

City of Fort Lauderdale
 Budget Advisory Board
 Date: December 15, 2005

| <u>Attendance:</u> | <u>Absent/ Present</u> | <u>Cumulative from 10/20/05</u> | | <u>Mandatory Meetings Missed</u> |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----|--------------------------------------|
| | | (P) | (A) | |
| Curtiss Berry | P | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Desorae Giles-Smith | P | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Elizabeth Hernandez | P | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Garry Johnson | P | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Michael McFarland | A | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| Delores McKinley | P | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| William Nielsen, Chairperson | P | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Ken Strand | P | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Joseph Welsch, Vice Chairperson | P | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Don Winsett | P | 1 | 1 | 1 |

Ex-officio Members

George Gretsas, City Manager
 Bernard Wray, Finance Director
 Shonda Singleton-Taylor, Deputy Director, OMB

Others

Allyson C. Love, Director, OMB
 Pat Rupprecht, Assistant Budget Director

Chairperson Nielsen called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. A roll call confirmed that a quorum was present. The Chair brought up the need to have nominations for the new fiscal year. Mr. Berry nominated Bill Nielsen for Chairperson and Joe Welsch for Vice Chair. Both nominations were unanimously approved.

Mr. Strand arrived at 6:35 p.m.

The minutes of the September 15 and October 20, 2005 meetings were both approved without any changes.

Ms. Hernandez arrived at 6:40 p.m. and Mr. Gretsas arrived at 6:45 p.m.

The Board then reviewed the September & October 2005 Monthly Financial Reports. Mr. Johnson asked why the October Police & Fire pension costs is so high compared to the prior year. Mr. Wray responded that the payment is based on the actuary's study of how much the City needs to contribute. Mr. Winsett asked about the decrease in Rents and Concessions in October compared to the prior year to date. Ms. Love stated she would check into that & report back to the Board.

Ms. Love then distributed a handout on hurricane costs updates. Mr. Wray explained that the City's out of pocket costs for both Katrina and Wilma is about \$5 million but that they are working with the State to try and get the FEMA reimbursement percentage increased. He also noted that a tree committee will be formed to come up with a tree replacement plan. Mr. Welsch asked if the City will be using its reserves to pay for its costs until the FEMA reimbursement is received. Mr. Wray said that staff will be taking a funding plan to the Commission, probably in January. Mr. Gretsas said he is always asked what are the lessons learned from the hurricanes and he responded fund balance, fund balance, fund balance. Mr. Winsett asked if the City had a current tree survey before the hurricanes. Ms Love said she would find out. Ms. Giles-Smith inquired as to why water was down for so long. Mr. Gretsas replied that tree roots pulled down so many lines, there was a loss of water pressure, and there was damage to a generator. He discussed the need for a cost benefit analysis of how much emergency equipment the City should have on hand such as generators, stop signs, and portable traffic lights, along with the logistics of storing this equipment. Mr. Johnson suggested teaming up with other cities such as Tampa and Jacksonville to share this cost for future emergencies.

The Chair introduced the next agenda item regarding the Police and Fire Pension System. Ms. Singleton –Taylor reported that they were unable to attend this meeting. Mr. Johnson suggested they be invited to come one more time and if that was not successful, the Board should contact the Commission. Mr. Welsch asked the Chair if he would be willing to write them a letter requesting their attendance, as he felt this might carry more weight. The Chair agreed to do so.

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The Chair asked if any members had items they wished to see placed on the next agenda. Ms. Hernandez responded that she was interested in an update on the grant situation and Mr. Gretsas said this could be done in January. She also is interested in the status of the fire impact fees. She recalled a discussion about collecting them at the time a permit is pulled whether than waiting until the C/O is issued, since fire calls are made at sites during this interim time. She didn't know if this has been done or how much has been collected. Ms. Love stated she would provide an update on that.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

New Action Items

- Schedule update on grants for the next meeting.
- Determine reason for decrease in Rent and Concessions in the October Monthly Financial Report.
- Determine if the City had a current tree survey prior to the hurricanes.
- Provide a response regarding the collection of fire impact fees at the time of permitting.

Old Action Items

- Schedule a presentation from the Police and Fire Pension System

Prepared By: Pat Rupprecht, Assistant Budget Director, Office of Management and Budget