

CLEARWATER DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING
September 3, 2014 – 5:30 PM – City Hall – Council Chambers

Members Present:	Paris Morfopoulos Thomas Wright Dennis Bosi John Doran Stu Sjouwerman Tony Starova	Chairman Vice Chairman Member Member Member Member
Also Present:	Jay Polglaze Anne Fogarty France Geri Campos Lopez	Ex-Officio/Councilmember Board Administrator Director, Economic Development & Housing Department
Absent:	Craig Rubright Bill Jonson	Treasurer Ex-Officio/Councilmember

1. Chairman Morfopoulos called the Downtown Development Board (DDB) meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and introduced members.
2. Citizen Comments – There were no citizen comments.
3. **First Public Millage Hearing – Resolution 01-14.**

In accordance with Chapter 200 of the Florida Statutes, which defines requirements for the Determination of Millage and the rules governing Truth in Millage (TRIM) compliance, the DDB must hold two public hearings to adopt a final millage rate for the new fiscal year. The adoption of this resolution to establish the millage rate and the related budget resolution are an integral part of fulfilling these requirements.

The DDB set a tentative millage rate of .9651 mil on August 6, 2014, which is the rate that appeared on the TRIM bill notices mailed to taxpayers in August. The millage rate of .9651 mil represents a 7.01 percent increase from the rolled back rate of .9019 mil.

Resolution 01-14 is presented in order to adopt the millage rate of .9651 mils to support the operating budget for the 2014/15 fiscal year.

Member Bosi moved to adopt Millage Resolution 01-14 on First Reading. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:

“Ayes”: Chairman Paris Morfopoulos, Vice-Chairman Thomas Wright, Member Dennis Bosi, Member John Doran, Member Tony Starova and Member Stu Sjouwerman.

“Nays”: None.

4. First Public Budget Hearing – Resolution 02-14

In accordance with Chapter 200 of the Florida Statutes and the rules governing Truth in Millage (TRIM) compliance, the DDB must hold two public hearings to adopt the budget. The adoption of this resolution adopting the 2014/15 millage rate and the Capital Improvement Budget are an integral part of fulfilling these requirements.

On June 5, 2014, staff provided the DDB with a Preliminary Budget that outlined proposed estimates of revenues and expenditures for the 2014/15 fiscal year. The preliminary budget was also presented at the August 21, 2014 special budget meeting.

Member Bosi moved to adopt Budget Resolution 02-14 on First Reading. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:

“Ayes”: Chairman Paris Morfopoulos, Vice-Chairman Thomas Wright, Member Dennis Bosi, Member John Doran, Member Tony Starova and Member Stu Sjouwerman.

“Nays”: None.

5. Approve the Minutes from the August 6, 2014 Meeting

Member Bosi moved to approve the minutes from the August 6, 2014 meeting. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:

“Ayes”: Chairman Paris Morfopoulos, Vice-Chairman Thomas Wright, Member Dennis Bosi, Member John Doran, Member Tony Starova and Member Stu Sjouwerman.

“Nays”: None.

6. Approve the Minutes from the August 21, 2014 Meeting.

Member Bosi moved to approve the minutes from the August 21, 2014 meeting. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:

“Ayes”: Chairman Paris Morfopoulos, Vice-Chairman Thomas Wright, Member Dennis Bosi, Member John Doran, and Member Stu Sjouwerman.

“Nays”: Member Tony Starova

7. Adopt July 2014 Financial Statement for Filing

Member Doran moved to adopt the July 2014 Financial Statement for filing. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:

“Ayes”: Chairman Paris Morfopoulos, Vice-Chairman Thomas Wright, Member Dennis Bosi, Member John Doran, Member Tony Starova and Member Stu Sjouwerman.

“Nays”: None

8. Appoint Ex-Officio Councilmembers Jonson and Polglaze to a subcommittee regarding Downtown Issues

Chairman Morfopoulos advised that Ex-officio Councilmember Jonson asked that this item be placed on the agenda for today’s meeting and provided history about the request.

Member Doran moved to appoint ex-officio Councilmembers Jonson and Polglaze to a subcommittee regarding downtown issues during the same time period as appointed by the City Council. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:

“Ayes”: Chairman Paris Morfopoulos, Vice-Chairman Thomas Wright, Member Dennis Bosi, Member John Doran, Member Tony Starova and Member Stu Sjouwerman.

“Nays”: None

9. Nominating Committee Report

Chairman Morfopoulos stated that the proposed slate of candidates for the FY 2014-2015 Election on October 14, 2014 was as follows:

- Chelsea Allison, Anytime Fitness
- Dennis Bosi, Bob Lee’s Automotive Center (current member)
- Jere Jarrett, DC, Family Life Chiropractic

Chairman Morfopoulos asked if there were any additions to the proposed slate.

Vice Chairman Thomas Wright asked to have Peter Rivellini of the Johnson Pope law firm added to the proposed slate of candidates.

Member Sjouwerman moved to approve the amended FY 2014-2015 Slate of Election Candidates for the October 14, 2014 election. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:

“Ayes”: Chairman Paris Morfopoulos, Vice-Chairman Thomas Wright, Member Dennis Bosi, Member John Doran, Member Tony Starova and Member Stu Sjouwerman.

“Nays”: None

10. Chairman’s Report

Chairman Morfopoulos referenced the letter distributed to board members that he wrote to Zev Buffman regarding Blast Friday. He advised that Mr. Buffman agreed that there had been a gap in communication and had agreed to meet and discuss the subject. Chairman Morfopoulos stated that the proposal will be different than the one offered in the past.

11. Final Comments –

Member Starova was happy about the finalization of the budget. He noted that he would like to have the Blast Friday tradition continue. He feels that it was more important that it benefits the citizens and taxpayers than whether the event was profitable. It is important that everyone support old and new downtown businesses. The Mixx Bar and Grill in the 500 block had a new menu and Member Starova asked board members to stop by.

Member Doran stated that it was a good meeting.

Ex-Officio/Councilmember Polglaze reported that the firm that had the contract on the Strand have asked for another extension and were looking for more venture capitalists. They want to develop it without bulldozing it. There are some infrastructure problems due to the fact that they were originally designed as condos and will now be apartments.

Chairman Morfopoulos stated that he had one final thought on the Blast Friday concept. He has assured Mr. Buffman that the DDB is interested in preserving the Blast Friday brand and the relationship with Ruth Eckerd Hall. In keeping with the DDB policies, a proposal will have to be presented in one meeting and then voted upon in a second meeting. No expenditure for Blast Friday has been approved to date.

12. The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.