

CITY OF TREASURE ISLAND, FLORIDA
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WORKSHOP MINUTES
September 23, 2009

The workshop was called to order by Mayor Minning at 7:18 p.m. Mayor Minning stated that they would be switching items 1 and 2 around.

I. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Consideration of Res. 09-67, Interlocal Agreement with Indian Shores Regarding Health Insurance

Ms. Valdes gave a brief explanation of this item. Nothing has changed since the last meeting. She feels confident that with the exception of getting it set up there shouldn't be a lot of administration. Initially there will be some administration burden, but as long as they pay the bill on time the time involved should be relatively low.

Commissioner Gayton stated that he now has a different understanding of this agreement, and asked Ms. Valdes to explain the relationship between PRM and Blue Cross Blue Shield. Mr. Schell explained that PRM is a pool of 35 public entities. They hire Blue Cross Blue Shield to manage their claims. They are a vendor of PRM. Commissioner Gayton asked for clarification that we are not directly insured by Blue Cross Blue Shield. Mr. Schell answered in the affirmative that we are insured by PRM. PRM pays Blue Cross Blue Shield for the service. Commissioner Gayton then asked if PRM was responsible for the difference if claims are higher than the premiums they have collected. Mr. Schell answered in the affirmative and explained how the reinsurance works. Commissioner Gayton stated that he sees nothing that says that PRM is in agreement with us taking on Indian Shores. Mr. Schell stated that this happens quite often. Commissioner Gayton stated that there has never been another city that has done that, and asked our City attorney if we should get a letter of agreement from PRM. Ms. Kiefer stated that she would like to get something from the Board of Directors and asked that this be placed on the board's agenda to pass a resolution. Commissioner Gayton then said that we would have to make the agreement based upon PRM agreeing.

Mr. Silverboard stated that it is his understanding that Indian Shores expects their coverage to start on October 1st. Ms. Valdes stated that they got a one month extension on their current contract and would come on board on November 1st. She then explained that Mr. Schell has the authority to bring on new business.

Commissioner Gayton asked about the increase that Treasure Island would get if there were high claims from Indian Shores. Ms. Valdes explained that our increase would be the same as the entire pool average the first year. After that it would be based on the loss ratio and if it deviates by 10% or more it will be based on the individual entity's loss ratio. There is protection in the pool. Mr. Schell explained that they will track the claims for Indian Shores separately, and if their average increased Treasure Island's premiums we would have the right to bill Indian Shores for the difference. Commissioner Coward asked for clarification on how the rate increase is calculated. Mr. Schell explained how the numbers are derived.

Ms. Kiefer explained that we have six months to make a decision for the following year. They would have several options, including a new interlocal agreement asking Indian Shores to pay any differences up front. Nothing will change for this coming year by adding them. She has reviewed the agreement and thinks that it is fine.

Commissioner Coward asked if our current contract gives us eighteen months. Mr. Silverboard explained that our renewal period has been July 1st in the past. We will now have an October 1st renewal, so our first contract was fifteen months. Commissioner Coward suggested that Indian Shores pay their bill a month in advance so that we have their money when we pay our bill on time. Ms. Valdes stated that she doesn't recommend that we pay our bill until we have their money and suggested that we ask for a one month binder in advance. Ms. Kiefer will add that to the proposed agreement.

Commissioner Gayton asked about the suggested 3% administrative fee. Ms. Valdes gave an explanation of the procedure that would be followed and stated that there would be a small amount of time required. Mr. Silverboard stated that this is an attempt to repay our taxpayers for the time used.

Mayor Minning asked if there could be an automatic fund transfer to receive their payments. Ms. Valdes answered that if they had the capability we have the capability to receive it.

Commissioner Gayton asked if the administrative fee would be sufficient. Ms. Valdes answered in the affirmative.

Commissioner Collins asked if the 60 day termination notice was enough. Mr. Schell stated that it was his recommendation. It could go either way.

Commissioner Gayton asked if she had discussed the 3% administrative fee with Indian Shores yet. Ms. Valdes stated that she has not because she wanted to discuss it with the Commission first.

