

**CITY OF COOPER CITY
CITY COMMISSION MEETING AND
FIRST BUDGET HEARING
SEPTEMBER 14, 2011**

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Eisinger called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and led the assembly in the pledge of allegiance.

2. ROLL CALL

Present were Commissioners Green, Curran, Sims, Mallozzi and Mayor Eisinger.

3. CHANGES TO AGENDA/EMERGENCY MATTERS

None

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Eisinger made the following announcements:

- Mom & Son Night of Fun will take place on Friday, September 16th, from 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at the Community Center.
- The Annual Tree & Plant Care Workshop is scheduled for Saturday, September 17th from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- BSO Fire/Rescue #28 will host an old fashioned “Open House” on Saturday, September 17th from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- The next Community Garage Sale will be held on Saturday, October 1st at 7:00 a.m.
- The Community Book Swap will be held in the Community Center on Friday, October 14th from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
- The upcoming Commission Meeting Schedule is as follows:

Monday, September 26 th at 6:00 p.m.	Final Budget Hearing
Tuesday, October 11 th at 6:00 p.m.	Commission Meeting
Tuesday, October 25 th at 6:00 p.m.	Commission Meeting

Mayor Eisinger commended the Recreation Department and the Boys and Girls Scout Troops and the American Legion who hosted various 9/11 commemorative services this past weekend in which she participated and Commissioner Mallozzi attended.

Commissioner Mallozzi made the following announcements:

- Girl Scout Troop #10765 is collecting donations of items on behalf of the Humane Society of Broward County. Please call (305)970-8284 for details.
- The Forgotten Soldiers Outreach program seeks to receive letters and care packages to soldiers who have no family to correspond with. Please visit www.forgottensolders.org

- The public can obtain swimming lessons at the Pool & Tennis Center and the Kiwanis Club. Various other organizations may assist in providing swimming lessons at no cost or discounted rates.

Commissioner Curran commended the Utilities Department on their efficiency and prompt response to a recent water line break.

MOTION: To remove Item 6C1: Choose Peace/Stop Violence Initiative Proclamation from the Consent Agenda for approval and presentation.

Moved by Commissioner Mallozzi. Seconded by Commissioner Curran. All aye on roll call vote. Motion passed.

Mayor Eisinger read the Choose Peace/Stop Violence Initiative Proclamation which was accepted by Kitty Barran on behalf of Project Bridge and Choose Peace Week.

Ms. Barran presented an explanation of the program and thanked the community for their support.

5. AGENDA CONCERNS

None

6. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes for Approval

August 16, 2011 – Regular Commission Meeting

B. Home Local Business Tax Receipts

1. Weddings by Kathleen, Kathleen Kepler, 4974 SW 105 Terrace, Wedding Planner
2. Zamarini, Inc., Natalie Zamarini, 11530 S. Quayside Drive, Courier
3. D. Barnes Electric & Controls, Inc., Daniel Barnes, 4850 SW 104 Avenue, Contracting Electrical Service, Repair

C. Proclamations

1. Choose Peace/Stop Violence Initiative – **Previously removed and approved.**
2. St. Nicholas Ukrainian Orthodox Church – 60th Anniversary
3. Jewish Chaplain's Day of Remembrance

MOTION: To approve the balance of the Consent Agenda.

Moved by Commissioner Curran. Seconded by Commissioner Sims. All aye on roll call vote. Motion passed.

7. FINANCIAL MATTERS (First Budget Hearing)

Fiscal Year 2011/2012 Budget and Taxes

A. First Public Hearing on Adoption of Fiscal Year 2011/2012 Millage Rate – Ord. No. 11-9-1

City Atty. Wolpin explained that the ordinance for Item 7A provides for a proposed millage rate of 5.0526 mills which is 0.33% above the roll-back rate of 5.0362 mills and provides for a voted debt service millage rate of 0.2153 mills. The proposed millage rate would be subject to final approval at the second budget public hearing which is set for Monday, September 26, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. He then read, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF COOPER CITY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL LEVY OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR COOPER CITY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE," by title only.

Mayor Eisinger Opened the Public Hearing and invited anyone in attendance to speak publicly on the item.

Yakov Pogorelis, 8770 SW 57 Street, advised that the goal of the City should be to keep the taxes from increasing, that the City cannot sustain the cost of Police and Fire and the yearly increases and that the purchase of a new computer system may not be appropriate at this time.

With no additional speakers, Mayor Eisinger closed the public hearing.

MOTION: To approve the Ordinance adopting the Millage Levy for Fiscal Year 2011/2012.

Moved by Commissioner Green. Seconded by Commissioner Curran.

Roll Call Vote

Commissioner Green:	Yes
Commissioner Curran:	Yes
Commissioner Sims:	No
Commissioner Mallozzi:	No
Mayor Eisinger:	Yes
Motion passed.	

B. First Public Hearing on Adoption of Fiscal Year 2011/2012 Budget – Ord. No. 11-9-2

City Atty. Wolpin read, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF COOPER CITY, FLORIDA, OFFICIALLY ADOPTING AND APPROVING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2011/2012 AND APPROPRIATING THE FUNDS REQUIRED FOR THE OPERATION OF THE CITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE," by title only.

City Manager Loucks explained that a memo on September 2nd to the Commission detailed final adjustments to the budget and that further direction would be necessary regarding the appropriation of various funds.

Mayor Eisinger opened the Public Hearing and invited anyone in attendance to speak publicly on the item.

Gladys Wilson, 5155 NW 90th Avenue, commented on the sacrifices by staff, the cost of attorney's fees, water rate increases, fire assessments, recreation activities, transportation services and Commission interaction.

