

**CITY OF TREASURE ISLAND, FLORIDA
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING ON PROPOSED FY 2008-09 BUDGET
July 23, 2008**

The workshop was called to order by Mayor Maloof at 1:05 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL

Mayor Mary Maloof		Present
Commissioner Phil Collins	District 1	Present
Commissioner Ed Gayton	District 2	Present
Commissioner Bob Minning	District 3	Present
Commissioner Alan Bildz – Vice Mayor	District 4	Present

II. OVERVIEW OF BUDGET

Given on July 22, 2008.

III. REVIEW OF DEPARTMENTS:

The following budget accounts were reviewed on July 22nd.

1. General Fund Revenues
2. City Commission
3. Administration
4. Personnel
5. Finance
6. City Clerk
7. Legal
8. Information Technology
9. Police

The City Manager started the workshop by providing the City Commission with the information requested regarding the number of employees. This has to do with the four positions that are being eliminated in this year's budget. The Commission is being provided with a copy of the revised B-4 for Solid Waste, Water Pollution Control, and Stormwater Management. The number of employees in Water Pollution Control used to be four Service Worker II's, and now there will be two. In Stormwater Management, 25% of the person is budgeted in Stormwater Management and 75% is budgeted in Water Pollution Control. In Solid Waste we are going from four Service Worker II's down to three. The Beautification is correct as shown in the budget. This reduced the number of reductions in the General Fund to one in Finance. The increase in Beautification is 3.6%, mostly due to the 4% salary increase. Commissioner Gayton asked if the original intent was to reduce the Beautification area by one person. Mr. Silverboard stated that it wasn't specifically Beautification, but in Public Works. Employees are often moved around based on where they are needed. If we have additional resignations we will review to see if the position needs to be filled. Commissioner Gayton stated that he would rather see that additional person moved from Beautification and the General Fund to the Water Pollution Control Fund. Commissioner Bildz asked what we were doing to reduce the costs of the beautification on the causeway, particularly on the St. Pete side. Mr. Silverboard has spoken with St. Pete. They said they would think about it, but as long as there is a dispute on the wastewater surcharge they will not agree to

anything. We have looked at a number of different factors to reduce our costs. We are also looking into contracting some of the mowing in that area, but numbers are not available yet. Commissioner Collins asked if we would save money if we were to xeriscape the area. Mr. Silverboard explained that many cities are starting to use perennial peanut plants as it requires little maintenance and tends to crowd out weeds. We are looking into different plant types for the medians that will reduce our costs.

The discussion then resumed where it left off after the July 22nd meeting.

Discussion resumed here at 2:08 p.m, after the Customer Service discussion was finished. (See below) The Commission was provided with a Services Comparison, and a budget for the Marine Patrol. Commissioner Collins stated that he would rather be able to take time to review the information provided and discuss it tomorrow. Mr. Silverboard stated that he has an information sheet that may be easier to follow.

There was a brief discussion regarding the salary of the Marine Patrol officer and where it was showing up in the budget. Mr. Silverboard explained that in this current year part of the salary was in the Marine Patrol budget, and part in the Police budget. When the Marine Patrol was eliminated in the budget he moved the entire salary amount into the Police budget. What could be eliminated was the Operating Expense. To add back Marine Patrol it will cost \$26,000 due to the dramatic increase in fuel. Commissioner Gayton asked about the salary of the officer. If half of his salary was in the Marine Patrol, and half in the Police Department, why is the amount not changing? Mr. Silverboard explained that we are not reducing personnel costs as he will be moved to the Police Department full time if the Marine Patrol is eliminated. If we eliminate the Marine Patrol and keep the boat there will still be some expense for fuel and repairs. Commissioner Collins asked about the number of hours the engines are operating per year. Chief Casey stated that it is approximately 400 hours per year.

