



**VILLAGE COUNCIL BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES**  
**226 CYPRESS LANE | PALM SPRINGS | FLORIDA 33461**  
**JULY 29, 2021, at 5:00 PM**

**COUNCIL**

- Mayor Bev Smith
- Vice Mayor Gary Ready
- Mayor Pro Tem Doug Gunther
- Council Member Joni Brinkman
- Council Member Patti Waller

**ADMINISTRATION**

- Village Manager Richard Reade
- Village Attorney Glen Torcivia
- Village Clerk Kimberly Wynn

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Bev Smith called the Village Council Budget Workshop Meeting to order at 5:18 PM.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Mayor Bev Smith, Vice Mayor Gary Ready, Mayor Pro Tem Doug Gunther, Council Member Joni Brinkman and Council Member Patti Waller.

**Absent:** None

**Also present:** Chief Ceccarelli, Assistant Police Chief Perez, Assistant Public Service Director Chad Girard, Director of Library Services Jossie Maliska, Assistant Village Manager Kim Glas-Castro, Village Manager Richard Reade, Chief Financial Officer Rebecca Morse, Assistant Finance Director Marianna Sanchez-Ortega, Director of Parks and Recreation Justin Lucas, Planning Zoning and Building Director, Iramis Cabrera, Director of Information Technology Thomas Cook and Senior Manager of Administrative Services, Ashley Saingilus.

The Village Manager, Mr. Reade, read the 2022 Budget Message into the record.

At this time, Mayor Smith asked for a Roll Call. All of the Council Members (Vice-Mayor Ready, Mayor Pro Tem Gunther, Council Member Brinkman, Council Member Waller, and Mayor Smith) were present. The Village Attorney, Mr. Torcivia, was not present for the Budget Workshop.

The Council agreed that they preferred to ask questions about each section of the Budget as presented.

Council Member Waller mentioned a correction in the venue for the Florida League of Cities Conference in 2022.

There were no questions about the General Funds. Council Member Brinkman and Mayor Smith asked questions about the gas tax and the local communication tax. Council Member Brinkman asked if there were going to be concession stand services. The Village Manager said that there was a struggle with concession stand sales. Alternative options were being explored. He added that there is an expected 3% increase in property taxes this year.

The Council proceeded to discuss and ask questions about each of the sub-categories of expenditures. Mayor Smith asked about the transfer of funds from the Council line item to the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) line item and its expected frequency. Ms. Morse explained this is the Village's share that must be transferred over for ad valorem. She said that the monies come from the General Fund, but more specifically the Council as the legislative body. Mayor Smith asked about the Municode recodification and the frequency of the process. Ms. Wynn explained the recodification would take place over a 2-3 year period to update our Code with legislation and clean up. The last time this process took place was about 15 years ago. The Village Manager added that staff would go through every chapter and review for outdated information. Mayor Smith asked would the process take longer than three (3) years.

The Village Manager said that it would take longer than three years, and the project would be headed by the Assistant Village Manager. The Village Manager mentioned that the Village Attorney may propose a rate increase.

The Council asked about the organizational changes in the Village. The Village Manager spoke on several changes that include the Volunteer Coordinator position changed to Police Department Human Resource. The position would oversee personnel matters at the police department. There was an additional Code Enforcement position to monitor the Military Trail area (this was originally approved in 2018) being requested. He discussed several more positions and organizational changes - including a newly created Human Resource Director position. He said the Human Resource Director position would be advertised the next day. He wanted the new Director to start shortly after October 1, 2021. Based on union negotiations, pay increases were considered across the board.

The Council asked questions about Information Technology. Mr. Cook discussed the requested technology upgrades for the Village. He discussed the security risks and how the Village worked to prevent them. Mayor Smith asked if the budget could be delivered electronically instead of paper copies. There was a discussion from the Council about their old budget books.

The Village Manager talked about the redesign of the flex space to accommodate additional staff. The Council discussed Planning, Zoning and Building and future projects. Council Member Brinkman asked about the Consulting fees. She inquired if it was for the EAR or CRA. Ms. Cabrera explained that the fees resulted from the Comprehensive Plan not getting updated. Mrs. Glas-Castro interjected and explained that the fee is an overhaul of the Comprehensive plan. Council Member Brinkman questioned whether Consultants got hired the last time the Comp Plan was reviewed.

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Mayor Smith asked if the body cameras were bought last year. Chief Ceccarelli discussed how the body cameras were financed. Chief Ceccarelli said that the policy and training were complete, but they were still working out the kinks. The Council continued to ask questions about the Library and the Parks and Recreation Department.

The Village Manager stated there was no increase in the sanitation cost. He talked discussed the various economic development around the Village from Community Redevelopment TIF contributions.

Council Member Brinkman asked about the change in positions at the library and if multiple entrances into the building were available. Mrs. Maliska said there was no increase in staff, but rather a reorganization. Vice Mayor Ready asked about the furniture in the corner of the library. Mrs. Maliska said the furniture was placed there to help with social distancing (pandemic).

The Council discussed Parks and Recreation's budget. They expressed their appreciation for the marvelous job Mr. Lucas did with the park projects, especially during the pandemic. The Council asked about a tree being removed. Mr. Lucas explained that a child was almost hit by one of the tree branches, so the trees may be removed. The Council and discussed property being purchased around the Sago Park area. Mayor Smith asked if the CRA got reimbursed for their projects. Council Member Brinkman asked about the gateway signs placed on hold. The Village Manager stated the purchase was a placeholder.

Ms. Morse thanked Mr. Girard, Mr. Ward (Paul), and Mr. Schmitz (Jim) for their diligence and hard work on the budget. The Council did not have any questions about Stormwater or Capital Improvement Projects.

### **ADJOURNMENT**


Hearing no further comment Mayor Smith adjourned the meeting at 6:35 PM

ATTEST:



Bev Smith, Mayor

The undersigned is the Village Clerk of Palm Springs, Florida, and the information provided herein is the Minutes of the Village Council Budget Workshop Meeting held on **July 29, 2021**. Which minutes were formally approved and adopted by the Village Council on **September 8, 2021**.

  
Kimberly M. Wynn, Village Clerk