



# Southwest Ranches Town Council

## FIRST BUDGET HEARING Agenda of September 12, 2024

Southwest Ranches Council Chambers  
6:00 PM Thursday

13400 Griffin Road  
Southwest Ranches, FL 33330

<b><u>Mayor</u></b> Steve Breitreuz	<b><u>Town Council</u></b> Jim Allbritton Bob Hartmann Gary Jablonski	<b><u>Town Administrator</u></b> Russell C. Muñiz, MBA, MPA	<b><u>Town Attorney</u></b> Keith M. Poliakoff, J.D.
<b><u>Vice Mayor</u></b> David S. Kuczenski, Esq.		<b><u>Town Financial Administrator</u></b> Emil C. Lopez, CPM	<b><u>Town Clerk</u></b> Debra M. Ruesga

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, persons needing special accommodation, a sign language interpreter or hearing impaired to participate in this proceeding should contact the Town Clerk at (954) 434-0008 for assistance no later than four days prior to the meeting.

1. **Call to Order / Roll Call**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Administrator Comments**
4. **Presentation by Finance**

### **Millage Rate and Budget Hearing**

#### **Resolutions**

5. **A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA PROVIDING FINDINGS; PROVIDING PURPOSE; PROVIDING FOR PROVISION AND FUNDING OF FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES; PROVIDING FOR IMPOSITION AND COMPUTATION OF FIRE PROTECTION ASSESSMENTS; PROVIDING LEGISLATIVE DETERMINATIONS OF SPECIAL BENEFIT AND FAIR APPORTIONMENT; APPROVING THE FINAL FIRE SERVICES ASSESSMENT RATES AND FINAL ROLL RELATING TO THE PROVISION OF FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES, FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS IN THE TOWN FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-25; CONFIRMING AN EXEMPTION FOR VETERAN'S WITH SERVICE-CONNECTED TOTAL AND PERMANENT DISABILITY; PROVIDING FOR EFFECT OF ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION; PROVIDING FOR APPLICATION OF ASSESSMENT PROCEEDS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS AND SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**
6. **A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE PROVISION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES, FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS TO RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES IN THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA FOR FY 2024-2025 COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2024, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2025; PROVIDING AUTHORITY FOR SOLID WASTE SERVICES ASSESSMENTS; PROVIDING**

**PURPOSE AND DEFINITIONS; PROVIDING FINDINGS; INCORPORATING THE SOLID WASTE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY REPORT; PROVIDING FOR AN EXEMPTION FOR VETERAN'S SERVICE-CONNECTED TOTAL AND PERMANENT DISABILITY; APPROVING THE ASSESSMENT ROLL; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**Tentative Millage Rate Resolution**

**Tentative Millage Rate Resolution**

- 7. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATE FOR TAXATION OF REAL PROPERTY LYING WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025, COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2024, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2025; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**Ordinance - 1st Reading**

- 8. AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE BUDGET OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025, COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2024, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2025; PROVIDING FOR A BUDGET BASIS; PROVIDING FOR EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR CARRYOVER OF FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR NOTICE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT; AND, PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. {Second Reading scheduled for September 26, 2024}**

**9. Adjournment**

PURSUANT TO FLORIDA STATUTES 286.0105, THE TOWN HEREBY ADVISES THE PUBLIC THAT IF A PERSON DECIDES TO APPEAL ANY DECISION MADE BY THIS COUNCIL WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED AT ITS MEETING OR HEARING, HE OR SHE WILL NEED A RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS, AND THAT FOR SUCH PURPOSE, THE AFFECTED PERSON MAY NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDING IS MADE, WHICH RECORD INCLUDES THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE APPEAL IS TO BE BASED. THIS NOTICE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE CONSENT BY THE TOWN FOR THE INTRODUCTION OR ADMISSION OF OTHERWISE INADMISSIBLE OR IRRELEVANT EVIDENCE, NOR DOES IT AUTHORIZE CHALLENGES OR APPEALS NOT OTHERWISE ALLOWED BY LAW.



**Town of Southwest Ranches**  
**13400 Griffin Road**  
**Southwest Ranches, FL**  
**33330-2628**  
**(954) 434-0008 Town Hall**  
**(954) 434-1490 Fax**

**Town Council**  
**Steve Breitkreuz, Mayor**  
**David S. Kuczenski, Esq., Vice Mayor**  
**Jim Allbritton, Council Member**  
**Bob Hartmann, Council Member**  
**Gary Jablonski, Council Member**

**Russell C. Muñiz, MBA, MPA, Town Administrator**  
**Keith M. Poliakoff, JD, Town Attorney**  
**Debra M. Ruesga, Town Clerk**  
**Emil C. Lopez, CPM, Town Financial Administrator**

### **COUNCIL MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Honorable Mayor Breitkreuz and Town Council  
**VIA:** Russell Muñiz, Town Administrator  
**FROM:** Emil C. Lopez, Town Financial Administrator  
**DATE:** 9/12/2024  
**SUBJECT:** FY 2024-2025 Proposed Final Fire Assessment Rate

#### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Town Council ratify the attached Resolution to set the final Fire Special Assessment maximums which includes ratification for an annual special 100% tax exemption for 100% service-connected disabled veterans.

- A. Sound Governance
- B. Enhanced Resource Management
- C. Reliable Public Safety
- D. Improved Infrastructure

#### **Background**

Chapter 193.3632, Florida Statutes, and Town Ordinance No. 2001-09, requires the annual adoption of an initial Fire Protection Assessment Resolution. Proceeds derived by the Town from the Fire Protection Assessment will be utilized for the provision of Fire Protective contractual services, planning, facilities, machinery, programs, and volunteer fire activities. In the event there is any fund balance remaining at the end of the Fiscal Year, such balance shall be carried forward and used exclusively (if unassigned) to fund the qualified expenditures stated above.

The adoption of the final Fire Protection Assessment Resolution determines the amount of the Fire services assessed costs to be advertised. This resolution establishes the maximum

rates that may be applied for next fiscal year and also sets the date, place, and time for the public hearing for this assessment. The final Fire Assessment rates being proposed are based on a Fire Assessment Study that was the result of an adopted 2021 Fire Protection Assessment Study conducted by Munitytics, Inc. (“Consultant”) that included a methodology providing for combining of the non-residential categories (Commercial, Institutional and Warehouse/Industrial) into one category and to use a 5-year rolling average for fire call data. The cost apportioned to each parcel were based on the Town’s proposed costs of Fire Protection Services for FY 2024-2025. The year over year assessment net dollar increase is \$252,433 (\$3,503,873 FY25 Proposed Budget vs. \$3,251,440 FY24 Adopted Budget) within all categories. However, per Council directive and to maintain the fire assessment rates the same as last year, across all categories, a portion of a previously established fire subsidy was utilized to offset this increase. Given the methodology use, the acreage rate came in a bit under than last year.

**Fiscal Impact/Analysis**

The Proposed Fire Assessment rates address fire personnel, fire operations, planning, and capital improvements related to fire services such as prevention, awareness, and suppression. The proposed rates show NO increases to the “combined non-residential” category, to the acreage category, and to the “residential” category. It’s important to note that this was possible due to Council directives and the utilization of the fire subsidy in the amount of \$252,433.

<b>Property Category</b>		<b>FY24/25 Proposed</b>	<b>FY23/24 Adopted</b>	<b>Proposed vs. Adopted Increase (Decrease)</b>
Combined Residential	Non-	\$0.9812	\$0.9812	\$0.00
Acreage		\$ 86.49	\$89.12	(\$2.63)
Residential		\$758.63	\$758.63	\$0.00

This proposed budget also funds program modifications related to the Volunteer Fire operations to improve planning for fire vehicles and safety equipment.

For FY 2025, the total dollar impact to the Town’s General Fund for the disabled veteran exemption is \$18,242 (twenty-three (23)). It shall also be noted that the General Fund millage impact of imposed FS 170.01 (4) pertaining to a full Fire Assessment exemption for vacant agricultural property is \$92,717 (approximately 1,072 acres).

**Staff Contact:**

Emil C. Lopez, Town Financial Administrator

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Description	Upload Date	Type
Resolution - TA Approved	9/3/2024	Resolution

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA PROVIDING FINDINGS; PROVIDING PURPOSE; PROVIDING FOR PROVISION AND FUNDING OF FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES; PROVIDING FOR IMPOSITION AND COMPUTATION OF FIRE PROTECTION ASSESSMENTS; PROVIDING LEGISLATIVE DETERMINATIONS OF SPECIAL BENEFIT AND FAIR APPORTIONMENT; APPROVING THE FINAL FIRE SERVICES ASSESSMENT RATES AND FINAL ROLL RELATING TO THE PROVISION OF FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES, FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS IN THE TOWN FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-25; CONFIRMING AN EXEMPTION FOR VETERAN'S WITH SERVICE-CONNECTED TOTAL AND PERMANENT DISABILITY; PROVIDING FOR EFFECT OF ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION; PROVIDING FOR APPLICATION OF ASSESSMENT PROCEEDS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS AND SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council of the Town of Southwest Ranches, Florida ("Town Council"), has enacted Ordinance No. 2001-09 (the "Ordinance"), which authorizes the imposition of Fire Service Assessments for fire services, facilities, and programs against Assessed Property located within the Town; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council desires to reimpose a Fire Services Assessment within the Town using the procedures in the Ordinance, including the tax bill collection method for the Fiscal Year beginning on October 1, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Ordinance 2001-09, the imposition of a Fire Services Assessment for fire services, facilities, and programs for Fiscal Year 2024-25 requires certain processes which the Town has fulfilled; and