Commissioner Gayton asked Chief Casey about the Saturday shifts and how many officers are scheduled, and what happened if someone called in sick. Chief Casey explained that it is usually two officers on patrol and the Marine Patrol officers. If the person calling in sick was a supervisor then they would call in another officer. If it is the Marine Patrol officer that calls in they only move someone in there if there is a need. Commissioner Gayton then asked how many officers, including the Sergeant, are scheduled for a Monday. Chief Casey explained that it could be three, or two if the Marine Patrol officer is on duty. There are always two officers and a supervisor. Commissioner Gayton asked Chief Casey to take a serious look at the overtime hours in this budget. The Police budget is 30% of the total General Fund budget. Commissioner Gayton also asked if they could take a look at the schedule tomorrow as well. Mr. Silverboard will provide a copy of the schedule to everyone.

Mr. Silverboard provided the Commission with an explanation of the proposal from the Sheriff's office.

Commissioner Gayton asked if there is an officer that is dedicated specifically to training. Chief Casey explained that Officer Reynolds is their training officer. He covers patrols as necessary, but his duties are training for the most part.

a. Police Training Fund

This item was taken up at 4:08, after the Transportation Trust item. Mr. Silverboard explained that this is the revenue derived from \$1 per ticket allocated for police officer training. It doesn't cover all their training needs.

b. Police Contraband Fund

Mr. Silverboard explained that these are the proceeds from confiscations and seizures. We are not allowed to anticipate a dollar amount, which is why it is shown as zero. We do not have any expenditures out of this fund.

The following items will be taken up later in the workshops:

- 10. Fire & EMS
- 11. Community Improvement
- 12. Public Works
 - a. Beautification
 - b. Beach Improvement
 - c. Municipal Facilities
 - d. Causeway

e. Equipment & Vehicle Maintenance

There were no changes or questions

13. Recreation

a. Recreation

Mr. Silverboard explained that they have moved 100% of the Director's salary to the Recreation fund. It will no longer be split between Recreation and Clubhouse. The other increase is for maintaining the playgrounds. We have come up with a program to repair or replace equipment as needed. There are two staff members that are now certified in playgrounds.

Ms. Hayduke gave an explanation of the special events line. We do not want to charge a fee to attend the event, but there are items included in the event that could be charged. They make money from the camps. There is interest in a 5k run, and Rock Around the Clock. The city would take back Sun, Sand & Swing, and would receive revenue. It would be shared on a percentage basis with the Civic Associations. This would be a change from the past couple of years. The City would recoup its costs and provide a fund raising opportunity to the Civic Associations and the Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Hayduke explained that she was very conservative in her revenue projections. The events should cover the costs of holding them. Also, the revenues from the proposed recreation cards were not included.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the cost of events and the projected revenues from those events.

b. Beach Pavilion

Commissioner Minning asked about the increase in the Supplies and Materials account. There is more activity in the summer and supplies are used up more quickly. Mr. Silverboard explained that we have to do more work on the grounds. Commissioner Minning asked if we had looked for grant money to replace the swing set. Ms. Hayduke stated that we have money budgeted for it. Mr. Silverboard stated that it was unlikely that we would get funding for a piece of equipment like that. There may be grant money available to renovate the entire playground area at Treasure Bay. That piece of equipment needs to be replaced. It is a safety issue. Mayor Maloof commented that we could let people know that they can donate money for items like that. Mr. Silverboard stated that we would love it if they did, but we had to keep in mind that we have to buy commercial grade equipment. We would accept donations to offset the price of equipment.

Commissioner Gayton stated that when a Civic Association donates money to the recreation department it is not usually earmarked for a specific thing. Ms. Hayduke stated that unless it is specified it is not. There are two swing sets that need to be replaced. One is located at Treasure Bay and one is located at the Beach Pavilion.

c. Recreation Center

Ms. Hayduke explained that other than electricity and water this account remains the same. There are events held there that pay for themselves. This year we received donations from local businesses to fund score cards and tees.

d. Recreation Ctr. Maintenance

Ms. Hayduke reported that there are no significant changes other than the cost of gas and oil.

