

**CITY OF TREASURE ISLAND  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2004  
7:00 p.m.**

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

**B. ROLL CALL:**

Mayor Mary Maloof		Present
Commissioner Phil Collins		Present
Commissioner Ed Gayton		Present
Commissioner Richard Kraus	Vice-Mayor	Present
Commissioner Alan Bildz		Present

**C. MINUTES:**

Motion was made by Commissioner Kraus and seconded by Commissioner Gayton to approve the minutes from the meeting of July 20, 2004 as written. Upon roll call, the vote to approve was unanimous.

**D. ACTION ITEMS:**

**1. Res. – Tentative Millage Rate for FY 04-05 (Public Hearing) –**

After hearing the reading of the resolution setting forth the tentative millage rate of 2.6272 for the City of Treasure Island for the fiscal year 2004-05, motion was made by Commissioner Gayton and seconded by Commissioner Collins to approve the resolution as read.

Commissioner Kraus said he was concerned about the deficit in the budget and made some suggestions about taking the money from the Beach Fund and the dictation equipment from the police department.

Carol Coward, resident, would like to see the mill levy stay where it is with no increase or rollback.

Darren LaFrance, Finance Director, went over what the median assessed value was of the property if the City changes the millage rate.

After some further discussion, the Commission decided to keep the proposed millage rate.

09-15-04

Upon roll call, the vote to approve was unanimous.

**2. Ord. – Budget & Appropriations Ordinance for FY 04-05 (First Reading & Public Hearing) –**

After hearing the first reading of the ordinance adopting a budget and making appropriations for the payment of the operating expenses of the City of Treasure Island, Florida, for the payment of principal and interest on the bonds, revenue certificates and other indebtedness of the City from various funds for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2005, motion was made by Commissioner Gayton and seconded by Commissioner Kraus to approve the ordinance as read.

Carol Coward, resident, said she was against taking money from the beach fund. With the hurricanes this year, the beach fund is necessary to maintain and renourish our beaches. She feels the commission should give up a portion of their health insurance benefits that amount to approximately \$22,000. Also, there is another line item of \$4,000 pension benefits for Walter Stubbs.

Mayor Maloof opened the public hearing.

Lenny Kaul, resident, does not feel taking away the health insurance is the way to go. Holding the taxes where they are is good. The Police and Fire Departments should be left as they are – they are doing a great job - money is well spent in this area.

Kathy McCreary, resident, does not want the mill levy to increase. Keep reasonable money in General Fund to cover expenses and unforeseen items.

There being no further comments, the public hearing was closed.

Upon roll call, the vote to approve was unanimous.

**3. Ord. – Salary & Classification Plan for FY 04-05 (First Reading & Public Hearing) –**

After hearing the first reading of the ordinance of the City of Treasure Island, Florida amending appendices I, II and III of the Career Service System Manual of Personnel Rules and Regulations, motion was made by Commissioner Gayton and seconded by Commissioner Bildz to approve the ordinance as read.

Mayor Maloof opened the public hearing. There being no comments, the public hearing was closed.

09-15-04

Upon roll call, the vote to approve was unanimous.

**4. Ord. – Supplemental Appropriations for FY 03-04 (First Reading & Public Hearing) -**

After hearing the first reading of the ordinance of the City of Treasure Island, Florida, making supplemental appropriations for the FY 2003-04 fiscal year, motion was made by Commissioner Kraus and seconded by Commissioner Gayton to approve the ordinance as written.

Mayor Maloof opened the public hearing. There being no comments, the public hearing was closed.

Upon roll call, the vote to approve was unanimous.

**E. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Lenny Kaul questioned if Item 7 the Ramada Inn was improperly placed on the agenda and that it should have been placed on a workshop.

The Mayor said it was discussed at a workshop. He said he would fill out a card and address the issue when it was discussed later.

Lori Rice, resident, asked if the engineer can look at the safety of cars on the bridge when it is opened. She was concerned about the cars sitting on the bridge when it was open and if this was safe. The Mayor said it was the point of contact of moving vehicles.

