It’s only two minutes.

Mr. Each: Kenneth Each, 776 N.E. 125th Street. I don’t know if this is the appropriate hearing for it but I would think like what you’re looking for is a citizens prospective on the Budget. I’m glad that you’re lowering the millage rate, that’s more money in my pocket. I agree with you. What I see out there on the street is, we need more people where the rubber meets the road. The streets, our General Maintenance Workers, keeping our streets clean. I walk every day, do six, seven miles a day. The people just can’t keep up with it. The citizens throw the garbage out there, we have to clean it up. We need more people there. The Parks Department, we need more people. Code Enforcement, they’re doing a hell of a great job but they need more people. I see stuff on the weekends, it’s just outrageous. We don’t have the people. So where the rubber meets the road, we need more people. Thank you.

Mayor Joseph: Thank you. Point very well taken. Nothing from you? We’re back to the dais.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: You want to go first? Okay Mr. Mayor, are we going to do department by department or do you want us to just talk about the various…how we’re going to…what’s the process?

Mayor Joseph: Whatever it is that you…whatever points that you have today. We don’t have to go…we can always go back and forth. But if you have a list of like 10 items you want to talk about, you can just go ahead and put them out there.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: So whoever has the mic…

Mayor Joseph: In no particular order.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: No particular order. Is that okay with you Mr. Manager or you prefer we…as we talk about what departments so that we don’t go back to it. We’ll be here all night.

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September 6th, 2016
City Manager Spring: It’s your night, your show.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Mr. Mayor, I don’t know if anybody else…

Mayor Joseph: You went first sir.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: I do have a couple of comments. Thank you Chief for saying what you said. I do agree with you. A lot of the stuff that you mentioned because earlier today the Deputy Manager and I we had one of those similar calls. And a lot of it that we as the City, we’re supposed to be doing or at least we think the residents supposed to be doing, apparently they don’t have the money or it does look a mess out there. So we do have to do something. Mr. Manager, when we met last week, I think we spent almost four hours just going over this. So this is going to be very, very…

Mayor Joseph: Easy.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Well not…well easy but I don’t take up a lot of time. But…I’m very focused. And Councilman Galvin, I didn’t know nothing about the BFS also and we met for four hours, so it’s not only you. I had some questions with the General Fund. So before we even get into the Budget, I’m looking at this particular page, that’s the General Fund expense. There are some departments and we talked about this Terry that’s way up there. I just want it to be on the record. I want the public to know why some of these are up. The first is the Building I think is very clear and very understandable; what we’re doing with CAP Government. So as a result that’s been increased. City Attorney, you…I didn’t have a chance to speak with you Mr. Attorney but it’s increased 29%. So what’s that for?

City Attorney Cazeau: There are a number of things. One, I believe the Contract Manager or Contract Review person for SoliMia is placed under my Budget. Additionally there’s things I’d prefer not to talk about but there are some…you will see some increase in our outside City Attorney expenditures.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Outside counsel.

City Attorney Cazeau: Outside counsel. Only because there are some things…there are some areas that we need some outside counsel. I identified them when I came in. Some of the practices that we’re doing, we shouldn’t be representing the City in certain cases. So you’ll see some small expenditures there. And that’s really the most of it. You’ve got the LDRs that we’re going to be doing those. And as I’ve mentioned in a couple of the meetings, we haven’t scheduled it yet but later on in the year, probably next year, we will after we go through the LDRs, we will be reviewing the entire Code. Which I don’t know if will be done by next…by the end of the Fiscal Year but it will at least start next Fiscal Year. So those are some of the expenditures that you’re seeing.
Vice-Mayor Desulme: Okay thank you sir. City Clerk…Mr. Clerk it’s because of the election?

City Clerk Etienne: You’ve got it Mayor…I mean Vice-Mayor.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Got it, moving forward. City Manager, we went over and part of that is the Contract Manager.

City Manager Spring: Correct.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: I did ask that…I saw that the Governmental Affairs was out. I did ask if we could put it back in and it will be.

City Manager Spring: Through the Vice-Mayor since you are now chairing. Yes, we have taken into consideration your recommendation. During our discussion, we’ll be making that change.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Okay, thank you sir. Code Enforcement, 25%. I know they hired someone. Part of their supplement, how much more are they looking to hire? How many people more part of this 38 is coming from Code Enforcement, not including the one that they just recently hired.

Assistant Budget Director Henley: Right. The Code Enforcement Budget went up 25%. $120,000.00 of that was a supplemental for the demolition of abandoned properties. There’s a lot of properties that are abandoned and our Code Department is going to take care of them this year with that supplemental.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: What do you mean they’re going to take care of them?

Assistant Budget Director Henley: Outside structures that are boarded up, they’re going to take care of those. Also there were four positions added to the Code Department last year. And when we pay our pension a year behind. So the fact that we moved those positions over, this year those pensions are hitting in the Code Department. So that’s the 25%.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: So how many more employees there’s going to be?

Assistant Budget Director Henley: There’s no new employees in the Code Department this year.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: I believe there was one.
Assistant Budget Director Henley: Not for…

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Not for Budget…I mean as part of the supplemental. So they don’t…going…supplemental in the back. So they have no new Code Enforcement Officers for the Fiscal Year 2017?

Assistant Budget Director Henley: No its 13 last year, 13 this year.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Okay. I would like to propose that we add one. I mean that’s part of the cleaning up. I thought they had one. I don’t know where I got that from Mr. Manager.

Assistant Budget Director Henley: There was a vacancy throughout this current Fiscal Year and they just filled it.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: No not this fiscal year. I’m talking about the 2017 Fiscal Year. I thought there was one, at least one cause that’s part of what Chief was talking about; the City looking a mess. They just hired one. I thought we would have had at least a couple that we were going to look at and see what we could do. But the fact that I see that we don’t have one and I don’t think we specifically talked about that when we met. So Mr. Manager if you can because now I think members have to understand what Councilman Galvin was trying to say. Now we’re really…since we’re at a 7.5 tax rate which we’re all happy with. We’re going to have to do some cutting unless there’s some magic money somewhere we don’t know about Mr. Manager. There’s none, okay we cut.