**WHEREAS**, annually, a Preliminary Fire Services Assessment Resolution, describing the method of assessing fire costs against assessed property located within the Town, directing the preparation of an assessment roll, authorizing a public hearing and directing the provision of notice thereof, is required by the Ordinance for imposition of Fire Assessments; and

**WHEREAS**, annually, after a public hearing noticed by mail and publication, an Annual Fire Services Assessment Resolution approves the final rates and final roll for the Fire Assessments and directs submittal of the final roll to the Tax Collector's Office for billing on the annual property tax bills; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council has previously imposed a Fire Assessment, and the imposition of a Fire Assessment for fire services, facilities, and programs each fiscal year continues to be an equitable and efficient method of allocating and apportioning Fire Assessed Costs among parcels of Assessed Property for FY 2024-25; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council, during the Fiscal Year 2013, made an initial policy decision and adopted Resolution 2012-034, regarding legally recognized disabled veterans who live on homesteaded properties titled in their name in the Town, and who have received a Veteran's Service-Connected Total and Permanent Disability ad valorem tax exemption providing them with a 100% exemption for Fire Service Assessments pursuant to a June 23, 2011 unanimous vote and wish to provide for such exemption for the Fiscal Year 2024-25; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 25, 2024, the Town Council adopted Resolution 2024-054 ("2024 Preliminary Resolution") accepting, concurring with, and approving the methodology and proposed fire service assessment rates; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council of the Town of Southwest Ranches, Florida, desires to reimpose a fire service assessment program within the Town using the tax bill collection method, and deems it to be in the best interests of the citizens and residents of the Town of Southwest Ranches to adopt this Annual Fire Assessment Rate Resolution to impose Fire Assessments for Fiscal Year 2024-25; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA:**

**Section 1.** That the foregoing "WHEREAS" clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby made a specific part of this Resolution.

**Section 2. Authority.** This resolution is adopted pursuant to the provisions of Ordinance No. 2001-9, the Initial Assessment Resolution (Resolution 2011-084), the Final Assessment Resolution (Resolution 2011-098), and all subsequently adopted Preliminary and Annual Assessment Resolutions, and sections 166.021 and 166.041, Florida Statutes, and other applicable provisions of law. This Annual Resolution confirms, modifies, supersedes, and amends, any previous Fire Assessment Resolutions. Where any conflicts occur between this Resolution and any previous Fire Assessment Resolution, this Resolution shall prevail. However, nothing in this Resolution amends or affects the validity of any Fire Protection Assessments adopted and imposed by any previously adopted resolutions. This Annual Resolution modifies and amends the 2024 Preliminary Resolution by approving final assessment rates, by approving a final assessment roll based on the final assessment rates, and further confirms and modifies the 2024 Preliminary Resolution as may be determined necessary by the Town Council.

**Section 3. Purpose and Definitions.** This Resolution constitutes the Annual Fire Services Assessment Resolution as defined in the Ordinance (codified as Sections 12-19 through 12-85 in the Town of Southwest Ranches Code of Ordinances) and adopts and imposes Fire Assessments as presented in Section 7 for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2024. All capitalized words and terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings set forth in the Ordinance and in Resolution No. 2011-084, as may have been amended and supplemented by subsequent resolutions.

**Section 4. Provision and Funding of Fire Protection Services.** Upon the imposition of a Fire Protection Assessment for fire protection services, facilities, or programs against Assessed Property located within the Town as determined by the Broward County Property Appraiser (BCPA), the Town shall provide fire protection services to such Assessed Property. Proceeds of the Fire Protection Assessments shall be used to fund all or a portion of the costs of the provision of fire protection services to assessed properties within the Town. The remaining costs of providing fire protection services, facilities, and programs shall be funded by lawfully available Town revenues other than Fire Protection Assessment proceeds. Costs related to the provision of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) have not been included in the Fire Protection Assessed Costs and shall be paid for by the Town from other lawfully available funds and shall not be paid out of Fire Assessment revenues.

**Section 5. Imposition and Computation of Fire Protection Assessments.** Fire Protection Assessments shall be imposed against all Assessed Parcels. Fire Protection Assessments shall be computed in the manner set forth in this Annual Resolution.

**Section 6. Legislative Determination of Special Benefit and Fair Apportionment.** The legislative determinations of special benefit and fair apportionment embodied in the Ordinance (codified as Sections 12-19 through 12-85 in the Town of Southwest Ranches Code of Ordinances), the Initial Assessment Resolution (Resolution 2011-084), the Final Resolution (Resolution 2011-098), and in all subsequent Preliminary and Annual Resolutions, are affirmed, amended, modified, and incorporated herein by reference. In addition, it is hereby ratified, confirmed, and declared that the fire protection services to be funded by the Fire Protection Assessments provide special benefit to the Assessed Property and that the Fire Protection Assessed Costs are fairly and reasonably allocated to Assessed Properties. It is hereby ascertained, determined and declared that each parcel of Assessed Property located within the Town will be benefitted by the Town's provision of fire protection services, facilities, and programs in an amount not less than the Fire Protection Assessment adopted and imposed against such parcel by this Annual Resolution.

**Section 7. Approval of Final Fire Protection Assessment Rates and Final Fire Protection Assessment Roll.**

- A. Notice of the proposed Fire Assessments and a public hearing have been provided by mail and by publication. Notice by mail was provided in the annual notice of ad valorem property taxes mailed by the BCPA. The public

hearing was held on September 12, 2024, and comments and objections of all interested persons have been heard, in person or virtually as may have been authorized, and considered by the Town Council.

B. The Fire Protection Assessments to be assessed on benefitted parcels are hereby established as follows:

**Fiscal Year 2024-25 Final Fire Protection Assessment Rates**

<b>Rate Category</b>	<b>Assessment Unit</b>	<b>Final Fire Assessment Rate</b>
"A" Acreage	Per Acre	\$ 86.49
"R" Residential/Other	Per Dwelling Unit	\$ 758.63
Combined Non-residential	Per Sq Ft Bldg Area	\$ 0.9812

C. The above rates of assessment are hereby finally approved. The above Final Fire Assessment Rates shall be used to update and amend the Assessment Roll as needed and are hereby levied and imposed on all parcels of Assessed Property on the Final Assessment Roll. The Final Assessment Roll, as may have been updated or amended, is hereby adopted and approved. Approval by adoption of this Annual Resolution shall constitute a lien upon the property equal in rank and dignity with the liens of all state, county, district or municipal taxes and other non-ad valorem assessments. Except as otherwise provided by law, such lien shall be superior in dignity to all other liens, titles and claims, until paid.

D. The Mayor, or the Town Manager as the Mayor’s designee, shall certify the Final Assessment Roll and Final Assessment Rates to the Broward County Tax Collector no later than September 15, 2024, as required by statute.

**Section 8. Recognized Disabled Veterans Exemption.** Legally recognized Disabled Veterans, who live on homesteaded properties titled in their name within the Town, who have received a veteran's service-connected total and permanent disability ad valorem tax exemption, shall be exempt from the collection of the Fire Assessment. The Town shall buy down this 100% exemption with lawfully available, non-assessment funds.

**Section 9. Effect of Adoption of Resolution.** The adoption of this Annual Rate Resolution shall be the final adjudication of the issues presented (including, but not limited to, the determination of special benefit and fair apportionment to Assessed Property, the method of apportionment and assessment, the rate of assessment, the Assessment Roll and the levy and lien of the Fire Protection Assessments), unless proper steps shall be



initiated in a court of competent jurisdiction to secure relief within 20 days from the adoption of this Annual Rate Resolution.

**Section 10. Application of Assessment Proceeds.** Proceeds derived by the Town from the Fire Protection Assessments shall be deposited into the Fire Protection Assessment Fund and used for the provision of fire protection services, facilities, and programs. In the event there is any fund balance remaining at the end of the Fiscal Year, such balance shall be carried forward and used only to fund fire protection services, facilities, and programs.

**Section 11. Conflict.** All resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby superseded to the extent of such conflict.

**Section 12. Severability.** If any clause, section or other part of this Resolution shall be held by any court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional or invalid, such unconstitutional or invalid part shall be considered as eliminated and in no way affecting the validity of the other provisions of this Resolution.

**Section 16. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Town Council of the Town of Southwest Ranches, Florida, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of September, 2024 on a motion by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_.

Breitkreuz \_\_\_\_\_  
Kuczenski \_\_\_\_\_  
Allbritton \_\_\_\_\_  
Hartman \_\_\_\_\_  
Jablonski \_\_\_\_\_

Ayes \_\_\_\_\_  
Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Absent \_\_\_\_\_  
Abstaining \_\_\_\_\_

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Breitkreuz, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Debra M. Ruesga, CMC, Town Clerk

Approved as to Form and Correctness:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keith Poliakoff, Town Attorney  
1001.062.2024

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**Town of Southwest Ranches**  
13400 Griffin Road  
Southwest Ranches, FL  
33330-2628  
(954) 434-0008 Town Hall  
(954) 434-1490 Fax

**Town Council**  
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David S. Kuczenski, Esq., *Vice Mayor*  
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**Russell Muñiz, MBA, MPA, *Town Administrator***  
**Keith M. Poliakoff, JD, *Town Attorney***  
**Debra M. Ruesga, *Town Clerk***  
**Emil C. Lopez, CPM, *Town Financial Administrator***

## **COUNCIL MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Honorable Mayor Breitkreuz and Town Council  
**VIA:** Russell Muñiz, Town Administrator  
**FROM:** Emil C. Lopez, Town Financial Administrator  
**DATE:** 9/12/2024  
**SUBJECT:** FY 2024-2025 Proposed Final SW Assessment Rates

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Town Council ratify the attached Resolution to establish Solid and Bulk Waste, and Recycling collection rates for residential customers as identified in Exhibit A and which includes ratification for an annual special 50% tax exemption for 100% service-connected disabled veterans.

