



**ISLAMORADA, VILLAGE OF ISLANDS  
SPECIAL CALL VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING  
FIRST PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING  
FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014**

**Islamorada Founders Park Community Center  
87000 Overseas Highway  
Islamorada, Florida 33036**

**Wednesday, September 11, 2013  
At 5:30 PM**

**I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL**

Mayor Ken Philipson called the meeting to order at 6:21 p.m. The following Council members were present on roll call: Mayor Philipson, Vice Mayor Ted Blackburn, Councilman Mike Forster, Councilwoman Deb Gillis and Councilman Dave Purdo. Also in attendance were Village Manager Ed Koconis, Village Attorney Nina Boniske, Village Clerk Ariana Lawson, Finance Director Maria Aguilar, Wastewater Program Manager Greg Tindle and all other appropriate personnel.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Barry Wray led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Barry Wray, Chairperson, Workforce/Affordable Housing Advisory Committee, provided an update to Council on the canal restoration activities of the Florida Keys Environmental Coalition. Mr. Wray reported on the Florida Keys Community College's, the Florida Keys Environmental Coalition's, and Monroe County's efforts to secure RESTORE Act funding for canal restoration. He requested Council commit an additional \$250,000 to in addition to the up to \$100,000 that Council recently committed for canal restoration in Islamorada. Councilman Mike Forster stated that he was appreciative of the Council's current commitment and that he wished to rely on the Village's contracted consultant, AMEC, for guidance on how the Village should proceed further, but that he supported the Village considering incremental increases in the commitment as the project proceeds.

**IV. CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. Minutes:**

**TAB 1**

July 23, 2013 Village Council Workshop (Budget)

July 23, 2013 Special Call Village Council Meeting (Budget)

July 25, 2013 Village Council Workshop (Budget)

August 8, 2013 Village Council Workshop (Budget)

Vice Mayor Ted Blackburn made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilman Dave Purdo seconded the motion. Council voted all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

**V. RESOLUTIONS**

- A.** Resolution Adopting a Tentative Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2013-2014 **TAB 2**
- B.** Resolution Adopting the Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2013-2014 **TAB 3**

Village Attorney Nina Boniske read the title of the proposed millage resolution and the proposed budget resolution. Finance Director Maria Aguilar summarized the Proposed Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Plan for Fiscal Year 2013-2014.

Mayor Ken Philipson called for public comment. Former Mayor George Geisler spoke in support of the proposed personnel increase for the Fire Rescue Department. Mayor Philipson closed public comment.

Mayor Philipson declined to pursue rollback, an option that he had suggested at the prior budget workshop. Mayor Philipson commended Village Manager Ed Koconis and Finance Director Maria Aguilar for their recent efforts in Interlocal discussions regarding the countywide distribution of any upcoming Mayfield grant funds. He requested Council approve an additional expenditure of \$24,000 in Fiscal Year 2013-2014 to hire another State lobbyist. Council later agreed and directed Ms. Aguilar to increase the General Fund by \$24,000 to accordingly.

Councilwoman Deb Gillis suggested adding funds to the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Budget to hire another staff person to assist in the Wastewater Utility Department. Council and staff discussion ensued, with Councilwoman Gillis requesting staff advise Council when and if staff determines additional assistance is needed in the Wastewater Utility Department. Council inquired about the qualifications for an accountant in the Wastewater Utility Department. Vice Mayor Blackburn interjected that personnel management issues were not under the Village Council's purview. At the suggestion of Village Manager Ed Koconis, Council agreed to adopt the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Budget as-is, with the addition of \$24,000 for a second State lobbyist, and to entertain a Budget Amendment at a later date should additional staffing be necessary.

Councilwoman Gillis made a motion to approve the resolution adopting the tentative millage rate for Fiscal Year 2013-2014 at 2.5329 mills. Councilman Mike Forster seconded the motion. Council voted and the motion passed 5-0.

Councilwoman Gillis made a motion to approve the resolution adopting the tentative budget for Fiscal Year 2013-2014, as amended to include the addition of \$24,000 to hire a second State lobbying firm. Councilman Mike Forster seconded the motion. Council voted and the motion passed 5-0.

**VI. MAYOR / COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no additional Mayor/Council communications.

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## **VII. VILLAGE ATTORNEY / VILLAGE MANAGER COMMUNICATIONS**

Pursuant to Chapter 286, Florida Statutes, Village Attorney Nina Boniske requested Executive Sessions in the following cases:

Reinaldo Garrido, Plaintiff, v. Islamorada, Village of Islands, Village Council, Islamorada, Village of Islands, a Florida municipality, and U.S. Water Services Corporation, a Florida for profit corporation, Defendants, Case No. 13-CA-0008-23-P in the Circuit Court for the 16<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, in and for Monroe County, Florida, General Jurisdiction.

Paul E. Bates, et. al, Plaintiffs, vs. Islamorada, Village of Islands, a Florida municipality, et. al, Defendants, Case No. 13-CV-10121 in the United States District Court, Southern District of Florida.

Paul Bates And Coconut Cove Resort & Marina, Inc. v City of Islamorada, Village of Islands, Case No. 07-CA-582-P in the Circuit Court for the 16<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, in and for Monroe County, Florida.

Paul Bates And Coconut Cove Resort & Marina, Inc. v City of Islamorada, Village of Islands, Case No. 07-CA-583-P in the Circuit Court for the 16<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, in and for Monroe County, Florida.

There were no Village Manager communications.

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Councilman Dave Purdo made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Mike Forster seconded the motion. Council voted all in favor and the motion passed 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.



Ariana S. Lawson  
Village Clerk

Approved by the Village Council this 23<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2013.

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