

Budget Committee
Volusia Growth Management Commission

**MINUTES FOR
MEETING HELD
Wednesday, January 28, 2015**

County Council Chambers Conference Room
Thomas C. Kelly Administration Center
123 W. Indiana Avenue
DeLand, FL

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Committee Chairman, Roger Sonnenfeld.

The following Budget Committee members were present: Committee Chairman Roger Sonnenfeld, Debbie Connors, Douglas deLeon, Glyn Slay and Sandra Walters.

Approval of the Minutes of the August 27, 2014 Budget Committee Meeting:

Douglas deLeon made a motion to approve the minutes of the Budget Committee meeting held on August 27, 2014 as presented; seconded by Debbie Connors. Motion carried unanimously.

Review 2014-15 Fiscal YTD Expenditures

Mr. Sonnenfeld reviewed the year-to-date expenditures. He also explained that \$175 in member travel reimbursements from the prior year had been returned to the County and was credited to the contract services budget. A journal entry is being processed to transfer the credit to the travel budget.

Mr. Slay commented on the costs associated with legal ads and questioned the necessity of legal ads. General discussion ensued regarding notice requirements and several members stated it is a requirement of the State as a mechanism to notify the public.

Mr. Sonnenfeld stated that we are 25% into the current fiscal year and we have a surplus in budgeted funds. He stated we are at only 3% of our contract services budget, although there are pending invoices totaling approximately \$5,092 which are not included in the worksheet total expenses.

Discuss Preliminary 2015-16 Proposed Budget

Mr. Sonnenfeld stated that the proposed budget figures include the \$25,000 litigation contingency that the County generally removes from the budget. He stated if it is taken out by the County, the overall budget as proposed would be approximately \$12,000 less than the current approved budget. Mr. Sonnenfeld stated the commission generally includes the \$25,000 litigation contingency each year and if the County pressures the VGMC to reduce the proposed budget, it is usually removed. Mr. Slay asked what happens if it is removed and the VGMC needs the funding. If that occurs, the VGMC would go back to the County to request additional funding.

Mr. Sonnenfeld stated there is an increase in the proposed salaries budget, pointing out the Operations Manager received a 3.5% salary increase which was County-wide for employees. He

also stated the contract services budget for legal and planning staff, which is based upon estimates provided by staff, is \$12,000 less than the current fiscal year approved budget.

Mr. Slay asked about the spike in applications reviewed in the 2012-13 fiscal year. Ms. Smith stated that the City of New Smyrna Beach has been annexing many properties and much of the increase in applications in that fiscal year is a result of applications submitted by the City of New Smyrna Beach.

Overall, Mr. Sonnenfeld stated he felt good about the proposed 2015-16 budget numbers, and there was general agreement by the committee members. He stated he will present it for discussion and comments by the full commission at tonight's regular meeting. Thereafter, another meeting of the Budget Committee will be scheduled 30 minutes prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting to vote on a recommendation to present to the full commission for approval at the regular meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:22 p.m.


Chairman Date: 3/25/15