- A. Sound Governance
- B. Enhanced Resource Management
- C. Reliable Public Safety
- D. Improved Infrastructure

### **Background**

The Town Council approved a contract with WM (formerly Waste Management) on July 28, 2022, for solid waste, recyclables, bulk waste collection and disposal franchise agreement. The FY 2024-2025 total proposed solid waste assessment expenses have been estimated at \$3,494,712. This amount represents an increase of \$263,156 or approximately 8% when compared to last year's budgeted amount of \$3,231,556. The increase reflects an annual CPI rate adjustment that as per the contract came in at 6%.

During the budget workshop held on August 13, 2024, the Council directed the administration to maintain the solid waste rates the same as last year, across all categories. To accomplish this goal, a portion in the amount of \$250,399 of the previously established fire subsidy

(\$502,832) was utilized as well as \$12,757 from contingency to offset this increase (\$263,156).

**Fiscal Impact/Analysis**

The Town intends to fully fund residential solid waste services, facilities, or programs from proceeds of the Solid Waste Assessments. The Franchise Agreement provides the following financial benefits to the Town, which are consistent with the current agreement:

- Reimbursement for cost of the RFP process in the amount of \$49,680. The first \$5,000 was credited against payment to the Contractor for the first month of service and will represent the Contractor’s Franchise Permit Fee for the first year of the Franchise Agreement. The remaining forty-four thousand six hundred eighty dollars (\$44,680) will be credited against the Contractor’s monthly invoices at one thousand (\$1,000) per month for forty-four (44) months, and six hundred eighty dollars (\$680) in the forty-fifth (45<sup>th</sup>) month, beginning the second month of the Agreement term.
- Franchise Permit Fee of \$5,000/year. With the exception of the first year of the agreement (paid as noted above), the Contractor shall pay this fee to the Town by October 1<sup>st</sup> of each year of the Franchise Agreement.
- The Commercial Franchise Fee equals 10% of the commercial service fees charged and collected by the Contractor, which will be remitted monthly to the Town.

For FY 2025, the Property Appraiser designated twenty-three (23) 100% service-connected qualified disabled veterans thus making them eligible to claim a 50% reduction. The total approximate dollar impact to the Town’s Solid Waste Fund from the exemption is \$13,878.

**Staff Contact:**

Emil C. Lopez, Town Financial Administrator

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Description	Upload Date	Type
Resolution - TA Approved	8/30/2024	Resolution
Exhibit A - FY24 Solid Waste Worksheet	8/29/2024	Exhibit
Exhibit B - Proof of Advertising	8/29/2024	Exhibit

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-XXX**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE PROVISION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES, FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS TO RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES IN THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA FOR FY 2024-2025 COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2024, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2025; PROVIDING AUTHORITY FOR SOLID WASTE SERVICES ASSESSMENTS; PROVIDING PURPOSE AND DEFINITIONS; PROVIDING FINDINGS; INCORPORATING THE SOLID WASTE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY REPORT; PROVIDING FOR AN EXEMPTION FOR VETERAN’S SERVICE-CONNECTED TOTAL AND PERMANENT DISABILITY; APPROVING THE ASSESSMENT ROLL; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council has adopted a Solid Waste Service Assessment Ordinance, Ordinance Number 2002-8 (the “Ordinance”) on final reading at the Town Council meeting of June 24, 2002; and

**WHEREAS**, the adoption of solid waste assessment rates resulting from the Town Council’s policy direction requires the annual adoption of an Initial Assessment Resolution and the annual adoption of a Final Assessment Resolution, as required under the Ordinance as well as under the Uniform Method of Collection provided under Florida Statutes Chapter 197.3632;

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council, during the fiscal year 2018, made an initial policy decision, regarding legally recognized disabled veterans who live on homesteaded properties titled in their name in the Town, and who have received a Disabled Veterans ad valorem tax exemption providing them with a 50% exemption for Solid Waste and Bulk Waste Assessments pursuant to Resolution No. 2017-058 approved on September 13, 2017, and wish to provide for such exemption for the Fiscal Year 2025.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Town Council of the Town of Southwest Ranches, Florida:

**Section 1. Authority.** This resolution is adopted pursuant to the provisions of Ordinance No. 2002-8 as codified and as may have been amended, sections 166.021 and 166.041, Florida Statutes, and other applicable provisions of law.

**Section 2. Purpose and Definitions.** This resolution constitutes the Final Assessment Resolution as defined in the Ordinance (codified as Sections 16-108 through 16-173 in the Town of Southwest Ranches Code of Ordinances, hereinafter “Code”). All capitalized words and terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings set

forth in the Ordinance. Unless the context indicates otherwise, words imparting the singular number include the plural number, and vice versa. As used in this resolution, the following terms shall have the following meanings, unless the context hereof otherwise requires:

**"Assessed Parcel"** means those parcels with one or more Dwelling Units which are specially benefitted by the provision of solid waste collection and disposal services, and which are subject to the Solid Waste Assessments authorized by this Initial Resolution.

**"Bulk Waste"** means materials including yard trash, white goods, and clean debris, as such terms are defined in §16-108 of the Code, as may be amended, generated from residential activities and those materials generally outlined in §16-19 of the Code as acceptable for bulk trash pickup.

**"Commercial Property" or "Non-residential Property"** means collectively those Parcels with DOR Codes or Use Codes or Usage indicating more than just single-family residential uses and that have no Dwelling Units present on the parcel. Commercial Property or Non-residential Property, for the purposes of this Resolution, includes commercial, institutional, industrial/warehouse, vacant/agricultural and other all uses, except for Residential Property as defined in this Initial Resolution. As Non-residential Properties are billed directly for services by the Town's Solid Waste Provider, such parcels are not subject to the Assessments authorized by this Initial Resolution.

**"DOR Code"** means a property land use code established in Rule 12D-8.008, Florida Administrative Code, assigned by the Property Appraiser to Parcels within the Town. Additionally, the Broward County Property Appraiser assigns property Use Codes to parcels and structures. DOR Codes and associated Use Code descriptions are used in the development of the Solid Waste Assessments set forth in this Resolution and in preparation of the Assessment Roll. Where the use of a parcel indicates a use or combination of usage different from the DOR Code assigned to the parcel, the Town has the authority to impose a rate or combination of rates based on the use regardless of the DOR Code assigned to the parcel.

**"Dwelling Unit"**, as it relates to the Solid Waste Assessment which, may differ from the definition contained within the Town's Land Development Code, means (1) a building, or portion thereof, available to be used for residential purposes, consisting of one or more rooms arranged, designed, used, or intended to be used as living quarters for one family only, or (2) the use of land in which lots or spaces are offered for rent or lease for the placement of mobile homes or the like for residential purposes. A mobile home is an individual Dwelling Unit. For purposes of this Resolution and imposition of the Solid Waste Assessment, a Dwelling Unit, as defined herein, may be located on parcels other than residential property under the Town's zoning and development regulations.

**"Estimated Solid Waste Assessment Rate Schedule"** means that rate schedule as specified in the Report set forth in Exhibit "A", attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, specifying the Solid Waste Assessed Costs and the estimated Solid Waste Assessments.

**"Household Waste"** means and includes garbage, rubbish, and recovered materials, as those terms are defined in §16-108 of the Code, as may be amended, and recyclable materials as defined in §16-24 of the Code, as may be amended, generated from residential activities and excluding Bulk Waste.

**"Report"** or **"Town of Southwest Ranches Solid Waste Assessment Report"** means the report detailing the development of the Solid Waste Assessment Rates by New Community Strategies amended and revised per Council action dated September 12, 2011.

**"Residential Property"** means those Assessed Parcels with a DOR Code number on the following list or range: 1 - 9, 63 used as residential, 66 - 69 used as residential, 71 used as residential, or otherwise designated as residential property under the DOR Codes and Use Codes as determined by the Broward County Property Appraiser, in conjunction with the Town's Solid Waste Assessment Study. Residential Property includes single family/duplex as well as single family developed property with multiple dwelling units. Residential Property, for purposes of this Resolution and imposition of Solid Waste Assessments, shall include all parcels with one or more Dwelling Units present on the parcel regardless of the DOR Code number or Use Code assigned to the parcel as determined by the Broward County Property Appraiser in conjunction with the Town's Solid Waste Assessment Study. All Residential Property shall be assessed based on the number of Dwelling Units for Household Waste and based on parcel size for Bulk Waste according to the rate schedule in the Report, by New Community Strategies amended and revised per Council action dated September 12, 2011, and as may be modified in the Final Resolution adopted herein. Combination Commercial or Non-residential uses with single family residential uses are subject to the assessments authorized by this Final resolution in addition they shall be billed directly for services by the Town's Solid Waste provider.