Councilman Bien-Aime: Mr. Mayor, any change in the Budget we’re going to have to vote on it item by item. That’s a proposal, you have to vote on.

City Manager Spring: Well let me ask you a question. Do you…and this kind of speaks to the…what I requested earlier. Would you like…well I would prefer that you give me all of those changes and allow me the opportunity to go back and come up with a recommendation to meet those challenges. And then during our briefings you know update you individually. So by the time I bring back the final Budget, we’ll have a sense of what those things are and what they are not.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Got it.

Councilman Bien-Aime: And we can vote.

City Manager Spring: And then you can vote all at once.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Perfect.
City Manager Spring: So that way it’s a little bit more of a streamline process.

Councilman Bien-Aime: It’s messy and I don’t think that’s Code Enforcement. People from Parks & Rec…

Vice-Mayor Desulme: No it’s not Code. I was just saying that I agree with him. Well part of the mess could be Code. The houses not being looked at and you know. But anyhow, so Mr. Manager do your magic and see if we can do something with Code. CPD I’m very happy. I see a big deficit so that’s good. I don’t even want to ask nothing. So we’re skipping that. Finance 14%. I did have an issue with that but you assured me and during our briefing Mr. Manager you said it would be…that’s a movement that was happening and part of it was the Water & Sewer fund. And I don’t too much have a concern with that. Technology and Information, the 13% increase, what is that?

Assistant Budget Director Henley: Overall in the Budget you’ll see approximately 7% for staffing, 2% for COLA, 5% for merit.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: We know that.

Assistant Budget Director Henley: Knowing that you also have money in IT for cyclical replacement of computers. $14,000.00 in addition for MoCA and then you have about $100,000.00 for Executime.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: That’s what I’m…and these are supplementals?

Assistant Budget Director Henley: Yes.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: So $100,000.00 so not the 53? 162, the switch equipment, what is that?

Assistant Budget Director Henley: There is five or six switches in City Hall and that’s…probably the Information Technology Director can talk more into actually about that equipment but I know…

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Do we change it every year?

Assistant Budget Director Henley: Yes. Every year we change one or two of them.

City Manager Spring: That is our cyclical replacement of just our general access equipment.
Vice-Mayor Desulme: So it’s $42,000.00 this year.

Assistant Budget Director Henley: That’s the same as last year.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: So the $100,000.00 is the computer for the entire City?

Assistant Budget Director Henley: Yes.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: So these computers are being changed every year?

City Manager Spring: Some.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Some of them, okay. And these are…so every year we’re changing computers just to change them?

Assistant Budget Director Henley: New computers and IT equipment.

City Manager Spring: No we’re not just changing computers just for the sake of changing them. We are replacing equipment that is outdated or obsolete in a uniform manner every year. The department budgets an amount…or request a budget for replacement every year. So this is not just the Manager wants us to…

Mayor Joseph: So it’s not the same computers being changed every year? It’s just a circular thing that…

City Manager Spring: Yes older PCs.

Mayor Joseph: This year you may be replacing…

City Manager Spring: All the computers that were bought in 2001.

Mayor Joseph: And then next year you’ll be replacing some other ones.

City Manager Spring: Exactly.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: So what happen after 20…

City Manager Spring: And servers and…not just laptops. Servers and all the other stuff that support us.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: So after 2018 we’re going to get a new proposal for another three years?
City Manager Spring: Yes.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: All righty then. Okay.

City Manager Spring: I know IT is one of those areas that can tend to nebulous until Eden doesn’t work and we can’t process Payroll or you know someone’s laptop is not working in the field or Code. So I hear you and I’m listening but I’m very…I tend to be a little bit more protective of that technology replacement. Because it is something that…and I think you’ve seen it here. If the server goes down for an hour, we can’t do anything. We can’t send emails. We can’t respond.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: No I totally agree because one of the issues that I had with IT and I continue having it is, if you’re at home there’s certain unless I think Ricardo told me, unless you are on a bigger network you cannot open certain items or you cannot even attach files if you are running out. So you have to operate on this. And I’m like, wait a minute there are…for example. The university where I teach at, you can attach these things and we still use Outlook. So that could be something the IT Director could look into. How can we get into a system that employees once they’re at home they can…because I’m constantly calling. The Library, I’m so happy but I see it’s down. You did tell me that Lucia had some books in there, which I’m happy. Is Lucia here? Are you okay with…come on up. I want to make sure cause it’s down. So down is the renovation?

Assistant Budget Director Henley: It’s the completion of the renovation, yes.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Are we good with…are we getting enough books in our beautiful Library?

Library Director Gonzalez: Well Mayor/Council, we are getting books…

City Manager Spring: You can answer honestly.

Councilman Galvin: Not that you’ve been put on the spot or anything.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: I’m sorry.

Library Director Gonzalez: We are getting books. I can never say we’re getting enough books. We are getting less than the prior two years when you approved $50,000.00 for the book budget.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: What is it this year?
Library Director Gonzalez: $30,000.00. That barely covers all the EBooks and a subscription to all the new digital resources that we have, which as you know they’re very expensive. And the remaining would be for the printed books mostly for children and young adults to support the schools.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Well thank you. Mr. Manager, can we see if we could at least match last year’s. If we could add another twenty to the Library. That’s part of your supplemental I’m looking at. Thank you.

Library Director Gonzalez: Thank you.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: MoCA, I know we don’t have a Director 27%, that’s high.

City Manager Spring: The only change there was we added the one…I think it was the one position correct?

Assistant Budget Director Henley: MoCA got the…the air conditioner needed to be replaced. The Library also got the air conditioner to be replaced.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Yeah I saw the Library.