Ed Wooley, 10038 Nashville Drive, commented regarding departmental budget cuts, the BSO contract and millage rate increases.

With no additional speakers, Mayor Eisinger closed the public hearing.

MOTION: To approve the Ordinance adopting and approving the Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2011/2012 and appropriating the funds required for the operation of the City.

Moved by Commissioner Curran. Seconded by Commissioner Green.

MOTION: To add the \$50,000.00 lobbyist fee previously removed from the budget back into the budget.

Moved by Commissioner Sims. Seconded by Commissioner Mallozzi.

MOTION: To amend the previous motion to keep the City lobbyist only if a reduced fee can be agreed upon by the Commission.

Motion accepted by the maker of the original motion.

MOTION: To table this issue of the lobbyist fees until the next budget hearing.

Moved by Mayor Eisinger. Seconded by Commissioner Curran.

Roll Call Vote

Commissioner Green: Yes

Commissioner Curran: Yes

Commissioner Sims: No

Commissioner Mallozzi: Yes

Mayor Eisinger: Yes

Motion passed. Item tabled.

Consensus was reached for a third round of discussion.

Roll Call Vote to Original Motion

Commissioner Green: Yes

Commissioner Curran: Yes

Commissioner Sims: No

Commissioner Mallozzi: No

Mayor Eisinger: **Yes**

Motion passed.

MOTION: To adopt the budget on first reading to include all of the revisions set forth in the City Manager's September 2, 2011 Memorandum with the exception of the lobby fees, which has been tabled and will be discussed at the final budget hearing.

Moved by Commissioner Green. Seconded by Commissioner Mallozzi. All aye on roll call vote. Motion passed.

11. OPEN PUBLIC MEETING

Gladys Wilson, 5155 SW 90th Avenue, encouraged the Commission to bring back the shuttle bus service.

Ed Wooley, 11038 Nashville Drive, stated that the Commission should never entertain raising taxes and criticized any increases.

Yakov Pogorelis, 8770 SW 57th Street, asked why the Finance Department needs a new computer system, opined that there is no need for a City lobbyist and suggested that there be a question and answer period at each Commission Meeting.

Sunil Menon, 2735 NW 84th Terrace, commented that the School Board intends to redistrict middle school students in parts of Monterra to a school outside of Cooper City and that the CDD assessment on his tax bill has increased by 40%.

Tim Wilder, Davie resident, commented on his view of the Commission and the community.

C. Public Hearing on Final Adoption of Fire Assessment – Res. No. 11-9-1

City Atty. Wolpin read, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COOPER CITY, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE PROVISION OF FIRE SERVICES, FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS IN THE CITY OF COOPER CITY, FLORIDA; ESTABLISHING THE RATE OF ASSESSMENT; IMPOSING FIRE ASSESSMENTS AGAINST ASSESSED PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY OF COOPER CITY; APPROVING THE ASSESSMENT ROLL; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR A REPEALER; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE," by title only.

Mayor Eisinger opened the Public Hearing and invited anyone in attendance to speak publicly on the item.

Ed Wooley, 10038 Nashville Drive, opined that the City does not need the additional revenue that would come from adopting a fire assessment and that any increase would cost the poor more than the rich.

Walt Jolliff, 11095 Bismarck Place, criticized the fire assessment fee and asserted that the calculations from which the assessment is derived are incorrect.

Gladys Wilson, 5155 SW 50th Place, commented against the fire assessment.

Don Giesler, 5231 SW 101st Avenue, asserted that his family cannot afford any increase in taxes or fees.

Ryan Shrouder, 4030 Fern Forrest Road, commented in favor of fire assessments as a necessary means of support for fire services.

MOTION: To approve the Resolution relating to the provision of fire services, facilities and programs in the City and imposing a fire assessment.

Discussion continued past the regular meeting adjournment time of 9:30 and unanimous consensus was reached to extend the meeting and continue discussion on this item.

Moved by Commissioner Green. Seconded by Commissioner Curran. All aye on roll call vote. Motion passed.

Roll Call Vote to Original Motion

Commissioner Green: Yes

Commissioner Curran: Yes

Commissioner Sims: No

Commissioner Mallozzi: No

Mayor Eisinger: Yes

Motion passed.

8. POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Hale reported on a recent near drowning incident that occurred days earlier in the week and recognized Deputy Jeff Propst, Deputy Chris Lewellen, Deputy Derrick Gordon and Lieutenant Robert Cates as the four deputies who responded first on the scene. He additionally reported on an increase in residential burglaries throughout the community and the tri-county area at large.

9. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Sievers commented regarding the near drowning incident as well and reiterated his invitation to the community to participate in the Old Fashioned Open House which, will be held on Saturday, September 17th from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

10. CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Loucks announced that selections for the Charter Review Committee must be made by November 1st.

12. COMMISSIONERS' CONCERNS/REPORTS

Commissioner Sims commended BSO on their response to calls, asked where statistical reports may be found on a daily basis and questioned the fire assessment calculations.

Commissioner Green complimented the BSO departments in response to the near drowning incident, stressed the importance of community involvement to fight crime, and thanked City staff for their daily hard work.

Commissioner Mallozzi echoed the appreciation for BSO, advocated the need for all residents to learn to swim and commented on the need for community vigilance to deter crime.

Commissioner Curran recommended that Cooper City residents be issued an automobile window sticker to aid in recognizing cars that do not belong to residents. He suggested the possibility of merging fire services with a neighboring city and asked that Chief Sievers consider assigning two personnel per rescue apparatus instead of three to allow coverage for an additional rescue vehicle.

Mayor Eisinger also complimented the BSO departments and addressed the concerns of several speakers.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Eisinger adjourned the meeting at 10:17 p.m.