**"Vacant/Agricultural Property"** means those Assessed Parcels designated as vacant or agricultural in the Property Appraiser's Data Base and that have no dwelling units on the parcel. For purposes of this Resolution, Vacant/Agricultural Property is treated as Commercial or Non-residential Property. As such, Commercial or Non-residential Properties shall be billed directly for services by the Town's Solid Waste Provider.

**Section 3. Provision and Funding of Solid Waste Services.** Upon the imposition of a Solid Waste Assessment for solid waste collection and disposal services, facilities, or programs against Assessed Property located within the Town, solid waste

collection and disposal services shall be provided to such Assessed Property. It is the Town's intent to fully fund residential solid waste services, facilities, or programs from proceeds of the Solid Waste Assessments.

It is hereby ascertained, determined, and declared that each parcel of Assessed Property located within the Town will be benefitted by the Town's provision of solid waste services, facilities, and programs in an amount not less than the Solid Waste Assessment imposed against such parcel, computed in the manner set forth in this Final Assessment Resolution.

**Section 4. Imposition and Computation of Solid Waste Assessments.**

Solid Waste Assessments shall be imposed against all Assessed Parcels according to the applicable property size rate classification as determined by the Broward County Property Appraiser in conjunction with the Town's Solid Waste Assessment Study. Solid Waste Assessments shall be computed and imposed in the manner set forth in this Final Assessment Resolution, more specifically as presented in the Report by New Community Strategies amended and revised per Council action dated September 12, 2011.

**Section 5. Legislative Determination of Special Benefit and Fair Apportionment.** It is hereby ascertained, determined, and declared that the solid waste services to be funded by the Solid Waste Assessments provide special benefit to the Assessed Property based upon the following legislative determinations.

Upon the adoption of this Initial Assessment Resolution determining the Solid Waste Assessed Costs and identifying the Assessed Property to be included in the Assessment Roll, the legislative determinations of special benefit ascertained and declared in Sections 16-109 and 16-110 of the Code are hereby ratified and confirmed.

It is fair and reasonable to use the DOR Codes, Use Codes, number of Dwelling Units, and parcel size data maintained by the Broward County Property Appraiser in the apportionment methodology because: (1) the Tax Roll database employing the use of such property use codes is the most comprehensive, accurate, and reliable information readily available to determine the property use and acreage for property within the Town, and (2) the Tax Roll database employing the use of such property use codes is maintained by the Broward County Property Appraiser and is thus consistent with parcel designations on the Tax Roll. This compatibility permits the development of an Assessment Roll in conformity with the requirements of the Uniform Method of Collection.

Where data available from the Broward County Property Appraiser was insufficient, the Town has verified and/or supplemented such data as needed for use in the determination of the Cost Apportionment and the Parcel Apportionment. It is fair and reasonable to use such additional data provided by the Town because such data provides a more accurate and complete record of property use and the structures on property.



Apportioning Solid Waste Assessed Costs among residential property based upon studies of demand for service and waste generation quantities by type of waste stream and by service areas within the Town is fair and reasonable and proportional to the special benefit received.

The value of Residential Property does not determine the scope of the required solid waste collection and disposal services. The Town has determined that the special benefit to Assessed Parcels and the demand for solid waste services varies by the type of waste stream. Household Waste has been determined to relate primarily to the number of Dwelling Units on Assessed Parcels. Bulk Waste has been determined to relate primarily to the size of the parcel. Based upon studies conducted for the Town, the relative potential demand for solid waste services to residential properties is driven by the number of dwelling units for Household Waste and the size of the assessed parcel for Bulk Waste.

A Solid Waste Services Assessment Report (SWSAR) by New Community Strategies amended and revised per Council action dated September 12, 2011, analyzed waste generation by type of waste and incorporates findings of several studies of waste generation in the Town. Based on such studies, it has been determined that a large portion of the Town's waste stream results from Bulk Waste, which primarily consists of vegetative debris. Given the high rate of Bulk Waste generation in the Town, it is fair and reasonable to separately analyze the costs of and demand for solid waste services by the following types of waste: Household Waste and Bulk Waste.

Household Waste is generated relatively consistently on a per dwelling unit basis. Therefore, it is fair and reasonable to assess for costs related to Household Waste based on the number of Dwelling Units on each Assessed Parcel. Such per dwelling unit rates for Household Waste are fair and reasonable and do not exceed the special benefit to Assessed Parcels.

Bulk Waste, including but not limited to vegetative debris and livestock waste, generation rates are generally proportionate to the size of the parcel. Waste generation studies have concluded that areas of the Town with larger lots generate substantially greater tonnage of Bulk Waste per parcel than areas of the Town with smaller parcels.

It is fair and reasonable to create assessment rate classes for Bulk Waste based on lot square footage ranges identified through analysis of solid waste generation and collection studies performed for the Town. It is fair and reasonable to allocate Bulk Waste assessed costs to each rate class in a manner that increases the share of costs on the assessed parcel as the parcel size increases. Therefore, the proposed Bulk Waste services assessment rates presented in the SWSAR Report are fair and reasonable and do not exceed the special benefit to Assessed Parcels.

**Section 6. Determination of Solid Waste Assessed Costs; Establishment of Final Solid Waste Assessment Rates.** The Solid Waste Assessed Costs to be

assessed and apportioned among benefitted parcels for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 commencing October 1, 2024, and ending on September 30, 2025, is the amount determined in the Solid Waste Assessment worksheet, attached as Exhibit "A" to this Resolution. The approval of the Estimated Solid Waste Assessment Rate Schedule by the adoption of this Final Assessment Resolution determines the amount of the Solid Waste Assessed Costs.

A. The estimated Solid Waste Assessments specified in the Estimated Solid Waste Assessment Rate worksheet are hereby established to fund the specified Solid Waste Assessed Costs determined to be assessed in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 commencing on October 1, 2024, and ending on September 30, 2025.

B. The estimated Solid Waste Assessments established in this Final Assessment Resolution for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 shall be the estimated assessment rates applied by the Town Administrator or Town Financial Administrator in the preparation of the Final Assessment Roll for the Fiscal Year commencing October 1, 2024, and ending on September 30, 2025, as provided in Section 7 of this Final Assessment Resolution.

**Section 7. Final Assessment Roll.** The Town Administrator or Town Financial Administrator is hereby directed to prepare, or cause to be prepared, a Final Assessment Roll for the Fiscal Year commencing October 1, 2024, and ending on September 30, 2025, in the manner provided in the Code. The Assessment Roll shall include all Residential Assessed Parcels within the Assessment Rate Categories. The Town Administrator or Town Financial Administrator shall apportion the estimated Solid Waste Assessed Cost to be recovered through Solid Waste Assessments in the manner set forth in this Final Assessment Resolution and the Report.

A. A copy of this Final Assessment Resolution, documentation related to the estimated amount of the Solid Waste Assessed Cost to be recovered through the imposition of Solid Waste Assessments, and the preliminary Assessment Roll shall be maintained on file in the Office of the Town Clerk and open to public inspection. The foregoing shall not be construed to require that the preliminary Assessment Roll be in printed form if the amount of the Solid Waste Assessment for each parcel of property can be determined by the use of a computer terminal available to Town staff.

B. It is hereby ascertained, determined, and declared that the method of determining the Solid Waste Assessments for residential solid waste services as set forth in this Final Assessment Resolution and the SWSAR report is as represented in Exhibit "A" and is a fair and reasonable method of apportioning the Solid Waste Assessed Cost among parcels of Assessed Property located within the Town.

**Section 8. Recognized Disabled Veterans Exemption.** Legally recognized Disabled Veteran's, who live on homesteaded properties titled in their name within the Town, who have received a veterans' service-connected, total, and permanent disability ad valorem tax exemption, shall be partially exempt from the collection of the solid and bulk waste assessment. The Town shall buy down this 50% exemption with non-assessment funds.

**Section 9. Confirming a Final Public Hearing.** The Town Council hereby confirms that a final public hearing was held at 6:00 p.m. on September 12, 2024, at the Southwest Ranches Council Chambers, 13400 Griffin Road, Southwest Ranches, Florida, 33330, at which time the Town Council received and considered comments on the Solid Waste Service Assessments from the public and affected property owners. Accordingly, the Town Council, at the final public hearing, considered the imposition of a Non-Ad Valorem Solid Waste Services Assessments and collection of such assessments on the same bill as ad valorem taxes by adoption of this Final Assessment Resolution.

**Section 10. Notice by Publication.** The Town Council confirms that a notice of the public hearing authorized by Section 9 hereof in the manner and time provided in Section 12-53 of the Code was requested to be published on or prior to Thursday, August 22, 2024.

**Section 11. Notice By Mail.** The Town Council confirms, in the event circumstances described in the Ordinance so require, that the Town through the Broward County Property Appraiser has provided notice by mail to the Owner of each parcel of Assessed Property. Notices were mailed on or prior to August 24, 2024. The notices are in compliance with the provisions of section 200.069(10)(a), Florida Statutes, and are consistent with the requirements of the Uniform Assessment Collection Act and the Ordinance.

**Section 12. Severability.** If any word, phrase, clause, sentence, or section of this resolution is for any reason held unconstitutional or invalid, the invalidity thereof shall not affect the validity of any remaining portions of this Resolution.

**Section 13. Application of Assessment Proceeds.** Proceeds derived by the Town from the Solid Waste Assessments shall be deposited into the Solid Waste Assessment Fund and used for the provision of solid waste services, facilities, programs, and related emergencies. In the event there is any change in net position remaining at the end of the Fiscal Year, such balance shall be carried forward and used only to fund solid waste services, facilities, programs, and related emergencies.

