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**OF BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**OF JULY 12, 2006**

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**BUDGET WORKSHOP OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY**  
**COMMISSIONERS**

The Board of County Commissioners of Indian River County, Florida, met at the County Commission Chambers, 1840 25<sup>th</sup> Street, Vero Beach, Florida, on Thursday, July 12, 2006. Present were Chairman Arthur R. Neuberger, Vice Chairman Gary C. Wheeler, Commissioners Wesley S. Davis, and Thomas S. Lowther. Commissioner Sandra L. Bowden was absent due to illness in the family. Also present were County Administrator Joseph A. Baird, Management & Budget Director Jason E. Brown, County Attorney William G. Collins II, Executive Aide to the Board Kimberly Massung, and Deputy Clerk Patricia M. Ridgely.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Neuberger called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**INVOCATION**

Public Works Director Jim Davis delivered the Invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Neuberger led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**GENERAL OVERVIEW - JOSEPH A. BAIRD, ADMINISTRATOR**

Administrator Baird used a PowerPoint presentation to aid in his budget message. He advised that the proposed budget for FY 2006-2007 is \$472,063,352 and is approximately \$25 million increase over last year's budget. The increase is due to several factors (see page 2 in Budget Workshop folder) which include the Jail expansion, Sheriff's raises, new County Administration buildings and EOC, repair of fire stations, property insurance increases, increased fuel costs, electricity, retirement and health insurance, cost of living adjustments, 69 new

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positions (See Table 2 on page 4) (38 BCC, 28 Sheriff, 1 each Clerk of Court, Property Appraiser, and Supervisor of Elections), and implementation of the new GIS. He reviewed Table 3 (page 5) giving the proposed millage for the General Fund, M.S.T.U. Fund, Emergency Services District, Land Acquisition Bond, and Land Acquisition 2004. The Aggregate Millage proposed is 5.3502 or about 14.5% below the current fiscal year. There will be no increases in utility rates or golf course fees, and no increases for service. There are several reductions in the proposed budget including the General Fund millage rate. Administrator Baird responded to Commissioners' questions, as well as, comments on 3% caps of all real property tax assessments, and suggested that the Constitutional Officers' budgets be capped.

Administrator Baird advised that under the proposed budget the owner of a typical house valued at \$250,000 with Homestead Exemption could expect a decrease in taxes of about \$74 in the unincorporated area and other areas except Indian River Shores.

## **GENERAL FUND**

Administrator Baird announced that the proposed General Fund budget is \$85,689,320, an increase of \$7,681,259 or 9.9%. He listed the increases that have affected the General Fund budget. The proposed millage is 3.1794, or a 9.7% decrease under the current year's budget. He displayed a pie chart (see pages 7) to emphasize the Constitutional Officers' 57% portion of the General Fund. He reviewed the new positions requested.

Commissioner Lowther commended Administrator Baird on this budget particularly in light of the past hurricanes. Administrator Baird cautioned that if the Commission wants to put a cap on property value increases and on the budget, then it would be necessary to put a similar cap on the Constitutional Officers' budgets.

At the request of Vice Chairman Wheeler, Administrator Baird explained the process in the Sebastian Community Redevelopment Agency. He noted that funding the Fellsmere CRA is anticipated for next year. He highlighted all the department budgets under the BCC. (See page 18) He also noted that there would be a reduction of 3 positions because the Brackett Library will not open as originally scheduled; the budget reduction for that would be \$63,826.

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## **MUNICIPAL SERVICE TAXING UNIT (M.S.T.U.)**

Administrator Baird next advised that the recommended FY 2006-2007 M.S.T.U. budget is \$31,440,637, (see pages 9 and 21 in the budget message) an increase of \$4,006,937 or 14.6% and the proposed millage is 1.1336, or 18.9% below the current millage rate and is at rollback. He advised of three new positions included: in this section of the budget: a lead Code Enforcement position and two (2) full-time lifeguards. Six (6) part-time lifeguards are being cut but 25 part-time lifeguards would remain.

