

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE STUART CITY COMMISSION  
HELD ON APRIL 8, 2013  
AT 4:30 P.M. IN THE CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS  
121 S.W. FLAGLER AVE.  
STUART, FLORIDA 34994**

**CITY COMMISSION**

**Mayor Eula R. Clarke  
Vice Mayor Troy A. McDonald  
Commissioner Kelli Glass Leighton  
Commissioner Jeffrey A. Krauskopf  
Commissioner James A. Christie, Jr.**

**ADMINISTRATIVE**

**City Manager, Paul J. Nicoletti  
City Attorney, Michael D. Durham  
City Clerk, Cheryl White**

**PRESENTATIONS**

**1. Annual review and update of City Fiscal Policy.**

**City Manager Nicoletti stated that at the City's revenues and expenditures are where they should be at this point and no surprises. He noted the Florida Legislature is in session but does not anticipate any particular difficulties but there could be based on some taxation issue relating to the Communications Service tax.**

**Financial Services Director Dottie Zaharako gave a brief update to the Commission and public for the City's Fiscal Policy. She indicated the only change was the correction of the title of the Procurement Officer, and his title is Procurement and Contracting Services Manager. Those are all the changes for 2014.**

**MOTION: VICE MAYOR MCDONALD: MOVED APPROVAL FOR THE READOPTION OF THE FISCAL POLICY, AS AMENDED**

**SECOND: COMMISSIONER CHRISTIE**

**ROLL CALL**

<b>COMMISSIONER GLASS LEIGHTON</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>COMMISSIONER CHRISTIE</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>VICE MAYOR MCDONALD</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>COMMISSIONER KRAUSKOPF</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>MAYOR CLARKE</b>	<b>YES</b>		

**DISCUSSION & DELIBERATION**

**2. Mid-Year Budgetary Review 2013.**

**Financial Services Director Dottie Zaharako gave a brief overview to the Commission and public of the Mid-Year Budget for 2013. She stated the City's revenues and expenditures are where they should be at this point with a small hiccup in the CRA, where there will be a**

shortfall in the TIFF of \$7,243.00, due to the change in the millage rate by the County after our budget was finalized. She also noted the final accounting for the Colorado Avenue project is in progress, and it is anticipated that the liquidating damages that are providing in the construction contract will cover any cost over runs that may result. In conclusion; "The City is structurally sound."

Commissioner Krauskopf inquired into page 4, restrictive fund, Impact Fees Fund, "Is that all transportation, parks and recreation, fire and Police, everything?"

Dottie Zaharako: Yes.

Vice Mayor McDonald asked if this is all what is on the City's Fiscal Policy, the percentage of reserves.

Dottie Zaharako: Yes, there is a section on the reserves with specific reserves mentioned in the section. She referred him to page 8, and page 9 with specific details.

Commissioner Krauskopf asked how the City was doing on the accounts receivable since the deposits were upped a few years ago, and how was the cost to collect the bad debt for fire rescue services.

Dottie Zaharako stated the accounts receivable was at around 98-99% and the City doesn't accumulate the information regarding the cost to collect bad debt.

### 3. FY 2014 Budgetary Issues and Consideration.

Financial Services Director Dottie Zaharako gave a brief overview to the Commission and public of the FY 2014 budget considerations and presented a power point presentation. She presented the budget calendar to the Commission and public. She said there will be another year of economic challenges, and that ad valorem taxes are down from the peak, and are estimated to be flat.

She stated the employee medical clinic has been very successful. She said they are preparing a presentation to the Commission at a future meeting.

#### Highlights of the Budget:

- \*Decrease in Local Option Gas Tax revenues decrease.
- \*Sewer Hook-up have been very successful
- \*Communication Services Tax Revenues is being considered again by the legislature.
- \*Ad Valorum Flat no change
- \*Successful Property Management Fund with rent increases coming in the coming years.
- \*Elimination of CRA reimbursement to the General Fund for the Code Enforcement Officer impact estimated to be \$50,000.00.
- \*Elimination of CRA reimbursement for the Community Policing Program impact around \$90,000.00.
- \*Net cost reductions from staff changes.
- \* Proposed employee wage increase.
- \* Consider Fleet Replacements.
- \* Consider short term disability program city-wide

- \* New Reserve FEC railroad crossings funding @\$35,000.00 a year in preparation for the mandated quiet zones in the city.
- \* Unfunded Capital Request \$400,000.00
- \* Fire and Police radio upgrades estimated cost allocated over a 4-year- period.

Vice Mayor McDonald asked if the FRS matter had been resolved with the courts and possible reimbursement back to the employees.

Dottie Zaharako stated that was upheld and with no cost to the City, with employees still paying their 3%. She stated at first glance of the FRS it appears to be no change.

Mayor Clarke asked that future meetings be noticed and published for the public.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC** (Non-Agenda Matters Only – 5 min. max)

Troy Bowser, President Local 2411 IAFF Union came forward and expressed concern over no pay increase to those members for five years. He felt that by not having competitive salaries can lead to an increase in staffing, training cost and inexperience. He noted that many trained employees left in 2009 to another local jurisdiction, as result of the city not having competitive salaries.

Commissioner Glass-Leighton asked what step 1- Base pay is.

Troy Bowser believes it is \$15.14 hourly for EMT and \$18.11 for a Paramedic.

David Duran, Local Representative of the PBA echoed the same concerns for the Police as Troy McDonald.

Mark Brechbill came forward and noted that in regards to the CRA funding he wanted to remind the Commission that in the past when the CRA was somewhat flush, there were allocations taking place that were reasonable based on that economic environment. He asked that the City keep in mind the allocations for things like audit fees or rent. He felt those might not be funded right now based on the economic environment.

**ADJOURNMENT: 5:15 P.M.**

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Cheryl White, CMC, City Clerk

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Eula R. Clarke, Mayor

Minutes to be approved at the Regular Commission Meeting This 13th Day May, 2013