

**MINUTES  
LONGBOAT KEY TOWN COMMISSION  
SPECIAL WORKSHOP  
SEPTEMBER 4, 2012 - 10:00 A.M.**

**Present:** Mayor Jim Brown, Vice Mayor David Brenner, Commrs. Jack Duncan, Terry Gans, Lynn Larson, Phill Younger, Pat Zunz

**Also:**

**Present:** Town Manager Dave Bullock, Town Clerk Trish Granger

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. in the Town Commission Chamber, 501 Bay Isles Road, Longboat Key, Florida.

**1. Discussion Regarding FY 2012-13 Recommended Budget**

At the September 4, 2012 Special Workshop Meeting the Town Manager and Finance Director will review and discuss the FY 2012-13 Recommended Budget. Recommended Action: Pending discussion, provide direction to Manager.

Town Manager Dave Bullock noted previous Budget Workshops and distribution of the Preliminary and Recommended Budget documents and provided an overview of the Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Budget. Discussions were held with Town Manager Bullock and Finance Director Thomas Kelley on the following topics/issues:

- higher than expected Sarasota County property valuations
- Information Technology (IT) inclusion of a full-time employee (FTE) in lieu of contract services
- compensation analysis/total cost of a FTE versus contract services
- allocation of costs per department for IT services
- non-assessment of Beach Erosion Control Districts millage
- anticipation that beach project will not be constructed until late 2013
- pension liabilities/possible Bond Referendum for Fiscal Year 2013-2014
- time period for construction of erosion control structures and placement of sand
- impact of levying two bonding issues on taxpayers for pension and beach project
- anticipated interest rates (2013-2014) on future borrowings/issuing debt at current rates versus unknown future rates.

**There was consensus to remove the beach millage assessments from the proposed budget.**

Discussions continued on the following topics/issues:

- voter approved debt services
- increase in cost of proposed police vehicles due to new models to be purchased (Crown Victoria models no longer available)
- size and type of vehicles to be purchased to provide accessibility under all conditions
- life expectancy of vehicles/analysis of available models and associated costs (including fuel costs)

1. Discussion Regarding FY 2012-13 Recommended Budget - Continued

- difference of estimated Fire Pumper/Ladder vehicle cost
- ISO (Insurance Services Organization) ratings and value of adding costlier vehicle versus anticipated savings on insurance ratings
- General Fund Balance of approximately \$4.7 million (FY12 ending balance/FY13 beginning balance)
- proposed Fund Balance Policy to be determined
- property taxes returned to Longboat Key based on millage rates
- duplication of services from Counties (Fire, EMS, and/or Sheriff) included on Longboat Key tax billings
- lack of patrol services by Manatee and Sarasota County Sheriff's offices
- options to negotiate with Counties on providing vehicles in lieu of patrol services
- levy by Sarasota Memorial Hospital
- auditing requirements of taxes received/distribution of funds
- grant funding (non-government and government organizations).

Mr. Sandy Gilbert, Chairman of S.T.A.R.T. (Solutions to Avoid Red Tide), commented on the organizations request for grant funding and services provided to Longboat Key. Upon inquiry, Mr. Gilbert noted the organization's annual budget of approximately \$85,000 per year, with one paid staff member.

Discussions continued on the following topics/issues:

- services provided by S.T.A.R.T.
- contributions by Manatee and Sarasota Counties with larger budgets
- lack of contributions by neighboring coastal communities (Bradenton Beach, Holmes Beach, and Anna Maria)
- lack of funding to provide salary increases or bonus to staff
- providing funding (tax monies) to organizations without the Town holding a voting seat on the governing body
- discussions held in previous years to gradually reduce funding to outside entities.

**There was majority consensus to not provide grant funding for S.T.A.R.T. and S.C.O.P.E. (Sarasota County Openly Plans for Excellence).**

Commr. Duncan advised of his preference for the Town to take an active part in the Longboat Key Chamber of Commerce commensurate with the funding provided. Discussions continued on the following topics/issues:

- breakdown of pension costs (sworn officers/firefighters versus non-sworn personnel)
- public versus governmental pension costs
- option for recently appointed Police Chief to "opt out" of the pension fund
- estimated Florida Retirement System (FRS) contributions of twenty percent (20%) for high-risk categories.

**RECESS:** 11:29 a.m. - 11:37 a.m.

1. Discussion Regarding FY 2012-13 Recommended Budget - Continued

Discussions continued with Town Manager Bullock, Finance Director Kelley, and Tennis Center Manager Kay Thayer on the following topics/issues:

- development of a Policy Statement for Canal Dredging
- funding availability for some locations
- development of a matrix establishing priorities
- User Fee schedule for Tennis Center (new rates)
- determination to not charge higher fees for off-island participants
- revenue estimates
- tabulation of Tennis Center usage by resident versus non-resident
- scheduled training of Tennis Center employees on the sale of beer/wine
- regulations restricting the size of the retail use/modification of the Development Order for the Tennis Center
- on-going training of employees relating to the sale of beer and wine/  
consideration of liability to the Town relating to serving alcoholic beverages
- restriction on areas where alcoholic beverages can be consumed
- health consideration on effects of alcoholic beverages on individuals dehydrated  
and/or age
- net revenues on retail sales at Tennis Center
- Utility Fund (pages 48-50 of Proposed Budget) expenditures/reduction in fund  
balance
- development of policies relating to fund balances and Commission Contingency
- inclusion of unfunded liabilities for the pensions on balance sheet with effective  
date based on size of government entity.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Mayor Brown adjourned the September 4, 2012, Regular Meeting at 12:01 p.m.**

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Trish Granger, Town Clerk

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James L. Brown, Mayor

Minutes Approved: \_\_\_\_\_