

**CITY OF TREASURE ISLAND, FLORIDA
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WORKSHOP
December 2, 2008**

The workshop was called to order at 6:50 p.m. by Mayor Maloof.

I. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Consideration of Res. 08-112, Bid Award Manhole Relining

Public Works Director, Jim Murphy, gave a brief explanation of this item. There are 63 manholes that need to be relined. He is proposing that they use the Spectrashield system. The manholes will be tightly sealed and protected against sewer gasses.

Commissioner Minning asked what the life of this would be. Mr. Murphy stated that it would likely be the life of the manhole, and that the product is warranted for ten years. Commissioner Bildz asked what the life of the manholes would be. Mr. Murphy explained that the manholes were 40-50 years old, and he expected them to last another 40-50 years if they are sealed and made structurally sound. Commissioner Bildz asked about the rest of the manholes. Mr. Murphy explained that these were the worst in the city, and eventually they would have to do more of them. This is what we have the money for at this time. We are trying to eliminate the amount of groundwater getting into our system.

Commissioner Collins asked if he was sure we could get it done for \$60,000. Mr. Murphy stated that he was sure that we could. Commissioner Collins asked why they chose the company that they chose. Mr. Murphy explained that it was because of the materials used and the service we would get. Mr. Silverboard explained that we would be piggy-backing on the Volusia County contract. At Commissioner Collins' request Mr. Silverboard gave a brief explanation of how "piggy-backing" on other contracts works. We get better pricing and it saves time.

Commissioner Gayton asked for clarification as to whether the manholes were water tight. Mr. Murphy stated that they are not. Commissioner Gayton stated that we would be paying for that water if they are not water tight. Mr. Murphy explained that we only get water in the manholes in the event of a heavy rain event. Mr. Silverboard stated that the rain guards are only needed in the manholes in very low lying areas.

Mr. Murphy explained that he and Mr. Raus had watched the installation of this system, and it goes in very quickly with very little disruption. It is a very efficient process.

This item will move forward to the December 16th meeting agenda.

2. Consideration of Res. 08-113, Bid Award Stormwater Line Relining

Mr. Murphy gave a brief explanation of this item. Most of the system is made of concrete reinforced pipe, and they are having problems in the areas that are made of bay bottom fill. This is a problem particularly in the Capri and Palms areas. This will save these stormwater lines. They would like to do two lines – one on Capri and one on Palms.

Commissioner Collins asked if there was a warranty on the liner material. Mr. Murphy explained that it was a ten year warranty, and would be installed by JTV, who did the sanitary sewer lines.

Commissioner Minning asked if there was any concern for stability around the pipe itself. Mr. Murphy stated that there may be some settling. One way to insure that this doesn't happen is to be sure that the contractor goes back along the pipe when they complete it to be sure that the voids are taken care of.

Commissioner Bildz asked if these were the only two bad storm drains in the city. Mr. Murphy stated that these were the worst, and there would be several others done over the next few years.

This item will move forward to the December 16, 2008 meeting agenda.

3. Consideration of Res. 08-114, Bid Award Crosswalk Beacons

Mr. Murphy gave a brief explanation of this item. The contractor will be completed in the next few weeks. After that we would like to install the pedestrian beacons, which will be installed at all locations, excluding the crosswalk at Gulf and West Gulf Boulevard. The beacon that we have chosen has been approved for installation in all locations. Mr. Silverboard stated that this is the same beacon that was used in the Redingtons. He is not sure if DOT has approved these beacons yet. Mr. Murphy stated that he has spoken with St. Pete. They were in the process of finalizing the application, and were expecting approval in the next couple of months. Mr. Silverboard explained that for these four crosswalks they would use the standard beacons so that we would not be delayed by the permitting process.

Commissioner Bildz clarified that the reason that Gulf/West Gulf Boulevard would be left off was because it was already signalized. Mr. Murphy answered in the affirmative. Commissioner Bildz then clarified when the texturizing would be done. It will be done tomorrow if weather permits.

Commissioner Minning asked about the proximity of the Marriott entryway and the entrance to Gulf Boulevard. Mr. Silverboard explained that their entrance was at 119th, and this crosswalk was at 125th.

This item will move forward to the December 16, 2008 meeting agenda.

4. Consideration of Res. 08-115, PSTA Suncoast Beach Trolley Agreement for 2009

Mr. Silverboard gave a brief explanation of this item. The PSTA agreement is expiring at the end of the year. He has met with Tim Garling and they have come to an agreement that Mr. Garling feels that the PSTA board will approve of. This will be a maximum contribution of \$600,000. There is a 1/3 – 2/3 split with St. Pete Beach, with St. Pete Beach paying 2/3rds. That means that we would be responsible for a maximum of

\$200,000. This is a one year contract. Because of the fuel situation the PSTA is hesitant to go any longer, and if we insisted on a longer contract they would have to go considerably higher due to the inconsistency in fuel prices.

