

- FY25 budget was developed using the FY24 service levels at a starting point.
- General Fund contingency of \$125,000 is available for individual initiatives, future projects, and retention. Water Fund contingency is \$10,000.
- Total General Fund budget increased \$517,540 over FY24.
- Total Water Fund operations budget increased by \$56,817.
- Water Fund billings – No FY25 rate change; future rate changes will be required to fund operational, debt service, and capital project requirements.
- \$409,451 of General Fund cash reserves will be required to fund beach loan principal and interest payments. \$26,396 of Water Fund cash reserves will be required to fund the new beach project. The Water Fund will require a bank loan of \$650,000 to fund capital projects.
- There are no new staff positions planned.

Continuing, Mr. Bloom explained the budget was based on a flat Millage Rate of 3.50 mils. He stated that rate was 6.23 percent higher than the roll back rate of 3.2947 mils. He reviewed the General Fund and special revenue funds individually and provided brief analysis of the proposed Millage Rate.

Mayor Miller noted the health insurance rate was not yet available and asked if the budgeted amount was a conservative estimate. Mr. Bloom advised that a 15 percent increase had been contemplated. Mr. Serda added that quotes would be available in October for review by the Commission in November.

Vice Mayor Baldasarre asked if there would be a sunset on the Water Fund debt service surcharge. Mr. Bloom explained the surcharge would sunset when the loan was paid off. Mr. Serda advised this was scheduled for 2038.

Mr. Serda summarized, noting no change was recommended in the tax rate. He stated his office was working on procuring a bid for the beach renourishment planned for FY25, and costs were expected to come in between \$5 million and \$6 million. He advised that a Request for Proposals (RFP) was currently open for the portable water storage tank at the water plan, which was expected to cost approximately \$1.6 million. He reviewed additional projects planned, including bocce and a planning room to be funded by the Building Fund.

Mayor Miller opened a public hearing on the item.

John Carlson, 975 Hillsboro Mile, asked if there was someone assigned to budget cuts.

Mayor Miller stated the Commissioners and staff are always looking for ways to cut the budget and are responsible for ensuring spending is under control.

Mr. Carlson asked that the Commission consider cutting the donations line item. He asserted that donations to 501(c)3 charities are tax deductible on personal tax forms, but citizens lose that deduction when the Commission votes to donate tax dollars. He commented that the Town was forcing residents to donate to charities they do not have a choice in. He thanked the Commission for doing their due diligence and argued that the Lighthouse Preservation or the Coast Guard was not doing their job in protecting the landmark and should be held accountable. He discussed maintenance issues with the lighthouse. He noted the Area Council on Aging of Broward County sends the Town an invoice for its donation, which is a donation to a government organization, and asked that the organizations be asked to solicit donations directly from the citizens.

Mayor Miller closed the public hearing.

Mr. Serda advised that the Town contributes \$5,000 annually to the Lighthouse Preservation Society, and the resident is correct that the organization is a 501(c)3. He commented on restoration projects and fundraising efforts currently underway. He stated the other contribution is \$3,500 to the organization which provides Meals on Wheels and other senior services, and the Town receives an accounting of the number of Lighthouse Point residents served. He noted the Town receives a number of requests for support.

Mayor Miller stated she understood Mr. Carlson's point as to the tax implications of a government entity donating to a charity. She noted the Town looks closely at the requests for contributions.

Motion made by Commissioner Ravanese, seconded by Commissioner Andreano, to adopt a Tentative Millage Rate of 3.50. In a roll call vote, the **motion** passed unanimously. (5-0)

Mr. Doody read the Resolution by title only. He stated the rate of 3.50 was 6.23 percent higher than the roll back rate of 3.2947 mils.

Motion made by Commissioner Ravanese, seconded by Commissioner Andreano, to adopt Resolution 2024-31. In a roll call vote, the **motion** passed unanimously. (5-0)

Mr. Bloom announced September 16, 2024, at 5:01 p.m. as the time and date of the public hearing to set the final Millage Rate.

B. Resolution No. 2024-32 Consideration to Approve and Adopt the Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF HILLSBORO BEACH, FLORIDA, ADOPTING A TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2024 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2024; DETERMINING AND FIXING THE AMOUNTS NECESSARY TO CARRY ON THE GOVERNMENT OF THE TOWN FOR THE

ENSUING YEAR; DETERMINING THE AMOUNT OF APPLICABLE FUNDS ON HAND; ESTIMATING RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR ALL FUNDS, EXHIBIT "A"; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Bloom advised that the FY25 tentative budget was 26.3 percent or \$3.8 million higher than the FY24 budget and included the beach project.

Mayor Miller opened a public hearing on the item, however there being none to speak, she closed the public hearing.

Mr. Doody read the Resolution by title only.

Motion made by Commissioner Ravanese, seconded by Commissioner Reiser, to adopt Resolution 2024-32. In a roll call vote, the **motion** passed unanimously. (5-0)

II. ANNOUNCE FINAL BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Serda highlighted the progress represented in the budget toward providing solutions for the Town. He commented that the beach renourishment would include 87 percent reimbursement. He stated the Commission was changing the course of the Town for generations with the water plant clear well. He thanked staff for their tremendous work and the Commission for their leadership. The Mayor and Commissioners recognized Mr. Serda and Ms. Henderson for their efforts.

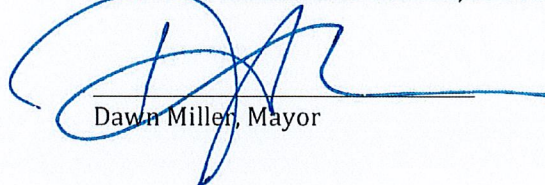
Mayor Miller announced that the second and final budget public hearing was scheduled for Monday, September 16, 2024, at 5:01 p.m.

III. ADJOURNMENT

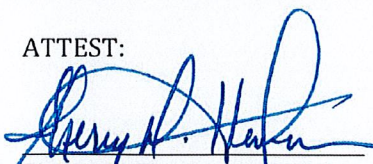
Motion made by Commissioner Ravanese, seconded by Commissioner Andreano, to adjourn the meeting at 5:43 p.m. In a roll call vote, the **motion** passed unanimously. (5-0)

ADOPTED THIS 4th DAY OF October, 2024

TOWN OF HILLSBORO BEACH, FLORIDA


Dawn Miller, Mayor

ATTEST:


Sherry D. Henderson, CMC
Town Clerk

TOWN OF HILLSBORO BEACH
1210 HILLSBORO MILE
HILLSBORO BEACH, FL 33062