

APPROVED

REVENUE ESTIMATING CONFERENCE COMMITTEE (RECC)

**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
101 NE 3RD AVENUE, SUITE 1400
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301
MARCH 27, 2013 – 4:00 P.M.**

Committee Members

Marty Kurtz
Norm Mason
June Page
Pamela Winston - Absent

Staff

Douglas Wood, Director of Finance
Emilie Smith, Budget Manager
Kirk Buffington, Deputy Director of Finance
Jennifer Ofoezie, Accountant II
Stanley Hawthorne, Assistant City Manager
Terence Arrington, Sr. Management Fellow
Yvonne Redding, Planner II, Planning & Zoning

Others Present

Bob Oelke

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:10PM.

II. Roll Call

Pamela Winston was absent.

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- a. Mr. Kurtz noted that Bob Oelke was incorrectly listed under staff. Mr. Kurtz offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Mason, to accept the March 20, 2013 Meeting Minutes as presented. The motion was approved 3-0.

IV. Old Business

- a. Yvonne Redding, Planner II, Planning & Zoning (P&Z) was present to answer questions related to the fees charged. Study was completed in December 2010.
- b. Updates for the Burton Model:
 - Updated the residential growth assumption to adjust the retail and commercial rate 1.0% annually, which is aligned closer to the historical commercial growth average provided by P&Z.

- Mr. Kurtz asked for clarification on the framework of our recommendations – yes/no, agree/disagree, dollar amounts, percentages, concepts? Ms. Smith stated that it could be any combination of those items. Ms. Smith reiterated that we need to come to a consensus on the assumptions.
- Mr. Oelke wanted clarification on the use of right-of-way/easement fee that is charged. Ms. Redding explained that this is a one-time fee. The fee was reduced when the study was completed in 2010.
- Ms. Smith stated that a user fee study will be conducted once the general fund allocation is completed. Those increases will not be included in the FY2014 budget unless they are adopted prior to the budget adoption.

V. **New Business**

- a. Committee Work Plan and Methodology
- b. Discussion of Assumptions for Revenue:

Largest Revenue Sources

- **Fire Assessment Fees** – Cost recovery 55%. Mr. Oelke suggested that City staff should research the county appraiser’s office tax roll assessment for proper classification of properties.
- **Culture & Recreation – Special Facilities** – Cost recovery pyramid. Yacht fees are the most significant. Ms. Smith stated these fees would be a part of the user fee study that will be conducted. Trend adjusted to 0.15% based on assumed growth.
- **Fire-Rescue Transport Fee** – Cost recovery is closer to 100%. Ms. Smith will get information from Paul Vanden Berge. A large portion of the transports may be from out-of-state visitors. Collected by billing and collection agency. Mr. Kurtz had a question about the projection of \$5.9 because the annualized amount based on the actuals in February was much lower. The budget office will look at the numbers again in June and what it was at the same time last year.
- **Rents & Royalties (Leases)** – Parks& Recreation following up on delinquent lease payments.
- **Red Light Camera Fines** – Added cameras at 35 intersections. The trend may decrease after 3-4 years.
- **Wilton manors – Fire EMS** – In 2015, full cost recovery will be achieved with an annual CPI increase after that. Will be renegotiated in 2015.
- **Alarm Response Fees** – Will be part of the fee study. Adjusted annually by assumed growth.

- **Culture and Recreation - Pools** – Adjusted annually by assumed growth. Construction in FY2014 will may reduce the revenue amount, unless it is started in FY2015
- **Culture and Recreation – Parks & Recreation** – Adjusted annually by assumed growth

Mr. Hawthorne expressed concern for the numbers in the Burton model and how they correlate to the department's projections. Mr. Kurtz suggested that we include the department heads in the process once the fee study has been completed so that the committee gets a clearer understanding of the direction in which the City will be moving.

- **Fire Inspection Fees** – Annually adjusted by assumed growth
- **Fines & Forfeitures** – Annually adjusted by assumed growth. In FY2012, the distribution formula changed and it decreased the amount.
- **Fire Hi-Rise Test Fees** – Annually adjusted by assumed growth
- **Fire Rescue Inter-facility Transport Fees** – New program implemented in FY2013. Ms. Smith noted that we have had a couple of our rescue units totaled in accidents this year. It takes about 9 months to get those replaced. As a result, she is not sure how much we will have.
- **Code Enforcement Board Fines** – Mr. Kurtz suggested increasing the projection since we are currently trending higher than budgeted.
- **Contributions & Donations** – Inter-local agreement.
- **Fire Plan Review Fees** – Annually adjusted by assumed growth.
- **Disposal of Fixed Assets** – Projected \$1.0 million but we are trending closer to \$400,000 according to Ms. Smith.

Ms. Smith asked the committee to email any questions and she will forward them to Burton and Associates in advance of the meeting next week.

VI. **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned by Mr. Marty Kurtz, seconded by Ms. June Page.