



Roundtable of Volusia County Elected Officials MEETING MINUTES November 19, 2018

CALL TO ORDER - Noon

The meeting was called to order in the Dennis R. McGee Room of Daytona Beach International Airport (DBIA), 700 Catalina Drive, Daytona Beach, Florida.

Those attending included the following Roundtable members: Roundtable Vice Chair and Volusia County Chair Ed Kelley; DeLand Vice Mayor Leigh Matusick; Daytona Beach Mayor Derrick Henry; Daytona Beach Shores Mayor Nancy Miller; DeBary Vice Mayor Lita Handy-Peters; DeBary Mayor Elect Karen Chasez; Holly Hill Mayor Chris Via; Lake Helen Mayor Daisy Raisler; New Smyrna Beach Mayor Russ Owen; Oak Hill Mayor Douglas Gibson; Orange City Mayor Gary Blair; Ormond Beach Mayor Bill Partington; Pierson Mayor James Sowell; Ponce Inlet City Council Member Lois Paritsky; Port Orange Mayor Don Burnette; South Daytona Mayor Bill Hall; and Volusia County School District Board Chair Linda Cuthbert.

Others attending included Michael Booker, Daytona Beach Shores City Manager; Michael Pleus, DeLand City Manager; Brenda DeWees, Edgewater Interim City Manager; Joe Forte, Holly Hill City Manager; Becky Witte, Lake Helen Interim City Clerk; Pam Brangaccio, New Smyrna Beach City Manager; Dale Arrington, City Manager, Orange City; Joyce Shanahan, Ormond Beach City Manager; Jake Johansson, Port Orange City Manager; Joe Yarbrough, South Daytona City Manager; Tom Russell, Superintendent, Volusia County School District; George Recktenwald, Interim Deputy County Manager, Volusia County; Deb Denys, Volusia County Council Vice Chair, District 3; Billie Wheeler, Volusia County Council Member, District 2; Larry Bartlett, Volusia County Property Appraiser; John Booker, Volusia County Government Affairs; Jamie Seaman, Deputy County Attorney; Clay Ervin, Volusia County Growth and Resource Management Director; Jon Cheney, Volusia County Traffic Engineer; Tadd Kasbeer, Volusia County Construction Engineer; Sarah Presley, Volusia County Growth and Resource Management Staff Assistant; Phil Veski, New Smyrna Beach Public Information Officer; Duane DeFreese, Executive Director, Indian River Lagoon Council and Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program; Dr. Kent Sharples, President and CEO, CEO Business Alliance; John Penny, Former Mayor, Holly Hill; Abby Johnson, Intergovernmental Coordinator, St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD); Jim Cameron, Senior Vice President of Government Relations, Daytona Regional Chamber of Commerce; Betty Holness, County Council Liaison; and Jeff Crumbley, Volusia County Community Information. Taking minutes was Debbie Kelley with the County Manager's Office.

WELCOME

Roundtable Vice Chairman Ed Kelley said Mayor Apgar would not be in attendance today due to a family matter. All members introduced themselves. He welcomed those attending and introduced Billie Wheeler, Volusia County Council Member, District 2; Deb Denys, Volusia

County Council Vice Chair, District 3; Larry Bartlett, Volusia County Property Appraiser; and John Penny, Former Mayor, Holly Hill. Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

THE INDIAN RIVER LAGOON COMPREHENSIVE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

Deb Denys, Volusia County Council Vice Chair, District 3, introduced Duane DeFreese, Executive Director, Indian River Lagoon (IRL) Council. A unique fact about Volusia County is that it is part of the National Estuary Program (NEP). There are 27 in the nation, and Volusia County is fortunate to fall into that category.

Mr. DeFreese acknowledged Deb Denys, Volusia County Council Vice Chair, District 3; Billie Wheeler, Volusia County Council Member, District 2; and Douglas Gibson, Mayor, Oak Hill for their work on the IRL Council. There are 38 incorporated cities and six counties along the lagoon. After 25 years of operating, the national estuary program was collapsed three years ago and reorganized with a specific purpose. The purpose of the reorganization was to provide greater say and greater leadership at the local community level. More than 100 citizens, scientists and industry leader volunteers serve along with the *IRL Council Board of Directors*. For the past three years, three transformational moves were done. In year one, the business model was reorganized. That involved much work under a new independent special district in the state of Florida. It included support from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), United States Environmental Protection Agency, the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD), South Florida Water Management District, and five counties. The reorganization brought more money to table. In year two, it was beginning to build the new culture. In year three, there was a mandate under the *Clean Water Act* and national authorization to relook at how the business is being done at restoring the Indian River Lagoon (IRL).

The Path Forward Vital Signs Wheel that was provided is the heart of a preliminary final draft of the Indian River Lagoon (IRL) Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan. The IRL Council recognizes how important it is that local communities are invested, so they are watching out for each one's home rule authority. The Council wants to make sure they are non-regulatory. They will not tell you what to do or how to do it. Their job is to help you get there.

