



CITY OF NORTH MIAMI BEACH
Council Chambers, 2nd Floor
City Hall, 17011 NE 19th Avenue
City of North Miami Beach, FL 33162

SEPTEMBER 20, 2011
FINAL BUDGET HEARING MINUTES

1. ROLL CALL OF THE CITY OFFICIALS

The meeting was called to order at 7:14 p.m. Present at the meeting were Mayor George Vallejo, Vice Mayor Philippe Derose and Council Members Barbara Kramer, Marlen Martell, Frantz Pierre, Phyllis S. Smith, and Beth E. Spiegel. Also present were City Manager Lyndon L. Bonner, City Attorney Darcee S. Siegel and City Clerk Pamela L. Latimore.

2. LEGISLATION

2.1 ORDINANCE No. 2011-15 (Second Reading & Final Reading)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, FREEZING AND/OR POSTPONING UNTIL FISCAL YEAR 2013 THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ORDINANCE NO. 2001-8, WHICH INCREASED WATER AND SEWER RATE FEES AND CHARGES; WHICH AUTHORIZED AN AUTOMATIC RATE INCREASE FOR FIVE FISCAL YEARS BEGINNING IN 2007 AND ENDING IN 2012; WHICH IMPLEMENTED A PSC ANNUAL INFLATION ADJUSTMENT; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; PROVIDING FOR THE CODIFICATION OF THIS ORDINANCE.

MOTION by Vice Mayor Derose, seconded by Councilwoman Kramer, to introduce Ordinance No. 2011-13 on Second Reading & Final Reading. The ordinance was read into the record by City Attorney Siegel.

MOTION by Councilwoman Martell, seconded by Councilwoman Spiegel, to adopt Ordinance No. 2011-13 on Second Reading & Final Reading.

Public Comment was opened.

1. Mubarak Kazan, 15564 N.E. 12th Avenue, North Miami Beach, FL, **made comments to lower water utility rates.**
2. Richard Riess, 23 N.W. 169th Street, North Miami Beach, FL, **made comments to lower water utility rates.**
3. Rolland Villeaux, 13730 Highland Drive, North Miami Beach, FL, **made comments to lower water utility rates.**
4. Charles Loeb, 16800 N.E. 15th Avenue, Miami Dade, FL, **made comments to lower water utility rates.**

5. Gloria Mahabee, 831 N.W. 173rd Street, Miami Gardens, FL, **made comments to lower water utility rates.**
6. Joycelin Dagrandaux, 1801 N.W. 186th Street, Miami Gardens, **made comments to lower water utility rates.**

Public Comment Closed.

ROLL CALL: Kramer Yes, Martell Yes, Pierre Yes, Smith Yes, Spiegel Yes, Derosé Yes, Vallejo Yes. (Ordinance No. 2011-15 was adopted on Second and Final Reading 7-0)

2.2 ORDINANCE No. 2011-13 (Second Reading & Final Reading)

AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE MILLAGE RATE FOR AD VALOREM TAXES ON REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA FOR THE PURPOSE OF MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI BEACH FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2011 AND FIXING THE MILLAGE RATES FOR DEBT SERVICE ON THE GENERAL OBLIGATION SERIES 2002A AND THE 2011 JP MORGAN CHASE LOAN.

MOTION by Vice Mayor Derosé, seconded by Councilwoman Kramer, to introduce Ordinance No. 2011-13.

Read into the record by City Attorney Siegel.

MOTION by Vice Mayor Derosé, seconded by Councilwoman Kramer, to adopt Ordinance No. 2011-13

Public Comment opened on **Ordinance No. 2011-13.**

1. Mubarak Kazan, 15564 N.E. 12th Avenue, North Miami Beach, FL, **made comments to lower millage rate.**

Public Comment was closed.

ROLL CALL: Kramer Yes, Martell Yes, Pierre Yes, Smith Yes, Spiegel Yes, Derosé Yes, Vallejo Yes. (Ordinance 2011-13 was adopted on second and final reading 7-0)

2.3 ORDINANCE No 2011-14 (Second and Final Hearing)

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2011.

Motion to introduce: Vice Mayor Derosé, seconded by Councilwoman Kramer: Read into the record by City Attorney Siegel. **Motion to pass Ordinance 2011-14** was made by Vice Mayor Derosé, seconded by Councilwoman Kramer.

Public Comment was opened on **Ordinance 2011-14.**

Mayor Vallejo advised that he was giving representatives of IUPA an opportunity to speak ten (10) minutes.

