



PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY
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MILLAGE/BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 14, 2022

Chairperson Gerard called the September 14, 2022 Millage/Budget Public Hearing to order at 6:05 pm. Members present: Pat Gerard, Chairperson; Gina Driscoll, Vice-Chairperson; Dan Saracki, Secretary/Treasurer; David Allbritton; Richard Bennett; Vince Cocks; Kathleen Peters; Jamie Robinson; Patti Reed; and Karen Seel. Via Zoom: Josh Shulman and Rene Flowers. Members absent (excused): Deborah Figgs-Sanders, Jeff Gow, and Jim Olliver. Also present: Brad Miller, CEO; Nikki Day, General Counsel; PSTA staff members; and members of the public.

Call to Order – Mr. Allbritton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Saracki, to allow Ms. Flowers and Mr. Shulman to participate via Zoom. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing: FY23 Tentative Millage Rate & Budget – Chairperson Gerard read the introduction.

Staff Statement for Record – Mr. Miller read the staff statement.

Staff Presentation – Al Burns, Director of Procurement; Nick Sagan, Manager of Financial Planning & Analysis; and Debbie Leous, Chief Financial Officer; gave a presentation on the FY23 proposed Operating and Capital budget. It was noted that this is a balanced budget and includes compensation adjustments for union and non-union employees, fuel and healthcare costs, funds for projects such as the SunRunner and Clearwater Transit Center, and the purchase of electric buses. Questions and comments were made about the Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) service.

[Ms. Peters entered the meeting at 6:10 p.m.]

Public Comments on Millage Rate – Angela Taylor Sweet, National Council of Education & Policy, commended the CEO and PSTA for the TD service.

Required Announcement – Chairperson Gerard made the required announcement.

Adopt Tentative FY23 Millage Resolution – Ms. Day read Resolution #22-01 by title. Ms. Flowers made a motion, seconded by Mr. Saracki, to approve Resolution #22-01. Ms. Peters expressed concerns with keeping the millage at the cap. There were a few comments and questions in response to her concerns. The motion passed (10:2), with Ms. Peters and Mr. Bennett dissenting.

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

Adopt Tentative FY23 Budget Resolution – Ms. Day read Resolution #22-02 by title. Ms. Driscoll made a motion, seconded by Ms. Flowers, to adopt Resolution #22-02. The motion passed (11:1), with Ms. Peters dissenting.

Announcement of Final Public Hearing to Adopt Final FY23 Millage Rate & Budget – Wednesday, September 28, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Adjournment – The Public Hearing concluded at 6:48 p.m.

Chairperson