Pinellas County

315 Court Street
Clearwater, Florida 33756

Minutes - Final

Tuesday, February 26, 2019
2:00 PM
Public Hearings at 6:00 PM
BCC Assembly Room

Board of County Commissioners

Karen Williams Seel, Chair
Pat Gerard, Vice-Chair
Dave Eggers
Charlie Justice
Janet C. Long
Kathleen Peters
Kenneth T. Welch
ROLL CALL - 2:00 P.M.

Present: 7 - Chair Karen Williams Seel, Vice-Chair Pat Gerard, Dave Eggers, Charlie Justice, Janet C. Long, Kathleen Peters, and Kenneth T. Welch

Others Present: Barry A. Burton, County Administrator; Jewel White, County Attorney; Claretha N. Harris, Chief Deputy Clerk; and Michael Schmidt, Board Reporter, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS

1. Florida Surveyors and Mappers Week Proclamation:
   - Susan Scholpp, Division Director, Survey and Mapping Division, Public Works

   Chair Seel presented Ms. Scholpp and several members of her team with a plaque and read a proclamation recognizing the contributions of survey and mapping professionals and declaring the week of March 17 through March 23 as Florida Surveyors and Mappers Week; whereupon, she related that the Division is partnering with Pinellas Technical College to encourage students to choose the profession.

2. Partner Presentation:
   - Mike Sutton, Chief Executive Officer, Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas County

   Referring to a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Sutton discussed the services that Habitat for Humanity provides in the county. He asked that the Commissioners continue to support public funding for affordable and workforce housing, and reported that the organization built 60 homes in the county in 2018 and plans to build 65 in 2019; whereupon, he was joined by several colleagues and presented the Commissioners with a cardboard check for $653,623.76, representing the property taxes paid by Habitat homeowners in 2018.

3. Partner Presentation:
   - #PurePinellas by Commissioner Justice

   Chair Seel indicated that the presentation will be rescheduled for a future meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA - Items 4 through 21

A motion was made by Commissioner Eggers, seconded by Commissioner Peters, that the Consent Agenda items be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:
Aye: 7 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER

4. Minutes of the regular meeting held January 22, 2019.

5. Vouchers and bills paid from January 20 through February 2, 2019.

   Period: January 20 through January 26
   Accounts Payable - $14,313,453.17
   Payroll - $3,663,663.59

   Period: January 27 through February 2
   Accounts Payable - $28,230,326.55
   Payroll - None

Reports received for filing:


Miscellaneous items received for filing:


COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

County Administrator

8. Receipt and file report of non-procurement items delegated to the County Administrator for the period ending January 31, 2019.

Development Review Services


   Plat accepted and approved for recording.
Real Estate Management

10. Award of bid to ATC Group Services, LLC for the Fuel Tank Replacement project at Lake Seminole Park.

Bid No. 189-0067-CP (PID No. 002153) in the amount of $294,900.00 awarded on the basis of being the lowest responsive, responsible bid received meeting specifications; all work is expected to be completed within 120 consecutive calendar days. Chair authorized to sign and the Clerk to attest.

Bid of Adams Tank & Lift, Inc. rejected on the basis of being non-responsive for not meeting bid requirements.

11. Conveyance of escheated properties to the City of Seminole and the City of St. Petersburg.

Resolution No. 19-5 adopted approving the conveyance of escheated properties to the Cities of Seminole (1) and St. Petersburg (1) in accordance with Section 197.592, Florida Statutes. Chair authorized to sign and the Clerk to attest and record the resolution and County deeds.

Chair Seel proposed encouraging the municipalities to dedicate the properties for affordable housing developments, partnering with organizations such as Habitat for Humanity.

12. Purchase authorization with CUES, Inc. for a television inspection vehicle for the Utilities Department.

Contract No. 189-0207-PB approved for a total expenditure in the amount of $298,670.00 pursuant to the pricing, terms, and conditions of State of Ohio Contract No. 800489.

Utilities

13. Award of bid to CROM, LLC dba Crom Coatings and Restorations for the Water Storage Tank Rehabilitation project.

Bid No. 189-0026-CP (PID No. 003764A) in the amount of $1,248,000.00 awarded on the basis of being the sole responsive, responsible bid received meeting specifications; all work is expected to be completed within 1,460 consecutive calendar days. Chair authorized to sign the agreement and the Clerk to attest.

