

**BAL HARBOUR VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**FIRST BUDGET HEARING – SEPTEMBER 8, 2009**

The First Budget Hearing of Bal Harbour Village was held on Tuesday, September 8, 2009, in the Council Chambers at Bal Harbour Village Hall (655 – 96<sup>th</sup> Street, Bal Harbour, Florida).

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:** The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Rosenfield. The following were present:

Mayor Jean Rosenfield  
 Assistant Mayor Joni D. Blachar  
 Councilwoman Patricia Cohen  
 Councilman Jaime M. Sanz<sup>1</sup>

Alfred J. Treppeda, Village Manager  
 Ellisa Horvath, CMC, Village Clerk  
 Andrea Greenblatt, Admin. Assistant  
 Richard J. Weiss, Village Attorney

Absent: Councilman Martin Packer

As a quorum was determined to be present, the meeting commenced.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge was led by Mayor Rosenfield.

**3. ANNOUNCEMENT:** Mayor Rosenfield announced that the Bal Harbour Village rolled-back millage rate is 2.5265 mills and that the proposed millage rate for the upcoming fiscal year is 2.5265 mills, which equals the rolled-back rate of 2.5265 mills.

**4. DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED TAX MILLAGE RATE AND DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED BUDGET:** Finance Director Christopher Wallace distributed and reviewed a Powerpoint presentation. He explained that the millage rate is being raised due to the decrease in property taxable value, to create similar revenue to the prior year.

Mayor Rosenfield discussed various ways that the Village saved money in the budget. She reported that it will be the last year that the St. Regis is giving certain money to the Village through the Development Agreement. She noted that there is a savings for the following year to help cover that loss of revenue.

Mayor Rosenfield opened the item for public discussion.

*Anamarie Kelly* questioned if 40% is excessive for a police budget and questioned the increase in the Roads & Streets budget. She noted that the interior section is owned by the

residents and questioned if the Civic Association land (within the Security District) is included in the maintenance part of the Village's budget and if the Village is being reimbursed for expenses on that private property for maintenance, water and sewer. Mr. Wallace reported that 40% for police is not unusual for a city of any size. He explained that the Roads and Streets is set up in the State's uniform county system and noted that it would provide for work done on any roads/streets within the Village. Mr. Wallace reported that the Village collects taxes from all the properties and distributes it accordingly in the budget where it is needed. He is not aware of any reimbursement that the Village receives from private sources and is not familiar with any reimbursement for water meters on the public right-of-ways.

There being no additional comments, Mayor Rosenfield closed the meeting for public discussion.

## **5. RESOLUTION – ADOPTION OF THE TENTATIVE MILLAGE**

**RATE:** The following resolution was read by title, by Mrs. Horvath:

**A RESOLUTION OF BAL HARBOUR VILLAGE, OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE LEVYING OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009/2010; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Mayor Rosenfield opened the meeting for public discussion. There being no additional comments, Mayor Rosenfield closed the meeting for public discussion.

**A motion was offered by Assistant Mayor Blachar and seconded by Councilwoman Cohen to approve the Resolution. The motion carried (3-0); thus becoming Resolution No. 2009-711.**

**6. ORDINANCE FIRST READING/PUBLIC HEARING:** The following ordinance was read by title, by Mrs. Horvath:

**AN ORDINANCE OF BAL HARBOUR VILLAGE ADOPTING A BUDGET FOR ALL VILLAGE FUNDS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2009, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2010; APPROPRIATING REVENUES AND OTHER FUNDS; AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**A motion was offered by Assistant Mayor Blachar and seconded by Councilwoman Cohen to approve the Ordinance.**

Mayor Rosenfield opened the meeting for public discussion.

**Abraham Gotman, 9601 Collins Avenue**, questioned if the Village is receiving any money from the Federal government. Mr. Treppeda reported that the Village will receive \$250,000 for new bus shelters/benches. Mr. Wallace clarified that stimulus funds will provide \$250,000 for bus shelters/benches, \$77,000 for crosswalks, and \$33,000 for a bus.