Commissioner Minning asked for an explanation of the miscellaneous expense item. Ms. Hayduke gave the list of items included in that line. Commissioner Minning asked for clarification on anticipated spending. Ms. Hayduke reported that a good portion of the expenses come towards the end of the year. We are making every attempt to be conservative in our spending. Commissioner Gayton asked for a copy of the list of miscellaneous items.

Commissioner Minning stated that he had asked the City Manager and Recreation Director for a breakdown of the revenues and expenditures for 2008-2009. Mr. Silverboard provided the Commission with a copy. Commissioner Bildz asked why there were no revenues shown for Beach Pavilion rentals. Ms. Hayduke explained that it is included in Facility Rentals. Commissioner Minning commended Ms. Hayduke for reducing costs. Mayor Maloof commented that there are some issues that are going to be very important to certain groups of people, and other issues that they don't care about. We will face tough decisions and not everybody will be pleased. We are doing the best that we can. It is a very difficult time.

14. Customer Service (Passports)

Mark Santos explained that we have started offering some new services this year. We are now a passport facility. We have some expenses and revenue. He explained that postage seems rather high, but our expenses are approximately \$5 per day. Expedited

mailing is paid for, but we have to show it as an expense, and also revenue. Commissioner Collins asked if the revenues were shown in the General Fund. Mr. Silverboard explained that all revenues are shown in the General Fund. Mr. Santos explained that we have a daily expense that we absorb of about \$5 for postage for mailing of passport applications. The additional cost for expedited mailing is recouped. He stated that he believes that the projected revenues are low. Commissioner Gayton asked him to explain the service that is being offered. Mr. Santos explained that we are accepting passport applications and providing passport photos, and are able to charge a fee for this service. Commissioner Gayton asked how much time was being spent and which employees were providing this service. Mr. Santos explained the time spent by Finance Department employees. Mayor Maloof commented that she has received favorable feedback on the service.

Commissioner Bildz asked if this should be moved into Finance since Finance Department employees are providing the service. Mr. Silverboard explained that he is planning to reorganize and would like to have a Customer Service division.

At this time the Commission went back to the Police budget.

15. Non-Departmental

Mr. Silverboard explained that this is a new budget item. There are expenses that are not a direct cost of any particular department. An example is insurance. It was previously budgeted in Finance, but it covers a variety of different coverages that are outside of Finance. This will assist us in determining the true cost of our operations. Another example is the cost of electricity. We worked to be sure we were not double budgeting by budgeting in the department and in this line. Another example is the audit costs. A portion of it is budgeted in non-departmental.

Mr. Silverboard discussed the B-4 reports and all the changes that can be made to them in the course of the budget process. He tried to list the types of expenses and amounts of expenses on one page.

Commissioner Minning asked if these items were taken out and increased from the line items in the budget. Do we know the percentages of increase from previous years? Mr. Silverboard stated that they should be the same cost or a decreased cost as in the previous budget. The audit is an increase as provided for in the contract. The telephone used to be in IT, but we have removed it and put it here. Commissioner Minning asked about the percentage of change for each of the items. Mr. Silverboard explained that we had not done that for this account this year. Commissioner Bildz stated that since insurance is such a large amount it would be good to know that information. Mr. Silverboard explained that there is no increase in insurance this year. Mr. Turner explained that we are going out to bid for insurance, and the Commission will be selecting an insurance provider at the first September meeting.

Commissioner Gayton asked if Mr. Silverboard was proposing eliminating the B-4 report, and stated that he finds them helpful. Mr. Silverboard answered in the affirmative. He is suggesting that we change the budget process around, and eliminate the B-4 at that time. We can put the same information all on one page. Commissioner Gayton stated that as long as they have a description on each line item it would be ok.

