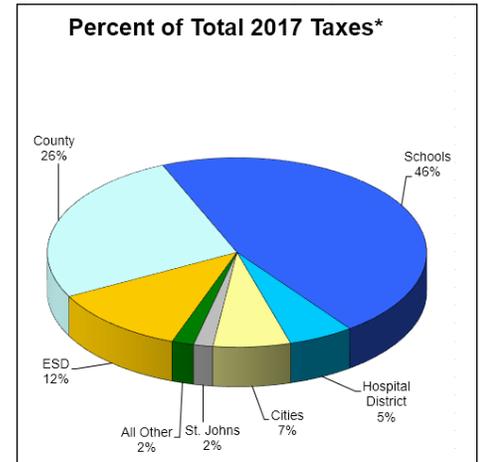


**From:** Laura Aldrich <townclerk@irshores.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 6, 2017 4:57 PM  
**To:** Laura Aldrich  
**Subject:** Town News & Recap of 9-28 Regular Council & Budget Public Hearing Meetings  
**Importance:** High

Dear Residents and Interested Parties,

First the best news:

- The first service **provider has signed on for the cell tower**, and it's **Verizon!** Permitting is in process, and we expect the 2-3 month construction project to finally begin within a month. Another provider is also in conversation with the contractor who will be building the tower (DataPath).
- This is our new fiscal year, and the **tax rate** for the Town has **decreased to levels that haven't been seen in over 20 years!** The final 1.3774 rate was agreed to by a 3-1 vote, **lowering it almost 20%** from the 1.7186 mils on your bill last year. Remember, the Town only receives about 7% of your total ad valorem taxes (see chart on right).
- Thanks to the determined efforts of resident **Nancy Auwaerter**, Florida Department of Transportation has agreed to install a **fully actuated light for pedestrians and vehicles at Fred Tuerk Drive** to be completed **by December 2018**.



Other following noteworthy actions took place at the official meetings last week:

- Amy Brunjes from **FPL** updated the Council of the **3 milestones to a full sale of Vero's Electric Utility:** the execution of the purchase and sale agreement with the City of Vero Beach (feel free to attend the 6 p.m. meeting on 10-17 at Vero's Council Chambers); regulatory approvals (by summer 2018, changing territorial boundaries and setting retail rates); and release by the 16 member-cities in the FMPA by January 2018.
- Doug Carlson, Director of the **Indian River County Mosquito Control District**, discussed the new electric pump to be installed at Bee Gum Point, replacing the old diesel pump that is used periodically to flood the area, which prevents the mosquitoes from laying the eggs.
- The new ordinance relating to **Stormwater Erosion and Sedimentation Control** as required by NPDES was passed for implementation.
- Discussion continued about *using \$2 million* of the proceeds from the sale of the 5-acre parcel towards lowering the millage rate significantly *for one year*. The resulting action was to rescind that motion in order to **address some infrastructure needs** that have become apparent, as well as to **prevent a spike in the millage rate next year**.
- The RFP by the Town for solid waste and recycling results were discussed, with the Committee's recommendation to split the award to have **Republic Services** continue with the **household and yard waste**, and **Waste Management** to service **recycling** as it does for the rest of the County, which was approved 4-0 by the Council.
- The Town Manager was given approval to spend up to \$7,500 for **debris removal** from Town-owned property and streets we maintain, as well as to research and enter into a future contract for prearranged debris removal.
- **Health insurance incentive** for employees who decline the Town-offered benefit was discussed briefly as a focal point for upcoming labor negotiations.

Thank you for your continued interest. Please let us know if you have any questions, and check the website for the [approved budget](#), [minutes](#) approved at the previous Council meetings, the full [ordinances and resolutions](#), a [redesigned Building Department webpage](#), even the [weather](#) and [upcoming storm names](#) (bottom of the page at the link to the left)! We are here to assist.

Respectfully yours,

*Laura*

**Laura Aldrich, MMC**

Town Clerk, Indian River Shores

6001 N. State Road A1A

Indian River Shores, FL 32963

[\(772\) 231-1771, Ext. 121](tel:(772)231-1771)

[\(772\) 231-4348](tel:(772)231-4348) Fax

Please visit our website [www.irshores.com](http://www.irshores.com)

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