On *The Path Forward* wheel, the north half is all blue. That is the ecological side of the equation, the One Lagoon side. It is composed of the *Habitats, Water Quality and Living Resources* components. The lower half of the wheel is composed of social, economic and infrastructure issues that many communities are actively involved in. The IRL Council would like everyone to go to <http://www.irlcouncil.com/ccmp-comments.html>, read the preliminary final draft, and comment on it. The Florida League of Cities has been very helpful by providing input. The IRL Council wants to make sure this language is correct. The goal is to have the plan move to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), get certified, and move back to the IRL Council sometime in February 2019.

The next IRL Council meeting will be held in February 2019 at the Brannon Center in New Smyrna Beach. If everything goes according to the normal plan, the IRL Council will have a new Council chair and it will be Council Member Deb Denys, representing Volusia County. The IRL Council chair position rotates through each of the counties. Hopefully, at the December 14, 2018, "All Hands" meeting, this plan will be adopted as a preliminary final draft. The IRL Council will certify the plan through both the EPA Region 4 and Headquarters, which will set into motion everything that has to be done for the next 10 years. If a city is doing a stormwater project and there is a project list that is not part of this plan, it will be set aside.

On the backside of *The Path Forward* handout is the *IRL Council and IRLNEP 2019 Legislative Request*. The information provided is what the IRL Council Board of Directors has authorized Mr. DeFreese to do as it relates to both federal funding and state funding. Probably the first and foremost thing for everyone to do is to get state local cost share dollars at the DEP level. There is a need to continue to support the very strong partnerships with the SJRWMD for their funding efforts.

The recent Brevard County half-cent sales tax was anticipated to bring in \$34 million year, but now it is anticipated to bring in \$40 million year. The money from the half-cent sales tax is going to the Indian River Lagoon. It is important for everyone to weigh in. If there is something a community doesn't like or there is language in this plan that can't be lived with, then Mr. DeFreese or Council Member Denys needs to be contacted. Changes will be made to this plan up until November 30. On December 14, it will go to final draft. There is no idea how long the certification process will take. Hopefully, the final approved plan will be back in time for the February 2019 IRL Council board meeting in New Smyrna Beach. We know what needs to be done, and we need to put the money on the infrastructure improvements to get there.

Mr. Kelley thanked Mr. DeFreese for the presentation and thanked Council Member Denys for taking a leadership role in making this presentation possible. He discussed the importance of improving water quality and said everyone will benefit from it now and in the future.

Gary Blair, Mayor, Orange City, asked what the buy-in costs would be. Mr. DeFreese responded saying the total would be between \$1.6 billion to \$1.7 billion.

IMPACT FEE STUDY

Clay Ervin, Director, Volusia County Growth and Resource Management Department, discussed the *Volusia County Public Information Presentation Thoroughfare Road Impact Fee* PowerPoint presentation. On October 2, 2018, the Volusia County Council received the updated impact fee study, completed by Duncan and Associates. The firm was retained in 2015 to initiate the analysis so the county impact fees could be updated and the county could move forward with some additional funding for the needed county thoroughfare roadways.

Today's presentation is the public information presentation that was conducted at four meetings in four locations. The County Council directed county staff to make sure the public was provided as much information as possible. Meetings were carried out at the various impact fee zones. Those zones are DeLand, Deltona, New Smyrna Beach and Daytona Beach.

Thoroughfare Road Impact Fees are fees that are collected specifically for the expansion of the County Thoroughfare System. The system consists of major arterial roadways that feed among all the cities. It is not local roadways or the interstates, only county thoroughfares. It is a way to measure the cost of capacity on a roadway. A new house or a new business consumes so much capacity on that roadway that we are going to charge an equal amount for that amount of capacity.

In 1986, the county adopted the first Thoroughfare Road Impact Fee system. It has been updated 16 times since then. The latest was in 2017. In 2007, a study was done, but there was not a fee increase due to the beginning economic hard times. In 2011, when the country was in one of the worst recessions, the County Council directed staff to suspend impact fees for some uses, but not all. This was done to address some of the concerns identified by the development community and the general population; it was an attempt to get the economy going again. In 2015, the County Council awarded a contract to Duncan and Associates to review Volusia County Impact Fees.

Mr. Ervin discussed and described in detail the statutory and regulatory aspects that have to be followed according to Florida Statutes. He also provided detailed information regarding what is studied, current fees, proposed fees, net changes, preliminary revenue estimates, estimated revenues, existing credits, future credits, repayment of bond, future needs, revenue summary, and process overview.

