

**CITY OF TREASURE ISLAND  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
October 14, 2003  
7:00 p.m.**

**A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by Mayor Maloof

**B. ROLL CALL:**

Mayor Mary Maloof		Present
Commissioner Phil Collins		Present
Commissioner Irving S. Ellsworth		Present
Commissioner Richard Kraus		Present
Commissioner Barbara Blush	Vice-Mayor	Present

**C. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Mr. Chris Hearn, a resident from Sunset Beach, was concerned about a high-speed chase that occurred on Gulf Boulevard in Indian Rocks Beach. He said that this represents a high danger factor and affects the safety of the public. Mr. Hearn asked if the City had a policy that addressed this issue.

Mr. Ken Brown, a resident and President of the Treasure Island Business Association, announced the opening of the Farmers Market on Saturday, October 18, on 107<sup>th</sup> Avenue in front of the Welcome Center. He hoped that it will be a success and grow. Mr. Brown thanked Elizabeth Barone for all her work in making this happen.

Mr. Brown also informed the Commission and the public that the Treasure Island Holiday Parade has been rescheduled from Saturday, November 29<sup>th</sup>, to Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, and the time from 10:00am to 4:00pm. The parade will start at the Community Center and proceed down 104<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 107<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

Another event scheduled for that day at 5:00pm is the appearance of Santa for the children. Photos will be taken free of charge of children with Santa. At 6:00pm the winner of the Christmas Card contest will be announced. These cards will be on display around the clock tower. Mr. Brown is requesting the use of the City's Santa sleigh for this event.

Ms. Olivia Cox, a Paradise Island resident, announced the formation of a new group called, Citizens for Responsible Progress, and stated that their first meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 15, at 7:00pm at the Treasure Island Tennis & Yacht Club.

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**D. ITEMS OF BUSINESS:**

**1. Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council - Chair Barbara Sheen Todd -**

Commissioner Barbara Sheen Todd, Chair of the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, presented an overview of the TBRPC and the services provided to the regional community. Commissioner Todd introduced Mr. Manny Pumariega, Executive Director, and Mr. Marshall Flynn, IT Director who were also present. Commissioner Todd's presentation acquainted the community of the services and the opportunities available to the organization's members.

**2. Res. – Special Events Permit for Treasure Island Holiday Parade –**

After hearing the reading of the resolution granting a special events permit for the Treasure Island Holiday Parade motion was made by Commissioner Ellsworth and seconded by Commissioner Kraus to approve the resolution with the following changes:

The parade has been changed from Saturday, November 29<sup>th</sup>, to Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. The time changed from 10:00am to 4:00pm. The parade will commence from the Community Center and progress to the downtown area via 104<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

Upon roll call, the vote was unanimous to accept the resolution with the changes.

The Commission granted Mr. Brown permission to use the City's Santa sleigh.

**3. Res. - Engagement of Alcalde & Fay as Washington D.C. Representatives -**

After hearing the reading of this resolution authorizing the engagement of Alcalde & Fay to represent the City of Treasure Island in its efforts to obtain grant funding for the causeway bridge replacement project and other projects from the Federal Government, motion was made by Commissioner Blush and seconded by Commissioner Ellsworth to accept the resolution as read.

Commissioner Collins was concerned about paying this amount of money

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with no guarantees. He questioned whether the City could negotiate with them and/or pay them for performance. The City Manager indicated that there are no guarantees and that we are paying for the time they put in.

Commissioner Collins asked if there would be monthly progress data and the City Manager indicated yes.

Upon roll call, vote was unanimous to accept this resolution as read.

#### **4. Gulf Beaches Library Agreement -**

The City Manager indicated that Mayor Maloof had written a letter to Gulf Beaches Library advising them the City of Treasure Island will be sending them the first quarterly payment that was made part of the Commission's agenda packet.

He also advised them of his meeting with Attorney Tim Driscoll to discuss the library situation. Attorney Driscoll is the City Attorney for the City of Gulfport and is experienced in this type of issue. A rate of \$175 an hour and setting a \$2,500 top limit was agreed upon between Atty. Driscoll and the City Manager. The City Manager recommends that we proceed with hiring Attorney Driscoll to provide a legal opinion on the library issues.

Commissioner Collins asked about Res. 93-77 wherein it stipulated a 14-year funding obligation. He was concerned about the legal ramifications. The City Manager indicated this is why the City needs to hire an attorney who handles situations such as this.

Commissioner Collins was also concerned about the quarterly payment of 25 percent. He asked if this payment obligated the City to make the full \$95,790 contribution. The City Manager said the letter to the library does not indicate a percent only a quarterly payment and provides a reservation of rights for future payments.