1. Lawrence Jessup, 74 N.E. 151st Street, North Miami Beach, FL, **made comments.**
2. Bert Kehren, 3302 N.E. 171st Street, North Miami Beach FL, **made comments**
3. Marilyn Baumohl, 18635 N.E. 2nd Court, North Miami Beach, FL, **made comments.**
4. Aaron Nisenson, North Miami Beach IUPA, **made comments.**
5. Janice Coakley, P.O. Box 600951 North Miami Beach FL, **made comments.**
6. Mubarak Kazan, 15564 N.E. 12th Avenue, North Miami Beach, FL, **made comments.**
7. Richard Riess, 23 N.W. 169th Street, North Miami Beach, FL, **made comments.**
8. Margie Love, 1579 NE 169th Street, North Miami Beach, FL, **made comments.**
9. Rabbi Maracovia, 16910 Miami Drive, Miami, FL, **made comments.**
10. Sharon Frazier-Stephen, 145 N.E. 193rd Street, North Miami Beach, FL, **made comments.**

Public Hearing Closed.

The item was moved back to Council for Discussion.

Councilwoman Smith was recognized for discussion. Councilwoman Smith stated that she requested the City Manager to eliminate the employee benefit of having a birthday and two personal days off with pay from the budget. Councilwoman Smith was concerned that while there were twenty or more layoffs proposed none of them were high salaried employees. Her recommendation to the City Manager to look at the three highest paid employees in each department was not done. She feels this exercise would help make this budget reflect the workings of today.

The City Manager reported that he completed a line item review of the budget as requested by Councilwoman Smith. The City Manager stated that he is recommending this budget to Council and he stands by that recommendation.

Councilwoman Spiegel was recognized for discussion. Councilwoman Spiegel requested from staff the number of employees that were not covered in the union contract. She also asked for the amount of savings that the city would realize if the birthday and two personal days were removed from the employees who were not a part of the bargaining agreement.

Councilwoman Kramer was recognized for discussion. Councilwoman Kramer stated that no budget was perfect. The City was bloated and top heavy. She asked that her colleagues join her in giving staff a direction to look into the areas of the budget that Councilwoman Smith had concerns with.

Councilwoman Kramer asked that the money from FPL Franchise Taxes be allocated for the Hammer Program in the amount of \$25,000 (twenty five thousand) also that an allocation for a lobbyist be considered. She asked that Assistant City Manager Roslyn Weisblum give a brief presentation on the areas that Ron Book lobbied for on behalf of the city.

Assistant City Manager Weisblum gave a report on the lobbyist activities and expense of retaining Mr. Book for his services to the city.

Councilwoman Kramer made a closing statement by saying that the city's present spending was not sustainable and that the city could not continue to keep going this way, the city needed to make a change.

Councilwoman Smith asked staff to give her the difference in salary between the two code officers that were being laid off and their supervisor.

Assistant City Manager Serda reported that the numbers that Councilwoman Spiegel asked for in reference to the amounts for paid birthdays and holidays for non bargaining employees was about \$30,000 per day.

Vice Mayor Derosé was recognized for discussion. Vice Mayor Derosé stated he did not feel that the budget was a reflection of the needs and interest of the residents of North Miami Beach. He understood the need for some layoffs of employees to balance the budget, but most of the layoffs started with regular employees and not management. Vice Mayor Derosé gave his concerns about the closing of Mayor and Council Office, the layoffs of Police Officers, and safety concerns for the public if all these layoffs take place. He wants to see a gradual reduction of the Police Department.

City Manager Bonner reported to Councilwoman Smith that the two code enforcement officers cost about the same as the Director.

Mayor Vallejo was recognized for discussion. Mayor Vallejo asked that all his colleagues join him in a consensus that the work on the budget would not end today. His idea that the city could find ten million dollars in efficiency savings along with the fact that Ad Valorem revenue totaled close to nine to ten million dollars could afford all the residents a zero dollar tax bill. The Mayor reported the unfunded liabilities in the pension funds, enterprise funds and capital improvement fund. Mayor Vallejo stated that there would be a top down, bottom up look at every department in the city during the budget evaluation and reorganization process.

Mayor Vallejo called for a motion on the two amendments to the budget made by Councilwoman Kramer.

MOTION by Councilwoman Kramer, seconded by Councilwoman Smith, to allocate \$25,000 (twenty five thousand dollars) for the Hammer Program from the Council Contingency fund. **(Motion passed 7-0)**

MOTION by Councilwoman Kramer, seconded by Councilwoman Smith, to allocate funds for lobbyist services at cost up to \$60,000 (sixty thousand dollars) from the Council Contingency fund **(Motion passed 5-2)**

The Mayor recognized Councilman Pierre for discussion on an amendment.

MOTION by Councilman Pierre and seconded by Vice Mayor Derosé, to allocate funds to retain the Legislative Office in the budget. **(Motion failed 4-3)**

ROLL CALL: Kramer No, Martel Yes, Pierre Yes, Smith No, Spiegel No, Derosé Yes, Vallejo No.

Direction to City Manager to provide administrative support for the Office of the Mayor and Council.

**ROLL CALL: Kramer Yes, Martel Yes, Pierre No, Smith No, Spiegel Yes, Derose No, Vallejo No.
Ordinance 2011-14 was adopted as amended on second and final reading 4-3.**

3. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council, the budget hearing was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

(S E A L)



Pamela L. Latimore
City Clerk