Mary Karayianes, Director of Finance and Personnel for Indian Shores, stated that she had a signed and approved agreement with her here tonight. She doesn't see a problem with the changes that have been suggested here tonight. She doesn't think that the 3% is something that they will disagree with. They appreciate the consideration from Treasure Island to do this. Because they are a small city they are unable to get the rates that larger cities get. It is a big benefit to them and they appreciate all the work that Ms. Valdes and PRM has done on this. They are able to pay ahead of time by EFT. She will bring the 3% fee back to the Council, but doesn't think it will be a problem. The binder is not a problem and is standard whenever you change insurance. The 3% is a matter of her getting a consensus from the Council, or they could sign the agreement and add an addendum to the agreement after. Mr. Silverboard explained that they are unable to sign the agreement tonight as it will have to be approved at the October 6th meeting. Ms. Karayianes stated that they could have an amended agreement done by then. Commissioner Gayton asked if they could get a letter from PRM by then. Mr. Schell answered in the affirmative.

Commissioner Bildz asked if Indian Shores was average with Treasure Island regarding health condition. Ms. Valdes explained that with HIPAA laws we do not have that information available. Group plans do not have issues with pre-existing conditions.

This item will move forward to the October 6th meeting agenda.

2. Consideration of Res. 09-60, Kiwanis 2nd Annual Mardi Gras Event

Eddy Lee from the Kiwanis Club gave a brief explanation of this item. They were successful last year and would like to hold their event in Treasure Island this year as well. They have already met with City staff.

Commissioner Bildz asked about alcohol being provided to the 5K race participants. Mr. Lee explained that their sponsor, Budweiser, provided one keg to be shared by all the runners. Commissioner Bildz then asked about the three different dates and stated that they were asking for the city to waive parking fees for that time. He asked if they could combine them into one or two days. Mr. Lee explained that the Masquerade Ball would be held in Gulfport. The 5K run will be completed by about 10:00 a.m. It is the following weekend that all the events will be held on the beach. Trevor Miller, a pitcher from the St. Louis Cardinals, has been a big supporter of the Kiwanis. He has asked if they could hold the event early as later will interfere with spring training. They are trying to accommodate him.

Commissioner Gayton asked if the parking issues on the beach have been resolved. Mr. Lee stated that he is disappointed that the city is retaining all the money for the parking on the beach, but it isn't a deal breaker.

This item will move forward to the October 6th meeting agenda.

II. OLD BUSINESS:

Commissioner Gayton asked about the status of downtown redevelopment. Mr. Silverboard stated that he had intended to ask the Commission to set a date for a special workshop. He expects to have a draft plan in about 2 ½ weeks. He would like for the Commission to have a special workshop in conjunction with the Planning Board and HDR. We are looking at November 4th or 5th, or a day during the week of the 9th. They would try to get as many of the Planning Board members there as possible. The critical body would be the City Commission. The Commission would have a draft copy of the plan at least a week before the meeting. Commissioner Bildz suggested Tuesday evening November 10th as they normally hold meetings on Tuesdays. It was agreed to hold the workshop on Wednesday, November 4th at 5:00.

Mr. Silverboard discussed an article that is in the latest Florida Trend magazine regarding the City of Punta Gorda. They have adopted new regulations for their downtown. It sounds very similar to what we have discussed for our downtown. He will provide them with a copy of the article. He has discussed scheduling a trip down there for the Planning Board and City Commission if they are interested with Ms. Rosetti. It appears that they have had some success with redevelopment. He will ask Ms. Rosetti to discuss this at the next Planning Board meeting to see if there is interest in this. Our code has been around for many years, and things have changed since then. We need to look around and see what changes we should make to accommodate those changes. We should discuss some visioning activity at the workshop.

Commissioner Gayton asked if the LPA was discussing new regulations now. Mr. Silverboard stated that it was part of HDR's contract, but the special area plan would be done

first before they start on new regulations. Commissioner Gayton asked about Madeira Beach's new special area plan. Mr. Silverboard stated that they have a copy of it and will provide it to the Commission. That plan was rewritten several times before it was passed.