**Section 14. Conflicts.** All Resolutions or parts of Resolutions in conflict herewith be and the same are hereby repealed to the extent of the conflict.

**Section 15. Severability.** If any clause, section, or other part or application of this Resolution is held by any court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional or invalid, in part or application, it shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions or applications of this Resolution.

**Section 16.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Town Council of the Town of Southwest

Ranches, Florida, this 12th day of September 2024, on a motion by

\_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_.

Breitkreuz	___	Ayes	_____
Kuczenski	___	Nays	_____
Allbritton	___	Absent	_____
Hartmann	___		
Jablonski	___		

\_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Breitkreuz, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Debra M. Ruesga, CMC, Town Clerk

Approved as to Form and Correctness:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keith Poliakoff, J.D., Town Attorney  
1001.056.2024

## Town of Southwest Ranches Proposed FY 2024/2025 Solid Waste Assessment Worksheet

**Sources:**

Waste Management  
Broward County Property Appraiser  
Munilytics Consultant Study

Description	Solid Waste & Recycling	Bulk Waste	Total Adopted FY 24/25
% Allocation Direct Expenses Only	48.02%	51.98%	

**Direct Expenses:**

Solid Waste - Collection	\$ 772,566	\$ -	\$ 772,566
Solid Waste - Disposal	\$ 401,760	\$ -	\$ 401,760
Bulk Waste - Collection		\$ 1,024,069	\$ 1,024,069
Bulk Waste - Disposal		\$ 560,401	\$ 560,401
Recyclables - Collection	\$ 222,806		\$ 222,806
Recyclables - Processing	\$ 66,423		\$ 66,423
<b>Sub-Total Cost of Service</b>	<b>\$ 1,463,555</b>	<b>\$ 1,584,470</b>	<b>\$ 3,048,025</b>

**Other Expenses**

Statutory Discount		\$ 124,457
Collections Cost and Other		\$ 15,240
Townwide Personnel/Contractual Costs		\$ 306,990
Town Council approved subsidy		\$ (263,156)
<b>Total Solid Waste Assessment Expenses</b>		<b>\$ 3,231,556</b>

**Based On Consultant Study**

Assessment Range	Lot Sq Ft. Range	Number of Units in Range	Solid Waste Cost Per Unit	Number of Units in Range (Bulk)	Bulk Waste Cost Per Unit	Total Proposed Rates FY 24/25	Total Adopted Rates FY 23/24	Difference: (Decrease)/Increase)
<b>A</b>	<b>0 - 41,200</b>	410	\$ 554.57	400	\$ 473.92	\$ 1,028.49	\$ 1,028.49	\$ -
<b>B</b>	<b>41,201 - 46,999</b>	502	\$ 554.57	480	\$ 490.43	\$ 1,045.00	\$ 1,045.00	\$ -
<b>C</b>	<b>47,000 - 62,999</b>	424	\$ 554.57	404	\$ 657.01	\$ 1,211.58	\$ 1,211.58	\$ -
<b>D</b>	<b>63,000 - 95,999</b>	496	\$ 554.57	456	\$ 675.70	\$ 1,230.27	\$ 1,230.27	\$ -
<b>E</b>	<b>96,000 - 106,999</b>	491	\$ 554.57	445	\$ 777.44	\$ 1,332.01	\$ 1,332.01	\$ -
<b>F</b>	<b>107,000 - &gt;107,000</b>	456	\$ 554.57	397	\$ 972.07	\$ 1,526.64	\$ 1,526.64	\$ -

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**Sold To:**

Town of Southwest Ranches - CU00118938  
13400 Griffin Rd  
Fort Lauderdale,FL 33330-2628

**Bill To:**

Town of Southwest Ranches - CU00118938  
13400 Griffin Rd  
Fort Lauderdale,FL 33330-2628

**Published Daily**

**Fort Lauderdale, Broward County, Florida**  
**Boca Raton, Palm Beach County, Florida**  
**Miami, Miami-Dade County, Florida**

**State Of Florida**  
**County Of Orange**

Before the undersigned authority personally appeared Rose Williams, who on oath says that he or she is a duly authorized representative of the SUN- SENTINEL, a DAILY newspaper published in BROWARD/PALM BEACH/MIAMI-DADE County, Florida; that the attached copy of advertisement, being a Legal Notice in:

The matter of 11745-Other Legal Notices ,  
Was published in said newspaper by print in the issues of, and by publication on the newspaper's website, if authorized on Aug 22, 2024  
FIRE PROTECTION AND SOLID WASTE SPECIAL  
Affiant further says that the newspaper complies with all legal requirements for publication in Chapter 50, Florida Statutes.

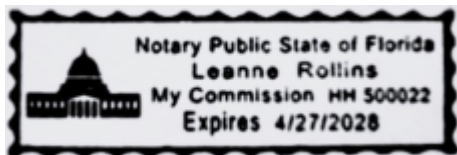


\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Affiant

Sworn to and subscribed before me this: August 22, 2024.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Notary Public



\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Notary, Typed, Printed, or Stamped  
Personally Known (X) or Produced Identification ( )



## Guilty

from Page 1

control her anger on one day, July 3, 1984.”

That woman, Terry McKirchy, 62, pleaded guilty Wednesday to manslaughter, accepting responsibility for shaking the then-6-month-old Benjamin so violently that he would spend the rest of his life suffering.

“He was strong. He was a fighter. He was loved. He was Benjamin,” said his mother, Rae Dowling, who trusted McKirchy with her baby only to be betrayed by McKirchy’s violent self-described “impatience.”

McKirchy had already been prosecuted, pleaded guilty and served time for aggravated battery in the 1980s. Then six months pregnant with her third child and facing 12 to 17 years in prison, she was sentenced to weekends in jail until giving birth. She was then freed and put on probation for three years.

But when the victim finally succumbed to his injuries 35 years later, prosecutors charged McKirchy with first-degree murder.

Assistant State Attorney Pascal Achille said the decision to reach a plea agreement came after Dowling’s family decided against reliving the ordeal at trial.

“There’s nothing we can do to bring Benjamin back,” his father, Joseph Dowling, said outside the courtroom.



Terry McKirchy, a babysitter who is charged with murder for the death of a 35-year-old man she allegedly injured permanently by shaking him as 5-month-old in the 1980s, pleads guilty during a hearing at the Broward County Courthouse in Fort Lauderdale on Wednesday. **CARLINE JEAN/SOUTH FLORIDA SUN SENTINEL**

“There’s nothing I can do to her that will bring Benjamin back.”

McKirchy’s lawyer, David Fry, read a letter from his client expressing remorse for what she had done. “I fell short of those responsibilities,” she said in the letter. “I am here to accept responsibility.”

Broward Circuit Judge

George Odom sat through a 25-minute video montage of photos from Dowling’s life, pictures that spanned from his infancy through his final years.

His family dressed him in Halloween costumes and cowboy outfits, polo shirts and shorts and tuxedos and pajamas.

In most of the photos,

Dowling’s eyes were wide open as if soaking in the world around him, unable to communicate a word of appreciation. He seemed to smile in some.

His father and mother, brother and sister sat in the gallery and wept.

McKirchy, seated at the defense table in a red Broward jail maximum

security inmate jumpsuit, showed no emotion, but occasionally closed her eyes as the soft piano music played.

“You undoubtedly feel robbed of the maximum exposure of life that you would have had,” Odom said before imposing the agreed-upon sentence of three years in prison and 10

years’ probation.

McKirchy voluntarily entered the Broward County Jail on May 29 after having been free on \$100,000 bail since shortly after her indictment. She will receive credit for 256 days of time served, some of which was in Texas, where she lives, after the indictment.

At the time of her first plea deal, McKirchy insisted she was innocent, telling reporters that her “conscience is clear.” She said then that she took the deal because wanted to put the case behind her and be with her children.

Rae and Joe Dowling had been married four years when Benjamin was born Jan. 13, 1984. Both Dowlings worked, so they hired McKirchy, then 22, to babysit him at her home.

The Dowlings said in a 2021 statement that Benjamin endured several surgeries in his life, including having metal rods placed along his spine. He got nourishment through a feeding tube and attended rehab and special schools. The Dowlings had two more children and would take Benjamin to their games and performances. The family moved to Florida’s Gulf Coast in the late 1990s. He died at their home on Sept. 16, 2019.

*Information from the Associated Press and South Florida Sun Sentinel archives was used in this article.*

## Housing

from Page 1

“Where are they going to go?” asked Ralph Stone, Broward County’s director of the Housing Finance Division at a recent presentation of the Broward County Planning Council. “We’re out of dirt, so that’s a problem. And the locations we have are expensive.”

Broward County is mostly built out, said Jo Sesodia, director of Broward County’s Urban Planning. There is just 12 square miles, or 2.8% of vacant developable land left. And just 4.6 square

miles of that is designated for residential use, she said.

That leaves leaders in a lurch where to find places to build.

A likely contender: The redevelopment of commercial areas, including big box retail, to create “higher density residential.”

“I expect ... those areas to be redeveloped over time,” Stone said, possibly over a 20-year period. “There will likely be less physical retail simply due to online shopping/delivery continuing to grow.”

Five years ago, residential was not allowed in commercial corridors. “But this is

changing rapidly as these areas are marketable for residential/mixed-use redevelopment,” Stone said after the presentation. “These areas will experience higher density of redevelopment and this is the appropriate location for that type of reuse.”