Joe Yarbrough, City Manager, South Daytona, said the proposed half-cent sales tax had been put on hold until a decision was made regarding impact fees. Prior to the impact fee discussions, all cities were in unanimous agreement regarding the sales tax. There is a desperate need for the proposed sales tax. After discussions with the city managers, there is no reason to think the support is not there and the need has not gone away.

Dr. Kent Sharples, President and CEO, CEO Business Alliance, said the Alliance is still 100 percent behind the proposed half-cent sales tax. The Alliance has the same consultant as before. Another preliminary survey of the community would probably need to be done, and the Alliance is ready to start when everyone else is.

Mr. Yarbrough feels there is a need to make sure the information is not “dated” on what the public will support and what they are lukewarm in supporting. As a mayoral group, there is a need to be thinking about a time schedule. Much of that will depend on the consultant’s report, which the private sector is paying for. It is interesting that 19 counties passed 19 sales tax referendums in the state November 2018 election.

A lengthy discussion continued among several Roundtable members regarding the proposed half-cent sales tax and impact fees.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Jim Cameron, Senior Vice President of Government Relations, Daytona Regional Chamber of Commerce, said the Chamber would be glad to work with everyone on educational campaigns for the proposed half-cent sales tax. The organizational session of the Legislature in Tallahassee will be held Tuesday, November 20, 2018. The Volusia County Legislative Delegation hearing is going to be held at the Daytona Beach City Hall on from 1 to 5 p.m. Monday, December 17, 2018.

Big John, Holly Hill, asked Clay Ervin when impact fees were collected. He wanted to know if the fees were collected at the time of permitting or at issuance of Certificate of Occupancy. Mr. Ervin responded saying the Volusia County Thoroughfare Road Impact Fees are due prior to issuance of Certificate of Occupancy, but can be paid at the time of permitting.

MEMBER COMMENTS

Michael Pleus, City Manager, DeLand, conveyed information from Bob Apgar, Roundtable Chair and City of DeLand Mayor. Mayor Apgar wants suggested topics for future Roundtable meetings. At the present time, he thinks discussions regarding Amendment 10 implementation would be appropriate.

The mayor wants to encourage all Volusia County cities to join the Florida League of Mayors. Historically, Volusia County has had approximately 50 percent participation, and statements have been sent out. He is coordinating to have the Florida League of Mayors Regional Roundtable held in Volusia County. The topic, date, time and place have yet to be determined. League President Surrency’s priority is for mayors to serve locally. In connection with the Roundtable there will be hands-on service projects. Currently, the mayor is thinking about feeding homeless residents in two locations. The locations would be the Interfaith Kitchen for

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West Volusia mayors and Halifax Urban Ministries (HUM) for the East Volusia mayors. Volunteers are needed for the east side.

Mayor Apgar wanted to thank the outgoing members of the Elected Officials Roundtable for their service to the Roundtable and their cities. He also welcomed the incoming representatives.

Daisy Raisler, Mayor, Lake Helen, welcomed all new incoming elected officials. She invited attendees to the City of Lake Helen Christmas Parade at 4 p.m. Saturday, November 24, 2018.

Don Burnette, Mayor, Port Orange, recommended that incoming mayors join the Volusia League of Cities. He suggested New Smyrna Beach Mayor Russ Owen and Edgewater Mayor Mike Thomas become very knowledgeable on the Indian River Lagoon as quickly as possible. He said Oak Hill Mayor Doug Gibson, who has done much work on it, needs the assistance. He advised everyone that Tracy Ream, Finance Director, Port Orange, passed away unexpectedly.

Chris Via, Mayor, Holly Hill, said it is an honor to be serving and looks forward to the future.

Russ Owen, Mayor, New Smyrna Beach, looks forward to working with everyone. Many of the communities do not realize where county issues stop and city issues begin.

Lois Paritsky, Town Council Member, Ponce Inlet, said the Town of Ponce Inlet passed a resolution the previous week supporting legislation that restores local zoning authority pertaining to short-term vacation rentals in single-family and multi-family residential zoning districts. The resolution opposes all state legislation that further erodes municipal authority. Per the resolution, each mayor and other elected officials will receive a copy of the resolution. Ponce Inlet is asking each municipality to consider the resolution for passage. They want to get ahead of the anticipated legislation at the next session, by ensuring adequate time for consideration by all Volusia County municipalities on this particular issue. Also, they want to express the local elective official rejection of the state legislature's continuous attempts to erode home-rule.

Ed Kelley, Roundtable Vice Chair and Volusia County Council Chair, said Mayor Apgar is willing to stay on as the Elected Officials Roundtable Chair through the impact fee issues. The mayor asked that Mr. Kelley stay on as Roundtable Vice Chair, and he agreed.

The Volusia League of Cities will be hosted by Volusia County on Thursday, November 29. The County has been trying to bring the county and cities together to work on issues of concern. It is very important for everyone to work together.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 1:12 p.m.