

**CITY OF TREASURE ISLAND, FLORIDA  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WORKSHOP  
May 15, 2007  
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING**

The meeting was called to order at 6:43 p.m. by Mayor Maloof.

**I. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. Budget Update

Finance Director, Ruth Chapman gave a brief overview of the items that have exceeded 50% of the budget at this time. She explained that insurance premiums are paid in March and allocated to the Finance Department. The Legal Department has had some significant charges. Also, they had budgeted for a cost of living increase, but the merit increase that she was given was not budgeted for. She explained several items in the Recreation budget that are heavily weighted in the beginning of the year that will not reoccur. There were also several unexpected items. Ms. Chapman then explained several areas in the Public Works budget.

Ms. Chapman stated that she is a little behind in the 07-08 budget, and is working on it, and should be ready to turn it over to the City Manager soon.

Commissioner Gayton asked about the \$245,000 deficit. Ms. Chapman explained that this budget includes dipping into the reserves, but it will not exceed the 15% that we are to leave in fund balance. Commissioner Gayton asked if she felt that the Finance Department and Recreation Department budget would be able to be balanced by the end of the year. She answered in the affirmative. Commissioner Gayton then made comments about the legal budget and how it was so much over budget. Ms. Kiefer stated that the bulk of it was for the trial preparation for Gulf Coast Recovery. Most of the work was done in the period between November and February. This case is a huge case. Trial is set for September, and discovery has been completed. They have moved to continue the trial until February, which she has opposed. If they are allowed to continue she will have to switch gears and move in another direction. Commissioner Collins stated that he wanted the citizens to know that the huge bills from Attorney Yakavone's office were being paid for by the Florida League of Cities and not tax dollars. Commissioner Gayton stated that we have not budgeted for these legal fees. If they continue then we will have to make some sort of adjustment to cover the fees. Ms. Kiefer stated that the bulk of the work is done except for the trial. It will be roughly \$20,000 for a three month period to prepare for the trial.

Commissioner Bildz asked about the line for the PSTA, and whether it is a one time payment. Ms. Chapman explained that they were behind on their billing, and are getting caught up. He then asked about the Causeway Fund Road Tax, and if it was the line that was voted to refund. Ms. Chapman answered in the affirmative. Commissioner Bildz asked about the Water Pollution Control revenue. This is a grant, and the money has not been received yet.

Commissioner Gayton asked about what the activity fees were. Ms. Chapman stated that it was Summer Camp fees, and they have not all been collected yet.

## 2. Treasure Bay & City Hall Marina

Cathy Hayduke, Recreation Director, gave a presentation on the proposed marina project. She presented the history of the project, and the current situation with the City Marina behind City Hall. She then gave an explanation of the results of the feasibility study, and what would be included in the slip rentals. The cost for the City Hall marina expansion would be somewhere between \$312,000 and \$435,000, depending on the extent of the work necessary to the sea wall. Commissioner Collins asked about the discount that we would receive if additional slips were available for rental. Ms. Hayduke explained that we would have to go through the permitting process again because it would be outside our leased area. Commissioner Collins asked why that wasn't considered in the beginning. Ms. Hayduke explained that at that time we did not have the Police Boat, the barge, and the EPA boat, so we were receiving the discount at that time.

Commissioner Gayton asked about the 30% discount, and if it was in reference to the submerged plan permit. Ms. Hayduke answered in the affirmative.

Commissioner Minning asked about the estimated revenues. Ms. Hayduke explained that those were without the increase in the fees. The costs to maintain the marina has been very minimal. Commissioner Minning asked if there was a depreciating fund for this. Ms. Hayduke answered that there is not.

Commissioner Gayton asked about liability insurance, and whether we would have to have an insurance policy to cover a marina at Treasure Bay. Ms. Hayduke stated that she and Ms. Chapman would look into that.

Commissioner Bildz asked a question about there being an electrician in the report, but there was no plumber in the report. He also asked about the funding sources. Ms. Hayduke said that there would be a cost study done, and that no tax dollars would be used for the project.

Commissioner Minning asked about the status of the grant funding. Ms. Hayduke stated that she hadn't heard yet, and it was anybody's guess as to what if anything we would receive.

Ms. Hayduke then presented information on the Treasure Bay portion of the project. The total cost of the project would be somewhere between \$515,000 and \$613,000.

Commissioner Minning asked about parking for this project. Ms. Hayduke explained that the busiest time at Treasure Bay is during the season. Even during that time the side parking lot is not filled. She felt that there would only be about a month where there might be a little overlap. She doesn't feel that there will be a parking issue. Commissioner Minning asked about "live aboards". They are not allowed here by Ordinance. There was also a brief discussion about "discharge".