The concept has state support: The “Live Local Act” also preempts local zoning laws, and allows developers to build units in commercial and industrial areas as long as 40% of the units are affordable.

County officials said there is also the lingering issue of how pay for it.

Broward officials will continue to set aside taxpayer dollars to encourage developers to build affordable housing.

Next year’s take will be an estimated \$20 million of “gap financing” in the county budget to pay the difference between what the developer has to spend on construction and what they would be able to borrow. Without the subsidy, county leaders say the developments might otherwise never be built.

“It’s expensive,” Stone acknowledged, and Broward is among the most “cost-burdened” metro

areas in the country for renters.

The average rent for a two-bedroom is \$2,800 a month, he said. That means a family needs an income of at least \$80,000 to be able to pay for a two-bedroom unit, he said.

And this summer, the median sales price of a house clocked in at \$638,000 median home price.

“Affordable housing is no longer a social issue, it’s a No. 1 for the business community and future health of Broward County,” Stone said.

The largest segment of

the growing population by the year 2050 will be seniors over age 60. They already make up a significant part of the population “but tomorrow will make up an even larger cohort,” Sesodia said, referring to the pending “senior tsunami” of aging residents and the effects of that growth that will change public policy, such as a new focus on transportation to encourage seniors to stop driving.

*Lisa J. Huriash can be reached at lhuriash@sunsentinel.com. Follow on X, formerly Twitter, @LisaHuriash*

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO IMPOSE AND PROVIDE FOR COLLECTION OF FIRE PROTECTION AND SOLID WASTE SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS

Notice is hereby given that the Town Council of the Town of Southwest Ranches, Florida will conduct a public hearing to consider imposing a fire protection special assessment for the provision of fire protection services, and for solid waste services special assessments within the Town of Southwest Ranches for Fiscal Year 2025, commencing on October 1, 2024.

The hearing will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 12, 2024, at the Southwest Ranches Council Chambers, 13400 Griffin Road, Southwest Ranches, Florida, for the purpose of receiving public comment on the proposed assessments. All affected property owners have a right to appear at the hearing and to file written objections with the Town Council within 20 days of this notice.

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Town Council with respect to any matter considered at the hearing, such person will need a record of the proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be made. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation or an interpreter to participate in this proceeding should contact the Town Clerk’s office at (954) 434-0008, no later than 5:00 p.m. on the last business day prior to the date of the hearing.

The assessment for each parcel of property will be based upon each parcel’s classification and the total number of billing units attributed to that parcel. The following tables show the highest assessment rates the Town Council could impose on the tax bill for FY 2024-2025.

#### Maximum Proposed Fire Assessment Rates for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Property Category	Maximum Proposed Rate Per Unit Indicated
Residential	Rate per Dwelling Unit \$758.63
Non-Residential	Rate per Square Foot Building Area \$00.9812 Rate per Acre \$89.11
Combined Non-Residential Acreage	

#### Maximum Proposed Solid Waste Assessment Rates for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

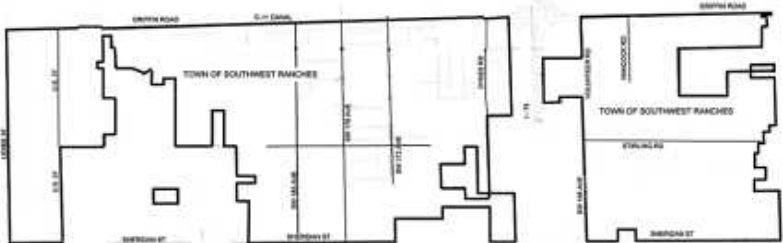
Bulk Waste Assessment Component	
Rate Class (based on parcel size)	Rate per Residential Parcel
A : less than or equal to 41,200 sq. ft.	\$473.92
B : 41,201 – 46,999 sq. ft.	\$490.43
C : 47,000 – 62,999 sq. ft.	\$657.01
D : 63,000 – 95,999 sq. ft.	\$675.70
E : 96,000 - 106,999 sq. ft.	\$777.44
F : 107,000 sq. ft. and larger	\$972.07
Household Waste Assessment Component	
	Rate per Dwelling Unit
	\$554.57

Copies of relevant ordinances and resolutions (including the Fire Protection Assessment Ordinance No. 2001-09, Preliminary Fire Services Assessment Resolution No. 2024-054; Solid Waste Assessment Ordinance No. 2002-08 and Preliminary Solid Waste Assessment Resolution No. 2024-053) and the Preliminary Assessment Rolls for the Fire Services Assessment and the Solid Waste Assessment for the upcoming fiscal year are available for inspection at the Town Clerk’s office located in Town Hall, 13400 Griffin Road, Town of Southwest Ranches, Florida.

The fire and solid waste assessments will be collected on the ad valorem property tax bill which will be mailed in November 2024 as authorized by section 197.3632, Florida Statutes. Failure to pay the assessments will cause a tax certificate to be issued against the property which may result in a loss of title.

If you have any questions, please contact the Town of Southwest Ranches at (954) 434-0008, Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Debra M. Ruesga, CMC, Town Clerk



### NOTICE OF HEARING TO IMPOSE AND PROVIDE FOR COLLECTION OF NUISANCE ABATEMENT ASSESSMENTS ON THE 2024 TAX BILL

Notice is hereby given that the City Commission of the City of Sunrise, Florida will conduct a public hearing concerning the imposition and collection of nuisance abatement assessments on the 2024 tax roll for the purpose of adopting the non-ad valorem assessment roll. The nuisance abatement assessments were previously assessed against certain properties, which were declared public nuisances and located within the city boundaries of the City of Sunrise, to recover the cost of providing nuisance abatement services to such properties. The assessments for each property were calculated based upon the City’s direct cost of the abatement, plus 9.09% interest.

The hearing will be held at 5:30 pm, or as soon thereafter as can be heard, on September 12, 2024, at the City Commission Chambers of City Hall, 10770 W. Oakland Park Boulevard, Sunrise, Florida, for the purpose of receiving public comment on the proposed assessments. All affected property owners have a right to appear at the hearing and to file written objections with the City Commission within 20 days of this notice.

The City Commission will be meeting in person. The public may attend and participate in the meeting in person or via telephone by using Vast Conference Calling as early as fifteen (15) minutes before the start time utilizing the details below:

- a. Dial in number: (954) 395-2401
- b. Access Code: 368262

Members of the public attending the meeting by telephone can press 5\* on their phone keypad to make a comment during the public hearings or during the open discussion. Attendees will be called upon to speak, one at a time, by the meeting organizer. For technical difficulties, please call (954) 578-4792.

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based F.S.S. 286.0105.

**In compliance with the ADA and F.S.S. 286.26, any individual with a disability requesting a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in a public meeting should contact the City’s ADA Coordinator at least 48 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting. Requests can be directed via e-mail to hr@sunrisefl.gov or via telephone to (954) 838-4522; Florida Relay: 711; Florida Relay (TIV/VCO): 1-800-955- 8771; Florida Relay (Voice): 1-800-955-8770. Every reasonable effort will be made to allow for meeting participation.**

The assessment for each parcel of property will be based upon the cost of nuisance abatement for each parcel.

The assessments to be included as non-ad valorem assessments on the 2024 tax roll include the following:

Owner	Address	Parcel ID#	Amount
GOMEZ, MARIE	6440 NW 24 STREET	4941 27 04 0180	\$3,860.99
JEAN-CHARLES, FRANTZ	9352 SPRINGTREE LAKES DRIVE	4941 17 06 0390	\$307.58

Copies of the Nuisance Abatement Ordinance (Ordinance No. 544), as amended, the Uniform Collection Method Resolution (Resolution No. 11-177), and the proposed Nuisance Abatement Assessment Roll are available for inspection in the City Clerk’s Office, City of Sunrise City Hall, located at 10770 W. Oakland Park Boulevard, Sunrise, Florida.

The assessments will be collected on the ad valorem tax bill to be mailed in November 2024, as authorized by section 197.3632, Florida Statutes. Failure to pay the assessments will cause a tax certificate to be issued against the property which may result in a loss of title.

If you have any questions, please contact the City Finance & Administrative Services Department at (954) 746-3217, Monday through Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

**CITY CLERK FELICIA M. BRAVO  
CITY OF SUNRISE, FLORIDA**





**Town of Southwest Ranches**  
**13400 Griffin Road**  
**Southwest Ranches, FL**  
**33330-2628**  
**(954) 434-0008 Town Hall**  
**(954) 434-1490 Fax**

**Town Council**  
**Steve Breitkreuz, Mayor**  
**David S. Kuczenski, Esq., Vice Mayor**  
**Jim Allbritton, Council Member**  
**Bob Hartmann, Council Member**  
**Gary Jablonski, Council Member**

**Russell Muñiz, MBA, MPA, Town Administrator**  
**Keith M. Poliakoff, JD, Town Attorney**  
**Debra M. Ruesga, Town Clerk**  
**Emil C. Lopez, CPM, Town Financial Administrator**

## **COUNCIL MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Honorable Mayor Breitkreuz and Town Council  
**VIA:** Russell Muñiz, Town Administrator  
**FROM:** Emil C. Lopez, Town Financial Administrator  
**DATE:** 9/12/2024  
**SUBJECT:** FY 2024-2025 Tentative Millage Rate

### **Recommendation**

To conduct a statutorily required public hearing and to adopt a tentative millage rate resolution of 3.9000 mills (\$3.9000 per \$1,000 in taxable value), which is the same as last year (Fiscal Year 2023-2024) and establish a final public hearing of Thursday, September 26, 2024, at 6:00 pm.

