

ST. PETERSBURG CITY COUNCIL
BUDGET, FINANCE & TAXATION COMMITTEE

Minutes

March 23, 2017

8:00 – City Hall – Room 100

Present: Committee Members - Chair James R. “Jim” Kennedy, Jr., Vice-Chair Charles Gerdes, Karl Nurse and Darden Rice.

Absent: None

Also: *Chief Assistant City Attorney, Jeannine Williams; City Administrator, Gary Cornwell; Councilmembers Steve Kornell, Lisa Wheeler-Bowman; Juanita Suber of Golden Generations, Inc.; Human Resources Director, Chris Guella; Human Resources Mgr. of Staffing and Development, Richard Anderson; City Auditor, Bradley Scott; Neighborhood Affairs, Cliff Smith; Public Works Administrator, Claude Tankersley; Procurement and Supply Director, Louis Moore; City Council Administrative Officer, Cindy Sheppard; Chief, Dean Adamides and Senior Deputy City Clerk, Cathy E. Davis.*

A. Call to Order

Chair Kennedy called the meeting to order with the above persons present.

B. Approval of Agenda

In connection with the approval of the March 23rd meeting agenda, Councilmember Gerdes motioned that the agenda be approved as submitted. All were in favor of the motion. Ayes. Kennedy. Gerdes. Rice. Nurse. Nays. None. Absent. None. Montanari (alt).

C. Approval of Minutes

1. March 9, 2017

In connection with the approval of the March 9th, meeting minutes, Councilmember Gerdes motioned that the minutes be approved with one correction in the last paragraph of section 1a. Property Insurance Renewals which should indicate the total expenditure is \$106,000 less than the 2016 expenditure. All were in favor of the motion. Ayes. Kennedy. Gerdes. Rice. Nurse. Nays. None. Absent. None. Montanari (alt).

D. New/Deferred Business

1a. Social Action Fund (Cliff Smith) Mr. Smith advised that he was here today to request the committee's guidance for the use of social action funding for next fiscal year, 2018. This fiscal year, 2017, we funded 17 agencies that serve our homeless and at risk of homeless citizens in the amount of \$477,000. We have restricted the use of social action funding since 2011 to the homeless and homeless prevention programs and services. The Social Services Allocation Committee recommends we continue to restrict the program to homeless and homeless prevention services. Mr. Smith reviewed with the committee the backup material, which included the findings of the 2016 Point in Time count which is the most current homeless data. Mr. Smith asked that committee approve the Social Services Allocation Committee's recommendation to use the Social Action Funding for the homeless and homeless prevention services.

CM Nurse mentioned concerns about presidential budget cuts to housing and asked how we evaluate which services are successful. CM Gerdes discussed the homeless priorities which in order are currently: families with children, unaccompanied youth and chronic homeless. CM Gerdes recommend to change the third priority to rapid rehousing. CM Rice commented on what other programs might be funded that are outside of the current restrictions and making sure that we are putting our money in the area that will have the greatest impact. CM Kornell asked Mr. Smith what would be the recommended ratio for case managers at Pinellas Safe Harbor. Mr. Smith advised the ideal case manager ratio would be 15:1 vs. the current 60:1. CM Kornell commented on the good job done by Boley with the homeless. CM Montanari asked how we were doing with children and what more we could do. Mr. Smith addressed this question and advised that we are making progress, but children and families are still a huge need.

CM Kornell requested that Mr. Smith provide the committee with the information relevant to reducing the case manager ratio at Pinellas Safe Harbor to 15:1.

In connection with the Social Action Fund, Councilmember Gerdes motioned to affirm the Social Action funding committee's priority for homelessness and we identify the sub-topics of 1. Family with Children 2. Unaccompanied Children 3. Rapid Rehousing. All were in favor of the motion. Ayes. Kennedy. Gerdes. Rice. Nurse. Nays. None. Absent. None. Montanari (alt).

1b. A request to provide \$50,000 of onetime funding from the remaining BP settlement funds for My Sistah's Place, a home for young women aging out of foster care. (CM Kornell) CM Kornell introduced Juanita Suber of Golden Generations, Inc. who explained to the committee the goals and benefits of My Sistah's Place. Ms. Suber requested the committee's favorable approval of this onetime \$50,000 request. Ms. Suber also discussed the community support received and made herself available to answer the committee's questions. CM Gerdes mentioned a concern that oversight and audited financial statements would be in place and Ms. Suber stated that they are working with a CPA now and that should be in place in the next 30 days. Ms. Suber commented that they were also working with Wells Fargo. The committee asked questions about how the program works and Ms. Suber addressed those questions.