Commissioner Gayton asked why there was such a large increase in the contingency line. It is up from \$25,000 to \$100,000. He feels it is their responsibility not to increase taxes just to have a higher contingency. If we keep the \$25,000, and go through the same process we will be able to eliminate \$75,000 of their tax increase. He would be in favor of keeping the \$25,000 contingency. Mr. Silverboard stated that he feels the \$100,000 is a more realistic number for our needs. If they want to reduce it he can support it, but feels that it should be either \$50,000 or \$75,000. Commissioner Gayton stated that he can support \$50,000. Commissioner Minning asked what the spending history of this line has been. Mr. Silverboard stated that they are probably doing \$70,000 - \$80,000 per year in supplemental appropriations. This would provide us with a little bit of flexibility in the event of an unexpected event like a red tide or a water quality issue. Commissioner Gayton stated that their responsibility is to reduce taxes. Mr. Silverboard stated that he doesn't have a problem with \$50,000.

Commissioner Minning expressed concern that it would look good on paper, but it would not work in reality. As Commissioner Bildz pointed out, \$50,000 would not have covered us this year. He asked if we should put it in the budget now, and address it later on, or should we be realistic now. Commissioner Gayton stated that he felt they should reduce taxes now and address it later. Commissioner Minning stated that he would rather be realistic than lower it under the guise of lowering taxes and have to come back again later. Mr. Silverboard stated that he felt we should try the \$50,000 and look at it again next year.

Mr. Silverboard gave a brief explanation of the PC replacements that are included in this line item. The six PC's are not specified for any particular area. We know that we will have to buy six of them. We know that there are three specifically needed; one in the Commission office, one in Community Improvement, and one in Recreation. When we know where they will go they will be moved into the appropriate budget.

Mr. Silverboard discussed video streaming of Commission meetings. It is shown in a Capital Improvement project, but they may want to include it this year. If so, this is the department that it would go into. It is the wave of the future, and a convenient way to access our meetings. He is not sure realistically how many people will sit at their computer and watch a meeting rather than watch it on television. The cable people have told us that at least 75% of the subscribers in Treasure Island have digital service. If you don't have digital service it costs an extra \$1 per month for a digital box. We have heard comments that far fewer people are watching now that it is in the 615 area. Commissioner Bildz asked if there would be a spot where they could load a previous meeting. Commissioner Gayton asked the cost. Mr. Santos gave an itemized cost listing. Commissioner Bildz stated that people could then just load an archive or just a portion of a meeting that they want to see. Commissioner Collins stated that someone still has the option of coming in and purchasing a tape or DVD of individual meetings.

16. Transit

Mr. Silverboard explained that our transit agreement with PSTA ends on December 31st of this year. Currently the City of Treasure Island and St. Pete Beach have contracts. We are the only cities on a contract basis in the County. It averages 1200 hours per month. The initial price that we were given after increase was approximately \$98 per hour. That cost would be over a million dollars. They will offset that cost with the revenues collected with stops from Treasure Island and St. Pete Beach. We have sat

down with Tim Garling and have discussed the contract and terms of service. Mr. Garling is hesitant to go beyond one year due to the unpredictable fuel prices. We have talked about an hourly rate of \$78 per hour for one year. We believe the total cost will be somewhere in the neighborhood of \$234,000 year, which is a 29% increase. The total cost would be close to \$55,000 per month, offset by approximately \$29,000 per month. Once the new contract starts it will be over \$100,000 per month. If ridership increases as gas prices go up hopefully our offset will be greater. Mayor Maloof asked Mr. Silverboard to explain that this is our expense. Mr. Silverboard explained that most of the other cities are members of PSTA. They pay a millage rate of .5601 as a member of PSTA. They get full bus service, on demand service, and the beach communities that are members get Trolley services. The cities that are not members get no service. For example, Bellair Beach gets no service as they are not members. Because we are under contract we have some access to that on demand service, but it is difficult because we are not members of PSTA. We are not going to see bus service over the bridge because we are not going to pay our fair share of the PSTA bus service. It may be time for the Commission to consider joining the PSTA. That expense would go directly on the tax bills of each of our residents. Our residents would be taxed on the additional money. Mayor Maloof asked if it would require a referendum to join the PSTA. Mr. Silverboard stated that it would not. Commissioner Gayton stated that it would require a referendum for the PSTA to force us to participate. Mr. Silverboard stated that at some point in time the Commission will have to address that issue. Commissioner Gayton asked if we would rather charge the \$234,000 in the General Fund, or pay three times more to the PSTA. He felt the residents would prefer to keep things as is. Commissioner Minning asked Mr. Silverboard to explain what benefits we would derive if we joined the PSTA. Mr. Silverboard stated that we would have a better shot of getting bus service restored to our community. If BRT does come to Pinellas County it would stop at Corey Avenue and not go to the beaches. Someone would have to wait for the trolley to get to the beaches. We will not see buses coming over our bridge. There is a certain resentment that certain other members of PSTA have towards providing the trolley to non-members. Commissioner Minning asked if we knew our current ridership. Mr. Silverboard stated that we can provide that information from the current billing statement. He explained that if we added our assessed values and St. Pete Beach's assessed values to the PSTA the millage rate would come down. Commissioner Bildz commented that St. Pete Beach considered it because it was a big chunk out of their budget. Mr. Silverboard was asked what he thought would happen in the future. Mr. Silverboard explained that it would be getting more expensive, and they can justify a \$98 per hour cost.

