FINANCE & BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE

MEETING

July 19, 2011

1:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Joanne Melodayo, Chairman
Sandie Lyman, Member
Pete Uebelhoer, Member
John Samorajczyk, Member
Jeff Munford, Member

ALSO PRESENT

Elaine Edmunds, Finance Director
Steve Hallock, Public Services Director
Rebecca C. Haynes, City Clerk

1. Changes to the Agenda

There were no changes to the agenda.

2. Audience Comments

There were no audience comments.

3. Approval of Minutes

There were no minutes on the agenda for approval.

4. Action Items

There were no action items on the agenda.

5. Items for Discussion

a. Public Service Administration Budget

Member Munford stated that he met with Steve Hallock to review the budget and pointed out that there were numerous consolidations in the department.

Public Service Director Steve Hallock reviewed the PSTA Bus funding and the lower electricity costs resulting from energy efficient grants for new light fixtures and centralized thermostat controls.

The committee held a general discussion of eliminating $30,000 from the proposed budget for the July 4th fireworks, if necessary.

Chairman Melodayo asked for audience comments.

Jim Parent, 503 55th Avenue, stated that the cost to residents for fireworks is minimal, based on the millage rate.

Being no further audience comments, Chairman Melodayo closed audience comments.

Finance Director Elaine Edmunds advised the committee that the City Commission adopted a roll back millage rate of 2.8569 and that the Committee could recommend that the millage rate be increased.

Member Samorajczyk made a motion to approve the Public Service Administration budget, with the recommendation to eliminate $30,000 for the 4th of July fireworks, if necessary. The motion was seconded by Chairman Melodayo and approved by a 4 to 1 roll call vote, with Member Lyman voting no.

b. Building Maintenance Division Budget

Public Services Director Hallock explained that the Building Maintenance, Streets and Parks Divisions were consolidated into one division called "Public Properties". He explained that the increase of $25,000 in the Professional/Contractual account is for facility maintenance and includes painting projects and was taken from the savings of eliminating a full time position.

Member Samorajczyk made a motion to approve the Public Services Building Maintenance budget, as submitted. The motion was seconded by Member Melodayo and unanimously approved by a roll call vote.

c. Streets Division Budget

Public Services Director Hallock explained that the increase in Professional/Contractual account is for the street sweeping contract and the

$60,000 is specifically designated for signal maintenance which for the most part, is reimbursed by FDOT.

The committee held a general discussion regarding the cost for holiday decorations.

Member Samorajczyk made a motion to approve the Public Services Streets Division budget, with the elimination of $30,000 for holiday decorations, if necessary. The motion was seconded by Member Uebelhoer and approved by a 4 to 1 roll call vote, with Member Lyman voting no.

Jim Parent, 503 55th Avenue, pointed out that the current budget reflects a reduction in taxes by approximately 6.50%.

The committee held a discussion regarding adopting the roll back rate.

d. Parks Division Budget

Public Services Director Hallock reported that the City has twenty-seven major parks, fifty-two if the street ends are included. He reported on the contracts the City has for tree trimming, plumbing repairs and maintenance at the parks; telephone expenses and the Gator vehicle replacement.

The committee held a general discussion regarding selling some of the City's small street-end parks. Mr. Hallock stated that would require voter approval.

Member Lyman made a motion to approve the Parks Division budget, as submitted. The motion was seconded by Member Samorajczky and unanimously approved by a roll call vote.

e. Recreation Division

Public Services Director Hallock explained that expenditures for the St. Pete Classic have been consolidated into one line item and are offset by the revenue generated from the event.

Public Services Director Hallock answered questions regarding the costs to lease a bus, utility costs, and marketing efforts. He pointed out that approximately 50% of the revenue is generated from user fees for the pool and rentals facilities.

Member Uebelhoer made a motion to approve the Recreation Division budget, as submitted. The motion was seconded by Member Samorajczky and unanimously approved by a roll call vote.

f. Public Services Wastewater Fund

Public Services Director Hallock explained that the Wastewater Division is funded by user fees, not taxes. Mr. Hallock pointed out that the City of St. Petersburg refunded St. Pete Beach $182,000 after the "true up" fee review process. The Wastewater fund is making a repayment, for a loan, of $285,270 to the General Fund.

Member Uebelhoer made a motion to approve the Wastewater Fund budget, as submitted. The motion was seconded by Member Samorajczyk and unanimously approved by a roll call vote.

g. Reclaimed Water Fund

Public Services Director Hallock explained that the Reclaimed Water Fund is also an Enterprise Fund and expenditures do not impact tax dollars and it is also budgeted to repay the General Fund, within five years, for a loan used to supplement the user fees.

Finance Director Edmunds explained that the City eliminated the Debt Service Fund and moved it into the Reclaimed Water Fund.

Member Uebelhoer made a motion to approve the budget for the Reclaimed Water Fund, as submitted. The motion was seconded by Member Samorajczky and unanimously approved by a roll call vote.

h. Stormwater Fund

Director Hallock explained that the Stormwater Fund is a Special Assessment Fund which is dedicated to stormwater improvements and the fees are collected from the users. Mr. Hallock reviewed the estimated costs to make repairs in the areas of the City that need drainage improvements.

Member Uebelhoer made a motion to approve the Stormwater Fund budget, as submitted. The motion was seconded by Member Lyman and unanimously approved by a roll call vote.

i. Vehicle Replacement Plan

Finance Director Edmunds reported that the vehicle replacement plan was previously discussed and included in the individual department budgets.

j. Capital Improvement Plan

Finance Director Edmunds reported on the major projects noting that the City Hall debt will be paid off in FY 2012 and the Gulf Boulevard Beautification Plan will be discussed by the City Commission.

Public Services Director Hallock reviewed the Street Rehabilitation Plan and Asset Management Program, noting that a professional was hired to inventory every street in the City to prioritize the repair work.

Public Services Director Hallock reviewed the Capital Improvement Projects, grant funds and non-budgeted Capital Improvement Projects. Mr. Hallock provided a brief update regarding the replacement of the Bayway Bridge and the improvements to Egan Park and City seawall projects.

Member Uebelhoer made a motion to approve the Capital Improvement Plan, as submitted. The motion was seconded by Member Samorajczky and unanimously approved by a roll call vote.

Member Samorajczyk made a motion to reduce Extra-Legal Expenses to $80,000 and recommend that the City Commission adopt the roll back millage rate and dedicate any extra revenue to the Reserve Fund. The motion was seconded by Member Uebelhoer and unanimously approved by a roll call vote.

6. Reports

There were no reports given.

7. Next Meeting

Finance Director Edmunds stated that she will schedule the next meeting after August 21, 2011, and notify the members of the date and time.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Rebecca C. Haynes, City Clerk

Joanne Melodayo Chairman

Minutes Approved on: 7-16-12