Commissioner Minning asked why the billing goes through Treasure Island. Mr. Silverboard stated that it was set up that way years ago. We do not front the money for St. Pete.

Commissioner Minning asked if he was able to get a breakdown of how they came up with the hourly rate. Mr. Silverboard stated that they did not provide the breakdown, and they said that it was less than their actual costs. That was at the height of the fuel issue. Commissioner Minning expressed concern with signing a contract without seeing the information. Mr. Silverboard stated that he can ask for the breakdown. Commissioner Bildz commented that if we insisted on getting the breakdown and it came out higher we could be asked to pay a higher rate. Mr. Silverboard explained that there is a faction of the PSTA board that has an issue with the agreement because their residents pay a millage fee for the service and our residents do not. Mr. Garling believes that he can sell this agreement and the hourly rate to his board. Commissioner Gayton stated that the board would not be happy if they saw a number in the \$90's. Commissioner Collins stated that we should leave well enough alone. Commissioner Minning stated that \$200,000 is a lot of money. Commissioner Gayton stated that it is a lot less than the residents would pay if we were forced by referendum to pay the millage. Mayor Maloof stated that they should have made it mandatory and never allowed cities to opt out. Commissioner Gayton stated that the difference was not worth rocking the boat with the PSTA people. Mr. Silverboard stated that he has been before them with another city that is not a member asking for a contract similar to Treasure Island's, but they would not agree. Commissioner Minning stated that he does not want to rock the boat, but spending \$200,000 sight unseen goes against their normal policy.

Commissioner Bildz asked if they had discussed the bus going across the causeway. Mr. Silverboard stated that there is not much chance of that happening right now in this tax environment.

This item will move forward to the December 16, 2008 meeting agenda.

5. Consideration of Res. 08-116, Gulf Beaches Public Library Annual Service Contract

Mr. Silverboard gave a brief explanation of this item. In the past we have received an annual service contract that specifies the amount to be paid for the fiscal year. This year's amount is \$45,463. Previously this amount was in the range of \$107,000. As a result of the City Commission digging in its heels we have achieved a cost savings for every member of the cooperative. It is time to approve the service agreement. People are being given refunds.

Mayor Maloof stated that she has been receiving e-mails and talking to people who are thanking the Commission for agreeing to this.

Commissioner Collins stated that this year's amount is much less than what the City has paid in the past. It is a one year agreement.

This item will move forward to the December 16, 2008 meeting agenda.

II. OLD BUSINESS:

Commissioner Gayton requested that a discussion be placed on the workshop for the next meeting regarding the condition of the beach. In our budget discussions we agreed not to “fluff” the beach, and said that we would watch for sand spurs and other plants growing on the beach. He received a call from the owner of the Sea Chest asking him to come down and take a look at the condition of the beach. They had a customer whose foot was infected because of stepping on a sand spur. The sand has been blowing and has blocked off some of the entrances to the beach. It is cracking some of the concrete. He thinks there is a lot of unnecessary vegetation that looks more like an unkempt yard rather than a beach. He feels that it looks atrocious. We should reconsider our beach raking policy. He is asking the City Manager to provide information on how much this would cost. He is asking the Commission to talk to business owners about how much business they are losing because of the condition of the beach. There are long time visitors that are not coming back. He feels that it is a serious problem. He showed some dried vegetation that he had picked up on the beach. He is afraid that we will lose a lot of our tourists. Our beaches are the number one attraction for our tourists. The business owners think we are trying to put them out of business and he asked that the Commission talk to the business owners. Commissioner Minning stated that he has spoken with some of them, and also with the Beach Stewardship Committee. There is a meeting on Monday morning to look at the condition of the beach. Commissioner Gayton asked Ms. Kiefer if he could attend if he didn't say anything. Ms. Kiefer answered in the affirmative. Commissioner Gayton stated that he is glad that they are going to do something. We walked the beach a year ago and it is worse now. Commissioner Minning commented that he also gets comments from people asking that the beach not be raked, so there are people on both sides of the issue.

This item will be placed on the December 16, 2008 workshop agenda for discussion.

Ms. Kiefer asked that something be put on the workshop to discuss amending the definition of tourist dwelling to include multi-family dwellings. She feels that it was a scribner's error made many years ago. She has provided a draft ordinance to present to the LPA for referral. She asked that they put this on the workshop to refer to the LPA. Commissioner Bildz stated that they couldn't refer it on the workshop; it would have to go on the meeting agenda. Ms. Kiefer stated that it would have to go to the LPA on the 18th, so it would be January before they could do anything with it. Mr. Silverboard asked if it was possible for staff to bring this to the LPA directly. Ms. Kiefer answered in the affirmative. Mr. Silverboard stated that he could ask Lynn Rosetti to place this on the next Planning Board agenda to be referred to the LPA.

