



**PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY
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**PUBLIC HEARING – TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATE/
FY2021 OPERATING & CAPITAL BUDGET
SEPTEMBER 16, 2020**

This meeting was conducted by means of Communications Media Technology.

Chairperson Barkley called the September 16, 2020 public hearing to order at 6:00 pm. Members present: Joe Barkley, Chairperson; Pat Gerard, Vice-Chairperson; Gina Driscoll, Secretary/Treasurer; Richard Bennett, Vince Cocks, Heather Gracy, Charlie Justice, Janet Long, Darden Rice, Jamie Robinson, Keith Sabiel, Dan Saracki, Josh Shulman, and Ken Welch. Member absent: David Allbritton. Also present: Brad Miller, CEO; Jennifer Cowan, PSTA General Counsel; and PSTA staff members.

Call to Order: Chairperson Barkley read the required opening statement relating to the use of Communications Media Technology and how the public can view the meeting and make comments.

Public Hearing – Tentative FY2021 Millage Rate & Budget:

Chairperson Introduction – Chairperson Barkley read the Chairperson’s statement as follows: 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 fiscal year 2021.

Tonight we will consider the “Tentative” Millage Rate and “Tentative” 2021 Budget with the final vote coming in two weeks. Copies of our proposed budget are available if you have not already obtained one. The proposed fiscal year 2021 Budget is included herewith, totaling \$161,869,058, with an Operating Budget \$87,759,968 and Capital Budget \$74,109,090. The fiscal year 2021 proposed millage rate is unchanged at .7500. The fiscal year 2021 rolled-back rate is .7032. The fiscal year 2021 proposed millage rate of .7500 is 6.66 percent greater than the rolled-back rate. PSTA’s millage rate limit is .7500. The proposed property tax rate is used to fund the fiscal year 2021 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 Fiscal Year 2021.

A paid advertisement concerning this public hearing appeared in the *Tampa Bay Times* on September 2nd. Notices were posted at Park Street Terminal, Grand Central Station, Williams Park, Pinellas Park Transit Center, PSTA administrative headquarters, on all PSTA buses, and on PSTA’s website on September 2nd. An announcement was posted on social media on September 2nd.

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

Staff Presentation – Debbie Leous, Chief Financial Officer, provided a presentation on the proposed FY2021 proposed millage and budget. She outlined the operating and capital expenses and talked about electric buses and the solar panel project at the PSTA campus.

Board Discussion – Questions and comments were made about the federal funds the Authority received for the SunRunner Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project, the Demand Response (DART) contract, and the purchase of electric buses.

Public Comments on Millage Rate – There were no public comments.

Announce Name of Taxing Authority, Rolled-Back Rate, Percentage, if any, by Which the Tentative FY2021 Millage Rate Exceeds the Rolled-Back Rate and the Millage Rate to be Levied – Chairperson Barkley stated that for PSTA, the fiscal year 2021 proposed millage rate is .7500. The fiscal year 2021 rolled-back rate is .7032. The fiscal year 2021 proposed millage rate of .7500 is 6.66 percent greater than the rolled-back rate. PSTA's millage rate limit is .7500.

Adopt Tentative FY2021 Millage Resolution – Ms. Cowan read Resolution #20-06 by title. Ms. Long made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bennett, to approve the tentative millage rate of .7500. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments on FY2021 Budget – There were no public comments.

Adopt Tentative FY2021 Budget Resolution – Ms. Cowan read Resolution #20-07 by title. Ms. Long made a motion, seconded by Ms. Gerard, to adopt the tentative budget Resolution #20-07. Motion passed unanimously.

Announcement of Final Public Hearing to Adopt Final FY2021 Millage Rate & Operating/Capital Budget:

Chairperson Barkley announced that the final Public Hearing, where the Board will adopt the final FY2021 Millage Rate and Operating and Capital Budgets will be held at the beginning of the monthly PSTA Board meeting on Wednesday, September 30, 2020 at 6:00 pm. This meeting will also be held virtually.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Chairperson Barkley adjourned the Public Hearing at 6:25 pm.

Chairperson