The meeting was recessed at 3:13 pm. The meeting resumed at 3:25. Mayor Maloof stated that Mr. Ruckdeshel had asked to speak, and could have five minutes. He commented that he needed more than five minutes and would wait until the end.

17. Library

Mr. Silverboard explained that the Library Board has asked for the same amount for next year as the current contribution of \$107,140. He had asked for statistics of our citizens' use of the library and he was not able to get much information. He is told that residents of Treasure Island using the Gulf Beaches Library is 2,810, but to that you have to add the other libraries that our residents are members of. Once you are a member of the library you can use any of the libraries in the County. In total, the estimate is that approximately 5,000 of our residents have library cards issued to them. He does not know how many are part-time people, how old the registrations are, or how many households that represents. We are

proposing the additional .0671 mill to generate the additional revenue to pay for the library. We estimate that at 96% collection, that part of a mill will generate \$107,000.

Commissioner Collins asked for clarification on the number of residents who have a library card. Mr. Silverboard provided the numbers for each community. He doesn't know if those are residents or part time people.

Commissioner Minning asked what communities use the Gulf Beaches Library. Mr. Silverboard stated that it is Treasure Island, Madeira Beach, and the Redingtons.

Commissioner Collins asked if we know how much it would cost each household per year according to the proposed millage rate. Commissioner Minning calculated \$19.26 per year, which equates to \$1.64 per month. Mr. Silverboard stated that we have 2373 homesteaded properties, but all properties would be paying. Mayor Maloof commented that way back the City of Treasure Island always upheld that we did not feel that the system that they were using to divide up the cost was fair. It was based on population rather than usage. Several years ago we entered into negotiations and threatened to pull out if they didn't change the system. At the last minute Treasure Island was allowed a discount of 10% and the other communities would pick up the difference.

Commissioner Bildz stated that just because a person has a card doesn't mean they use the library. Most people have a computer and rarely go to the library. He feels that this is a good place to cut the budget.

Commissioner Collins commented that if we pulled out of the library there was a good chance that the library would go under. Mayor Maloof stated that we are the largest contributor. Some of the communities last year cut library hours. She doesn't know if that is an option for them or not. This is an issue that people feel strongly about on both sides.

Commissioner Minning stated that it appears that the majority of cardholders are from Treasure Island. Mr. Silverboard stated that you have to take into account the people who are registered but are using other libraries. Mayor Maloof commented that a survey was done several years ago. Commissioner Minning stated that if we think about where it is located, the residents that use it must have transportation to get there. If so, they would also have transportation to other libraries. He has received two e-mails from constituents, both suggesting that they cut the library from the budget. Mr. Silverboard explained that once we pull out of the library cooperative residents would have to pay \$100 for a library card. It is much cheaper to pay the \$107,000 than to pay everyone's \$100 fee. Commissioner Bildz stated that many people who hold cards no longer use the library due to the availability of the internet. Mr. Silverboard stated that you can not check out a book on the internet. You can buy books, but not borrow them. The library does provide things that the internet can not.

