

**MINUTES
THE TOWN OF INDIAN RIVER SHORES
6001 North Highway A1A, Indian River Shores, FL 32963**

**2nd BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING
Thursday, August 27, 2009
2:30 p.m.**

PRESENT: E. William Kenyon, Mayor
William H. Ahrens, Vice Mayor
Frances F. Atchison, Councilmember
Michael B. Ochsner, Councilman
Gerard A. Weick, Councilman

STAFF PRESENT: Robert J. Bradshaw, Town Manager
Laura Aldrich, Town Clerk
Judith Lewis, Town Treasurer
William Schauman, Director of Public Safety
Richard Jefferson, Building Official

OTHERS PRESENT: None

1. **Call to Order.** Mayor Kenyon called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m., with the Pledge of Allegiance recited by all, followed by an Invocation by Councilman Ochsner and roll call as reflected above.

2. **Council Discussion on 09/10 Budget**

Town Manager Bradshaw said that the Council had the summary as prepared by the Treasurer, Judith Lewis. He asked Councilman Mike Ochsner to explain the summary, who stated that there are some reductions since the last presentation mainly from the Public Safety Department. Early retirement by Officer Ransom is attributable for \$97,000 of the \$106,000 reduction. The net affect of these changes are if we go to the rollback rate, there would only need to be a \$33,000 transfer from the Reserve Fund. Councilman Ochsner added that he would prefer to see the millage rate as it has been for the past two years, 1.3923, which would necessitate \$126,000 transfer from the Reserve Fund. His reasoning included that there is far too much in the Reserve, and he is against raising the millage rate when others in the area are not raising theirs.

Mayor Kenyon asked about the Postal Center, and Councilman Ochsner reminded him that two years of the originally-planned three-year start-up have passed. Councilman Ochsner summarized his recommendation of maintaining the rate of 1.3923 to achieve the General Fund budgeted amount of \$4,376, 289 with a transfer of \$126,288 from Reserves.

Mayor Kenyon asked the council for comments. Councilman Weick stated that he would prefer to go to the roll-back rate, as there is an opportunity for a small increase which is easier on the residents than playing "catch up." He mentioned that two other local municipalities that have small increases. The homeowners who have homesteaded their properties will have a slight increase, while those who are non-homesteaded will realize a slight decrease. He deemed that taking advantage of the opportunity to catch up seems best to him.

Councilmember Atchison agreed with Councilman Ochsner, and did not see the need to raise the rate this year. At the meeting last month, the Town's reimbursement by FEMA was mentioned as resulting in a minimal budgetary impact. By being cognizant of the economy, she is in favor of staying with the budget as shown, believing that the residents will understand an increase if an emergency comes along.

Vice Mayor Ahrens said that we should stay with 1.3923 because our residents are upset with the recent utility increase. Adding more to their expenses is not needed at this time.

3. **Audience Discussion**

No one was present in the audience.

4. **Adjournment**

There being no further discussion, Mayor Kenyon adjourned the meeting at 3:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Aldrich, CMC, Town Clerk

(Approved by the Town Council at the September 23, 2009 Meeting)

/s_____