14. Award of bid to Insituform Technologies, LLC for the 102nd Avenue and Bryan Dairy Road Sewer Lining project.

Bid No. 189-0038-CP (PID No. 002747B) in the amount of $425,492.00 awarded on the basis of being the lowest responsive, responsible bid received meeting specifications; all
work is expected to be completed within 365 consecutive calendar days. Chair authorized to sign the agreement and the Clerk to attest.

15. Award of bid to KAT Construction & Materials, Inc. for the Biosolids Valve and Piping Modification project at South Cross Bayou Water Reclamation Facility. Bid No. 189-0044-CP (PID No. 003208A) in the amount of $2,586,330.00 awarded on the basis of being the lowest responsive, responsible bid received meeting specifications; all work is expected to be completed within 210 consecutive calendar days. Chair authorized to sign the agreement and the Clerk to attest.

COUNTY ATTORNEY


17. Notice of new lawsuit and defense of the same by the County Attorney in the case of Christos Spiridis v. Pinellas County, et al.; Circuit Civil Case No. 19-000289-CI-7 - allegations of negligence resulting in personal injuries.

18. Notice of new lawsuit and defense of the same by the County Attorney in the case of Juan Carlos Gil v. Pinellas County, Florida; U.S District Court for the Middle District of Florida Case No. 18:19-cv-00193-VMC-AAS - complaint for injunctive and declaratory relief.

19. Notice of new lawsuit and defense of the same by the County Attorney in the case of Amanda Taylor and Charles Taylor, et al. v. Pinellas County; Circuit Civil Case No. 19-000342-CI-20 - allegations of negligence resulting in personal injuries.

AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

Housing Finance Authority


Responding to query by Commissioner Welch, Housing Finance Authority Executive Director Kathryn Driver noted that there is approximately $3 million remaining in the Land Assembly Trust Fund; that sufficient funds exist to last the rest of the year and possibly into 2020; and that the HFA has only been spending the funds for three years.
ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA - None.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Economic Development

22. Resolution specifying policy goals for 2020-2029 Infrastructure Sales Surtax (Penny IV) dedicated to Economic Development Capital Projects and Housing.

Resolution No. 19-6 adopted establishing a County goal to allocate at least 4.15 percent of 8.3 percent of net proceeds of Penny IV funds for acquisition of land or capital projects dedicated for affordable housing purposes.

Upon the Chair’s call for public comments, the following individuals spoke in support of affordable housing:

Kathy Filippelli, St. Petersburg, representing FAST
Reverend Kathleen Walter, Clearwater, representing FAST
Donna Davis, Clearwater
Judy Charmatz, Largo
Kathryn Rawson, St. Petersburg

Mark Klutho, Largo, spoke in opposition to the item.

A motion was made by Commissioner Welch, seconded by Vice-Chair Gerard, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Human Services

23. Subrecipient Funding Agreement with the Pinellas County School Board for the Pinellas School Violence Prevention program.

Agreement approved providing School Board funding in the amount of $162,788.40 over two years (25 percent) to match Federal funding in the amount of $488,365.20 (75 percent) to install technology for expedited notification of local law enforcement and automated lockdown responses in 122 public schools by late 2019.

A motion was made by Commissioner Long, seconded by Vice-Chair Gerard, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch
Planning


Planning Department Director Renea Vincent related that the Board approved two updates to the Clearwater Downtown Redevelopment Plan in 2018; that the revised spending plan conforms with County Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) policy guidelines; and that staff recommends approval of the 15-year review report as submitted.

City of Clearwater Assistant City Manager Micah Maxwell referred to a PowerPoint presentation titled *Fifteen Year TIF Report* and provided an update on the redevelopment of Downtown Clearwater, noting that there is a significant amount of work that remains to be completed to revitalize the area. He stated that the partnership between the County and the City is functioning well and should continue without change; whereupon, he provided an update on the Imagine Clearwater initiative and requested that the County’s Tax Increment Financing (TIF) contribution continue at the 95 percent level for the next 15 years.

Commissioner Welch referred to a document titled *Table 5: Clearwater CRA Capital Expenditures FY2000-FY2016*, and responding to his queries, Mr. Maxwell provided information pertaining to total County TIF contributions, actual expenditures, and developer incentives; whereupon, he related that the City continues to utilize incentives as part of the CRA program. In response to query by Chair Seel, Mr. Maxwell confirmed that the document was reviewed with County staff.