Commissioner Blush asked if this payment would allow the library to keep functioning and the City Manager indicated that it would.

Commissioner Ellsworth asked if we did not reach negotiation by the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter if the library could cut the Treasure Island off. The City Manager indicated that it could make the city vulnerable but he felt that the situation should be settled by that time.

A motion was made Commissioner Ellsworth to hire Attorney Tim Driscoll as

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legal counsel to advise the City where we stand with the library. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Blush and upon roll call, the vote to approve was unanimous.

A motion was made by Commissioner Blush and seconded by Commissioner Ellsworth to send the letter and first quarterly payment to the Gulf Beaches Library. Upon roll call, the vote was unanimous.

Dr. Paul Mevoli, a resident of Treasure Island, said the letter to the library should not indicate that this is 25 percent of the \$95,790, just the first quarterly payment.

**5. Ord. - Amending Qualification Period for Municipal Elections  
- First Reading**

After hearing the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the ordinance pertaining to Elections; amending Section 14-9 of the "Code of Ordinances of the City of Treasure Island, Florida" pertaining to the Qualification of Candidates for Municipal Election; amending and moving up the time periods for qualification of such candidates, motion was made by Commissioner Kraus and seconded by Commissioner Collins to accept the Ordinance as read. Upon roll call, the vote was unanimous.

**6. Ord. - Setting Second Tuesday in March for Municipal Elections  
- First Reading**

After hearing the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the ordinance pertaining to the date of municipal elections; amending Section 3.03 of the Charter of the City of Treasure Island pertaining to municipal elections; changing the date of municipal elections from the first Tuesday in March to the second Tuesday in March of each year, motion was made by Commission Ellsworth and seconded by Commissioner Kraus to accept the ordinance as read. Upon roll call, the vote was unanimous.

**7. Ord. - Setting Runoff Elections for the Fourth Tuesday following the  
Regular Election -**

After hearing the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the ordinance pertaining to Municipal Elections; proving that any required runoff election is conducted on the fourth Tuesday following the regular or special election a motion was made by Commission Kraus and seconded by Commissioner Collins to accept the ordinance as read. Upon roll call, the vote was unanimous.

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**E. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**1. Causeway Toll and Pass Rates for 2004**

The City Manager said the City needs to sell toll revenue bonds next year for the causeway bridge replacement project. The amount the Commission wishes to increase these rates will determine the amount of bonds the City will be able to sell next fall.

If the rate is increased to \$60 for passes and \$1.00 for tolls, this could generate \$22 million in bonds; however, at \$100 for passes and \$1.00 for tolls, this could generate \$28 million.

Commissioner Kraus said the city could consider selling off the city assets which could generate approximately \$8 million.

Commissioner Blush went to the Hotel/Motel Association meeting and said the reaction to the two increases was mixed.

Commissioner Collins said we should not raise the pass to the maximum, that we should start with \$60 and increase the amount over a period of years. He also feels this would make the City work harder to obtain outside funding.

Commissioner Ellsworth said he spoke with many of his constituents and at least 98 percent of them did not have a problem with increasing the pass to \$100. He also said that if anyone had any problems with the increase to call their Commissioner and not other individuals. The Commission will not be able to determine the consensus of the community if the residents do not speak directly to their elected officials.

The City Manager said that the first source of income for building the bridge will come from raising the toll and pass rates. The last resort is to raise property taxes. He also said that the city needs a cushion and that there are a lot of variables including the economy.

He advised the Commission this item will be on the next workshop and they need to set the rate increase by the end of October.

Ms. Betty O'Hearn, a Treasure Island resident, said that the audience was not full of people which seems like an indication that people were not objecting to an increase. She would like to see the passes go to at least \$70

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to \$75 or higher. She indicated that the deteriorated condition of the bridge was not due to actions of the present Commission.

Dr. Paul Mevoli asked Commissioner Kraus what City assets he was recommending selling. He said that he would like to see a list of the property the City can sell. He also feels we need to raise the price of the passes.

## **2. Employee Group Insurance Renewal**

Mr. Fred Turner, Personnel Director, was present to explain the Life, Disability and Dental insurance options to the Commission. He said the quote came in below what is budgeted for in this year.

He recommended the Commission choose Option A as it offers the best value for our employees and is below the budgeted price.

Dr. Paul Mevoli agreed with Mr. Turner. He also indicated that the present plan we have has not been beneficial to our employees.