- A. Sound Governance
- B. Enhanced Resource Management
- C. Reliable Public Safety
- D. Improved Infrastructure
- E. Cultivate a Vibrant Community

### **Background**

To generate revenues sufficient for the financing of municipal government operations, municipalities are permitted to establish a millage rate which, when applied to the taxable valuation of properties, creates a taxable levy against real and personal property within the Town. This item provides for the adoption of a tentative millage rate of 3.9000, which represents an 8.83% higher than the roll-back rate (3.5836) and that it corresponds to the direction received during the August 12, 2024, budget workshop. This millage rate will assist with funding the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget and facilitate the policy direction received from Council during the budget workshop as previously mentioned.

The FY 2024-2025 Proposed Budget is funded at a millage rate of 3.9000 mills for operations and operating improvements and will require, per Florida Statute, a simple-majority vote by Council members (3 out of 5 voting in support). On every \$500,000 of taxable value, this rate represents a combined \$158 dollar increase from “current year rollback rate” of 3.5836 mills. **It is noted that pursuant to section 193.155(1) Florida Statutes related to “Save Our Homes”, eligible property owners change in net taxable value will not exceed 1.3%.**

**Fiscal Impact/Analysis**

The proposed tentative millage rate of 3.9000 represents a combined \$158 increase in the Southwest Ranches portion of the tax bill on homes with a \$500,000 taxable value as well as 8.83% increase from the roll-back rate. **However, FY 2024 eligible “Save our Homes” exemption property owners change in net taxable value, will not exceed 1.3%.**

**Staff Contact:**

Emil C. Lopez, Town Financial Administrator

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Description	Upload Date	Type
Resolution - TA Approved	8/30/2024	Resolution
Exhibit A - Millage Rate Maximums	8/29/2024	Exhibit

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-XXX**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATE FOR TAXATION OF REAL PROPERTY LYING WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025, COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2024, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2025; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Southwest Ranches, Florida is a municipality located in Broward County, Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 200.065 (4)(E)(1), Florida Statutes, the Town Council is obliged to adopt its tentative millage rate prior to adoption of its tentative budget; and

**WHEREAS**, the gross taxable value for operating purposes not exempt from taxation within Broward County has been certified by the County Property Appraiser to the Town of Southwest Ranches as \$2,477,686,639.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Town Council of the Town of Southwest Ranches, Florida as follows:

**Section 1:** The Fiscal Year 2024-2025 tentative operating millage rate for Town of Southwest Ranches is 3.9000 mills which is greater than the rolled-back rate of 3.5836 mills by 8.83%

**Section 2:** The Town Council shall adopt a final millage rate at the Town Council meeting scheduled for Thursday, September 26, 2024, at 6:00 PM, located at Town Council Chambers, 13400 Griffin Road, Southwest Ranches, Florida 33330 at which meeting the final budget for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 will be considered and approved.

**Section 3: Severability.** If any one or more provisions of this Resolution shall be held contrary to any express provision of law or contrary to the policy of express law, though not expressly prohibited or against public policy, or shall for any reason whatsoever be held invalid, then such provision shall be null and void and shall be separate from the remaining provisions, and shall in no way affect the validity of all other provisions of this Resolution.

**Section 4: Effective Date.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Town Council of the Town of Southwest

Ranches, Florida, this 12<sup>th</sup> day of September 2024, on a motion by

\_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_.

Breitkreuz \_\_\_\_\_  
Kuczenski \_\_\_\_\_  
Allbritton \_\_\_\_\_  
Hartmann \_\_\_\_\_  
Jablonski \_\_\_\_\_

Ayes \_\_\_\_\_  
Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Absent \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Breitkreuz, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Debra M. Ruesga, CMC, Town Clerk

Approved as to Form and Correctness:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keith M. Poliakoff, J.D., Town Attorney  
1001.060.2024

Fiscal Year 2025 Millage Maximums and Related Information (Based on Certified Assessment Information)					
Millage Name	Votes Required	Maximum Millage	Total Resulting Net Revenues	Net Revenue Change (from prior year adopted rate funding level)	FY 2024 levy increase per \$500,000 of taxable value*
Current Year Roll-Back Rate	3	3.5836	\$8,435,086	(\$744,742)	\$0
FY 2024-2025 Proposed Rate	3	3.9000	\$9,179,829	\$945,235	\$158
Adjusted Current Year Roll-Back Rate	3	3.7933	\$8,928,678	(\$251,151)	\$105
Maximum Majority Vote	3	4.0091	\$9,436,629	\$256,800	\$213
Maximum Super Majority Rate	4	4.4100	\$10,380,268	\$1,200,439	\$413
Unanimous Vote of the Governing Body is required if Millage rate is over 4.4100 and UP TO 10.0000	5	10.0000	\$23,538,023	\$14,358,194	\$3,208

**Note:** \* Property owners without a change in net taxable value will receive a real cash reduction of 11.48% in their Town of Southwest Ranches portion of their tax bill due to the increase in taxable value. It is important to note that FY 2025 eligible "Save our Homes" exemption property owners change in net taxable value will not exceed 1.3%.

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**Town of Southwest Ranches**  
**13400 Griffin Road**  
**Southwest Ranches, FL**  
**33330-2628**  
**(954) 434-0008 Town Hall**  
**(954) 434-1490 Fax**

**Town Council**  
**Steve Breitkreuz, Mayor**  
**David S. Kuczenski, Esq., Vice Mayor**  
**Jim Allbritton, Council Member**  
**Bob Hartmann, Council Member**  
**Gary Jablonski, Council Member**

**Russell Muñiz, MBA, MPA, Town Administrator**  
**Keith M. Poliakoff, JD, Town Attorney**  
**Debra M. Ruesga, Town Clerk**  
**Emil C. Lopez, CPM, Town Financial Administrator**

## **COUNCIL MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Honorable Mayor Breitkreuz and Town Council  
**VIA:** Russell Muñiz, Town Administrator  
**FROM:** Emil C. Lopez, Town Financial Administrator  
**DATE:** 9/12/2024  
**SUBJECT:** FY 2024-2025 Tentative Budget 1st Reading

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the first required public hearing be held and that Council approve the required first reading to adopt the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget, summarized as Exhibit A to the accompanying Ordinance.

- A. Sound Governance
- B. Enhanced Resource Management
- C. Reliable Public Safety
- D. Improved Infrastructure
- E. Cultivate a Vibrant Community

### **Background**

Each municipality within the State of Florida is required by State Statute to adopt a balanced budget through a statutorily prescribed deadline and process of two public hearings and in advance of the effective date of the budget. This item provides for the first public hearing on the Town of Southwest Ranches proposed Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budget and for adoption of the budget for that year. A second public hearing is required and has been scheduled for Thursday, September 26, 2024, at 6:00 pm.

Exhibit A to the accompanying ordinance presents the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Town of Southwest Ranches Proposed Budget as revised, in summary form. The summary reflects the fund aggregate revenues and expenditures for each fund as adopted by the Town Council

during July 25, 2024, as revised pursuant to further direction received from Town Council during the August 12, 2024, budget workshop meeting requiring no change to the operating millage rate of 3.9000. The adoption of this revised summary limits the Town expenditures to the appropriations for each fund and provides implicit support for the detailed spending plan presented by Staff. Technically, it does not limit the allocation of the appropriated resources, but it does place a limit on the Town's total appropriations. The FY 2024-2025 detailed Proposed Budget as revised, meets Town Council objectives without overly burdening taxpayers or any other interested party. The Budget as represented seeks to balance progress and fiscally governmental spending. It also reflects Town Council funding priorities and direction received through August 12, 2024.

**Fiscal Impact/Analysis**

Establishing a preliminary Budget millage rate of 3.9000 that requires a majority vote (3 out of 5 Council members) with resulting total revenues of \$9,179,829 will enable the Town Council to evaluate all of management's proposed FY 2024-2025 operating, capital improvement and program modification recommendations while also receiving public discussion and input during the Town's scheduled public hearings.

Modifications to the proposed budget millage rate at this point may be made. Increases to appropriations after this hearing would result in significant costs to re-advertise. If a final budget is not approved by October 1, 2024, the Town of Southwest Ranches is bound by Florida law to continue with an extension of the prior year's budget on a monthly basis until such time as a final budget is properly advertised, goes through a public hearing process, and is approved.

**Staff Contact:**

Emil C. Lopez, Town Financial Administrator

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Description	Upload Date	Type
Ordinance First Reading - TA Approved - Final	9/4/2024	Ordinance
Exhibit A - Budget Summary FY24-25	8/30/2024	Exhibit





## Town of Southwest Ranches Business Impact Estimate Form

*This Business Impact Estimate Form is provided in accordance with **Section 166.041(4), Florida Statutes** and must be included in the agenda item backup for each proposed ordinance on first reading. A Business Impact Estimate Form must be prepared and posted on the Town's website for each ordinance by the date that the notice of the proposed ordinance is published, regardless of whether the ordinance is exempted under Section A below. This Business Impact Estimate Form may be revised following its initial posting.*

Title of proposed ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE BUDGET OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025, COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2024, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2025; PROVIDING FOR A BUDGET BASIS; PROVIDING FOR EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR CARRYOVER OF FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR NOTICE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT; AND, PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. {Second Reading Scheduled for September 26, 2024}

The provisions contained in this Section A constitute exemptions as provided in Section 166.041(4)(c). If one or more boxes are checked in Section A below, a business impact estimate is not required by state law for the proposed ordinance.