Councilman Galvin: Those are separate line items.

Mayor Joseph: Is there any way for next time we can make like a supplemental booklet to explain what these increases or decreases are?

City Manager Spring: Absolutely.

Mayor Joseph: I mean it would be so productive. 21%, okay this is why.

City Manager Spring: It is there, it’s kind of small.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: And I’m not even going by that yet. I was just going by the general. Cause we’re pretty on point. I’m just going to go over this summary and I’m just doing the General Fund expense. So again, the 27% is what? The AC is $88,000.00, what else?

Assistant Budget Director Henley: You also have the positions covered by MoCA Inc, which the City is subsidizing now. And that came out to a little more than $300,000.00.
Vice-Mayor Desulme: What? You said we subsidize the…how many positions?

Assistant Budget Director Henley: The museum in past years, we’re talking about three or four years ago. The City would contribute one million and then the private entity they support the other three or four million dollars. With the succession of the museum and how it turned out, the City has been subsidizing that portion. We…and its being truly recognized in the Budget this year with the increase that you’re seeing.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: So that’s the 374.

Assistant Budget Director Henley: Yes.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: So the non-departmental that’s 45% that…Mr. Manager could you explain to us what…

Assistant Budget Director Henley: That’s the additional revenue that we received from SoliMia in December, the $4.4 million dollars.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Yeah but the 4.4 would not…what else is in there that’s why it’s so high? I’m trying to figure out.

City Manager Spring: What’s in there is the increase…the large increase over last year to this year is your Total Reserve. The Total Reserve contribution, which is the big portion, single portion of it is the $4.4 million of the money we received from the sale proceeds from MoCA that I think you have the additional…and the $2 million…the Cagni appropriation.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: So it’s just sitting there. So in previous this line item should be balanced back and forth, back and forth okay. What is this Office of…okay Budget. Well no it’s not good. I was looking at something else. 12%, where is that coming from?

Assistant Budget Director Henley: We have a new Budget Analyst. I have a new position in the Budget Department. We used to have two, now we have three.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Are you proposing or you’re adding, which one is it?

Assistant Budget Director Henley: He was added last year and it’s being reflected in this year’s Budget.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: So last year we didn’t have this increase?
Assistant Budget Director Henley: Well what happened was, for that position what we did was, we took out contractual services of a little more than $30,000.00. And we said hey what are the benefits of bringing…making this person full time. The cost is only an additional $10,000.00. So we made that move.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Okay, I see. I thought we always had that. But you’re saying it became full time this year.

Assistant Budget Director Henley: It was a part time that became full time.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: I thought it was…I was in question, I thought there was an additional coming in this year.

Assistant Budget Director Henley: No sir.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Parks.

Assistant Budget Director Henley: The variance for Parks is due to the completion of some projects like Sasso Pool, Besade Park, the tennis renovation.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: I know. The question I have and they do such a good job is that it’s down. However, so all of that’s part of their…these capital improvements are part of their Budget. So that’s why although some of the line items, the personnel can go up but the net will go down.

City Manager Spring: Matter of fact if you allow me and Terry kind of said it already. Every single department because of our…the already approved and anticipated approved contractual obligations we’ll have in salary, if you were just looking at the salary line item for every department, they will be an increase. This number that you’re seeing is the net of change from last year plus those additions.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: So there’s no new positions from that 50?

Assistant Budget Director Henley: In Parks there are two new positions.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: So last year it was 48, this year it will be 50. Okay the other question, I think this will be the best time to bring it up because I think they have such a large number of part time employees. While we were going over the Budget part of my concern, well not concern. We weren’t giving nothing although everyone will be getting the 7% increase. Either the 2% COLA and the 5% merit, etcetera, etcetera. In some cases some people are changing steps. And I did say…whether not monitor that we don’t have an employee if a public record is pulled that is being jumped two steps. We got to be very careful. Cause if we’re doing that, let’s do it for everybody. But if it’s one
and that’s what we’re hearing and the public is knowing about, we’re okay with it that’s what’s being fund. But I know there are some things that can be done administratively but let’s be careful. And whoever…and that’s us…then we’ll have to be explaining well this person was such a good superhero they were going to leave. You know I really will say be a little caution about that. But to my point, what can we do and I know your hand is kind of tied Mr. Manager because where we are in the Budget and that’s what I said at the beginning. By us adding and making requests and you’re just hearing from me now and not the others. Yet you’re going…there’s going to be some choices. What kind can we do to help the part time employees? Because a lot of them which I’m very passionate about because they do live in the City, although not that many. But there’s a nice number. They’re getting barely minimum wage while everybody else is getting something. Which I’m very happy about, he’s getting something. But can we find something…can we raise something for our part time employees?

City Manager Spring: Through the Mayor of course. A couple of things. One, some of the positions that you see increased in this Budget are us transitioning individuals that were previously part time to a full time position. So we’ve heard…I think we’ve heard it and we’re starting to respond. With regards to a larger program, we can look at and I’ve worked on some of these in the past, in a transit…you know come back to the Council with a transition program. That says, if you have a part time and I know some exist here in our City that have been there for X amount of years, we can come up…develop kind of, I don’t want to say an automatic but as close to an automatic process for making them the first recipients of the next full time job. And then with regards to the salary, their existing salary, we’ll take a look at something. I know one of your colleagues has been adamant about pushing for some minimum wage considerations City wide. I know we did some analysis around that, so we can pull that out and see what we can do and maybe recommend a transition plan for that as well. Well not make, recommend a transition plan for you.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: You know you will find administratively that there are some employees whose worth what you’re talking about in the program and some who may not. My concern, what my question would be, what’s our minimum wage right now? What’s the lowest a part time person is getting?

City Manager Spring: Eight.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: $8.00 an hour?

