

# Treasure Coast Newspapers

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

St. Lucie News-Tribune  
1939 SE Federal Highway, Stuart, FL 34994  
AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

CITY OF FORT PIERCE LEGALS  
PO BOX 1480  
FORT PIERCE, FL 34954  
ATTN


STATE OF WISCONSIN  
COUNTY OF BROWN

Before the undersigned authority personally appeared, \_\_\_\_\_, said legal clerk, who on oath says that he is a legal clerk Manager of the St. Lucie News-Tribune, a daily newspaper published at Fort Pierce in St. Lucie County, Florida; that the attached copy of advertisement was published in the St. Lucie News-Tribune in the following issues below. Affiant further says that the said St. Lucie News-Tribune is a newspaper published in Fort Pierce, in said St. Lucie County, Florida, and that said newspaper has heretofore been continuously published in said St. Lucie County, Florida, daily and distributed in St. Lucie County, Florida, for a period of one year next preceding the first publication of the attached copy of advertisement; and affiant further says that she has neither paid or promised any person, firm or corporation any discount, rebate, commission or refund for the purpose of securing this advertisement for publication in the said newspaper. The St. Lucie News-Tribune has been entered as Periodical Matter at the Post Offices in Fort Pierce, St. Lucie County, Florida and has been for a period of one year next preceding the first publication of the attached copy of advertisement.

9/16/2022



Subscribed and sworn to before on the 16th of September, 2022



Notary, State of WI, County of Brown  
My commission expires:

1-7-25

Publication Cost: \$472.50  
Ad No: GCI0943895-02  
Customer No: 463454  
PO#: PUBLIC NOTICE - TRIM ADS  
THIS IS NOT AN INVOICE

KATHLEEN ALLEN  
Notary Public  
State of Wisconsin

# **NOTICE OF PROPOSED TAX INCREASE**

The City of Fort Pierce has tentatively adopted a measure to increase its property tax levy.

Last year's property tax levy:

A. Initially proposed tax levy.....	\$20,225,408
B. Less tax reductions due to Value Adjustment Board and other assessment changes.....	\$88,612
C. Actual property tax levy .....	\$20,136,796
This year's proposed tax levy .....	\$23,225,539

All concerned citizens are invited to attend a public hearing on the tax increase to be held on:

**Monday, September 19, 2022**

**at 5:05 p.m.**

**Fort Pierce City Hall**

**100 North U.S. Highway 1**

**in the City Commission Chambers**

**Fort Pierce, Florida 34950**

**A FINAL DECISION on the proposed tax increase and the budget will be made at this hearing.**

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# BUDGET SUMMARY

CITY OF FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA - FISCAL YEAR 2022-23

THE PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF FORT PIERCE ARE 10.3% MORE THAN LAST YEAR'S OPERATING EXPENDITURES.

	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>
<b>BEGINNING ESTIMATED CASH RESOURCES</b>	5,241,265
<b><u>ESTIMATED REVENUES:</u></b>	
Taxes:	<b>Millage per \$1,000</b>
	6.9000
Ad Valorem Tax	22,114,262
Telecommunications Tax	1,275,000
Public Service Tax	3,375,900
Local Option Gas Tax	2,300,000
Licenses & Permits	619,700
Intergovernmental Revenue	7,519,000
Charges for Services	572,150
Fines & Forfeitures	244,000
Miscellaneous Revenue	2,859,606
Other Financing Sources	12,133,028
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$53,012,646</b>
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES AND CASH BALANCES</b>	<b>\$58,253,911</b>
<b><u>EXPENDITURES/EXPENSES:</u></b>	
General Governmental Services	20,621,305
Public Safety	19,016,141
Transportation	4,067,483
Culture & Recreation	3,042,232
Debt Service	4,030,485
Other Financing Sources (Uses)	1,635,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES/ EXPENSES RESERVES:</b>	<b>\$52,412,616</b>
10% Budget Reserve	5,241,265
Future Budget Appropriation	600,000
<b>TOTAL RESERVES</b>	<b>\$5,841,265</b>
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATED EXPENDITURES AND RESERVES</b>	<b>\$58,253,911</b>

THE TENTATIVE, ADOPTED AND/OR FINAL BUDGETS ARE ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF  
THE ABOVE-MENTIONED TAXING AUTHORITY AS A PUBLIC RECORD

# House

Continued from Page 1A

He criticized Trabulsy for her political partisanship. "I look at every issue independently," he said. "I evaluate every issue on its strengths and weaknesses. If Republicans have a better idea or a better program, I'm fine with that."

## Dana Trabulsy

Trabulsy is a Tampa native who grew up near Atlanta and moved to Fort Pierce in 1991. She helped pass a bill for the New Worlds Reading Initiative, a free book and reading program for eligible kids in grades K-5. Over 110,000 students have participated since it launched in December.

