

**CITY OF TREASURE ISLAND, FLORIDA  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WORKSHOP MINUTES  
July 1, 2008**

**The workshop was called to order at 9:20 p.m. by Mayor Maloof.**

**I. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. Consideration of Ord. 08-06, Idle Speed, No Wake Zone Sunset Beach

The City manager requested that this item be withdrawn from the agenda tonight and placed on the August 5<sup>th</sup> workshop. It was agreed by consensus to do so.

2. Consideration of Res. 08-63, Purchase of Solid Waste Dumpsters

Hal Bruce gave a brief explanation of this item. Commissioner Collins asked why they didn't retrofit the old dumpsters with new wheels. Mr. Bruce explained that they put new bottoms on them once. They can only be repaired one time, and they come in rusted again. They are structurally not usable at that point. Commissioner Collins asked if the wheels deteriorated more quickly than the rest. Mr. Bruce explained that they replace the wheels as needed. Commissioner Collins asked if this was the standard lifespan of a dumpster. Mr. Bruce explained that we are getting more time out of them now that we are using a heavier gauge steel. Commissioner Bildz clarified the gauge of the steel. Commissioner Minning asked which fund this would be coming out of. It is coming out of materials in the enterprise fund.

This item will move forward to the July 15<sup>th</sup> meeting agenda.

3. Consideration of Res. 08-64, Contract with JTV for Sewer Main Relining

Rick Raus gave a brief explanation of this item. There are a lot of lines that are in need of repair. These are all 8 inch clay pipe, and they are coming apart. He feels that a fiberglass liner will give them new life. Commissioner Gayton asked how they identified the pipes. Mr. Raus explained that they clean and camera the lines. Commissioner Gayton asked if there was a list of priorities. Mr. Raus explained that they have a list of lines that would be for next year. Commissioner Gayton asked how many feet of line we have replaced in the past ten years, and how many, if we replaced the whole city, would we need. Mr. Raus stated that he would have to get back to them on that. Mr. Silverboard stated that there is a capital expense item in the amount of about \$600,000 for next year. This would cover most of the lines in the city. Commissioner Gayton asked how much money we spent last year for the City of St. Petersburg because of the salt water in the lines. If we can save \$120,000 by doing more next year he would like to see it escalated. Mr. Silverboard stated that we are proposing to significantly escalate the program. Commissioner Gayton proposed taking a look at the whole program. There is \$3,000,000 available in the revolving loan fund. Mr.

Silverboard stated that there would be a discussion about the whole funding issue and our sewer improvements.

This item will move forward to the July 15<sup>th</sup> meeting agenda.

Commissioner Gayton asked that they take a look at 7<sup>th</sup> Street on the Isle of Palms. He has had several requests. There have been several backups.

#### 4. Consideration of Res. 08-65, Audit Fee Adjustment

Ruth Chapman gave a brief explanation of this item. Due to the software conversion additional time was required of the auditors.

Commissioner Collins stated that this was another example of what he talked about earlier. Commissioner Bildz stated that this was different, that it was accounting software that our accounting people had nothing to do with. Commissioner Gayton asked how much the audit charge was, without the additional amount. Ms. Chapman gave an explanation of the audit billing. Commissioner Gayton stated that he felt that it was extremely too much time, and asked if they had given her a breakdown of their time. Ms. Chapman stated that they did not. Commissioner Gayton asked for a breakdown of their time before the next meeting. Commissioner Collins asked that it be faxed to them tomorrow. Commissioner Bildz wants to know why the software company isn't being held responsible. The auditors did the work and should be paid. Commissioner Minning clarified that this was a one time issue, and that the conversion was done on the prior year. It was the beginning balances that were incorrect. The numbers that they were given came from us. Ms. Chapman stated that she does not know what happened in the conversion. Commissioner Minning asked what role the software company had in this. They were either given bad numbers to start with, or something else happened. Ms. Chapman stated that the auditors felt that it was a software issue, and she hasn't had time to pursue it. Commissioner Minning stated that it is germane to what has happened, and we can't go back. We need to compensate the people who helped us resolve it. We are struggling to decide who to blame in this. There are fingers being pointed, and she can't pinpoint it. Ms. Chapman can tell them what the auditors said, but she can't tell them exactly how it happened. The new software gave errors and the balance did not match the detail. Commissioner Minning asked if that meant that the entries were not correct. Ms. Chapman stated that the software company stated that the data was fine. Commissioner Minning asked about the conversion data, and if the auditors found problems. Ms. Chapman stated that when the auditors came in they found numbers that were not in balance. There were problems with the beginning balances for fiscal year 2006-2007. Commissioner Minning stated that the audit has been completed, and the financial officer for the city should know what happened and be able to ensure that it doesn't happen again. Commissioner Gayton stated that if the numbers that were provided were incorrect, then it isn't the software companies fault. Mr. Silverboard stated that the problem was the 06-07 year. We converted it from the old software to the new software. The problem occurred in that conversion of the financial information that was in the old system to the language and program in the new system. We will have additional information for you at the next meeting. The numbers in the old system were ok. It was the conversation into the new software that went awry. Incode has over 1,000 jurisdictions that they operate their software in. There are a couple of cities locally that used it and didn't have this problem. There was a problem in the conversion. We will have further information for you at the next meeting.

