



Council of Fort Lauderdale
Civic Associations, Inc.
PO Box 30106
Fort Lauderdale FL 33303

THE COUNCIL OF FORT LAUDERDALE CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

General Membership Meeting

L.A. Lee YMCA Black Box Theater

1409 NW 6th Street Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311

On Tuesday, August 8, 2023

The meeting started at 6:33 P.M.

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Peloquin

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE

ROLL CALL The Roll Call of Member Associations established a quorum was present.

SPEAKERS and GUESTS

1. Speakers

A. Fort Lauderdale Police Department

I. Officer Victoria Negron-Rodriguez

II. Officer Timothy Ryan

The officers were unavailable to attend the meeting. This item will be rescheduled.

1. Speakers cont.

B. Fort Lauderdale's 2023/2024 Budget

I. Greg Chaverria, City Manager

II. Laura Reece, Budget Director

City Manager, Greg Chaverria, was introduced. He stated the 2023-24 city budget was focused on the priorities set by the City Commission at their January City Priority Workshop. Priorities are: Public Safety, Housing, Mitigation and Homelessness. There has been no increase to the city's Millage Rate in 17 years. Mr. Chaverria stated the budget is also prepared with the input and support from the Budget Advisory Board. The City Manager then introduced Laura Budget Director to give an overview of the budget. Ms. Reece stated the Budget process starts in January after the City Commission identifies its priorities in an annual workshop. The budget by the City Charter is presented by the City Manager in July. The average single family tax bill will increase by \$38. The Fire Assessment Fee will increase by \$17, and the Storm Water Assessment will increase by \$26. Starting in October, Water/Sewer rates will increase by \$11.53 and Sanitation Services will increase by \$1.83 per month on your Municipal Services Bill. This is the city's first budget of over one billion dollars.

1. Speakers Cont.

Ms. Reese stated this budget increases staffing the police department by 14 officers, and Fire-Rescue by 10. The CIP part of the budget will fund Bridges, sea walls, and sidewalks. Non-profit organizations will receive less funding than in previous years. **There will be two public hearings on the Budget. The first, September 5th, will be on the Millage Rate & Budget. The second Public Hearing will be on September 13th. At this Public Hearing discussion will also include the Non-Ad Valorem Fees on your property tax bill, Fire Assessment, and Storm Water Assessment Fees.** There was a question-and-answer session, with a comment that in future presentations to the Council, presentations could be provided in advance. Ms. Reese advised the budget information package is on the city web site, as well as an interactive comment section for comments on the budget. Mr. Brown thanked Ms. Reese and the budget staff for their dedication and hard work as a member of the Budget Advisory Board. **To access the budget on the City Website, go there, tap on the three slashes at the top left corner, find GOVERNMENT tap the + sign, then scroll down to FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY PORTAL To access the interactive Budget Balancing Act Portal go to: ftlcity.info/balancingact24**

C. Added to the Agenda: Noise Advisory Committee- Anthony Fajardo, Assistant City Manager-Mr. Fajardo attended the meeting to advise us on the consultant's report on noise. The document has not yet been completed. Noise meters were placed in various locations across the city. This report is to help the Noise Advisory Committee in forwarding comments and recommendations about noise to the City Commission. The noise being addressed by the committee is not noise from lawn services or vehicles. Those issues are addressed in other ways. The noise addressed here is types of noise from primarily places of business. In a question and answer session, it was asked about Airbnb's. Airbnb's are already controlled by stricter noise requirements but will be addressed by the Committee. Some of the way noise from business might be addressed are,

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zoning regulations or criteria in building design. Mr. Fajardo stated the Noise Advisory Committee Meetings are public, and comments are welcome. The Consultant's Report should be completed soon with a projection that the report will be presented to the City Commission by the end of the year.

D. Florida department of Transportation (FDOT) PD&E Study of US1/ Federal Highway and Sunrise Boulevard also known as the Gateway Intersection

- I. Gianna Angles, Communications Manager Quest Marketing & Communications**
- II. Kris McKirdy, P.E., FDOT Project Manager**
- III. Carlos Cejas, P.E., Consultant Project Manager (Gannett Fleming)**
- IV. Nelson More, P.E., Consultant Designer (Gannett Fleming)**
- V. Norelys Nodal – Transportation planner (Gannett Fleming)**

Kris McKirdy, P.E., FDOT Project Manager, introduced Carlos Cejas, P.E. Consultant Project Manager to inform us on the Gateway Intersection Proposals. This project is formally known as the **U.S.1 at SR 838 Sunrise Boulevard Intersection**. It is a two-year study. After the study would come the Right of Way Acquisition, then Design, and then Construction. At the Public Workshop for input, 9 alternatives were presented, and those 9 were briefly presented to the Council. The project has criteria and objectives to improve traffic flow and safety. The study also identified existing right of way and any areas available for possible acquisition. The next public input meeting will be either late October, or early November. The attendees listed on the agenda that did not speak were present in the audience.

A question was asked by an audience member about who is responsible for trash on I-95? A Council Board Member suggested they contact **Karen Warfel, Transportation Planning Program Manager. Karen's Email is: kwarfel@fortlauderdale.gov**

2. COUNCIL BUSINESS

c. Upcoming Council Socials in October and December (taken out of order)

The next Council Social in October will be on **October 30th in District IV. location to be determined. Holiday Social at our Regular Council Meeting, Tuesday, December 12th.**

- a. P3 Committee- Marilyn Mammano** Deferred to next meeting. Waiting for the City Attorney clarifications.
- b. Charter Revision Board – Jim Concannon** Mr. Concannon and President Peloquin, attended the last Charter Revision Board Meeting. (It is on YouTube). The meeting lasted over three hours. The Broward County Attorney was the Guest Speaker. Topics discussed were Lobbyists serving on advisory boards, sale or leasing of city property, Election redistricting. The Charter Revision Board makes recommendations for possible changes to the City Charter. The suggestions are presented to the City Commission, and if approved, the proposed changes must then be placed on an election ballot to be voted on by city voters. Mr. Concannon and President Peloquin have been attending the meetings to monitor for the Council. The meetings are public. Mr. Brown suggested that perhaps the Council could send a letter to the Charter Revision Board to co- host a meeting of the Council and Charter Revision Board with only Charter Revision issues. President Peloquin stated she felt it was a good idea, but very early in the process.

REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES General Membership Meeting Minutes of the June 13th, 2023 Council Meeting were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT No report was presented as the Treasurer was absent.

OLD BUSINESS None

FOR THE GOOD OF THE COMMUNITY None

ADJOURN 8:07 PM

Next Board Meeting August 28th, 2023

Next General Meeting September 12th, 2023

Purpose: Focus on the issues relating to presentation of the present and future welfare of the City of Fort Lauderdale and its neighborhoods and citizens, be proactive and reactive to those issues, communicate any recommendations to the proper authorities, strive to improve communication and create a stronger partnership between the City Government and the neighborhoods. **For more information:**

<https://cflca.org>

These minutes were submitted by Dennis Ulmer, Council Historian. Dennis volunteered to do the minutes as Cathy Stubbs our Recording Secretary could not attend the meeting,