



PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY
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**PUBLIC HEARING – TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATE/
FY 2018 OPERATING & CAPITAL BUDGET
SEPTEMBER 6, 2017**

Secretary/Treasurer Barkley called the September 6, 2017 public hearing to order at 6:04 PM. Members present: Joseph Barkley, Richard Bennett, Doug Bevis, Dave Eggers, Samantha Fenger, Pat Gerard, Bill Jonson, Charlie Justice, Brian Scott, Josh Shulman, John Tornga, and Lisa Wheeler-Bowman. Members absent: Darden Rice, Janet Long, and Patricia Johnson. Also present: Brad Miller, CEO; Nikki Nate, PSTA General Counsel; PSTA staff members, and members of the public.

PUBLIC HEARING – TENTATIVE FY 2018 MILLAGE RATE & BUDGET

Chairperson Introduction – Secretary/Treasurer Barkley read the Chairperson’s statement as follows: Welcome. The purpose of this public hearing is to receive public input and allow the public to ask questions concerning the Authority’s proposed millage rate and proposed operating and capital budget for FY 2018. Copies of our proposed budget are available if you have not already obtained one. The proposed FY 2018 Budget is included herewith, totaling \$97,921,567. (Operating Budget \$74,181,177 and Capital Budget \$23,740,390). The FY 2018 proposed millage rate is .7500. The FY 2018 rolled-back rate is .7018. The FY 2018 proposed millage rate of .7500 is 6.87 percent greater than the rolled-back rate. PSTA’s millage rate limit is .7500. The proposed property tax rate is used to fund the FY 2018 budget.

Staff Statement for Record – Mr. Miller read the staff statement as follows: This public hearing has been scheduled so that the general public may be given the opportunity to comment on the proposed millage rate and budget for FY 2018.

A paid advertisement concerning this public hearing appeared in the *Tampa Bay Times* on Monday, August 21, 2017. Notices were posted at Park Street Terminal, Grand Central Station, Williams Park, Pinellas Park Transit Center, PSTA administrative headquarters, and on all PSTA buses on Thursday, August 17, 2017. Information fliers were distributed via insertion in all Schedules-By-Mail requests, on the PSTA bus fleet, and at the Customer Service Centers beginning on Thursday, August 17, 2017. A press release announcing the

public hearing was e-mailed or faxed to major media contacts and social service agencies on Monday, August 21, 2017. An announcement regarding the public hearing was posted on PSTA's website on Monday, August 21, 2017.

To date, staff has received no written comments from the public concerning the issue.

Staff Presentation – Debbie Leous, Chief Financial Officer, announced a few last minute updates to the FY 2018 budget. The new total is \$99,821,567 with \$25,640,390 of that for capital expenditures. Ms. Leous then provided a short presentation on the proposed FY 2018 budget.

Board Discussion - There were no Board comments or discussion.

Public Comments on Millage Rate - Aaron Lee, St. Petersburg resident, stated that he recently moved to Pinellas County from Tennessee, and commented that he is very pleased with PSTA's transit system. He stated his belief that the customer surveys will be helpful in identifying customer concerns about temperature control on the buses and timeliness.

Adopt Tentative FY 2018 Millage Resolution – Ms. Nate read Resolution #17-11 by title. Ms. Gerard made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wheeler-Bowman to approve the tentative millage rate of .7500. Motion passed (10:2) with Mr. Eggers and Mr. Scott dissenting.

Announce Percentage, if any, by Which Rate Exceeds Rolled-Back Rate – Secretary/Treasurer Barkley stated that the FY 2018 proposed millage rate is .7500. The FY 2018 rolled-back rate is .7018. The FY 2018 proposed millage rate of .7500 is 6.87 percent greater than the rolled-back rate. PSTA's millage rate limit is .7500.

Public Comments on FY 2018 Budget - Mr. Lee reiterated his opinion that the overall budget will be improved by the increase in PSTA's survey areas. It is his belief and hope that people will actually use public transit, especially after the customer satisfaction surveys are conducted which will identify areas of improvement.

Adopt Tentative FY 2018 Budget Resolution – Ms. Nate read Resolution #17-12 by title. Mr. Jonson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Gerard to adopt the tentative budget Resolution #17-12. Mr. Eggers expressed his opinion that PSTA is moving away from its fiscal, social, and environmental responsibility with its position of buying hybrid buses. He indicated that he will not support this motion.

Motion passed (10:2) with Mr. Eggers and Mr. Scott dissenting.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL PUBLIC HEARING TO ADOPT FINAL FY 2018
MILLAGE RATE & OPERATING/CAPITAL BUDGET**

Secretary/Treasurer Barkley announced that the final public hearing to adopt the final FY 2018 millage rate and budget will be held on Wednesday, September 20, 2017, at 6:00 PM at PSTA Headquarters, 3201 Scherer Drive, St. Petersburg, FL 33716.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Secretary/Treasurer Barkley adjourned the public hearing at 6:22 PM.

Chairperson