In response to queries by Commissioner Eggers, Ms. Vincent explained that, in the TIF review, the City is required to use the 95 percent set forth in the ordinance review criteria, although it is not strictly applied; whereupon, Commissioner Eggers indicated that using lower levels might make more sense in the future. Mr. Maxwell related that the majority of downtown property is probably tax producing; that the three largest landowners are the City of Clearwater, the Church of Scientology, and possibly the County; and that he will try to obtain information as to the percentage of the Church’s property that is tax producing.

A motion was made by Commissioner Long, seconded by Commissioner Welch, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Commissioner Welch suggested that the County create a Community Redevelopment Area focused on poverty reduction in the Clearwater area, similar to ones in Lealman and South St. Petersburg, noting that Mayor George Cretekos is supportive of the concept; whereupon, he referred to a map delineating a poverty zone, and discussion ensued regarding possible approaches. Chair Seel proposed sending a letter to the Cities of Clearwater, Dunedin, and Largo requesting that they develop and submit proposals to the Board, and discussion ensued with input by Ms. Vincent.
Commissioner Eggers expressed support for discussing the blighted concept behind the CRAs and poverty zones, cautioned that the area in the poverty zone be narrowed to avoid providing additional funds to well-off areas, and expressed his support for the County discussing the proposal with the three cities; whereupon, Commissioner Welch related that since he had not previously seen the poverty zone map and did not realize the area was so large, he has not had conversations with officials in Dunedin or Largo on the matter.

Following further discussion, Commissioner Justice requested that staff provide an updated report showing County contributions with regard to the various TIF Districts.

Utilities

25. Amendment No.1 to the Interlocal Agreement with the City of St. Pete Beach for Pass-A-Grille Way from 1st Avenue to 19th Avenue, Phase 2 utility relocations.

(Ulities Project No. 001589B) Amendment approved increasing the agreement amount by $330,000.00 for a total revised amount of $2,420,000.00.

Responding to query by Commissioner Long, Utilities Director Megan Ross provided an update on the sewer system and utilities projects in St. Pete Beach and indicated that all improvements are scheduled to be completed by the end of 2020 in order to bring the systems up to capacity; whereupon, Commissioner Long requested that staff update Senator Jeff Brandes and relate the extent that the County is cooperating with the City to complete the upgrades.

In response to query by Commissioner Peters, Ms. Ross confirmed that although work in a section of St. Pete Beach has not commenced due to lack of funding, the latest information indicates all of the work will be finished by the end of 2020, at which time the moratorium on additional capacity may be lifted; whereupon, Commissioner Long requested that Mr. Burton coordinate with St. Pete Beach officials, and Ms. Ross agreed to obtain information regarding funding arrangements.

A motion was made by Commissioner Eggers, seconded by Vice-Chair Gerard, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 • Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

26. Seventh Amendment to the Agreement with Vertex Data Utility Services, LLC for services provided in support of the Utilities Customer Information System.

Amendment to Contract No. 056-0030-P approved, extending the term up to 12 months through February 24, 2020, and increasing the amount by $1,754,825.25 for a revised total of $24,138,507.75.

A motion was made by Commissioner Welch, seconded by Vice-Chair Gerard, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

27. County Administrator Miscellaneous.

Mr. Burton provided information regarding the recent In-Service Day.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

28. County Attorney Miscellaneous - None.

AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

Emergency Medical Services Authority

29. Appointments to the Emergency Medical Services Medical Control Board.

Sitting as the Emergency Medical Services Authority, the Board approved the appointment and reappointment of the following individuals for two-year terms ending in December 2020:

Appointment

Mr. Lou Galdieri as Hospital Administrator representative
Dr. Christos Politis as Hospital Administrator representative
Mr. Brad Whitmer as Hospital Administrator alternate representative
Dr. Steven Epstein as Pinellas County Medical Association representative

Reappointment

Ms. Nancy Hopkins as Hospital Administrator alternate representative

A motion was made by Commissioner Long, seconded by Commissioner Welch, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch


Sitting as the Emergency Medical Services Authority, the Board approved the appointment and reappointment of the following individuals for two-year terms ending in January 2021:
Appointment

Ms. Rosalie Bousher as National Alliance on Mental Illness representative
Ms. Denise Whitfield as National Alliance on Mental Illness alternate representative
Dr. Steven Epstein as Pinellas County Medical Association representative Commissioner Kevin Kenney as Independent Fire District Elected Official alternate representative