## **F. CITY MANAGER/CITY ATTORNEY REPORTS:**

The City Manager informed the Commission that the new mast arm traffic signals for the Isle of Palms and Capri on Gulf Boulevard at 117<sup>th</sup> and 112<sup>th</sup> Avenues are ready for installation.

NOAA's grant for \$60,000 for restoration will be delayed approximately another three months. The organization is requesting another agreement document and additional drawings.

The County has passed an ordinance changing the hour to being selling alcoholic beverage on Sunday to 11:00am. The Commission needs to either change the City's hours from 10:00am to 11:00am or challenge the County's authority to take this unilateral action. This will be discussed at the next workshop.

The 2004 City Calendar is in the hands of the publisher.

The City Manager gave a report on the bridge progress. The west end crutch bent has been installed and they will be moving to the east end. By Thanksgiving, the traffic on the St. James Bridge should be moved to the south side and the drawbridge should be back to four lanes.

Construction has begun on the new TITV room. By January, the new system

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should be in place.

**G. REPORTS BY COMMISSIONERS:**

Commissioner Collins inquired about the Isle of Capri sign on 116<sup>th</sup> Street as one enters the island. The landscaping in the area is overgrown and should be cleaned up.

He asked if Traffic Engineer Jerry Dabkowski has a report on the children playing signs and clock tower issues. The City Manager said the clock tower issue will be presented on December 9th.

Commissioner Collins asked if the E-government survey deadline could be extended for another two weeks. The City Manager answered affirmatively.

Commissioner Blush gave an update on the Beach Stewardship Committee. Dr. Truitt was at the last Beach Stewardship meeting and gave a report on Sand Sharing. She also said the Army Corps of Engineers issued a permit for May 2004 to September 2004 for sand to be pumped onto Sunset Beach. Dr. Ping Wang will be at the next Beach Stewardship meeting.

Commissioner Blush attended the Hotel/Motel Association and their program was a Metro Crime Presentation.

Commissioner Blush said she spoke with Mr. Don Sullivan and he indicated that he would assist in obtaining money for our bridge project.

Commissioner Blush thanked Ms. Elizabeth Barone for all the work she has done in establishing the Farmers Market and said that she hopes it will be a success.

The City Manager indicated that the Commission should issue a Special Event Permit for the Farmers Market. There would be no fee charge and participants could utilize the city sidewalks and property. This item will be on the next workshop agenda.

Commissioner Blush congratulated Larry and Jackie Yost for their outstanding performance at the triathlon sports event. Larry placed third and Jackie placed first in their respective events.

Mayor Maloof said the sign at Treasure Bay needs to be replaced.

Mayor Maloof asked if anyone was interested in attending the Round Table Discussion on Education at the TBRPC, to call and make a reservation.

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**H. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

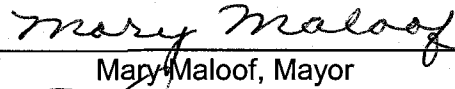
Mr. John Burke announced there was a beach cleanup over the weekend. He thanked Commissioner Kraus for his support and participation. Mr. Burke invited everyone to participate.

Dr. Mevoli said he supported the Personnel Director's recommendation for insurance.

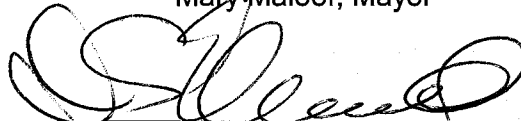
**I. ADJOURNMENT:**



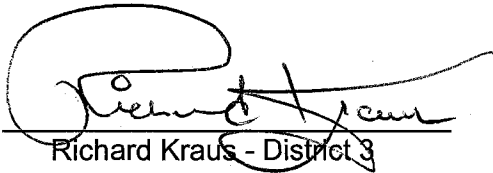
Phil Collins - District 1



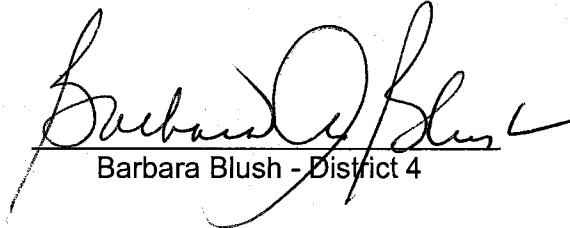
Mary Maloof, Mayor



Irving S. Ellsworth - District 2

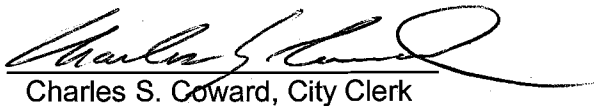


Richard Kraus - District 3



Barbara Blush - District 4

**ATTEST:**



Charles S. Coward, City Clerk