CM Rice mentioned a concern for the funds coming out of the BP settlement. Mr. Smith also commented on this subject and the social action funding process. Further discussion from the committee in regards to the BP settlement fund. Dr. Cornwell addressed a question relative the balance of money left uncommitted in the BP settlement fund which is approximately \$626,000. The committee

commented on the STARS program principles and how they are relevant to this project. CM Kennedy asked Dr. Cornwell if there were any other funding sources that could be directed to this project other than BP settlement funds. Dr. Cornwell indicated that to the best of his knowledge for FY17 most of those funds that would fit this project have already been committed or in the process of being funded.

CM Kennedy requested that Dr. Cornwell give an update as to the status of the funds and that if there is an ability to find alternative sources to using the BP settlement fund.

In connection with the request to provide \$50,000 of onetime funding from the remaining BP settlement funds for My Sistah's Place, Councilmember Gerdes motioned the approval of \$50,000 request on the condition that funding be delivered upon the city's receipt from a certified CPA or Financial Adviser hired to review funding of My Sistah's Place. All were in favor of the motion. Ayes. Kennedy. Gerdes. Rice. Nurse. Nays. None. Absent. None. Montanari (alt).

1c. Consideration of a requirement for a city contractor securing future contracts of at least \$2,000,000 to provide a minimum wage of at least \$10.00 per hour with a schedule to raise this over time. (CM Nurse) CM Nurse indicated that he brought this item up at council a few months back and it is in conjunction with the Mayor's goal to have minimum wage for fulltime and permanent employees of \$15 per hour. CM Nurse would like to look at two different areas where we do not do that. First, we have no minimum wage except for State law that we require contractors to abide by, CM Nurse gave examples. Second, to include temporary service workers and employees with less than 5 years of service.

Much discussion ensued from the committee and staff regarding moving forward with the minimum wage increase, contracts, cost and the timeline.

Mr. Guella indicated that the city minimum wage would reach \$15 per hour by 2020.

CM Nurse requested that staff come back with living wage ordinance that would cover city contracts.

CM Gerdes requested that staff produce a timeline regarding city minimum wage increases.

1st Motion a request that at the 4/27 meeting administration comes back to BF&T with a proposed ordinance to provide a minimum wage on contracts of more than 1 million dollars and to show the cost (guestimate) to implement 10, 11 or 12 dollar an hour wage. All were in favor of the motion. Ayes. Kennedy. Gerdes. Rice. Nurse. Nays. None. Absent. None. Montanari (alt).

2nd Motion a request that at the 4/27 meeting administration comes back to BF&T with a best guestimate of the cost for a city employee (to include temporary service workers and employees with less than 5yrs. of service) minimum wage of 10 and 11 dollars an hour. Estimate to include the number of employees that would be impacted. All were in favor of the motion. Ayes. Kennedy. Gerdes. Rice. Nurse. Nays. None. Absent. None. Montanari (alt).

1d. Discussion of City Council Budget (CM Rice) CM Rice introduced a discussion on the needs of City Council to have improved staffing in the form of a legislative aid. CM Rice referenced a 2005 management evaluation study conducted by MAG. A number of recommendations came out of that study and one of the key recommendations was for council members to have increased staffing

support for budget, legislative and policy analysis. CM Rice also added that this support could aid in meeting preparation and constituent out-reach. CM Rice detailed the size of support staff in other similar sized cities and our need for growth. CM Rice commented that when council has better staff support and better ways to support the budget, legislative and admirative needs it makes council more efficient and that contributes towards the efficiency of their meetings. CM Rice pointed out that city council has one of the smallest budgets citywide.

CM Rice commented that she hoped today's discussion would bring to the forefront the other council member's thoughts on the need for more support staff and if a needs assessment was necessary. CM Rice mentioned that she has discussed this topic with the Mayor and that he was in support of this proposal in general. Committee members commented on the topic, made several suggestions and shared in their support for the discussion. CM Rice reviewed with the committee the backup material provided.

The committee continued with further discussion and commented on how best to proceed. All agreed that CM Kennedy and Ms. Sheppard would work on the topic and bring back to the group before May 11th.

E. Upcoming Meetings Agenda Tentative Issues

1. March 30, 2017 – Special Meeting

a. 2017 Management Evaluation – Presentations (Brad Scott)

Matrix Consulting Group 9:00 to 9:30

LA Consulting Inc. 9:30 to 10:00

b. Committee discussion and ranking of firms following presentations

2. April 13, 2017

a. Police Headquarters – Part 1 (Anne Fritz/Raul Quintana)

F. New Business Item Referrals

G. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:11 a.m.