Nancy Loehr, from Progress Energy, gave an update on the work being done by Progress Energy to restore power back to the community.

The Mayor asked about underground cable.

Ms. Loehr said that people who had underground cable were also affected by power outages. Underground cable is good during wind storms but not during flooding. It is more for aesthetic - transmission is still a factor. It is sometimes more difficult to find the problem if it is undergrounded.

Commissioner Collins asked how much it would cost to underground cable per household.

Ms. Loehr said it was about \$1million per mile along a commercial area like Gulf Boulevard (looking at what it cost Indian Shores and North Redington Beach). It

also varies according to meter conversion costs. It is less for residential areas.

Kathy McCreary, resident, said the civic association on Isle of Palms founded a committee and worked with Progress Energy. Perhaps other groups can get together and get quotes to work with Nancy Loehr.

## **F. ACTION ITEMS**

### **5. Proclamation- CERT, ERCO and FIRE Volunteer Recognition -**

The mayor read a Proclamation recognizing the CERT, ERCO and FIRE Volunteers for their assistance during city emergencies.

### **6. Board/Committee/Member Recognition**

Mayor Mary Maloof gave out Certificates of Appreciation to volunteers on CERT, ERCO and FIRE in recognition of their assistance during city emergencies. She also presented Certificates to retiring members of the various volunteer boards and committees for their dedication in serving the community.

### **7. Ramada Inn Utility Relocation**

City Manager Ralph Stone went over the Ramada Inn utility history. He said a resolution was prepared that is consistent with staff's recommendation. He had asked the Public Works Director to assess the cost which amounted to \$151,000. Spoke with the developer and a settlement was agreed upon by splitting the cost of relocating the utilities. The City's share will be \$75,000.

City Attorney said this situation occurred in 1969 by Resolution and should have been done by Ordinance.

Commissioner Gayton does not feel the residents should be responsible for paying for the relocation of the utility lines. Where is this money coming from? The residents are all ready paying an increase in sewer rates.

Commissioner Kraus feels that since this was done by resolution, it is invalid. He also said the residents in his district do not want to pay for this either.

Lori Rice, resident, feels that the City should encourage controlled growth. Feels the City should pick up the 50 per cent.

Bill Edwards, resident, feels Commissioner Gayton is wrong on two counts. First, the Commission can use the General Fund for any purpose they want. Second, the

09-15-04

money sewer enterprise fund is not derived by taxes; it is funded by a user fee. He feels he and his partner made a fair offer – he is doing to donate the other \$75,000 rather than going on with this issue.

Kathy McCreary, resident, said we have a lot of problems that are the results of previous commissions, one of which is the bridge. Commissioner Gayton did not ask for her opinion on the 10% increase in sewer rate. She does not feel Mr. Edwards should have to pay the entire amount.

Lenny Kaul, resident, does not feel the residents should pay for improvement – or give away public property. Offer incentives to downtown business.

Ben Herrick, resident, thanked the Commission for the work that went into this. He values the opinion of the City Manager and City Attorney and cannot understand why the Commission does not take their advice. Remember the Land's End litigation – the Commission did not take the advice of the last City Attorney. He thanked Mr. Edwards.

Paul Gifford, resident, thanked Mr. Edwards and said the city should accept the gift. He hopes that the Community not let this mistake happen again.

City Manager said the Commission needs to give direction on how to proceed. If the Commission accepts the agreement from Mr. Edwards, he and the City Attorney need to enter into an agreement with the developer.

Steve Dupre, representing the developer, urges the Commission to accept this generous donation while it is still on the table. For the record they strongly disagree with the notion that every City Commission and every City Attorney have been making mistakes on how to vacate streets in the City. Your charter back in 1969 has a completely different section on how to vacate streets in the city and unlike the section that was quoted to you and to me does not say a word about ordinance. You have as recently as two years ago, vacated a street by resolution.

The Mayor thanked Mr. Edwards. This is a mistake that happened a long time ago.

City Attorney said the Resolution can be amended and a motion needs to be made to accept this offer.