Administrator Baird announced and explained the proposed budgets for Recreation, Planning & Development, Planning, Code Enforcement, Parks, Road and Bridge, Telecommunications and the Tax Collector. (See page 21)

In response to Commissioner Lowther's suggestion about combining Parks and Recreation, Administrator Baird responded that he is keeping these departments' budgets separate in order to get a good handle on the cost centers.

In response to Commissioner Davis question regarding the efficiency of keeping tree ordinance enforcement in Code Enforcement, Administrator Baird explained he wanted the individuals to stay within their own areas of (expertise) responsibilities.

## **TRANSPORTATION FUND**

Administrator Baird announced that the recommended budget for the Transportation Fund is \$18,119,253, an increase of \$1,986,744 or 12.3% over the current year. (See page 10) He attributed the budget increase to 8 new positions, salary adjustments, retirement and health insurance rate increases, GIS implementation, and an increase in road materials and fuels. He also advised that they were having a hard time in recruiting engineers due to a national shortage and that he is losing employees due to our pay plan. Our new Human Resources Director Jim Sexton is looking at possibly hiring a recruiter for some positions. Administrator Baird mentioned the possibility of a hiring freeze if building (new construction) slows down. In response to road building concerns, he noted that \$900,000 for roads scheduled for construction has been moved into the gas sales tax budget.

There was a brief discussion about speed humps.

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## **EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT**

Administrator Baird advised that the total budget proposed is \$30,063,673, a decrease of \$2,619,734 or 8%. The decrease of about \$6 million was due to hurricane repairs to stations. He announced a proposed millage rate of 1.7639, 11.4% over the current of 1.9911, but still above rollback. He outlined the costs and repairs scheduled for next year, salary adjustments, the training tower, a reduction of 6 positions due to consolidation, retirement and health insurance rate increases, and fuel cost increases. There was a brief discussion on the training tower, recent hiring freeze, and the status of the construction on Station 2 on the beach.

Commissioner Lowther brought up cross-training within the system, new trainees, fueling fire trucks and ambulances, and re-stocking fees. He complimented Administrator Baird on keeping costs down in the process of merging of the fire fighters and paramedics.

## **AGGREGATE MILLAGE**

Administrator Baird announced that the proposed aggregate millage for next fiscal year is 5.3502, compared to 5.9809 for the current year. It is a decrease from last year by 14.55% and 8.37% above rollback. This is a benchmark set by the State. It has to be announced, but no one pays it because it is a combination of all the ad valorem proceeds from all the districts divided by the entire taxable value of the county except the land acquisition bond.

## **ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE LAND ACQUISITION BOND**

Administrator Baird announced that this year's debt service millage on the 1992 bond issue for \$26 million was .1789 and it is proposed for the next fiscal year to be .1406. The proposed budget is \$2,423,262.

Administrator Baird announced that the proposed budget for the debt service of the 2004 Land Acquisition Bonds is \$4,597,671 and the millage is .2702. This bond was issued about 45 days ago. A \$250,000 home with Homestead Exemption in the unincorporated area (except Indian River Shores) will see a decrease of about \$74 in their taxes. He explained how values are increasing on non-homesteaded homes.

A lengthy discussion ensued on the values of non-homesteaded houses and putting a 3% cap on all property values. Administrator Baird cautioned against and was totally opposed to

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putting a 3% cap on all property values for various reasons one of which is that our bond rating would go down and it would hurt the citizens in this county terribly. Commissioners expressed their opinions for and against this 3% cap. They also discussed about capping the Constitutional Officers' budgets.

As the discussion ensued many additional points were made that supported Administrator Baird's advice. Vice Chairman Wheeler credited Administrator Baird for his tight budgeting efforts, noting that the County is well-run under his guidance. Commissioner Lowther agreed and thought it was tremendous that people who have homesteaded property have seen their taxes lowered. He thought a tax cut across-the-board would be extremely detrimental to the County and mainly on the level of service. Chairman Neuberger supported Administrator Baird's efforts in keeping costs down.

