

1 **MINUTES OF THE PRELIMINARY BUDGET MEETING** of the City Council of the City of Orange  
2 City, Florida, held on Monday, August 12, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 201 N. Holly Avenue,  
3 Orange City.

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5 **CALL TO ORDER**

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7 The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Blair and roll call was taken.

8  
9 **ROLL CALL**

10  
11 **PRESENT:** Mayor Gary Blair; Vice Mayor Bill O' Connor, Council Members: William (Bill) Crippen  
12 Kelli Marks, Martin Harper, Jeff Allebach, Jim Mahoney, City Attorney William Reischmann; City  
13 Manager Dale Arrington; City Clerk Gloria Thomas.

14  
15 **ABSENT:**

16  
17 **1. OVERVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF FISCAL YEAR 2019/2020 BUDGET**

18  
19 Christine Davis, Finance Director, came forward and thanked the Council for taking the time to have the  
20 budget workshop. She discussed the agenda and noted that staff was present to answer any questions  
21 Council may have.

22  
23 Ms. Davis provided a PowerPoint presentation (a copy of which is attached and becomes a permanent part  
24 of these minutes) that displayed a budget summary and discussed the budget challenges. Ms. Davis noted  
25 that the budget workshop will be followed by Council meetings on September 11th and 25th, to conclude  
26 the budget process for FY 2019/20.

27  
28 Ms. Davis reported about the budget goals, citywide assumptions, Project Fund balance, summary of  
29 funds, and citywide personnel. She provided a budget summary of the General Fund, revenue highlights,  
30 ad valorem taxable value, countywide average taxable values, millage comparison, and expenditure  
31 highlights. Ms. Davis provided a budget summary for each department.

32  
33 Ms. Davis stated that Sponsorships and Contributions, Pledge to the Neighborhood Center, continued  
34 funding for Special Events, and the Contingency Fund are also included in the budget. She stated that six  
35 new positions (\$395K Recurring Payroll), funds for reserve officer(s) (\$30K), new city events, deferred  
36 building improvements (\$48K), two deferred replacement vehicles (\$64K), deferred police utility vehicle  
37 (\$20K), deferred park improvements (\$247K) are not included in the budget.

38  
39 Ms. Davis reported on the deferred position requests, the deferred capital outlay, future big ticket capital  
40 outlay along with a future five year capital forecast. She stated that union negotiations and insurance costs  
41 are to be determined. Ms. Davis reported that lower insurance rates impacted the potential budget  
42 reductions.

43  
44 Ms. Davis stated that decision points for the budget review include Fire department personnel, a Parks  
45 and Recreation maintenance specialist and the millage rate. She noted that the current millage rate is 8.034,  
46 the tentative millage rate is 8.0, the budget as presented on August 1<sup>st</sup> was balanced at 7.791 and the  
47 rollback rate is 7.6941. Ms. Davis provided budget options for each rate.

48

1 Ms. Davis reported on the Utility Enterprise Fund and the Stormwater Enterprise Fund. She provided fund  
2 overviews, fund highlights, budget overviews and capital outlays. Ms. Davis reported on the CRA fund  
3 with fund highlights and a budget summary.  
4

5 Ms. Davis concluded the presentation with a report of other funds that included the Impact Fee fund,  
6 Forfeiture fund, Solid Waste Special Assessment fund, Shadow Ridge Street Lighting district and the  
7 Briarwood South Street Lighting district. Ms. Davis noted that September 11, 2019 will be the first budget  
8 hearing and September 25, 2019 will be the second and final budget hearing.  
9

10 Council Member Allebach stated that the City's population is growing and, therefore, additional personnel  
11 is needed.  
12

13 Council Member Mahoney stated that if the increase of value is capped at three percent and the millage  
14 rate is reduced by more than that, the actual taxes people pay will be a slight decrease. He noted that the  
15 implementation of the water study would affect new and long term residents alike.  
16

17 A discussion ensued between Council that entailed the need for an increase in personnel for the City, the  
18 suggested roll back millage rate, the water study, and the level of utility service and extra funds for a new  
19 Parks and Recreation employee.  
20

21 Council Member Crippen commented that a new maintenance specialist is needed in the Parks and  
22 Recreation department. He stated that he is comfortable with the 8.0 tentative millage rate limit.  
23

24 Mayor Blair stated that he is in favor of the 7.9 millage rate that will allow for a new police officer position.  
25

26 Council Member Harper commented that the City is growing therefore, more man power is needed.  
27

28 Vice Mayor O'Connor stated that he is in favor of a millage rate of 7.791.  
29

30 Council Member Marks asked if setting the millage rate at 7.791 would allow for a new Parks and  
31 Recreation position.  
32

33 Ms. Arrington responded that as a result to the changes for the health insurance costs, an additional  
34 \$88,000 was found. She noted that these funds allow for a Fire Inspector position upgrade from 15 hours  
35 to 40 hours a week, an addition of a new Parks and Recreation maintenance position, and provides a  
36 cushion in the Contingency Fund of approximately \$30,000. This could assist with finalizing the budget.  
37 If Council decides to continue with the additional police officer position, the Contingency Fund would  
38 need to be eliminated and then increase the budget rate from 7.791 to 7.8977.  
39

40 Council Member Marks stated that a new Parks and Recreation maintenance specialist position is needed.  
41

42 Ms. Arrington stated that this budget workshop was meant to receive direction from Council for how to  
43 proceed.  
44

45 Mayor Blair stated that the Police Department's needs are just as important as any other departments.  
46

47 Ms. Arrington responded that all departments' needs are put onto a priority list. If council would like to  
48 add a new police officer position into the budget then the millage rate would need to be set at 7.8977.

1 A discussion ensued concerning the details of each millage rate.

2  
3 Council Member Crippen stated that the City Council and staff are doing what is required, working  
4 together and following recommendations. He thanked staff for the efforts with the budget.

5  
6 Vice Mayor O'Connor suggested that council members remember this conversation for the Council  
7 meeting tomorrow night.

8  
9 Council Member Mahoney stated that there was a great exchange of ideas and a great discussion.

10  
11 **1. ADJOURN:**

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13 There being no further business, Mayor Blair adjourned the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

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15  
16 **RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:**

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18  
19 \_\_\_\_\_  
20 Melani Beringer,  
21 CMC, Deputy City Clerk  
22

**APPROVED ON:**

**10/08/2019**  
Date