Commissioner Coward stated that she felt it would be smart for the Commission and Planning Board to go down to Punta Gorda so that they can get a visual of what was done there. Mayor Minning stated that with our current LDR's we'd be in tough shape for redevelopment if we got hit by a hurricane. We also have to keep in mind what we can do based on the County's regulations.

Commissioner Bildz asked about the parking issue. Mr. Silverboard stated that we are looking at doing a special workshop the week of October 12. Commissioner Bildz suggested that they meet on the 13th. Ms. Kiefer stated that she is unable to attend as she is at Indian Rocks Beach. It was agreed to hold the workshop at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday the 14th.

Commissioner Gayton asked about the city's subsidizing of special private details. He would like to discuss this at the next workshop. The City pays an addition thirty cents on every dollar for retirement and FICA. Commissioner Coward stated that she wants to see what the special details are, and how much we are spending for the police to be on the beach during events, at Sunset Beach, and at Gators. Commissioner Bildz stated that it doesn't matter where it is being spent, it matters that the residents are paying for it. Commissioner Coward stated that she would like to analyze it. Commissioner Gayton suggested that they e-mail their questions in advance to the City Manager so that they can all be answered at the workshop. Mr. Silverboard stated that they are working on a breakdown of the special detail. They should be near completion and hopefully will have a methodology ready for the next workshop. We can provide information on the breakdown. What they will be seeing is past information, not necessarily the future. This will be placed on the next workshop agenda.

Commissioner Bildz asked if Mr. Silverboard had heard anything about the library agreement. Ms. Kiefer will provide the City Clerk with the updated agreement for signature.

Commissioner Gayton commented that Mr. Silverboard had mentioned that the Commission has to consider a Charter Review every five years. We don't have to have one; we just have to consider one. He asked that this item be placed on a workshop. This item will be placed on the October 20th workshop agenda.

Commissioner Bildz asked about a review of the voting districts and whether the two year review should be changed to a ten year review. This item will be discussed along with the Charter review.

III. CITY MANAGER/CITY ATTORNEY REPORTS AND COMMENTS:

Commissioner Gayton asked Ms. Kiefer if she had a status of the Brown case. Ms. Kiefer explained that she is waiting for information from the attorney and will provide it when she receives it.

Mr. Silverboard read a statement regarding the CRS requirements of the hazard mitigation committee. The Mitigation committee met on September 14, 2009. The annual progress report, updated goals, and action plan was approved unanimously. The annual review has been conducted. This process enables residents to get a discount on their flood insurance.

Mr. Silverboard reported that we got notification from SWFWMD regarding a modification of the watering rules. Watering may now occur between the hours of midnight to 8:00 a.m., or from 6:00 p.m. to midnight. Hand watering is allowed at any time. The revised regulations are posted on our website.

Mr. Silverboard has provided the Commission with sheets showing proposed transmission power lines that Progress Energy is proposing. It enters into the Isle of Palms. We also receive a feed coming over from John's Pass and one through the Blind Pass bridge. They cannot trench again. Because of the distance they cannot do a directional bore, therefore they are proposing to do a directional bore down through Causeway Blvd. with a sub aqueous bore where the bridges are. There will not be any overhead lines. This will come down 107th to 108th Avenue then head west. Where the City parking lot is they will do a sub aqueous bore over to the Isle of Palms. They do not have easements from us or the two property owners yet. They will bring the lines to the intersection of 112th where it would tie back in to the existing system. They have to come to the Commission to get an easement across our property. We believe this will come up at the October 6th workshop. We are currently researching the process for the Causeway since it is not a Right of Way. This is a project that they are in a hurry to do and expect to start by late December or early January if they get all their permits and easements in line.