Mayor Maloof asked if there have been any changes in the Maritime Law. That had been an issue with derelict boats in the past. Ms. Hayduke gave a brief explanation of the procedure.

Commissioner Gayton asked about the Delta 7 report regarding the lifts, and whether there were prices available for them yet. Ms. Hayduke stated that they would be included in the proposal. He also asked about the sea wall. Ms. Hayduke will be getting that information as well. Commissioner Gayton asked about the sea grasses in the area. Ms. Hayduke stated that we would have to go for a variance, particularly for Treasure Bay.

Commissioner Minning met with the Treasure Island Yacht Club, and they have asked if there would be 50 foot slips available. Treasure Bay will be 40 foot; City Hall would be 50 foot. Pinellas County met last month about this. Treasure Island's project has been included so far. There are strings attached to the funding. Ms. Hayduke stated that they are waiting on a decision from our Commission.

Commissioner Gayton asked if there are restrictions on cost. Could we charge a flat fee? Ms. Hayduke stated that we could do it either way. Commissioner Gayton suggested that we consider the flat fee.

Ms. Hayduke explained that part of the funding may be low interest loans, which would be paid back out of fees. We would continue to look for grants. She is looking for direction.

Commissioner Minning suggested that they wait to see what happens with the grant application. Mr. Silverboard suggests that we place it in next year's budget, and remove it if need be, depending on what happens in Tallahassee.

Heidi Horak made comments on the variance requests that the Planning and Zoning board receives every month, and how important the sea grass is to the environment. Boats have environmental impacts that affect the sea grasses and the manatees. She stated that the City is not in the business to be profitable, but to provide services. The money that the city receives for this project would not be used to mitigate the environmental impacts. She suggested that mitigation projects be considered. The DEP is limiting the land lease area so that the boats can only be over the land leased property. This limits the boat sizes.

### 3. Renewal of Medical Insurance for 07/01/07 through 06/30/08

Fred Turner, Personnel Director, gave an explanation of the upcoming proposed increase to the medical premiums. Due to a number of large claims this past year United Healthcare is paying out more in claims than it received in premiums. An increase of 11.5% is proposed, which is the current trend. There is enough money in the budget to cover the increase for the remainder of the year. Alternate plans were looked at. They would increase the cost to people using the plan, mostly increasing the co-payments to hospital care and increasing the amount of annual out of pocket expense.

Commissioner Minning asked about alternate 1. There are increases to ongoing out of pocket expenses, but a reduction in annual out of pocket limits. This alternative would affect people every time they went to the doctor. Alternate 2 shifts the costs to the people that use the hospital coverage. Commissioner Bildz stated that he would hate to tie the city to a \$77,000 increase when there may be a drop in tax revenues. Commissioner Minning made brief comments on the different alternatives and their cost to the City and the employees.

Mr. Turner will get employee input regarding the different alternatives and what employees might do.

Mayor Maloof suggested that people e-mail their legislators regarding their opinions on this.

Commissioner Minning asked what the drop dead date was for this. Mr. Turner explained that they have worked with us as late as the third week in June, but it is difficult.

Mr. Silverboard stated that they would come back to the next meeting with further information.

4. Beautification Committee Appointment

Commissioner Gayton reported that Bob Moore from District 2 has resigned, and he is recommending that Belinda Lunn be appointed. This item will move forward to the June 5<sup>th</sup> meeting agenda.

5. Marina Committee Appointment

Commissioner Minning reported that Sully Lowe, a District 3 resident, has applied for membership on the committee. We need applicants from District 1 and District 4.

6. Mitigation Committee Appointment

Mayor Maloof reported that Dominique Reiter has resigned due to her service on the Code Enforcement Board. There are no applicants for this committee at this time. This committee meets once a year, so is not a large time commitment.

7. Code Enforcement Board Appointments

This item was moved to the meeting agenda for immediate action to ensure a quorum at the next meeting.

**II. OLD BUSINESS:**

Commissioner Collins asked about the date for the paving project. Mr. Silverboard stated that they will be starting next Monday. Commissioner Collins asked that people be informed where to park during this project.

**III. CITY MANAGER/CITY ATTORNEY REPORTS AND COMMENTS:**

Ms. Kiefer reported that her meeting with the St. Pete attorney was rescheduled to Friday at their request. The 1968 mean high water line was never recorded, so they are going to discuss that at Friday's meeting.

