



**COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY BOARD MEETING
CITY OF NEW PORT RICHEY**

**NEW PORT RICHEY CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
5919 MAIN STREET, NEW PORT RICHEY, FLORIDA**

August 4, 2015

5:00 PM

A G E N D A

ANY PERSON DESIRING TO APPEAL ANY DECISION MADE BY THE CITY COUNCIL, WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED AT ANY MEETING OR HEARING, WILL NEED A RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS AND MAY NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS IS MADE, WHICH INCLUDES THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE APPEAL IS TO BE BASED. THE LAW DOES NOT REQUIRE THE CITY CLERK TO TRANSCRIBE VERBATIM MINUTES; THEREFORE, THE APPLICANT MUST MAKE THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS WITH A PRIVATE REPORTER (OR PRIVATE REPORTING FIRM) AND BEAR THE RESULTING EXPENSE. (F.S.286.0105)

**ORDER OF
BUSINESS**

1 Call to Order - Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rob Marlowe at 6:00 pm. Those in attendance were Director Chopper Davis, Director Bill Phillips, Director Jeff Starkey, and Director Judy DeBella Thomas.

Also in attendance were Executive Director Debbie Manns, City Attorney Joseph Poblick, City Clerk and Secretary Doreen Summers, Finance Director Peter Altman, Chief of Police Kim Bogart, Library Director Susan Dillinger, Development Director Lisa Fierce, Fire Chief Chris Fitch, Economic Development Director Mario Iezzoni, Public Works Director Robert Rivera, Parks and Recreation Director Elaine Smith, and Technology Solutions Director Bryan Weed.

2 Approval of the June 30, 2015 CRA Board Minutes, Page 2

Motion made by Chopper Davis and seconded by Jeff Starkey. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Marlowe, Phillips, Davis, Starkey, DeBella Thomas.

3 CRA Budget Review, Page 4

Economic Development Director Iezzoni noted that Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) were increased over the previous fiscal year's figures. He provided a review of current CRA goals.

- Completing the Hacienda Rehabilitation Grant
- Business Incentive Program administration
- Completing a Main Street Landing development agreement
- Participating in the Harbors Infill Plan
- Revitalizing the Marine District
- Active participation with Greater New Port Richey Main Street (GNPRMS), the West Pasco Chamber of Commerce (WPCC), the HMA, and other City stakeholder organizations

An overview of proposed budget items was also presented.

- Business Incentive Grant funding
- SmartStart (business incubator) funding
- PEDC Board position funding
- Increased GNPRMS support
- Funding for additional CRA redevelopment projects

None coming forward for public comment, Chairman Marlowe returned the floor to the Board.

In response to Director DeBella Thomas's query, Mr. Iezzoni stated that the redevelopment incentives were specific to downtown businesses. Director Phillips asked for GNPRMS rebranding, to which Director DeBella Thomas requested that the organization have input in the decision-making. Director Phillips asked for additional detail regarding parking improvements, and suggested moving the SmartStart operation to another location in order to sell the property, a valuable business location. Additionally, he asked to consider expanding the grant availability to additional City locations.

Chairman Marlowe noted that Director DeBella Thomas submitted her resignation to GNPRMS, agreed that the organization should have input regarding its rebranding, and suggested increased City support. He was in favor of expanding grants to additional locations.

No action was required.

4 Business Incentive Grant Program, Page 10

Director Iezzoni stated the grants' purpose was to improve City appearance and assist with business expansion. He provided an overview of the various incentive programs, to be targeted toward professions, tourism, service organizations, social establishments, and other businesses that wanted an improved City image.

- Commercial Property Façade Grant
- Business Façade Grant
- Commercial Leasehold Improvement Grant
- Upper Floor Residential Grant

None coming forward for public comment, Chairman Marlowe returned the floor to the Board. All members wanted to see the Marine District section enlarged.

No action was required.

5 CRA Debt Refinancing, Page 26

Director Iezzoni recommended refinancing the CRA's 2005 A and B revenue bonds as quickly as possible, in order to take advantage of the current low interest rates. Finance Director Altman provided financial details, including a \$460,000 yearly indebtedness reduction from refinancing extending to the 2032 CRA termination date.

None coming forward for public comment, Chairman Marlowe returned the floor to the Board.

Director Phillips suggested a thorough examination of refinancing factors and future indebtedness. Director Davis stated he was not in favor of refinancing; Director Altman responded with reasons for refinance, adding there was no cost to examine and explore various City options. All other Board members voiced their approval, with Director Davis asking that the debt not be extended past 2025.

A motion was made to request the CRA to examine the existing bonds and make alternative recommendations. Motion made by Bill Phillips and seconded by Jeff Starkey. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Marlowe, Phillips, Davis, Starkey, DeBella Thomas.

6 Communications

Communications were tabled until the Regular City Council meeting.

7 Adjournment

There being no further business to consider, upon proper motion, the meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm, to reconvene at 7:00 pm with the Regular New Port Richey City Council Meeting.

Agendas may be viewed on the City's website: www.citynpr.orgThis meeting is open to the public. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 286.26, Florida Statutes, all persons with disabilities needing special accommodations to participate in this meeting should contact the City Clerk, 727-853-1024, not later than four days prior to said proceeding.