City Manager Spring: $8.05, I think it is.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: So my question would be because these are hourly people. Can we raise it to like $9.00? Because everybody’s getting seven and that seven is almost past $500,000.00 I’m assuming. I don’t think giving them $1.00 extra on an
hourly wage…I don’t know how you guys do the formula. I don’t know how much that would be. Not necessarily transition some of them to full time because some of them may not even be working full time or want to full time. There may be some students.

City Manager Spring: We’ll do that calculation and bring that number back because I don’t want to guestimate.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Yeah I got you but you understand what I’m saying to you?

City Manager Spring: I’m going to ask a question for clarification. So us doing, you would want us to set a minimum bar for all the part timers? And the reason why I ask that question is, remember during the summer we…

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Yeah the YOBs.

City Manager Spring: Not just the YOBs but also we bring on the summer camp counselors and stuff like that. And they’re literally only here for…they’ll be here for 90 days or whatever it is.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: They should be getting $15.00.

City Manager Spring: And I guess I’m saying that to distinguish between our permanent part time if you will versus those people who are seasonal.

Councilman Galvin: Personally I’d be open minded that maybe a summer person maybe only made $9.00 while the more permanent person made 11 or 12.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: I like that even better.

City Manager Spring: Maybe I should have stayed quiet.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: You would have been okay.

Councilman Galvin: That’s where I’m coming from. I recognize the jump to $15.00 an hour minimum wage is perhaps a lot of money. What I’ve been seeing other cities do across the country is they’re doing it incrementally and moving it up to here and then by the third year they’re moving it to the $15.00 or something like that.

City Manager Spring: The City of Miami did a five year transition.

Councilman Galvin: So I’m open minded but I definitely think that $8.00 an hour minimum wage is…nobody could live on that.
Mayor Joseph: But when we do that don’t we have to be kind of (inaudible). Are there any State laws that actually guide this type of decisions? You might want to be fair toward a certain and neglect another group.

City Manager Spring: He’s lost his voice so that’s why I’m doing a lot of…

Mayor Joseph: Well we have a City Attorney here. If he cannot (inaudible) on the subject as to how we should…I don’t think it’s a decision we can just go and make just like that. We need to look at the State laws to see they say before we…labor laws, State laws, whatever.

City Attorney Cazeau: I would recommend making a decision tonight as the Manager said. Let’s go back. But in terms of minimum wage, we wouldn’t be in conflict because we would be making it higher than the minimum. Normally if it’s a minimum wage, you can’t go less that but you can always go higher.

Mayor Joseph: It’s not to the person but to whom that you are giving the increase, it’s the other employees who may not be getting it.

City Attorney Cazeau: That we probably should look at.

City Manager Spring: And one of the considerations when I take this back, when we’ve looked at this in the past there’s a number of issues that come up. Compression to the existing contractual employees that we have, we have to consider that. I brought up one example seasonal employees versus more permanent part time. I think sometime they are considered they’re in different classifications. So I wanted to kind of…so that you are not surprised when I come back and say, oh Vice-Mayor the number is $200.00 but it only includes 50 people as opposed to maybe…

Vice-Mayor Desulme: As long as those 50 people live here, I don’t care. I got you.

City Manager Spring: But to the point, I will go and do the full analysis and get back to you in time before the next hearing.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Not a problem, thank you. Moving on Parks, we’re done. Personnel, moving down, Police. Now here’s the thing Police…when you request from their Budget although it’s only 3% from last year. So how many new Officers? We were debating it’s four.
Assistant Budget Director Henley: There is eight new positions in the Police Department and five of them are Officers, one of them is a Commander and four are part of a COPS grant.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Let’s go into…not the one with the grant. Let’s talk about the…how many Commanders do we have now?

Assistant Budget Director Henley: Let me turn to the page.

City Manager Spring: Seven.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Eight no? Why do we need another one?

City Manager Spring: We added a Commander…we promoted a Commander this year which was an additional Commander. That Commander was Commander Brinson, who is the now full time Emergency Manager. The reason why I requested for him to be promoted to Commander is because he was previously in the rank of Sergeant, which means he was eligible for over time at any moment in time, except as opposed to being an exempt employee. So it was a cost savings measure if you will for the City.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: I would try not to…I don’t want to mention any names because I didn’t really know exactly. So is that position that you’re proposing there or that’s an additional one? That’s already included?

City Manager Spring: It’s additional over this year because we added it this year.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: So where are we now without that position that you added? It’s six or seven? It’s six, you said eight. So is that the Commander you were talking about or no?

Assistant Budget Director Henley: I’ll just go through them specifically so we’re clear. Eight new positions. So going through the changes and this is on page 123. One new Assistant Police Chief, one new Commander, one new Emergency Manager, Police Officers there is one less. You went from 93 to 92.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Why?

Assistant Budget Director Henley: Because one of them became the Commander. Then Crime Scene Technician, there’s one less and that became a Quartermaster, which is one new. There’s also a Public Information Specialist, which is new and one is a Records Technician.
Councilman Bien-Aime: Vice-Mayor, can I say something? Those are administrative decisions, those are not policy making.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: But they are part of the Budget. If you’re giving us a Budget we got to go through it as you are the person that’s supposed to be voting.

Councilman Bien-Aime: But I did (inaudible)…

Vice-Mayor Desulme: No I’m not adding or…Mr. Councilman, I’m not adding. I’m asking questions if I’m going to be voting on something that I don’t know about. So I went through this thoroughly so that I could know exactly what I’m going on. So it’ll be up to him whatever that he would want to do but he has to explain to me why are…if they give you $200 million dollar budget, are you just going to vote on it because it’s administratively?

Councilman Bien-Aime: No. I’m talking about there are some decisions there, administrative decisions or technical position when it comes to the Police Department that’s what I mean.

Mayor Joseph: Can I ask one question? These decisions to hire or promoting Officers to Commander and what have you, are these based upon requests from the Police Chief or is it the sole decision of the Managerial Staff?

