



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

APPROVED

**BUDGET ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
SEPTEMBER 21, 2022 – 5:00 P.M.
8TH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301**

Board Member	Attendance	10/2021 through 9/2022 Cumulative Attendance	
		Present	Absent
Brian Donaldson, Chair	P	11	0
Jeff Lowe, Vice Chair	P	11	0
William Brown	P	5	0
Ross Cammarata	A	8	3
Christian Macellari	A	3	1
Michael Marshall	A	9	2
Prabhuling Patel	P	8	3

Staff

Jerome Post, Acting Director of Human Resources
Laura Reece, Director, Office of Management and Budget
Paul Vanden Berge, Public Safety Administrator
Charmaine Crawford, OMB Department and Board Liaison
Jamie Opperlee, Prototype Inc. Recording Secretary

Communications to the City Commission

None

I. Call to Order

The meeting of the Budget Advisory Board was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Roll was called, and it was determined a quorum was present.

III. Approval of Last Meeting Minutes – August 11, 2022

Motion made by Mr. Lowe, seconded by Mr. Brown to approve the minutes of the Board’s August 11, 2022 meeting. In a voice vote, motion passed unanimously.

IV. Floor Open for Neighbor Input

None

V. Old Business

None

VI. New Business

A. FY 2023 Work Plan Discussion

Chair Donaldson did not anticipate a 12% increase in property values next year. They would also not have the Covid relief funds. He pointed out they did not know all of their contractual obligations yet.

Chair Donaldson wanted to discuss the next two months. He asked Board members if they wanted Stantec to present in November. He wanted Stantec to present if the new water treatment plant was approved in October. Ms. Reece noted they would concentrate on the General Fund and Water. She said the City was renewing the sanitation contract, which could affect rates, so the Board may want to see those as well.

Ms. Reece said they did not know the debt on the first \$200 million for stormwater. Chair Donaldson said whenever there was enough data, after the debt was issued, the Board would look at it.

Chair Donaldson wanted the Board to be proactive in making recommendations to the new City Commission based on Stantec's rate projections.

Mr. Brown asked if there would be a benefit to having Police and Fire make a presentation on their long-term strategic planning. He was concerned about the impact additional new developments could have on public safety. He wanted to know potential shortfalls. He was aware that Police were considering creating a fourth downtown district.

Chair Donaldson noted they had not yet heard from the new Police Chief and asked Ms. Reece to contact Chief Lynn about presented his strategy to the Board in November. Chair Donaldson specifically wanted to know about allocation of staff.

B. Updated Budget Advisory Board Recommendation Matrix

Not discussed.

C. Pros and Cons of FY 2023 Department Budget Packets and Meeting Format - Changes for FY 2024

Mr. Lowe thought their timing with the City Commission had been better this year and wanted to keep to the same schedule next year. Ms. Reece suggested the Board discuss the scheduling in November.

Mr. Lowe did not want Police and Fire to present at the same meeting. Chair Donaldson said he would suggest they not hear from Police and Fire on the same night. Ms. Reece said they could separate Police and Fire but Public Works must come last. Chair Donaldson suggested May 10, 17 and 24 for presentations.

Mr. Lowe wished to see the HR vacancy report and Ms. Crawford said she distributed them as soon as she received them.

Chair Donaldson noted they would have a new Board in October and they would hold an election of officers.

The Board discussed cancelling the October meeting.

Motion made by Mr. Patel, seconded by Mr. Lowe to cancel the Board's October meeting. In a voice vote. Motion passed unanimously.

Jerome Post, Acting Director of Human Resources, provided an update on contractual negotiations. They had reached tentative agreements with the Teamsters and Federation unions. Both called for a 3% increase in wages, effective the first of the fiscal year. The merit increases would continue at 1.5% for "satisfactory" performance evaluations and 3% for those "above satisfactory" and "extraordinary."

Ms. Reece explained they had only budgeted for a 1.5% COLA, so there would be a budget amendment for the 3%. She expected the General Employees would take up all of the \$2 million they had allocated, plus a little more.

Mr. Post stated they had just entered into negotiations in August with the FOP and had received all of their proposals, which were high. He was formulating a counter to present to them the following week. The IAFF was already one year past the expiration of their agreement. Staff had not made any progress at a meeting a few weeks ago and another meeting was scheduled for the following week.

Chair Donaldson requested an update on City Hall. Ms. Reece thought they were engaging a consultant to have the City construct the new building. Chair Donaldson said he would oppose a P3.

Chair Donaldson asked Ms. Crawford to send an email to Board members alerting them that the October meeting had been cancelled and the November meeting may run long.

Ms. Reece had provided Board members with an updated matrix in their packet.

D. Infrastructure Task Force Update

None

VII. Communications to/from the City Commission

None

VIII. Board Member Comments

None

IX. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.