### **Section A**

- The proposed ordinance is required for compliance with Federal or State law or regulation;
- The proposed ordinance relates to the issuance or refinancing of debt;
- The proposed ordinance relates to the adoption of budgets or budget amendments, including revenue sources necessary to fund the budget;
- The proposed ordinance is required to implement a contract or an agreement, including, but not limited to, any Federal, State, local, or private grant or other financial assistance accepted by the Town;
- The proposed ordinance is an emergency ordinance;
- The proposed ordinance relates to procurement; or
- The proposed ordinance is enacted to implement the following:
  - a. Part II of Chapter 163, Florida Statutes, relating to growth policy, county and municipal planning, and land development regulation, including zoning, development orders, development agreements and development permits;
  - b. Sections 190.005 and 190.046, Florida Statutes, regarding community development districts;
  - c. Section 553.73, Florida Statutes, relating to the Florida Building Code; or
  - d. Section 633.202, Florida Statutes, relating to the Florida Fire Prevention Code.

If an exemption in Section A is applicable, then only Section A needs to be completed. If there is no exemption in Section A, Section B must be completed.

**Section B** This section with the business impact estimate must be completed if the proposed ordinance does not meet any of the exemptions in Section A.

1. A summary of the proposed ordinance which must include a statement of the public purpose (e.g., public health, safety, morals and welfare).

2. An estimate of the direct economic impact of the proposed ordinance on private, for-profit businesses in the Town, if any:

(a) An estimate of direct compliance costs that businesses may reasonably incur.

(b) Any new charge or fee on businesses subject to the proposed ordinance, or for which businesses will be financially responsible; and

(c) An estimate of the Town's regulatory costs, including an estimate of revenues from any new charges or fees to cover such costs.

3. Good faith estimate of the number of businesses likely to be impacted by the proposed ordinance:

4. Additional information/methodology for preparation, if any:

**ORDINANCE NO. 2024-XXX**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE BUDGET OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025, COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2024, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2025; PROVIDING FOR A BUDGET BASIS; PROVIDING FOR EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR CARRYOVER OF FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR NOTICE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT; AND, PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Southwest Ranches is a municipality located in Broward County, Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, a public hearing was held on the tentative millage and budget on Thursday, September 12, 2024, at 6:00 P.M.; and

**WHEREAS**, a Public Hearing on the Town of Southwest Ranches' final budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 will be held at 6:00 P.M. on Thursday, September 26, 2024, at the Southwest Ranches Council Chambers, 13400 Griffin Road, Southwest Ranches, Florida, 33330; and

**WHEREAS**, the amount available from taxation and other revenues equals the total appropriations for expenditures and fund balance/reserves.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA THAT THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCE IS CREATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TOWN CHARTER:**

**Section 1: Budget Adoptions.** The Town of Southwest Ranches budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as Exhibit "A," is hereby approved and adopted and shall become effective at the beginning of the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year, and the Town's funds may be expended commencing October 1, 2024, and ending September 30, 2025.

**Section 2: Budget Basis.** The proposed expenditures in the budget are as shown in the budget and by reference made a part hereof. The budget is based upon the gross taxable value of real and personal property of \$2,477,686,639.

**Section 3: Expenditure of Funds.** No funds of the Town shall be expended except pursuant to duly approved appropriations or for the payment of bonds, notes, or other indebtedness duly authorized by the Council and only from such funds so authorized.

**Section 4: Carryover of Funds.** Funds of the Town’s current Fiscal Year 2023-2024 adopted budget as well as budget amendments pursuant to subsequent resolutions as indicated in Section 5 of this Ordinance not expended during Fiscal Year 2023-2024 may be used and expended during subsequent fiscal years.

**Section 5: Amendments.** The Town of Southwest Ranches budget for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025, may be amended, if required, by a Resolution of the Town Council.

**Section 6: Notice.** The Town Clerk or designee is directed to forward certified copies of this Ordinance to the Broward County Property Appraiser, the Broward County Revenue Collector, and the Florida Department of Revenue.

**Section 7: Severability.** If any one or more of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be held contrary to any express provision of law or contrary to the policy of express law, though not expressly prohibited or against public policy, or shall for any reason whatsoever be held invalid, then such provision shall be null and void and shall be separate from the remaining provisions, and shall in no way affect the validity of all other provisions of this Ordinance.

**Section 8: Conflict.** That all Sections or parts of Sections of the Code of Ordinances or parts of Ordinances, and all Resolutions, or parts of Resolution, in conflict are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

**Section 9: Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall be effective immediately upon its adoption.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED ON FIRST READING** this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, 2024, on a motion made by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED ON SECOND READING** this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, 2024, on a motion made by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_.

Breitkreuz \_\_\_\_\_  
Kuczenski \_\_\_\_\_  
Allbritton \_\_\_\_\_  
Hartmann \_\_\_\_\_  
Jablonski \_\_\_\_\_

Ayes \_\_\_\_\_  
Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Absent \_\_\_\_\_

**[Signatures on Following Page]**

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Steve Breitkreuz, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Debra M. Ruesga, CMC, Town Clerk

Approved as to Form and Correctness:

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Keith M. Poliakoff, J.D., Town Attorney

1001.061.2024

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# BUDGET SUMMARY

## Town of Southwest Ranches, Florida - Fiscal Year 2024 - 2025

THE PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET EXPENDITURES OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES ARE 24.69% MORE THAN LAST YEARS TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES

**General Fund 3.9000**  
**Voted Debt 0.0000**  
**First Public Hearing: Exhibit A**  
 Thursday, September 12, 2024 @ 6:00pm

	GENERAL FUND		CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND		TRANSPORTATION FUND		VOLUNTEER FIRE FUND		DEBT SERVICE FUND		SOLID WASTE FUND		TOTAL ALL FUNDS
	FUND		FUND		FUND		FUND		FUND		FUND		
<b>ESTIMATED REVENUES:</b>													
Taxes:													
Ad Valorem Taxes	9,179,829	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9,179,829
Ad Valorem Taxes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Franchise/Utility Taxes	2,064,270	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,064,270
Sales & Use Taxes	702,692	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	702,692
Permits/Licenses/Inspections	2,183,893	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,183,893
Intergovernmental	3,694,937	0	0	1,921,299	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,616,236
Charges for Services	109,583	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,122,795	0	3,232,378
Fines & Forfeitures	170,813	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	170,813
Loan Proceeds	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Special Fire Assessment	2,983,792	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,983,792
Miscellaneous Revenues	637,365	0	0	118,278	0	0	10,000	21,768	80,437	0	0	0	867,848
<b>TOTAL SOURCES</b>	<b>21,727,174</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,039,577</b>	<b>2,560,854</b>	<b>230,000</b>	<b>303,900</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>21,768</b>	<b>3,203,232</b>	<b>27,001,751</b>	<b>4,467,547</b>	<b>1,431,968</b>	<b>32,901,266</b>
Interfund Transfers - In	306,990	212,750	2,560,854	230,000	0	0	0	0	263,156	0	0	0	3,159,998
Fund Balance/Reserves/Net Assets	1,201,968	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,201,968
<b>TOTAL REVENUES, TRANSFERS &amp; BALANCES</b>	<b>23,236,132</b>	<b>212,750</b>	<b>4,830,431</b>	<b>4,830,431</b>	<b>313,900</b>	<b>841,665</b>	<b>3,466,388</b>	<b>3,159,398</b>	<b>3,159,398</b>	<b>28,433,719</b>	<b>4,467,547</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>32,901,266</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES/EXPENSES</b>													
General Government	2,423,099	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,423,099
Law Enforcement	3,892,741	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,892,741
Fire Rescue Services	5,346,343	0	0	0	0	313,900	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,660,243
Community Services (Planning, Zoning & Engineering)	812,566	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	812,566
Physical Environment (Permits/Code/Roads/Solid Waste/TH)	1,743,283	0	4,830,431	0	0	0	0	0	3,074,398	0	0	0	9,648,112
Parks, Recreation and Open Space	813,938	212,750	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,026,688
ARPA - Intergovernmental	3,494,937	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,494,937
Debt Service	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	841,665	0	0	0	0	841,665
Contingency	548,668	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	85,000	0	0	0	633,668
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES/EXPENSES</b>	<b>19,075,575</b>	<b>212,750</b>	<b>4,830,431</b>	<b>4,830,431</b>	<b>313,900</b>	<b>841,665</b>	<b>3,159,398</b>	<b>3,159,398</b>	<b>3,159,398</b>	<b>28,433,719</b>	<b>4,467,547</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>32,901,266</b>
Interfund Transfers - Out	4,160,557	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,160,557
Fund Balance/Reserves/Net Assets	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATED EXPENDITURES TRANSFERS, RESERVES &amp; BALANCES</b>	<b>23,236,132</b>	<b>212,750</b>	<b>4,830,431</b>	<b>4,830,431</b>	<b>313,900</b>	<b>841,665</b>	<b>3,466,388</b>	<b>3,466,388</b>	<b>3,466,388</b>	<b>32,901,266</b>	<b>3,466,388</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>32,901,266</b>

THE TENTATIVE, ADOPTED, AND/OR FINAL BUDGETS ARE ON FILE IN THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE (13400 GRIFFIN ROAD, SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FL 33330-2628) AS A PUBLIC RECORD.