City Manager Spring: The promotion of individuals from rank position to command position are the decision of the Chief supported by obviously myself. So he will…you know operationally he’ll come to me and say, Mr. Manager because X, Y and Z or we have X, I need to have this level of Command Staff. One of the overwriting things that I should say and I know we talked about this with each of you individually is, the Chief and I as a result of some of the things that have transpired, we are working together to take a look at what the Command structure is. And that’s been an ongoing process particularly to achieve some of the things that I know you really want…

Mayor Joseph: I do understand that. I simply asked the question just to piggy back on what Vice-Mayor was asking. So we should take it on the dais that all of these changes of…in salaries and additional staff are pretty much requests from the Police Chief based on his Budget?

City Manager Spring: Correct.

Mayor Joseph: Thank you.
Vice-Mayor Desulme: Each one of them is from the department. Thank you Mr. Mayor. Real quick, so we have 96...so 92 plus four, 96 Officers total. And we had 97 last year or we didn’t have the four? The COP grant?

Assistant Budget Director Henley: Last year you had 93 regular Police Officers, this year you have 92 plus four COPS.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: So it’ll be 96 total?

Assistant Budget Director Henley: Yes, okay now I feel a little bit better. Thank you. Public Works. It’s because of the department…the capital improvement why it’s down?

Assistant Budget Director Henley: Yes.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Hold on, I did have one question. I’ll come to it when it comes to Public Works. And that’s basically it, I’m okay with the others. Thank you Mr. Mayor. I’ll come back later if I have any other questions.

Mayor Joseph: Thank you. Who wishes to go next?

Councilman Bien-Aime: I just have a question for the Police Department. I see that in the Budget, Police Training Fund is down 20% and you said it’s up. Where?

Assistant Budget Director Henley: I don’t know where you see Police Training Fund.

Councilman Bien-Aime: It’s here, Police Training Fund.

Assistant Budget Director Henley: That’s a grant that comes from the State. But you should know or the Mayor and Council should know that training is an operations expense. Last year there was $1.9 million for their operations. This year it’s proposed at $3.8 million, so the Police operations went up.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: One quick minute from his time. Mr. Manager, you and I we did talk with Terry. I just don’t want to forget this point. Please see what you could do for Housing because that’s one of my biggest concerns. I know we talk about roads and streets but having the line be here the other day, September 1st. You know that’s one of my commitments. We already talked about that. I just want to put that on the record, thank you. Go ahead.

Councilman Bien-Aime: Just to finish Mr. City Manager. I have only one thing that I would like to see add to the Budget. The Senior Citizens Program. Now you
have it for one day at Joe Celestin Center. See if you can add another day at Griffing Boulevard...at Griffing Community Center. The same thing that you’re going to have it two days like maybe Wednesday and Friday with the same team. Just another location and another day.

City Manager Spring: Just to have them at the other location.

Councilman Bien-Aime: How much it’s going to cost for operation…

City Manager Spring: I’d have to look into that to see what that is on a daily basis. But I mean we already provide the transportation and all that stuff. So the physical move logistically should be very simple. It’ll just be a matter of getting the staffing for that additional day. And whatever…

Councilman Bien-Aime: Make sure that does not affect the aftercare, the after school program.

City Manager Spring: Yeah, I know. It would be separate.

Councilman Bien-Aime: No because it’s small. And I understand from 3 to 6 we have to close the community center. That mean if you (inaudible). Just add another day and that’s it.

Mayor Joseph: You want to go first, go ahead.

Councilwoman Keys: I already said what I wanted but I would agree with Councilman Bien-Aime. I would support the extra programming for the seniors at Griffing, especially with transportation. With regard to what Vice-Mayor Desulme stated, he talked about Code but I think he was talking about maintenance. I would love to see someone…I think that would be more Public Works than Code. Going around our streets, I mean sometimes it’s just horrible what people throw out on the roads. And I get it, there’s just not enough man power. And by the bus benches and the trash cans. I hate to say it but we have poop stations and people just...no matter how many we give them, they want more. So that takes more people. We’ve got to empty them. So we could use definitely another maintenance person throughout the City. Did you want to answer that?

City Manager Spring: Just through the Mayor and just quickly our response to that is, that process of keeping the City straight is a collaborative process between us and our citizens. I think now I know you guys know we were working on the alleyway cleanup to address some of those things although the adjacent property owner is technically response. So were looking to adding something there, some additional resources. But I think it also includes...it’s not just Public Works. It is Code Enforcement. Matter of fact I remember the Mayor just a few days ago we were talking
about signage in the windows. And that is about visually and aesthetically cleaning up the City in the look and feel. And that part is definitely not, it’s a Code Enforcement. It’s an issue of us going out and saying hey or even educating. You’re not supposed to do this or it needs to be this way. So we will definitely look into it.

Councilwoman Keys: One of the problems with our City, it would be nice if our citizens would cooperate and take care of their own City. We are a City of major pass-through. We’ve got 135th Street. We’ve got 125th Street. We have Biscayne Boulevard. We have people...alleys like even in Keystone and it’s really not fair...131st Street. People are passing through our City that don’t live here and don’t care. They’re passing through Keystone. They’re going to the shopping center and I imagine on N.W. 7th Avenue. But going through the shopping centers, you’ve got pass through.

Mayor Joseph: West Dixie Highway.

Councilwoman Keys: They’re throwing the stuff, West Dixie. They’re throwing their stuff all over and some of the people it’s their swales. It’s their responsibility but it’s really not fair when you know they’re on these public through fares. I’d like to help them. And I sure don’t want to fine our residents because pass through people are dumping stuff on their property. So I’d love to see another maintenance person. As far as night patrol, if we can’t do a Park Ranger, if it’s something we can work with the Police Department in the evening shift. Someone on their rounds if they had a secondary key to the parks or if parks can get there, then the Police would have it. And they can just...oh parks not closed and they just go over and check it and make sure nobody’s loitering and lock it. So anything we can do to get additional Police Patrol especially in the evenings and the traffic control is something...if we have enough, I mean again you’re saying we’ve added more people. I’m hoping that the new people we’ve added are going to be included in that. And as far as the street repair and sidewalk repair, I didn’t hear the Mayor ask for a million dollars, I didn’t catch that. Did he?