Commissioner Davis felt that the budget for next year is way over last year's and advocated a cut in the budget across the board.

Administrator Baird emphasized that putting a cap on the millage or on spending would not be in the best interest of the County or the citizens. He commented that the Legislature has continued to make the counties pay for more and more for State mandates.

A bar graph was shown comparing IRC's FY 2005/06 General Fund Millage to surrounding and similar size counties' millage rates. (See page 3 of the PowerPoint presentation.) Administrator Baird pointed out that IRC's millage is 3.15 and St. Lucie County is at 7.6. He reiterated that it would be extremely shortsighted and not in the best interest of the community on long-term outlook to have a millage cap.

The meeting was in recess from 10:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

Chairman Neuberger announced that there had been requests from the public to speak.

**Duane Weiss**, on behalf of the Taxpayers Association, reviewed his hand out of data that was displayed on the overhead screen. He explained that they took a different approach by looking at the total change of costs for operating the County from July 2004 to July 2005 to July 2006 and the percentage changes. (See the handout in the backup entitled Ad Valorem Taxing

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Funds Revenue.) He expressed appreciation to Director Brown for his assistance in providing information.

Administrator Baird and Budget Director Brown refuted and corrected numbers from Mr. Weiss' presentation and pointed out that the July figures were from the budget workshops and not from the final budgets where changes had been made and anticipated costs were not included.

**Frank Coffey** talked about the fire/rescue budget, in particular the decrease over last year's budget, and pointed out that the buildings are also included in their budget. He noted that the Sheriff does not have to include buildings in his budget.

### **STREETLIGHTING DISTRICT**

Administrator Baird reviewed the streetlighting districts' process and purpose and announced the charge for each streetlight district listed in the PowerPoint presentation. He noted there was no change from last year.

### **OTHER M.S.B.U.**

Administrator Baird advised there are two Municipal Service Benefit Units: East Gifford Stormwater Watershed and Vero Lake Estates. He commented that the higher the County charges on this district, the more road work they can get done. It is not too costly for the owner of a single parcel, but is for the owner of multiple parcels. Staff proposes to keep it the same but in the long run, he thought it should be increased to get more roads done. A brief discussion ensued during which Director Brown explained the "cash forward" procedure. Administrator Baird advised that staff was pursuing grants for the area but those amounts are not included until notification of the Grant award.

### **STATE AGENCIES**

Administrator Baird announced each of the State Agencies' budgets from the Non-Departmental Budget Requests booklet and advised that staff proposed a maximum 3.5% increase for each agency. He explained that the County subsidizes State agencies adding to their other revenue sources.

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**Public Defender Diamond Litty** expressed her thanks and told of the work done by her office.

**Court Administrator Thomas A. Genung** advised that he sent over his amended budget last week for an additional \$1,641 but it was not included in the Administration's proposed budget. He advised that the amendment was made at the request of the Chief Judge so the judges could hold a retreat to provide better service locally. It also included money for State of Florida seals that the State would not provide.

Administrator Baird took the position that the request did not make the deadline and that it should be covered in the Article V money.

MOTION WAS MADE by Commissioner Davis,  
SECONDED by Commissioner Lowther, to not include  
the request for an additional \$1,641 in the proposed  
budget for Court Administration.

Under discussion **Mr. Genung** stated the funds would come out of "court innovations" funds.

Director Brown explained the source of funding and that the revenue to that fund was already less than the proposed budget. He believed the County should not get into a position of starting to pick up the tab.

Administrator Baird asked if Mr. Genung could re-prioritize his budget and cut something else. He thought Mr. Genung could give more detailed information and emphasized the deadline.

**Mr. Genung** explained that the 19<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit is in transition and the Chief Judge has a vision to make it one of the leading Circuits in the State. In order to do that, the judges need to get together for a judicial and administrative retreat for consensus building. If this is not approved, he might have to come back to the Board.