Motion was made by Commissioner Gayton and seconded by Commissioner Bildz to accept the offer and amend the resolution to reflect this offer.

Mr. Edwards said he didn't want to go into litigation and wanted this issue settled.

09-15-04

Upon roll call, the vote was unanimous.

**8. Mayors' Council - Request for T.I.'s Participation in Countywide Transit System –**

The City Manager said a motion was in order requesting the Mayor to write a letter to Mayor Arbutine of the Mayors' Council advising him of the decision by the City Commission of the City of Treasure Island to decline the offer to join the Pinellas Transit System. Motion was made by Commissioner Kraus and seconded by Commissioner Collins to write a letter expressing the City's desire not to join the Pinellas Transit System.

Upon roll call, the vote was unanimous.

**9. Res. - Commission Rules of Procedure -**

After hearing the reading of the resolution approving amendments to the Rules of Procedure for the conduct of City Commission Workshops and Meetings, motion was made by Commissioner Gayton and seconded by Commission Bildz to accept the resolution as read.

Upon roll call, the vote was unanimous.

**10. Res. - Requesting that Congress Adjust Postal Designations -**

After hearing the reading of the resolution requesting that congress authorize the U. S. Postal Service to adjust postal designations so that mailing addresses more accurately reflect the name of the City (within the City's Jurisdiction) motion was made by Commissioner Gayton and seconded by Commissioner Bildz to approve the resolution as read.

The Mayor said she was in Washington and said there were two items that make it possible for us to have our own zip code as there is one available to Books and Bagels for the post office boxes 33740 and the postal routes have been changed.

The City Manager said we will have to send a survey to all residents. It would cost about \$1,000 for postage.

Clara Lee Selby, resident, thanked the commission. She has been working on this for 28 years.

Upon roll call, the vote to approve was unanimous.

**11. Res. - Formation of a Charter Review Committee**

After hearing the reading the resolution pertaining to the establishment of a Charter Review Committee; providing guidelines for the appointment of members; providing organization guidelines, a motion was made by Commissioner Collins and seconded by Commissioner Bildz to accept the resolution as read.

City Manager said the only additional information he will need is the schedule. The deadline for getting the information to the Supervisor of Elections Office to get the recommendations on the March ballot is Friday, December 14. This is about six weeks in which time the committee will have to meet and make decisions. This is hard work and the group will need to meet weekly with 4 to 6 hours per meeting and some evenings.

Commissioner Collins wants the recommendation ready to be placed on the March ballot.

Kathy McCreary, resident, said she wants to volunteer her services as she worked on the previous Charter Review Committee. She has a flexible schedule and can be available most of the time.

Upon roll call, the vote was unanimous.

**12. Resolution/Public Hearing - Authorizing a 10% Sewer Rate Increase Effective October 2004 -**

After hearing the reading of the resolution authorizing a 10% average sewer rate increase commencing with the October 2004 billing cycle and adopting the sewer rate schedule dated October 2004, a motion was made by Commission Collins and seconded by Commissioner Kraus to accept the resolution as read.

The City Manager went over the rationale behind the increase. He also said this item was discussed at previous meetings and tonight formal action by the Commission is necessary.

**G. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

None

**H. CITY MANAGER/CITY ATTORNEY REPORTS:**

None

**I. REPORTS BY COMMISSIONERS:**

Commissioner Kraus said there was coastal cleanup schedule for Saturday from 9:00am to 12:00noon.

Commissioner Bildz said on Sunset Beach, the waves did a good job of cleaning up the beach.

Mayor Maloof said she had a successful trip to Washington D.C. There will be a dinner for Congressman Young which she will be attending.

**J. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Clara Lee Selby, resident, thanked the Mayor for her efforts especially in Washington, D.C. and asked if there was a zip code available for Treasure Island. The Mayor said yes, it would be 33740.

**K. ADJOURNMENT:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Maloof, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phil Collins - District 1

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ed Gayton - District 2

\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard Kraus - District 3

\_\_\_\_\_  
Alan Bildz - District 4

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ralph Stone, City Clerk