

1 **MINUTES OF THE PRELIMINARY BUDGET MEETING** of the City Council of the City of Orange  
2 City, Florida, held on Monday, August 13, 2018 at 6:30 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 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Blair and roll call was taken.

8  
9 **ROLL CALL**

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

14  
15 **ABSENT:**

16  
17 1. **OVERVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF FISCAL YEAR 2018/2019 BUDGET**

18  
19 Dale Arrington, City Manager, came forward and thanked the Council for taking the time to have this  
20 budget workshop. She discussed the agenda and noted that staff was present to answer any questions  
21 Council may have.

22  
23 Ms. Arrington provided a PowerPoint presentation (a copy of which is attached and becomes a permanent  
24 part of these minutes) that displayed a budget summary and discussed the budget challenges. Ms.  
25 Arrington noted that 2 more meetings on September 12 and 25, in the Council Chambers will conclude  
26 the budget process this year.

27  
28 Ms. Arrington discussed the ad-valorem taxable value, she noted that currently the City is at \$700 million  
29 worth of taxable value. She reported that the Communications Service Tax is on a decline but anticipates  
30 reaching \$400,000.

31  
32 Ms. Arrington stated that the budget challenges are insufficient funding for new positions, low property  
33 values coupled with a slow recovery, external threats and unknown or developing issues.

34  
35 Ms. Arrington provided a budget revenue comparison from FY 2017/18 to FY 2018/19. She noted that a  
36 transfer from the fund balance into the capital program is not proposed for this fiscal year. This year  
37 funding is being based on the revenues coming in rather than borrowing from the savings account.

38  
39 Ms. Arrington provided a budget for the Utilities Enterprise Fund as well as the Stormwater Enterprise  
40 Fund. She noted that the operating expenditures amount was higher due to the hiring of consultants. This  
41 was necessary to begin designing the next round of projects once the Holly, Orange and Graves Ave.  
42 projects are complete.

43  
44 Next, Ms. Arrington discussed the items included in the budget. She noted that the preliminary budget  
45 was drafted to maintain current operating levels. None of the programs requested by Council have been  
46 eliminated. The preliminary budget includes a 3% COLA and funding for a project coordinator.  
47 Contingency fund, Sponsorships and Contributions, pledge to Neighborhood Center, continued funding

1 for special events, replacement computers, servers, & software updates, remaining funds for financial  
2 software, six vehicle replacements, streets and sidewalks, City Hall building assessment are included.  
3 Next, Ms. Arrington reported the items not included in the budget. Ms. Arrington advised that she wanted  
4 to mention two of the nine items not in budget; nine new positions which were requested and seven  
5 replacement vehicles that are being deferred.

6  
7 Ms. Arrington discussed revenue options. She advised that the millage rate could be adjusted, Council can  
8 reconsider a fire assessment fee and rate study for waste water and reclaimed water.

9  
10 Ms. Arrington provided a millage comparison that projected a budget at 8.0340 mills. She noted that a  
11 tentative millage rate was set at 8.5075 mills with a difference of 0.4735 mills. She stated that the total  
12 revenue difference is about \$300,000. Ms. Arrington stated that each 100<sup>th</sup> of a mill is worth \$6,400 and  
13 each 10<sup>th</sup> of a mill is worth \$64,000.

14  
15 Ms. Arrington reported the effect that the proposed millage rate would have on the average home owner.  
16 She noted that the average single family home is worth approximately \$63,000. The difference between  
17 the proposed millage with the tentative millage rate is approximately \$30.

18  
19 In conclusion, Ms. Arrington described the millage options. Ms. Arrington opened the floor to Council.  
20 She asked for guidance as to Council's thoughts of the budget.

21  
22 Council Member Allebach asked several questions regarding the part of the presentation pertaining to  
23 employee pension payments.

24  
25 Council Member O'Connor suggested a millage rate of 8.184 mills to fund new fire fighter positions.

26  
27 Vice Mayor Crippen complimented the budget presentation. He stated that he is comfortable with the  
28 proposed rate.

29  
30 Council Member Mahoney stated he was satisfied with the budget as presentation. He voiced his concerns  
31 about a contingency fund allotment.

32  
33 Mayor Blair is happy with the budget presentation.

34  
35 Council Member Robinson is happy with the budget as presented.

36  
37 Council Member O'Connor asked Chief Long about the attrition rate due to the amount of overtime for  
38 firefighters.

39  
40 Chief Long responded that the attrition rate has stayed steady. He noted that the firefighters are very tired  
41 due to the overtime.

42  
43 Council Member Pupello agrees it is necessary to address the issue of hiring more firefighters. He noted  
44 that this is a conservative and prudent budget.

45  
46 Ms. Arrington concluded by stating that the budget will be presented as prepared without any additional  
47 data sheets.

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1 Mayor Blair and Council thanked Ms. Arrington and complimented her presentation.  
2

3 **1. ADJOURN:**  
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5 There being no further business, Mayor Blair adjourned the meeting at 6:57 p.m.  
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7

8 **RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:**

**APPROVED ON:**

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10 \_\_\_\_\_  
11 Melani Beringer,  
12 Deputy City Clerk  
13

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Date