III. CITY MANAGER/CITY ATTORNEY REPORTS AND COMMENTS:

Ms. Kiefer reported that the 11th Circuit Court has denied our request for rehearing. She will let them know when the status conference is in case they want to attend.

Mr. Silverboard reported on the City Manager Consortium meeting that was held to discuss the Fire/EMS service. This is a County initiated issue where the County is considering because of budget and revenue deficits, changes to the contract and system itself. They are notifying the Cities that they are terminating the five year agreement on the Fire and EMS services. This year we will be getting almost \$475,000 from the County to provide first responder service. This comes from a millage that is paid by all residents of the county. It is generally recognized that we have one of the top systems in the country. With the impacts of Amendment 1 and the other

tax reforms that have taken place as well as the general state of the economy and declining property values there is a shortfall in revenues. They are honoring the payment that the current contract provided for but they have notified us that they are terminating that contract and providing other alternatives. The one that has been studied the most is Option 1, which provides that Sunstar will no longer be providing the transport services. The county would seek to enter into agreements with local fire districts and fire departments to provide that service. They divided the county into five service areas which will enter into joint powers agreements, which are similar to interlocal agreements. Our service area included St. Pete Beach, St. Pete, Gulfport, and South Pasadena. Transport services would be provided by St. Pete Beach and St. Pete. The costs were more than the current system. They believe that there are changes that they can make that will bring the costs down below what we currently have. He attended a meeting with County representatives. They have no interest in increasing millage. Their intention is to provide each entity with a dollar amount to provide the service. It will not be what they are currently paying, and each entity can either accept what is offered, or not. If we do not choose to accept what is offered then their solution is to go out to bid for first responder services. They believe that they can do it cheaper than what they would have to pay the cities. The reason why we can't just say go ahead and bid it out is that we need the \$475,000 to offset the cost of our Fire Department. We still need the same number of fire fighters whether we are a first responder or not. We are at the minimum number of personnel. No decisions have been made at this point, so it could mean any number of things. The City Managers have been attending meetings, and a group of them will be putting together recommendations for the larger group to consider in order to have a uniform agreement for the cities. These things like beach raking, sewer systems and response times for ALS, all are related to money. With our current environment, the taxpayers have told us that they want to reduce taxes and are willing to accept lower service levels. So far they have seen no decrease in response times. Currently they receive very good response time in the neighborhood of three minutes. The national average is nine minutes. At this time there is no resolution. We are continuing to monitor the situation. The groups involved include city administrations, Fire Chiefs, and the Fire Unions. He will report back in January on anything that has come up.

IV. REPORTS & COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Collins will be speaking at the Sunketch III Condominium Association meeting tomorrow night. He is available to any organization.

Commissioner Minning gave a reminder of the sea oat planting at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday behind the Sunset Vista.

Commissioner Bildz reported on the Sunset Beach Civic Association Christmas party, and gave a reminder about the luminaries that will be put out on December 24th.

Mayor Maloof gave a reminder about the Mayor's Council luncheon to be held on December 5th. This year's charity will be Clothes to Kids. Next year's charity will be the Vincent House.

Mayor Maloof gave a reminder about the Christmas Parade, Tree Lighting, and Holiday Boat Parade.

Mayor Maloof stated that the meeting regarding offshore drilling will be held in January. She will let everyone know about that when it comes up.

Mayor Maloof attended the Legislative Committee meetings and sat in on the Budget and Taxation Committee. She heard a speaker at the luncheon who spoke about the State of Florida and its economy. The committee made three recommendations: 1) Tax Reform 2) Pensions and 3) the ability to assess fees for law enforcement.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Heidi Horak asked if all the items of business on the meeting agenda passed. She recommended that they pass #2 as the P&Z had looked at it and approved it. She is here to talk about the three ordinances that she considers their "homeless trio". She feels that they are directed at the homeless people in Sunset Beach. She doesn't think that three ordinances to deal with less than a dozen people is not the way to go. She feels that the no alcohol on public property has wide reaching impact. There are people that like to have a beer while they fish on the bridge, or have a glass of wine while picnicking at the Sunset Vista Park. She has been talking to people about the Special Area Plan, and asked if it would be on the agenda during the month of December. It will not.

Kevin Johnson stated that he had compassion for the people at Sunset Beach with their parking problem. He had a parking problem too, and the Commission took care of it very quickly by having a No Parking sign installed. He had a problem with people parking on the sidewalk over the weekend. The police should have seen it and written tickets. Over the weekend he saw two violations out of eleven cars. He then discussed his walk along the beach, and showed a broken bottle that he picked up on the beach. He still sees coolers. People should be made to purchase cans rather than bottles. They should watch the dogs, the bottles, and the parking. It will help the community out with safety and might generate more money.

VI. ADJOURNMENT:

The workshop was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. by Mayor Maloof.