

CITY OF PALM BAY, FLORIDA
INFRASTRUCTURE ADVISORY AND OVERSIGHT BOARD
MEETING 2022-08

Held on Monday, the 24th day of October 2022, in the City Hall Council Chambers, 120 Malabar Road, SE, Palm Bay, Florida.

This meeting was properly noticed pursuant to law; the minutes are on file in the Public Works Department located at 1050 Malabar Road, SW, Palm Bay, Florida. The minutes are not a verbatim transcript, but a brief summary of the discussions and actions taken at the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Gaume, Chairperson, at 7:00 PM. Mr. Gaume announced that the July IAOB meeting has been cancelled.

ROLL CALL:

CHAIRPERSON:	Thomas Gaume	Present
VICE CHAIRPERSON:	Rebecca Thibert	Present
MEMBER:	Ann-Marie Fraser	Present
MEMBER:	Paul Edwards	Present
MEMBER:	David Jones	Present
MEMBER:	Terry Muller	Absent
MEMBER:	Vacant	

ALSO PRESENT:

Frank Watanabe, City Engineer

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

1. Meeting 2022-04; June 27, 2022

Motion by Mr. Jones, seconded by Ms. Thibert, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Thibert questioned the meeting number of 2022-04 as she felt it should be 2022-06. Mr. Watanabe advised he would check on this.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: (Non-agenda items only)

There were no public comments.

BUSINESS:

1. Update on the City's Utilities Department – Chris Little, Utilities Director

Mr. Little provided an update on the City's Utilities Department, which was also presented to City Council in September. Utilities is an enterprise-funded department under the City of Palm Bay and covers water, wastewater and reclaimed water. The department has two (2) locations (northeast site and Bayside Lakes site) and includes the following divisions: Administration, Business Operations, Compliance, Engineering and Operations.

Ms. Fraser questioned the salaries and increases to City staff. Mr. Little commented that all was good and awaiting the salary survey. He advised that the department is about ten percent (10%) short on current operations staff and that he would like to add another water maintenance team in Fiscal Year 2024.

Mr. Gaume asked about reclaimed water to other parts of the city. Mr. Little stated that there was limited customer base to support expansion of the reclaimed water lines.

Ms. Fraser inquired about developments and PUB paying their fair share of impact fees. Mr. Little advised that the developers were contributing their fair share and weighted amount with the other department comments and impact fees.

Ms. Fraser inquired about the schedule of the new water treatment plant. Mr. Little mentioned it was behind schedule, with completion anticipated in late 2024.

Mr. Gaume asked about deep wells and environmental impact. Mr. Little noted that standard DEP mechanical testing are conducted of all wells and Utilities passed the DEP requirements. He stated that depth is 3000 feet and that the wells last forever.

Mr. Jones questioned the budget as it appeared that the department spent more than revenue in 2023, with revenue at \$63 million and expenses at \$75 million. Mr. Little stated that the Fiscal Year budget sums do not reflect the Utility Fund balance or the CIP projects.

Ms. Thibert asked what the SRF cost was used for. Mr. Little advised it was for the new wastewater plant construction.

Ms. Fraser questioned increasing the Utility Impact Fees to cover operating costs and Mr. Little noted that fees were reviewed and adjusted every five (5) years as required, with

growth mainly from residential. Mr. Little stated that there was seven (7) to eight (8) MGD usage of water and total available was 14 MDG. He advised that the department was at max capacity as they were constrained by DEP to 8 MDG.

Mr. Gaume commented that the past Utility Advisory Board could be part of the IAOB. Mr. Little stated that the reason for canceling the Board was that there was no new business items and no public interest.

2. Agenda requests for future meetings

Mr. Gaume discussed canceling the November and December 2022 meetings.

Motion by Mr. Jones, seconded by Ms. Fraser, to cancel the November and December 2022 meetings. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:33 P.M.

Thomas Gaume, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Frank Watanabe, Recorder