This item will move forward to the July 15<sup>th</sup> meeting agenda.

5. Discussion Regarding Signatures Required to File for Candidacy (Requested by Mayor Maloof)

Mayor Maloof explained that she asked that this item be put on the agenda because she believes that we deserve serious candidates. She feels that we should require additional signatures. Commissioner Bildz stated that the county requires either a fee equal to 10% of the salary or a lot of signatures. Maybe we should consider something like that. Mayor Maloof suggested perhaps they consider 100 signatures for Commissioner and 125 for Mayor. Commissioner Collins stated that if they are going to consider 100 cards they'd better ask for 120 in case a signature gets thrown out. The City Clerk will e-mail the results of the survey that she did on this issue to the Commission. Mayor Maloof stated that non-serious candidates cost the city and taxpayers money. A brief discussion about the requirements and suggestions for changes ensued.

**II. OLD BUSINESS:**

None

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

Ms. Kiefer has the results of the meeting with St. Petersburg on the sewer charge issue. They resolved a couple of minor issues, and a few more issues surfaced. She asked that a resolution be placed on the next workshop to enter into litigation, and to waive Chapter 164 mediation. We have met on several occasions, corresponded back and forth, and exchanged information. Mr. Silverboard caught an item last week that they are charging the surcharge incorrectly. She would like to initiate litigation. They can proceed right to the meeting if they choose to. Procedurally speaking she can file the lawsuit even though they have not come to an understanding on Chapter 164. They can abate it if need be. Commissioner Gayton asked where the 25% that they are collecting is being kept. It is being kept in an escrow account. It was agreed by consensus to put this on the next meeting agenda.

Mr. Silverboard stated that they met with the rate consultant last week. They are in the process of developing a proposed rate. He asked them to please attend the special budget meeting to make their presentation on the rate so that the commission can ask questions. The budget meetings will be on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. They were asked to come on either the 23<sup>rd</sup> or 24<sup>th</sup>. They have been asked to provide a copy of their report ahead of time for distribution to the commission.

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

Commissioner Gayton stated that the Isle of Palms will have a flag dedication on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July at 12:00, with refreshments from 12:00 to 2:00. He also thanked Mrs. Rice for everything that she is doing for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. He urged people to go to Gators and thank Mrs. Rice for her donation.

Commissioner Minning stated that we need to start thinking about what we want to do to beautify Gulf Boulevard.

Commissioner Minning stated that he went to the drum circle on Sunday night. They could have used more trash cans, but it was very orderly. Mayor Maloof commented that she had received a letter from an out of town resident complimenting the City on it.

Commissioner Minning asked that the Commission endorse giving the City Manager approval to pursue purchasing the old Buccaneer property through the Trust for Public Lands. Commissioner Bildz stated that he would like to see that happen as well. Commissioner Collins asked if Mr. Silverboard was already pursuing it. Mr. Silverboard stated that he contacted the trust about six months ago, and they feel that it would be a competitive project. The City can do a totally hands off type of deal where the Trust, working with the State, would do the appraisals and make the purchase directly without the City being involved. If the Commission is interested he will contact the Trust and ask them to make a proposal to us. We would be responsible for the fee that the Trust charges. Once the property is purchased we would be responsible for undertaking whatever the development of that property would call for. Part of the process is when you purchase land through Florida Forever funds you have to submit a management plan. That plan says what the City intends to do with the land, and then we have a certain period of time where we would be required to finish. They would allow some parking, but would not allow us to cover the land with parking. The program is more one that looks to return land to its natural state or convert it to a park. We should explore whether we can use the density of that land and apply it to density averaging and assign it to other pieces of property. It was the consensus of the Commission to pursue this.

Commissioner Minning reported that 4 ½ tons of materials were removed from Elnor Island. That is a total of about 7 tons of debris that has been removed so far. The next cleanup will be July 26<sup>th</sup>. He thanked Gators for the donation of 50 sandwiches and soft drinks for the volunteers. There were over 50 volunteers. Mayor Maloof commented that it is so awesome to get ready to leave and look back at the site and see no debris.

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

None

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

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