Mayor Joseph: I did. I said I would rather.

Councilwoman Keys: I didn’t hear the million dollar request but if we can put some more in, I support that. But again I support combining street and sidewalk to make it one big number. Thank you.

Councilman Bien-Aime: And swale improvement.

Mayor Joseph: For the Police Department, the body cameras we talked about it $120,000.00. So that would cover every single Officer who’s out there in the street?
City Manager Spring: Yes sir.

Mayor Joseph: Will there be...that same company we’re buying them from, are they going to be...

City Manager Spring: Right now we haven’t made any decision.

Mayor Joseph: I know we are considering...you were talking to different companies.

City Manager Spring: We’re doing demos from a number of different vendors. Actually the way it’s looking, we will probably have to do a solicitation of some type just based on people hearing...what I’ve said publicly about us moving to cameras, we’ve been getting a lot of calls and requests.

Councilman Bien-Aime: You have to bring it to us.

City Manager Spring: Oh yeah, absolutely. It’s going to be a full open process.

Councilman Bien-Aime: Not after the RFP, we’re talking about the policy to set up for the camera.

City Manager Spring: All of that stuff is part of our...what we talked about and I briefed with you this Police Departments 90-day plan. So there will be plenty of public input, feedback on the policy and all that stuff.

Mayor Joseph: That’s for policy. I was questioning the financial part of it, the $120,000.00. How did you come up with that amount since we haven’t yet purchased it? How do we know how much it’s going to cost?

Deputy City Manager Sorey: Through the Manager and through the Mayor. We basically through our...working with the different companies and going through the demos, we’ve gotten estimates on cost. What it does cost to outfit the Officers and the $120,000.00 looks like the cost that it’s going to cost. The maintenance agreement will be a little more. However we don’t anticipate the cameras being installed and operational until March 31st, that is my deadline to make sure we have everything ready to go. So we won’t pay...

Councilman Bien-Aime: Who deadline? By who?

Deputy City Manager Sorey: To implement.
Councilman Bien-Aime: When you say deadline, we haven’t decided if we want to put body cameras on Officers.

Deputy City Manager Sorey: Well our research, we don’t…if we do decide to move forward, we won’t be doing so before March 31st.

Mayor Joseph: Who will be reviewing those clips? Are we going to do it in house or outsourced?

City Manager Spring: All of that stuff we need to deal with.

Mayor Joseph: So we don’t know yet?

City Manager Spring: We haven’t delved into any of those. All we’ve done is gotten…

Mayor Joseph: But if you don’t know yet why are we putting a dollar amount on it? Because if the dollar amount is simply just to buy the vehicle but you’re not telling how much it’s going to cost for it, it may be costing me one million dollars to maintain.

City Manager Spring: It will not cost you one million dollars.

Mayor Joseph: We don’t know. Do we?

City Manager Spring: Based on the research, the preliminary research that the deputy has done working with the Police Department, we’re confident that this number and this Budget allocation is sufficient. With regards to…

Mayor Joseph: (Inaudible) at the Police Station?

City Manager Spring: I haven’t made any of those decisions cause some of the…the reason why I don’t want to get into it, there’s a lot of different way that those cameras can be operated.

Mayor Joseph: But we have to approve that $120,000.00.

City Manager Spring: It is just a budgetary allocation which I have to legally do right now.

Mayor Joseph: I brought it up because I know once we agree to it, it will not cost just $120,000.00. That 120 just for purchase.
City Manager Spring: In the next year’s Operating Budget.

Mayor Joseph: In the next year. That will be plus whatever it cost for operation and maintenance.

Councilman Bien-Aime: But you’re going to bring a resolution before us?

City Manager Spring: The full…you will have full resolution, selection…we will have policy discussion…

Councilman Bien-Aime: What do you mean selection?

City Manager Spring: The selection of the vendor, the eventual vendor.

Councilman Bien-Aime: No, we need a resolution first to see if we want it or not. Then after that you’re going to…

City Manager Spring: The City Manager has made a strong recommendation to this Board that we do need body cameras.

Councilman Bien-Aime: You have (inaudible), where? It’s not on the agenda.

City Manager Spring: I understand.

Mayor Joseph: The point is well taken. Now back to Public Works. I know that Vice-Mayor has talked about and Mr. Each, he eloquently expressed it as well, as well as Madame Councilwoman. We know that we have many concerns and complaints about Public Works. But sometimes people cannot decipher whether it’s really the task of Public Works versus Code Enforcement and so forth. But at some point and time I think we have to have a meeting of the mind to draw the line as to where Public Works stop and where does Code Enforcement start. And with that being said, actually I’m going to be sitting with you and the attorney this week just to see how we can come up with some kind of language. To see how we can update you know littering in this City. Because I think this is something that we have to tackle. And if we do tackle it and tackle is properly, we can be effective at it. We can teach people, educate them and we fine them. So that they can become more responsible people. If they go into our City, our City should not be considered as a trash can. Just to litter at will. So with that being said, our streets you know a lot of times people…like my President for example. You remember when I text you that photo. And not only the accumulation of the water but the trash piled up on top of it. I mean how could you have something like that in the street. And when I talk to the people they say that trash had been there for over a week. And we have…what’s the name of our trash company again?
City Manager Spring: Waste Pro.