Mr. Silverboard reported on the meeting that he attended with Mayor Maloof regarding the Gulf Boulevard Undergrounding project. The cities had agreed to the beautification portion of this project. The cost for the beautification totals \$56,000,000 with a contingency and acquisition of easements of \$65,000,000. Treasure Island's share is approximately \$6,700,000. If we end up needing to acquire easements it would be 1.3 to

1.5 million more. Mayor Queen is suggesting that the cities come up with a strategy to go to the County on this. Working together was supposed to reduce the cost, not increase it. There are many items that are considered unnecessary by the cities. Mayor Queen will be meeting with Commissioner Stewart to discuss the cities' consensus that the project is too expensive, and that it needs to be scaled back. Another part of the issue was the tax discussions going on in Tallahassee. Mayor Queen also intimated that there may be some federal funds available and that it may be possible for the cities to band together and do a more realistic undergrounding project and leave the beautification out of it. The project is on the back burner at the moment. None of the cities are willing at this time to commit funds to the project.

Mayor Maloof commented that the county wanted to tear out all existing sidewalks and crosswalks and replace them with uniform sidewalks and crosswalks. The cities all felt that they wanted to have their own identities, and that it was a waste of money to replace these types of items that in many cases had been recently redone.

Mr. Silverboard gave an update on the status of the crosswalks. Mr. Hambidge had intended on getting the bid specs out several weeks ago, but has not had the time. He will get them out within the next week. Commissioner Bildz stated that he had received a request for a crosswalk at the end of 99<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

#### **IV. REPORTS & COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS:**

Commissioner Collins stated that May 30<sup>th</sup> Treasure Island would be the host to the BIG-G at 9 a.m. Dick Fletcher, who is a meteorologist at Channel 10, will be the guest speaker. He will be discussing hurricane preparedness.

Commissioner Collins asked for volunteers for the Mitigation and Marina Committees.

Commissioner Collins welcomed Mr. Silverboard.

Commissioner Gayton reminded people that this Saturday, the 19<sup>th</sup>, was mobile collection day for household chemicals, and gave a list of items that could be disposed of. It will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. behind Walgreens.

Commissioner Gayton reported that there will be an officers' installation on May 22<sup>nd</sup> for the Isle of Palms Civic Association. There will also be a meeting tomorrow night at 7:00 at the Community Center. The guest speaker will be Lynn Rosetti, who will be doing a presentation on the proposed changes to the Community Appearance Codes. He encouraged people to attend the meeting.

Commissioner Minning reported on the Paradise Island Civic Association. Ms. Rosetti gave her presentation.

Commissioner Minning reported on his first Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council meeting yesterday. Florida's population is expected to double to 36,000,000 in the next 50 years.

Commissioner Minning reported that the Beach Stewardship meeting was held last week. Dennis Velasco was elected Chairman. Ms. Rosetti has been receiving responses to the bid request for Elnor Island.

Commissioner Bildz commented on the web link that he sent to the Commission today, and requested a link on our web page to it.

Commissioner Bildz commented about the beginning of hurricane season coming up on June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mayor Maloof reported that she has been invited to participate in the "Reality Check", which has to do with the population increase. It will be held in Tampa, and will have 300 participants. They will be looking at development, affordable housing, transportation, and water issues. They will be asked to lay out what they think are the appropriate areas for transportation, redevelopment, and affordable housing.

Mayor Maloof made comments about the Cinco de Mayo celebration that was given for the bridge crew. Seven local restaurants donated food for the celebration. It was a big success. This was Ruth Philipon's idea last year, and she was there with friends to help.

Mayor Maloof reported that she has been invited to be a guest at the Canada Day festivities on July 1<sup>st</sup> in Niagra Falls. We have bands and a mayor from there that come down each year to celebrate CanAm day here. She will be attending their celebration this year.

#### **IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Heidi Horak spoke to the Commission regarding historic preservation in Treasure Island. We have received national publication for our historic mid-century modern hotels and motels. Treasure Island has been featured on the cover of Atlantic Monthly for its mid-century architecture of the hotels and motels. She presented several articles about Treasure Island and its motels. The Sands was featured in most of them. She has requested that the preservation of historic hotels and motels be placed on the agenda at a future meeting. She will be attending a conference this week on this topic at her own expense. She gave an overview of the topics that will be presented at the conference.

Mayor Maloof thanked Ms. Horak for her dedication to Treasure Island, and encouraged the motel and hotel owners to assist her in her work on this issue.

#### **VI. ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned by Mayor Maloof at 8:35 p.m.