

**SANIBEL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING
SEPTEMBER 20, 2005**

Mayor Johnston called to order at 5:01 p. m.

Members present: Mayor Johnston, Vice Mayor Denham, Councilman Brown, Councilman Jennings and Councilman Rothman.

Councilman Brown gave the Invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Hearing and adoption of RESOLUTION 05-136 ADOPTING THE FINAL OPERATING AND VOTED DEBT SERVICE AD VALOREM MILLAGE RATES FOR TAX YEAR 2005 FOR THE CITY OF SANIBEL, LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA; AND DETERMINING THAT THE OPERATING MILLAGE RATE DOES NOT EXCEED THE ROLLED-BACK RATE:

Ms. Zimomra read the title of Resolution 05-136.

Public Hearing and adoption of RESOLUTION 05-137 ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005-06 FOR THE CITY OF SANIBEL, LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA:

Ms. Zimomra read the title of Resolution 05-137.

Ms. Zimomra gave a brief overview as follows:

- Budget made of 2 types of funds governmental and Enterprise Funds
- Governmental Funds comprised of General, Special, Debt-Service Funds and Capital Projects
- Enterprise Funds comprised of Sewer and Beach Parking
- Tentative budget was funded at 2.400 mills
- .10 mills lower than the FY 2004-05 budget at 2.5 mills
- 0.1118 mills lower than the rolled-back rate of 2.5118 mills
- Average tax value \$521,603
- Average tax bill would be \$1,251.85
- Reduction of \$52.00 per home from FY 2004-05
- Directed staff to make 3 adjustments:
 - Add \$20,000 to the reserve for participation in the Clean Task Force
 - Add \$75,000 to match \$25,000 donated by the Sanibel Bike Club for a Shared Use Master Plan Study
 - Council adopted 2 ordinance that increased the Building and Planning Departmental fees and \$368,000 budgeted projected revenue

Ms. Zimomra continued to explain that the budget as presented meets all the goals Council set as follows:

- Maintain all essential City services
- Funds included to pursue Councils top goals
- Monies for reserve and contingencies for the business initiative and water conservation (programs not finalized)
- Enhancements for municipal services
- Maximize user fees

Highlights:

- Disaster reserve increase from \$1 million to 2 million
- \$1 million set aside for the proposed recreation center

- \$150,000 from reserves from the building department, which could only be used for building department expenditures – building fund that could be tapped in to for later years
- \$300,000 reserve for contingency
- \$1 million to pay in one-thirds for the next 3 years for Hurricane Charley debt
- narratives included for each department at Council direction

Public Comment:

Barbara Anderson spoke to funding for the Periwinkle Way Corridor Restoration Project.

Ms. Zimomra stated that the budget does include \$250,000 for match money for grants that staff was pursuing.

Discussion ensued regarding receiving grant money, and possibility of not planting trees until the next rainy season.

Andrew Reding spoke to the Periwinkle Way Corridor Restoration Project and using native trees to provide shade.

Ron Rosen spoke to dead fish in the gulf and bay, meeting Thursday, September 22 at Florida Gulf Coast University.

Council explained that this issue was far reaching than just Sanibel and Council had a proclamation that would be mailed to different governmental entities.

Ms. Zimomra stated that staff contacted the Tourism Development Board for help due to the affect of the tourism industry.

Discussion ensued that could money in the Environmental Sensitive Land line item be use for the water issue, which was Council authority, water releases from Lake Okeechobee, ride tide fish kill, and SCCF had scheduled a meeting to discuss red tide.

Dr. Rob Loflin, Natural Resources Director stated that people were closed minded when it came to realizing the red tide as caused by the nutrients from water releases from Lake Okeechobee, more red tide events with a longer duration, and with increasing frequency.

Discussion ensued regarding a possible conflict of interest due to grant money.

Ron Rosen spoke a second time regarding a correlation of dumping water from Lake Okeechobee

Ada Shissler spoke to Sanibel Beautification forming a non-profit organization to accept funds for the Periwinkle Way Corridor Restoration Project.

Discussion ensued regarding funding, using the Vanasse Daylor plan and meeting to discuss other ideas.

Andrew Reding spoke a second time regarding the \$75,000 funding for a Shared Use Master Plan. He spoke to the Shared Use Master Plan completed in the near past and was there something wrong with the first study. He spoke to his use of the Shared Use Path, to 8 feet being wide enough for bike paths, and the Sanibel Bike Club donating money. He proposed to review use of \$25,000 donated by the Sanibel Bike Club and amend the Sanibel Plan the keep Shared Use Paths at 8 feet.

Claudia Burns spoke to the new pavement and widening of certain areas of the Shared Use Paths.

Doug Dietrich spoke to the \$25,000 donated by the Sanibel Bike Club for a study of the Shared Use Master Plan. He also cited that Andrew Reding opposed 8-foot paths.

Steve Maxwell spoke to where money was spent for outside legal help. He further spoke to the Capital Improvement Plan budget.

Discussion ensued regarding the estimate by Vanasse Daylor for the Periwinkle Way Corridor Restoration Project would cost approximately \$1 million, and possible matching funds would be \$125,000 for approximately \$575,000 in grants.

Councilman Brown made a motion, seconded by Councilman Jennings, to adopt Resolution 05-136.

Discussion ensued regarding a request made by the CHR Board to allocate \$40,000 for the Employee Assisted Housing Study, money could be taken out of contingency, and reducing the millage rate to 2.3 millage rate due to the adoption of the Building and Planning fees.

The motion carried 4 to 1, with Councilman Rothman voting in opposition.

Councilman Brown made a motion, seconded by Mayor Johnston, to adopt Resolution 050137 and \$47,911,359 would fill in the blank.

Discussion ensued regarding capital project coming back to City Council for approval.

Mr. Cuyler stated that Council should make a decision on the \$40,000 for inclusion in the budget before the adoption of the budget.

The motion carried 4 to 1 with Councilman Rothman voting in opposition.

Discussion ensued regarding the ending fund balance being lower than it should be.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:37 p. m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Pamela Smith, CMC
City Clerk