Mayor Maloof asked the City Clerk to review the past minutes to see if there is anything mentioned regarding the survey results.

Commissioner Gayton asked Mr. Silverboard why he added a millage over the rollback rate specifically for the library. He does not want to vote on a millage rate higher than the rollback rate. Commissioner Bildz stated that they would have to cut the \$107,000 elsewhere in order to do that. He suggested that they could set the tentative millage rate higher than the rollback and cut it later. Commissioner Gayton stated that he was unwilling to do that. Mr.

Silverboard stated that he would have Ms. Chapman calculate where they were with the proposed adjustments and let them know tomorrow where things stand.

18. Special Revenue Funds

a. LOISS

This item will be discussed with the Capital Projects.

b. Gas Tax

Mr. Silverboard stated that they would be transferring the \$72,000 into the General Fund to take care of Gas Tax eligible expenses such as road maintenance. He would like to preserve the remaining fund balance as part of the money that we look to if we have to have a major repair to any of the bridges.

c. Transportation Improvement

Mr. Silverboard explained that this is the 51% impact fee that we get on new development. We only budget the interest income. We keep part of it and the rest goes to the County. We use it on items that impact the public. He is proposing to use this money to pay for a warrant study in the event that Publix will not pay for the warrant study at 104th. If they will pay for it then we won't use it. We need to do one at 108th and Gulf Blvd. It is getting more in need of signalization.

Commissioner Collins asked if we'd get a break on the warrant study if we did both at once. Mr. Silverboard stated that they were separate items and we probably would not.

Commissioner Minning commented that he saw those items in the LOISS account as well. Mr. Silverboard stated that he is showing the project in the LOISS fund, but the funding should be coming from the Transportation Trust Fund. Commissioner Minning stated that he doesn't feel that we should spend any money on 104th until we get confirmation from Publix as to what they are willing to pay for. Commissioner Collins commented that he thought that we decided to go with a "wait and see" attitude regarding 104th and what the traffic problems actually were. Commissioner Bildz stated that we have to put it in the budget if there is a possibility that we need to do it. Commissioner Minning asked about the study for 108th Avenue. Mr. Silverboard explained that we are seeing more traffic on 108th due to the bridge opening and the speed tables on 107th.

Commissioner Gayton asked what the distance was between traffic lights that was approved by FDOT. Mr. Silverboard stated that he wasn't sure, but that they would all have to operate in unison. Commissioner Gayton asked if we can get a commitment out of FDOT saying that we would be allowed to signalize. He would not want to spend the money on the warrant study if we would not be allowed to signalize. Commissioner Bildz commented that we still needed to put the money in the budget regardless of whether we are going to spend it or not in case we need to. Mayor Maloof stated that when Mr. Dabkowski presented the system to us he told us that he felt confident that we could signalize the intersections but they would have to be coordinated.

They moved on to Police Training (see above) at this point.

d. Police Training Fund

Mr. Silverboard explained that this is the revenue derived from \$1 per ticket allocated for police officer training. It doesn't cover all their training needs.

e. Police Contraband Fund

Mr. Silverboard explained that these are the proceeds from confiscations and seizures. We are not allowed to anticipate a dollar amount, which is why it is shown as zero. We do not have any expenditures out of this fund.