Commissioner Bildz asked how they get the easements across the private property. Mr. Silverboard stated that they have to ask the property owners for it. Commissioner Bildz asked if there were payments involved. Mr. Silverboard stated that there may be. Commissioner Bildz stated that maybe we could get a payment from them. Commissioner Coward stated that she would like to see the lights fixed on the Causeway. Commissioner Gayton suggested that they ask to have all the lines on the Isle of Palms done. Mr. Silverboard stated that he has already discussed it with them and they are not interested in undergrounding lines on the Isle of Palms. Commissioner Gayton stated that now that we are paving you can really see the difference with the lines hanging. He suggested that in the future we not allow them to use above ground lines to the houses.

Commissioner Gayton commented that the streets are looking good. Mr. Silverboard stated that we have gotten very few complaints and a lot of compliments.

IV. REPORTS & COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Collins stated that everyone seems happy on the Isle of Capri and the streets are looking beautiful.

Commissioner Gayton thanked the City Manager and Public Works for changing the schedule for the trash pickups on the island. It is a lot easier to understand the holiday schedule now.

Commissioner Coward stated that the people at the condos by the yacht club are very happy with their crosswalk.

Commissioner Coward stated that she went to a conference last week. She went to a class on budgeting for outcomes called Fiscal Distress: Managing Your Budget During Turbulent Times. We are able to get a copy of it, and it includes very good visuals. Mr. Silverboard stated that there is a website that you can download the presentation from. He has done so. It is a service that is provided by ICMA. We can contract with them to do it, but it is not inexpensive.

Commissioner Coward stated that we can do it ourselves. The program would be at no cost to us. Mr. Silverboard will provide the web address to the Commission.

Commissioner Bildz reported that he attended the FSBPA conference last week. The hot topics were oil drilling and the Supreme Court case. They are confident that the FSBPA will win the case. The Senator from North Dakota stated that they will not allow drilling in federal waters in the Gulf of Mexico. The other hot topic was the firing of Nicole Elko. There is concern that permits will not get filed in a timely manner as she handled that process. We are concerned because we are looking for beach renourishment this year. Mr. Silverboard stated that he has had conversations with Bob LaSala and Andy Squires regarding the beach renourishment. They are trying to reassure us that there will be no disruption in that process and they have made contact with the Army Corps of Engineers and will be providing whatever information is necessary. We will have to watch them to make sure that they do what they need to do. Commissioner Bildz stated that he heard from DEP and the Corps of Engineers that they do not have it under control.

Mayor Minning stated that it was a hot topic at FSBPA. The Mayors had a meeting with Jackie Kaiser. She and Andy Squires will be meeting with the Corps of Engineers to see what remains to be done and assign responsibility. If the Corps isn't satisfied that the County can provide the personnel necessary they will provide the necessary consultant. They want to award this project in December and start it shortly thereafter. We have the full commitment of the Corps behind us. There is stimulus money that needs to be spent by August, 2010 or the money must be returned. Between the attention that the Corps that is giving this plus the attention that we and the BIG-C are giving this, he thinks that it is pretty sure that this will happen. They asked Ms. Elko about the interlocal agreement. We have been notified by the county that once they received our signed agreement everything will be done very quickly. There was considerable support for Ms. Elko at the FSBPA.

Mayor Minning stated that there was good discussion on the oil drilling at the FSBPA. The BIG-C has a subcommittee that is working on this. Jeff Atwater has sent a letter around informing them that the Legislature is trying to hold a special session next month regarding the Seminole Indian gaming issue, and there are some that want to piggy back this issue on that session. This will be followed carefully. Commissioner Bildz commented on the West Atlas oil spill in Australia. This is the same type of equipment that is being considered for the Gulf. Mayor Minning commented that the economics of our tourism industry versus the revenue brought in by oil drilling is compelling evidence.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

VI. ADJOURNMENT:

The workshop was adjourned at 8:48 p.m. by Mayor Minning.

Robert Minning, Mayor

Phil Collins – District 1

Ed Gayton – District 2

Carol Coward – District 3

Alan Bildz – District 4

ATTEST:

Dawn M. Foss, City Clerk