She wants to require adults who work with children, including summer camp counselors, to pass a Level 2 background check, which uses a national registry. After a bill aimed at doing that stalled in the Legislature, she said she continued to work on it by building relationships through meetings and getting appointed to committees.

- Some of her accolades include:
- Governor-appointed to Career Source Florida Board.
  - Speaker-appointed to the Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys.
  - Named Legislator of the Year by the Children's Home Society.
  - Awarded Children's Champion by Nemours Children's Health.

### Why are you the better candidate?

**Blanton:** "I just don't think she's representing the people of St. Lucie County properly. She's basically voting straight Republican voting platform, and I'm opposed to almost all those issues."

**Trabulsy:** She cited her voting record, community involvement and long-standing presence in the area. "He doesn't have a presence in our community at all," she said. "I think that should show for something."



A stretch of the spoil islands in the Indian River Lagoon. ALEX BOERNER

### The issue: Property insurance

**Blanton:** The Legislature must reduce insurance fraud and abuse to make Florida a more attractive market for companies.

**Trabulsy:** The Legislature has addressed the issue for two consecutive years, including approving grants to harden homes against storms. "Insurance companies are failing because they don't have money in reserves to take care of all the claims."

### The issue: Affordable housing

**Blanton:** He favors subsidies or inducements for private developers to create affordable housing instead of more public housing. "We need to create jobs for people. We need to keep the economy going. But I want to see development that actually helps the people who are here now." He opposes developing huge swaths of farmland or vacant land for a housing complex for 10,000 to 20,000 people.

**Trabulsy:** The key is to control growth, and local governments can help. She said she helped establish the Hometown Heroes Housing Program, which offers up to \$25,000 toward a down payment and closing costs. She said she helped create a \$50,000 homestead exemption for teachers, law enforcement officers, firefighters and others.

### The issue: Indian River Lagoon

**Blanton:** He wants to work on septic systems. "We need to subsidize and encourage the expansion of sewer systems, particularly involving areas near water. ... We need to break the strangle lock that Big Sugar and big agriculture has got on the Legislature."

**Trabulsy:** She supports septic-to-sewer conversions and moving the wastewater treatment plant off Hutchinson Island. "It's going to be a cost to (resi-

dents) to convert, but the cost to our beautiful state and our beautiful waterway is much higher if they don't."

### The issue: Abortion

**Blanton:** He supports abortion rights. "People should be able to do with their bodies what they think, if it doesn't harm anyone else or break the law."

**Trabulsy:** She's anti-abortion but thinks "we have to look at a root problem," citing 48,000 abortions in Florida this year. "What can we do better to prevent unwanted pregnancies?" She said the key is meeting age groups where they are, whether that be access to birth control or education about other options.

### The issue: Guns

**Blanton:** "I'm definitely in favor of doing more to promote gun safety, but I'm probably not as liberal as some folks might be." He's moderate on weapons, but he wants to close gun loopholes. "I'm not in favor of restricting high-capacity magazines. I'm not in favor of banning particular styles of guns just because they look a certain way. I am in favor, however, of background checks. We need to ensure that people who are buying or acquiring guns are responsible and can own them safely."

**Trabulsy:** She supports the Second Amendment and thinks no more legislation is needed. "People who have guns have an obligation to be responsible gun owners."

### Campaign finances as of Aug. 26

**Blanton:** He had spent \$12,548 of his \$13,029, which included \$10,000 of his own money and donations mostly from individuals giving hundreds of dollars.

**Trabulsy:** She had spent \$8,044 of her \$164,492, which included many donations from political actions committees giving thousands of dollars, plus \$27,392 in-kind. PACs included Friends of Dana Trabulsy; First Coast Conservatives, Strong Leadership, Sun Coast Patriots, Florida Insurance Council, A Stronger Florida, Florida Operators Association and the Florida Physical Therapy Association.

### Nov. 8 general election

• **Voters:** All registered voters who live in Fort Pierce and unincorporated St. Lucie County.

• **Salary:** \$29,697 plus per diems of \$152 per day for up to 60 days

• **Term:** Two years, capped at no more than four consecutive terms

Laurie K. Blandford is *TCPalm's* entertainment reporter and columnist dedicated to finding the best things to do on the Treasure Coast. Follow her on Twitter @TCPalmLaurie and Facebook @TCPalmLaurie. Email her at laurie.blandford@tcpalm.com. Sign up for her *What To Do in 772* weekly newsletter at [file.tcpalm.com/newsletters/manage](http://file.tcpalm.com/newsletters/manage).

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Come worship with us!  
Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

We are a caring, genuine, warm Christian family where God's love is lived, shared, and taught.

Church of the Advent

4484 SW Citrus Blvd | Palm City  
www.adventpalmcity.org  
772.283.6221

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