Commissioner Gayton asked that they revisit several items from the General Fund. Mr. Silverboard went over a list of services that he was proposing that they cut. A brief discussion was held about "Mutt Mitts". It was agreed to not fund them this year. Mr. Silverboard proposed not "fluffing" the beach, and only grooming the area near the water to keep the seaweed off the beach. We will have to watch to ensure that sand spurs and other unwanted vegetation not root itself. The beach would be cleaned as normal. Commissioner Gayton suggested that we stop raking this week to see what the beach would look like. Commissioner Minning asked if they knew what the potential savings would be. Mr. Raus explained that the savings would mostly be in the cost of diesel fuel and wear and tear on the equipment. The fuel savings alone would be about \$80 per week. We would still sweep the beach trail sidewalk and empty the cans. It was proposed to eliminate the holiday decorations. Commissioner Bildz asked the cost of having them. Mr. Silverboard explained that it was at least \$3,000 in electricity and the staff costs to put them up and take them down. Mr. Raus stated that it was at least 120 man hours to put them up. Mr. Silverboard stated that if they wanted to continue them they should rent them rather than buy them. They would be put up the week after Thanksgiving and remove them the week after New Years. We would only be responsible to ensure that the connection is working. Commissioner Collins asked about the cost of that. Mr. Silverboard stated that it is more expensive if you aren't planning on buying new decorations. This would be a proposal to lease rather than purchase them outright in a future year. Mr. Murphy stated that we would want to ensure that we have the cost of repairing and maintaining the decorations in the calculations. Commissioner Minning stated that he would like to find someplace in the budget to find the money for these decorations. The Commission unanimously agreed. Commissioner Collins asked if some of the decorations are not working. Mr. Raus explained that some of the wiring is falling apart and we try to fix them as we go. At least 25-30% are in need of repair due to rust. He would like to get into a repair program during the rest of the year. The boxes sometimes need to be repaired from being out in the weather all year. We have roughly 100 of the hanging ornaments. We can get most of them working, but there is always a few each year that we put to the side. Commissioner Collins suggested that maybe we could use some of the parts from the non-working ornaments to keep others working. Commissioner Gayton asked where they were stored. Mr. Raus answered that some were at the Golf Course, and others are stored here. Commissioner Gayton asked if it would be acceptable for a retiree to take a few at a time and repair and rework them. Mr. Raus stated that that would be acceptable. Commissioner Gayton stated that he would have some volunteers pick them up. Mr. Silverboard stated that fireworks have been eliminated. Commissioner Minning asked whether we were still putting up flags. Mr. Silverboard answered in the affirmative. They are faded, but we don't have money in the budget to replace them. Commissioner Minning asked if we got donations of flags, would there be money in the budget to put them up. Mr. Silverboard stated that it would only be staff costs, so they could put them up for Memorial Day and take them down after the Fourth of July. Commissioner Minning asked if they were doing anything with flags for Can Am Day. Mr. Silverboard answered that they would put them up on the Causeway. Mr.

Silverboard stated that street sweeping would be reduced to once a month. In the future it would be moved to the Stormwater budget. Commissioner Collins commented that this has been a pet peeve of his, and they rarely use water. Mr. Silverboard commented that they were here yesterday, and used a small amount of water. Commissioner Collins said that they should just get rid of it. Mr. Silverboard stated that they are required to have it. Commissioner Bildz stated that it always seems to work on Sunset. Mayor Maloof commented that it works on Paradise too. Commissioner Gayton asked for clarification of how often the streets were done. Mr. Raus explained that it was the entire city once a month. Mr. Silverboard stated that they are proposing that rather than giving out the tables, chairs, and PA system for various groups to use that they charge a rental fee for it. That will help pay for replacements when needed. That means that we would be charging the Civic Associations. If they are having a function at the Community Center there would be no charge. It would only be when they are removing them from the premises. Ms. Hayduke explained that we usually deliver the tables and chairs to events, and we lose a lot of tables. They are very expensive to replace. It is a minimal fee, and a way to recoup some of the replacement costs. Commissioner Bildz asked if that fee would include pick up and delivery. Ms. Hayduke explained that they would add a minimal fee for pick up and delivery. Mr. Silverboard explained that people frequently walk in looking for Notary services. He is proposing that we charge a small fee for non-city related documents. Mr. Santos explained that we are allowed to charge up to \$10 per document, and we are proposing to charge the \$10. Just at the Finance counter they are averaging about 18 per month. There are other Notaries all over the building. Mr. Silverboard suggested that we allow parking on the beach one day a week during the summer months. The night of the fireworks we made \$2,000 on that, and it was at the last minute. The central part of the beach is large, and people appreciate that. We have revenues of \$24,000 for doing that. Commissioner Minning clarified that it would be for non-event specific parking. Typically the only event during the summer months is Sun, Sand & Swing.