Reappointment

Chief Ian Womack as St. Petersburg Fire Chief representative
Captain Eric Dinan as St. Petersburg Fire Chief alternate representative
Ms. Anissa Raiford as Pinellas County Medical Association alternate representative
Commissioner Julie Peluso as Independent Fire District Elected Official representative

A motion was made by Commissioner Eggers, seconded by Vice-Chair Gerard, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

31. County Administrator Reports:
- FY20-23 Proposed new rates for Water, Sewer, and Reclaimed Water system
- Budget Forecast: FY20-FY25
- Doing Things! TV - Linking Lealman

Mr. Burton briefly discussed the three items to be presented under County Administrator Reports.

FY20-23 Proposed new rates for Water, Sewer, and Reclaimed Water system

Utilities Director Megan Ross introduced the item; whereupon, Stantec Managing Consultant Jeff Dykstra referred to a PowerPoint presentation titled Pinellas County Utilities - Water, Sewer, and Reclaimed Water Rate Study Preliminary Results, and discussed the following:

- Background: 2011 and 2015 Rate Studies; FY 2019 Rate Study
- Water System and Sewer System - Key Issues and Results
- Summary of Results: Water and Sewer Residential and Commercial Monthly Bills
- Reclaimed Water System - Results
- Summary of Results: Reclaimed Water Monthly Bills
- Residential Bill Comparison: FY 2015 and FY 2019 Rates
- Residential Reclaimed Water Bill Comparison - Unmetered/Metered Service FY 2019 Rates
- Recommendations and Next Steps
Throughout the presentation, Mr. Dykstra responded to queries by the members. He provided information relating to commercial and residential customers, circumference of meters, monthly water usage, future rate increases, and infrastructure improvements, and Ms. Ross discussed the condition of the collection system and how it is monitored and maintained; whereupon, Mr. Dykstra provided information pertaining to the reclaimed water system.

Chair Seel thanked Mr. Dykstra and Ms. Ross and commended them for their creative, balanced approach, noting that a public hearing regarding the proposed rates will take place at the May 21 meeting.

Budget Forecast FY20 - FY25

Jim Abernathy, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), referred to a PowerPoint presentation titled Doing Things! Budget Forecast: FY20 - FY25, and discussed the following:

- Purpose of the Forecast; Forecast Document
- Forecast Document - Assumptions
- Forecast Document - Pro Forma
- Local Economic Outlook
- Potential Impacts to the Forecast
- Fund Reviews
  - General Fund Forecast
  - Tourist Development Tax Fund Forecast
  - Solid Waste Funds Forecast
  - Sewer Funds Forecast
  - Water Funds Forecast
  - Transportation Trust Fund Forecast
- Citizens Guide to the Budget

Throughout the presentation, Messrs. Abernathy and Burton responded to queries by the members. Mr. Abernathy related that his office regularly reviews local property values in an effort to anticipate dips in the economy; whereupon, he discussed the loss of Duke Energy capacity payments to Pinellas County and provided information regarding the Tourist Development Tax and the financial commitments associated with Capital Project Funding.

Mr. Burton presented information pertaining to the Transportation Trust Fund, relating that the fund will be in balance until Fiscal Year 2024-2025; and that a workshop will likely take place in the April/May timeframe. Discussion ensued, and Intergovernmental Liaison Brian Lowack provided information regarding local and state taxes; whereupon, OMB Director Bill Berger and Mr. Abernathy discussed Hurricane Irma, local expenditures related to the event, reimbursement timeframes for federal and state dollars, and the percentage of expenditures to be assumed by the County.
Doing Things! TV - Linking Lealman

Mr. Burton played a short video highlighting the Linking Lealman Mobility Program.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

32. Public Comment.

Sarah Rosado, Safety Harbor, re Safety Harbor Connector "being cut"
Judith Schneider, Safety Harbor, re Safety Harbor Connector
Justin Heller, St. Petersburg, re County towing rates
Lenore Faulkner, Madeira Beach, re Black History Month
David Ballard Geddis, Jr., Palm Harbor, re birthing of an "it" - submitted documents
Greg Pound, Largo, re families

During public comment, the members discussed concerns expressed by Ms. Rosado and Mr. Heller.

COUNTY COMMISSION

33. 2019 Federal Legislative Priorities.

Approved as set forth in the Staff Report.