Mayor Joseph: Yeah Waste Pro. And not too long ago, about two weeks ago we have a young lady who came here on the first floor irate and she was right. She was being fined by the City for trash that was in front of her house for over a week. When we have a trash company which is being operated, not operated by but at least we can tell them with Public Works. So these…I mean we should have just like Councilwoman just mentioned, the possibility of having Park Ranger going around. At any point of time we should have a Public Works team. Be it to the tune it could be just one person. Just go around our streets. I mean during the day time, evening whatever it is to see what our streets like, so they can be taken care of early morning hours. Because it’s just not…we are not having a good looking City as we want it right now. And the three departments that are responsible for it are Public Works, Code Enforcement and Parks. So we just have to nip it in the bud.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Mr. Mayor, I totally agree and I’ve been having private conversation with Mr. Sorey, with the Manager. Now what I’m going to do, I’m going to start calling them throughout the day as I did. And I want to thank Arthur publicly for coming out to this resident. And once he was out there, he was able to see. It’s bad. And we talked about, I know you’re coming up with the plan. And I’ve talked with the director about the back of these alleys, it’s filthy. So I totally support somebody, a Park Ranger or however you want to call it. You know what we saw in China. We had these little people pushing little things. I mean we were laughing but the streets were much cleaner than over here. And if we…we got to do something to uplift these neighborhoods and educate the folks at the same time. And that’s something that I think Public Works could do. I didn’t know if Parks did some of it cause I didn’t know that would fall into Parks. But please.

Councilman Bien-Aime: They did some. Because I remember talking to Mr. Sorey and we have to schedule a pickup truck to drive by in the City to pick up small trash on the street and things like that. We did that in the past. I don’t know if Parks and Rec continued to do so.

City Manager Spring: Your point…well I would like of circle the conversation just to say your point is well taken. I’ve been working with having a number of conversations with our vendor. The transitioning responsibility is…that was a clarification I want to make. Of right away, maintenance and cleaning, there is some responsibility that lies with Code Enforcement and their engagement with our waste management provider. But the general responsibility will lie with Public Works, no longer Parks.

Mayor Joseph: Well Madame Councilwoman, I’m going to yield to you.
Councilwoman Keys: Just on this litter and clean up. It’s somewhat of a Budget item. But about two years ago this Board passed a resolution restricting putting flyers and advertising on cars or on walls. Mostly on cars in parking lot. My office is in a public parking lot, Publix and every single day there’s at least one or two cards left on my car. Flyers, car washes and it would be really nice if our Code or somebody like that could go around, pick up these cards. One, it’s a mess and they have to picked up. And two, to go and call these people and fine them and enforce it. So we’re not enforcing a law that we put in place two years ago, which is causing a tremendous amount of trash. That’s I’m saying but I just want to remind everybody. We’ve done that and nobody is enforcing that.

Mayor Joseph: Thank you. My last point is on the transit shelter installation. I see it’s listed here, it caught my eye $49,000.00. And again, Councilwoman has been talking about and I’ve been wanting to see some nice shelter, transit shelters along the 125th Street corridor. And I know that they have been on order maybe for what over two years now. That was way before I got elected.

Councilwoman Keys: I’m just a proponent of as many covered bus shelters as possible and shaded. I really hate seeing people waiting for a bus in the sun and in the rain.

Mayor Joseph: I mean it gets to a point where its not even funny guys. This is a 90-year old City. It’s not like a City that was incorporated 10 years ago. And this is a 90-year old City and I mean this is 21st Century, 2016, City of North Miami, city on the move. I mean for us to have a Councilwoman who allocated some money and was voted on to get some bus shelters. And for Staff to just be like okay, we don’t care. You can just vote on anything. We’re not going to do it. Two years. Then in addition, now you’re asking us to also vote for $49,000.00 for additional bus shelters, for what? I mean we ordered some and they haven’t come for two years. In my right mind I would be insane to say yes, okay no problem let’s allocate an additional $40,000.00 for something that will never happen.

Councilman Galvin: If I can jump in there. I know that part of the reason that the shelters are harder to erect is that they’re larger than just the bus bench and their footprint sometimes need the permission of the land owner on the back side. For instance, if you want to put it at 135th and Biscayne and there’s a shopping plaza there and we need an extra two feet on the plaza side. If the plaza doesn’t sign off and deed us that land, we can’t...even though we have the money to install the shelter, we can’t install the shelter because they won’t give us enough footprint to do it. And sidewalks and ADA accessibility. So I know over the years we’ve run into that issue. When we put money toward it but if the land owner doesn’t want to give us their land, then we’re sort of stuck.
Mayor Joseph: That would be such a good explanation. I mean had I had that explanation in the past, this would be a mute issue now. The fact that we haven’t even gotten to that.

Councilman Galvin: I’m an old grey haired man I know…

Mayor Joseph: I’m only mentioning it because I see it’s a line item on this agenda, in this Budget. I’m not going to vote for this $49,000.00 until I see the ones that we’ve already ordered.

Deputy City Manager Sorey: Mr. Mayor if I may through the City Manager, the bus benches and the trash receptacles through the CRA have begun to be installed in the downtown area. Out front in front of MoCA there’s the new bus bench and trash receptacles and down 125th Street. We have already begun changing them out with the new trash receptacles. They did come in and the bus benches, we have more than are on order now. But the first set have come in and some have been installed already. And we’re going to continue installing as they do come in sir.

Mayor Joseph: Thank you, it’s on record.

Deputy City Manager Sorey: But they did just…we just got them installed recently.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Can I ask a quick question while you’re at this Mr. Mayor? What happens if we allocate something, and I think this is why it’s critical to have the people that we’ve been trying to get a year and a half ago from. What they call them? The one that we talked about last night.