Commissioner Bildz asked about the vending commissions. Ms. Hayduke explained that there are several locations that she is proposing to add vending machines, and proposing that we collect a commission on the vending machine revenues. Mr. Silverboard stated that we get \$1 per ride on the Segway concession. There really is no way of monitoring that. We also have Taylor Rentals. It is probably time to consider providing more services at our beaches. He suggests that we go out for proposals for beach services for the Beach Pavilion area and the central beach area. He is aware that we looked at going out for proposals on the chairs and the Commission decided that we didn't want to do anything, but we have to find ways of paying for the Beach Pavilion. If we are going to provide these parks we need to support it, as well as provide a service to the beach goers who may want to rent a kayak or something else while at the beach. Commissioner Bildz stated that they will find very little business at the Beach Pavilion. It is rented quite often. Mr. Silverboard stated that we will have to do some maintenance out there, such as painting, at some point in the future.

Mr. Silverboard commented that the property tax system is not fair and equitable, so we need to start looking at the fees and services that we provide, and we need to think in a more businesslike way to bring in customers and get more money out of them. It is a change in thinking, but we need to do it. We have not added any revenues to the budget, but we need to think in terms of making more money. We don't want to make our beach a Coney Island, but we should be looking to provide services for a fee.

The Mayor opened the floor to public comments. Dominique Reiter stated that she had talked to her Civic Association and they would make some funds available for Christmas decorations. She provided some information about the costs of Sun, Sand & Swing. The Chamber is willing to participate or host the Christmas Parade. They will be eliminating the candy throwing because it is dangerous to the children. She stated that the Open Air Market brought in a lot of people. They would be willing to raise the rates \$2 or \$3 per vendor and allow that amount to go to the City.

Hugh Ruckdeshel complimented the City Manager on the way he laid out the budget. He did a great job on it, and he is glad to see that they are now charging people for the budget rather than just handing them out. He intends that what he does with the budget that he purchased will help the Commission. He provided information on the City of St. Petersburg receiving federal funding for the sewer system. If they are charging us for the sewer system, we should be charging them for the causeway maintenance on their side. He stated that he joined the library last year after the budget was approved. They are supposed to have a straight line budget report. They do not have one for the library. Who at that library is being paid? How many employees do they have? Is this a private association, or does the City of Madeira Beach own it? If you don't have the information requested you should remove it from your agenda. You have on your agenda the purchase of a solid waste truck. Don't vote to pay for the library again because you are violating your fiduciary responsibilities. Until you have the information you should cancel the agreement and buy the truck. Other cities handle the budget in a simple way. If you don't have the money and don't want to increase taxes, then you increase fees. When I don't have enough money I figure out how to get some money. I have purchased licenses in this city since the 1960's. If you eliminate competition you will get the money. People rent their homes and condos without a license. He is tired of them raising his fees and allowing his competition to steal his clients, and paying the state. If he has to go through that, then so should everyone else. He feels that there are plenty of places that they can get revenue. They have missed the boat on cell phone towers. We have a height limit in this city. How many cell phone dishes are on the building across the street? You could have them put a cell tower in the city park made to look like a light house. People won't see it, and we could derive revenue from it. This city should not look like a third world country with old TV antennas. He stated that he has a problem with the figures. The library would welcome us to get rid of our contribution that doesn't amount to the \$100 that they could charge each person. Regarding the trolley, one half of a mill doesn't justify what it would cost to join the PSTA. He is curious about quite a bit that he has flagged. He will be coming back to them in writing with ways that he can cut costs and raise revenues.

VI. Setting Special Meeting to Adopt Tentative Millage Rate

No date set

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The workshop was adjourned at 5:12 p.m. by Mayor Maloof.

Mary Maloof, Mayor

Phil Collins – District 1

Ed Gayton – District 2

Bob Minning – District 3

Alan Bildz – District 4

ATTEST:

Dawn M. Foss, City Clerk