**Neil Alter, 9801 Collins Avenue**, questioned when the Village will receive the money. Mr. Treppeda reported that the money was just awarded and has to go through the process. Mr. Alter questioned the process for the bus shelters. Mr. Treppeda reported that a

prototype will be presented at the September or October Council Meeting. Mr. Alter noted that the shelters cannot be purchased until the Village receives the money. Mr. Treppeda reported that the Federal government will be providing the money. Mr. Alter discussed the promise for sand, which the Balmoral did not receive much of.

There being no additional comments, Mayor Rosenfield closed the meeting for public discussion.

Assistant Mayor Blachar suggested deleting the Lifescan line item from the budget for employees, since it's not a standard for care. Mr. Treppeda noted that money just needs to be budgeted for a wellness exam for the Police.

**A motion was offered by Assistant Mayor Blachar and seconded by Mayor Rosenfield to delete the budgeted item for life/body scan.**

Councilwoman Cohen requested additional information on the item before deleting it. Chief Hunker spoke in favor of the Lifescan and explained that it is done instead of a physical exam, since it's better and less expensive. Mr. Treppeda explained that it also includes bloodwork, etc. Assistant Mayor Blachar spoke in favor of the Lifescan, if it's less expensive than a physical.

Councilman Sanz arrived.

This item will be discussed at the Second Budget Hearing.

**A motion was offered by Assistant Mayor Blachar and seconded by Mayor Rosenfield to withdraw the motion to delete the budgeted item for life/body scan. The motion carried (4-0).**

Assistant Mayor Blachar requested that the Uniforms for Village Hall clerical employees be deleted from the budget.

Assistant Mayor Blachar questioned the need for Munisport environmental attorneys. Mayor Rosenfield thinks that the situation needs to be monitored, since the property is adjacent to the Village. Mr. Treppeda reported the bills to be approximately \$25,000. Mr. Weiss and Mr. Treppeda will speak with the attorneys about decreasing their fees.

Assistant Mayor Blachar questioned the cost of \$800 for Lapel Pins. Mrs. Horvath reported that the pins have not been ordered in the past four years. Mr. Weiss doesn't think the amount needs to be changed. He suggested that the Council give direction to the Village Manager, so that the items can be changed. He reported that the vote should be to show if there is consensus.

Assistant Mayor Blachar questioned the cost for Legal Ads. Mrs. Horvath reported that advertising is only done in The Miami Herald if the Village is legally required to do so, otherwise a less expensive publication is used.

Assistant Mayor Blachar questioned the cost for Uniforms. Mr. Treppeda reported that the Administrative Assistant receives \$700 and the other clerical employees receive \$500 in uniforms. Councilman Sanz commented on how nice the uniforms look. Assistant Mayor Blachar questioned if they are used by the employees. Mr. Treppeda responded that they

are.

Assistant Mayor Blachar questioned the cost of \$10,000 for snow for the Park Snow Festival. Mayor Rosenfield spoke in favor of it, but suggested having the party without the snow to have something for the children. Mr. Treppeda reported that the cost includes snow, food, etc. Assistant Mayor Blachar requested a breakdown on the costs.

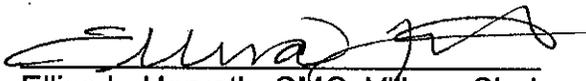
Assistant Mayor Blachar questioned the cost of \$11,500 for a Park Lightning Detector. Mr. Treppeda reported that the Village Park Director requested it, because other parks have it. Mayor Rosenfield discussed the large amount of children that use the Park. Councilwoman Cohen spoke in favor of it.

**The motion carried with the vote as follows: Mayor Rosenfield aye; Assistant Mayor Blachar aye; Councilwoman Cohen aye; Councilman Packer absent; Councilman Sanz aye.**

**7. ANNOUNCEMENT:** Mayor Rosenfield announced that the next budget hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, September 15, 2009, at 6:00 p.m.

**8. ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the Council, it was the consensus of the Council to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Attest:

  
Ellisa L. Horvath, CMC, Village Clerk

  
Mayor Jean Rosenfield