Councilman Galvin: Code Compliance.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: The Compliance people. If we…I think I’ll feel better if we get like updates on these projects. What happen if you allocate something on a previous Budget and then nothing happens? I just recently see something…

City Manager Spring: If it is a capital allocation, it would roll over into the next Fiscal Year to be used to complete whatever that directive was. If it is an operating allocation, it would roll back into the General Fund Reserve and then we would request for it to be reallocated as part of the new Budget. So it’s not new money…but the capital items they roll over so the money is still there.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: I forgot about the particular item, it was a resident who said, well you said a year ago this was going to happen and then that’s when I remember. I said, I did but I don’t see nothing. And then a week later I did see we did
put the stuff up and we’re going to do something. So I think if we…and I think we talked about that. Have someone at least update us, like this is going.

City Manager Spring: So you will be getting at the…since we will spending a lot of time together over the next month, in fact every Tuesday. You will be getting a capital update at the next meeting.

Vice-Mayor Desulme: Okay, thank you.

Mayor Joseph: All right.

Councilman Galvin: Mr. Mayor?

Mayor Joseph: Go ahead.

Councilman Galvin: Just quickly through you to the City Manager. While you were talking about cleanliness of streets especially on our entry ways. If you are talking to Waste Pro, one historical footnote. Back when we were still doing the pickup, we used to actually very quietly pick up bulk trash on 125th and 135th from I-95 to approximately City Hall. On those main corridors we used to pick up bulk trash every day and didn’t just announce that we were doing it every day as a way to keep it clean. And once we got rid of that, our ability to do that we started to see more and more of the piles. So if they’re willing to negotiate a daily…of course those residents are getting more of a service than others are but it’s also helping keep our main corridors cleaner.

City Manager Spring: Through the Mayor, I have two responses to that. Absolutely in general the right thing to do to keep our thoroughfares clean. Absolutely the wrong thing to do because that is encouraging the illegal dumpers to come and put it there. So what I would do and I’ve seen it in the past and it’s the point you just made, Code Enforcement, Waste Pro and us and Public Works have to work so closely together. So every day…and how about this, I do it. When I come into the City I usually do a loop, 125, 135th just to see what’s going on. So if I see something I can call or any of the Staff that’s coming in. Hey I saw a pile here. I know today is not the pickup day, we need to get somebody out there.

Mayor Joseph: Well you know I do it cause you get my text and so does your Deputy. So well then the last point that I wanted to make is pretty much apology to my co-Councilmembers. Because I was under the understanding that the Boo Fest…I know it was a hush-hush thing at the very beginning because it was kind of at an embryonic stage. But as we moved along and finally especially last week after you’ve met…we had the conference call with the attorneys and we agreed on the name that I was pushing on. Because they didn’t want North Miami being part of the name but of course you know I put my foot down. Because had it not been for my idea that, that would have
not been a reality. So…but too bad it’s with you…I was under the understanding that you were briefing the other Councilmembers. And it was of course my intention for them to be aware that it was coming up. And I’m sure it’s something that most likely they will embrace but they need to briefed on this type of things and know that they are coming.

City Manager Spring: I will publicly apologize to you and the full Council. Again, the item will…I’ll make sure I brief everybody this week and the beginning of next week on the item. I actually do have a draft contract now and some actual meet and things that the university is looking at. Quick point, I think as the Mayor stated, this is something that is great for the City. The university is very excited about potentially partnering with us. And this event brings several hundreds of people and the expectation over the next three to five years, it will bring several thousands of people including the new 200 micro brewers that are in the State of Florida all to North Miami. And be one of those…one of the signature events that we will be producing.

Mayor Joseph: Any other comments or concerns or questions? If not, we will take a…

Vice-Mayor Desulme: I have one quick question. I know we didn’t address this in the Budget. But do you think we need to do something or about Zika? Not yet?

Mayor Joseph: There you go again. I met with the Manager and…it was you and who else?

City Manager Spring: Well you met with me and we went over some things. We talked to PIO and…

Mayor Joseph: We talked to our PIO about our step wise approach as to what we will be doing, avenues (inaudible). And he has…why don’t you come and give a briefing next meeting?

City Manager Spring: At the meeting next week I’ll give a full briefing.

Mayor Joseph: At the meeting next week and let the people know as well as the…actually you should meet with the Councilmembers prior and let them know what’s coming up in the plans. So they can…the intention is for everybody to bring on their suggestions as to how we should move along with it. That’s it. So we have to…do we need the motion to adjourn this meeting?

Councilman Galvin: I’ll make a motion to approve the Budget…Tentative Budget Items as read by the City Clerk.
Mayor Joseph: Second.

City Clerk Etienne: I have a motion made by Councilman Galvin to approve Tab B, the City of North Miami Budget as proposed. That motion was then seconded by Mayor Smith Joseph.

City Manager Spring: You mentioned it.

Mayor Joseph: I mentioned it so that’s part of the…

City Manager Spring: It is part…what I asked as part of the discussion is that I will take back all of your suggestions and bring back a full recommendation of all the suggestions.

Councilman Bien-Aime: You should go in the Reserves.

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<th>ROLL CALL</th>
<th>Councilwoman Keys</th>
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<td>Councilman Bien-Aime</td>
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<td>Vice-Mayor Desulme</td>
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<td>Councilman Galvin</td>
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City Clerk Etienne: Tab B passes with a 5 – 0 vote.

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Joseph: Thank you very much. So we need to adjourn now.

City Manager Spring: So just so the…and I’ll state on the record. We have a Special Call Meeting item…

Vice-Mayor Desulme: What is this?

City Manager Spring: I’m just letting them know that they have to adjourn. I’m not going to say the item. We have one call item which I’ll explain but we need to take a five minute recess so that IT can reset the meeting. So if you would allow…

Mayor Joseph: So we’re taking a recess. We’re not having two different meetings? We’re having just one.

City Manager Spring: No it’s two different meetings.

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Mayor Joseph: So we need to adjourn then.

City Manager Spring: Yes we need to adjourn.

Councilman Galvin: Move to adjourn the Budget Hearing.

Councilwoman Keys: Second.

Mayor Joseph: Thank you.