A motion was made by Commissioner Justice, seconded by Commissioner Welch, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

34. Appointment to the County Council for Persons with Disabilities (Individual Appointment by Commissioner Eggers).

Ross Silvers appointed to fulfill an unexpired term until May 22, 2019.

A motion was made by Commissioner Eggers, seconded by Commissioner Welch, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

35. Appointment to the Pinellas County Housing Finance Authority (Board of County Commissioners as a whole).

Paul Burroughs appointed for a four-year term following a ballot vote.
36. County Commission New Business Items:
   - Law Library Board (Commissioner Justice)

   Commissioner Justice provided background information regarding the Law Library Board, and following discussion regarding the appointment process, stated that he would be willing to serve as a member.

37. County Commission Board Reports and Miscellaneous.

   The members reported on the activities of their assigned Boards and Committees and related or discussed the following items:

   **Commissioner Welch**

   • Discussed recent and upcoming activities of the Business Technology Services Board.

   • Related that he has begun mentoring a student at Lakewood High School.

   • Announced that the Pinellas Park FireFighters MDA Chili Blaze will take place on March 15 at England Brothers Bandshell in Pinellas Park.

   **Commissioner Peters**

   • Reported that she had met with Operation PAR yesterday and discussed matters regarding the Marchman Act, substance abuse, public/private partnerships, and healthcare costs.

   **Commissioner Justice**

   • Discussed recent and upcoming activities of the Historic Preservation Board and Tampa Bay Estuary Board.

   • Related that Executive Director Barbara St. Clair gave him a tour of the Creative Pinellas Facility.

   • Stated that he attended several local events over the past few weeks, and thanked Mr. Burton for getting out and about and meeting members of the community.

   • Announced that TripAdvisor has named Clearwater Beach as the No. 1 beach in America for the second year in a row.

   **Commissioner Gerard**

   • Related that she attended various local events, including a welcome dinner for the Philadelphia Phillies.
Commissioner Eggers

• Discussed recent and upcoming activities of the Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area Leadership Group, Community Veterans Engagement Board, Tampa Bay Water, and Forward Pinellas.

• Encouraged local residents to participate in a regional demographic and travel pattern survey at tampabaysurveys.com.

• Congratulated Housing and Economic Development Director Robert Ironsmith on the 30th Anniversary of the Downtown Dunedin Community Redevelopment Area.

• Remarked that Opening Day for Blue Jays Spring Training was a success.

• Announced that he will be attending the upcoming Pinellas County Behavioral Health Meeting pertaining to the results of a recent suicide study.

Commissioner Long

• Stated that she had visited the Creative Pinellas Facility.

• Discussed recent and upcoming activities of the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority Board.

• Distributed a handout to the members titled *Tampa Bay Regional Resiliency Coalition*.

• Provided information relating to the John Morroni Legacy Foundation.

• Related that Mr. Burton will be implementing regularly scheduled meetings regarding transit, housing, and economic development.

Chair Seel

• Provided an update regarding the Juvenile Welfare Board Executive Director search.

• Discussed recent Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority activities.

• Upon confirming that no Commissioner could sit on the Canvassing Board as an alternate member for the upcoming municipal elections, Chair Seel related that she would discuss the matter with Attorney White.
PUBLIC HEARINGS

All public hearing items have been properly advertised. Affidavits of Publication have been received and are on file in the Board Records Department.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

38. Petition of Tommy G. Mathison to vacate that portion of 74th Street North lying west of Lots 11 through 14, Block D, Bon Creek Park, Plat Book 24, Page 81, lying in Section 6/31/16, Pinellas County, Florida (Legislative Hearing).

Resolution No. 19-7 adopted granting the petition. Clerk authorized to attest and record the resolution and easements. Letters of no objection received from the appropriate parties. Interested property owners were notified as to the date of the public hearing. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

A motion was made by Commissioner Long, seconded by Commissioner Eggers, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

39. Case No. Q Z/LU-31-12-18 (Pinellas County and Girl Scouts of West Central Florida) (2nd hearing)


Resolution No. 19-8 adopted approving the zoning change and Ordinance No. 19-04 adopted changing the land use designation. The Local Planning Agency recommended approval of the request, and staff concurred. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

A motion was made by Commissioner Long, seconded by Vice-Chair Gerard, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:
Aye: 7 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

ADJOURNMENT - 6:13 P.M.

__________________________  Chair
ATTEST: KEN BURKE, CLERK

By ________________________
Deputy Clerk