Discussion ensued with more facts and figures and amounts being requested from other counties in the District.

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The Chairman CALLED THE QUESTION and the motion carried 3-1 (Chairman Neuberger opposed; Commissioner Bowden absent).

**Bob Qualm**, CEO of **New Horizons**, thanked staff and the Board for their support. He introduced Gina Foster, their Director of their Children's Services and office in Vero Beach. He noted that they are involved with the court system and there is a significant difference in operation now from county to county in the 19<sup>th</sup> Judicial District. He understood the need for consistency in the counties in the circuit court.

**Elizabeth Mackenzie**, representing the **Guardian ad Litem** program, expressed thanks to the Board for its support for the program and for the kids of Indian River County.

**Ernesto Rubio**, representing the Indian River County **Health Department**, also expressed thanks for the support of the Board in helping them to help the people of the county.

## **CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS**

### **CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT – JEFFREY K. BARTON**

Administrator Baird announced that the Clerk's proposed budget is \$1,284,494. \$1,243,994 is from the General Fund and \$40,500 from the Court Facilities Fund; an increase of \$192,382 from the General Fund.

**Clerk of Court Jeffrey K. Barton** advised that although he was asking for a 17.4% increase he reminded them and emphasized that last year he decreased his budget by 42% and that was probably more than he should have. He pointed out that his decrease was not part of Article V's requirements for last year; it was accomplished by moving his IT (Information Technology/Services) department out of the General Fund 3 years ahead of the required time, to accommodate the Board and bring expenses down. He was adding one new position and had just learned yesterday of one retirement. His proposed budget is to operate the offices of Finance and Clerk to the Board and has nothing to do with running the Court system. He advised that his \$70,000 request (a 6.5 % increase in his budget) is to purchase new software to streamline the Value Adjustment Board (VAB) process; it would coordinate the Clerk to the Board's office with the citizens, the Special Magistrates, and the Property Appraiser's office. The software is

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new and we were given a break on the cost as one of the first- two counties in Florida to use the system.

**Frank Coffey** commented on the 17.6% increase as well as salary increases, stating it was his understanding that this might be Mr. Barton's last time to submit a budget.

**Clerk Barton** responded that his current term does not end until 2008 and he has not yet made a definite decision on running for another term.

### **TAX COLLECTOR – CHARLES W. SEMBLER**

Administrator Baird explained that the Tax Collector's budget is estimated at \$1,205,064, explaining that the Tax Collector does not have to submit his budget to the State until August 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Assistant Tax Collector Jeff Smith**, advised that Tax Collector Charlie Sembler was not present because he had another meeting but sent his regards. He explained the sliding scale percentage rates prescribed by State law regarding the collection of taxes by the Tax Collector's office. He pointed out that their operating budget has consistently been under 5% per year and a record number of dollars has been returned to the Board each year and will be this year. The office works aggressively on collecting the taxes and as a result they have collected all but .056% of the total \$252 million tax roll; the remainder, approximately \$141,000, is in litigation. They will be going to warrant with 12 personal property tax warrants, in comparison to 540+ when Mr. Sembler went into the office. He noted that all of the tax certificates were sold and not one to the County.

A discussion was held concerning the differences in Workers' Compensation budgets and rates for the personnel in Constitutional Officers' staffs.

### **PROPERTY APPRAISER – DAVID C. NOLTE**

**Comptroller for Tax Collector Dick Tallman** offered to answer questions and advised that David Nolte was at an out-of-town meeting.

Administrator Baird advised that the Property Appraiser's proposed budget is \$4,020,371. The taxing funds portion is \$3,609,791. The portion in the General Fund is \$3,182,548.

There were no questions.

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**SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS – KAY CLEM**

**Supervisor of Elections Kay Clem** advised that once again her office has unfunded State mandates requiring her to have additional equipment by 2008 to provide for the statewide voter registration database. She explained it would allow people to change their address on Election Day but there is no live/real time hookup database until 2008. There is also a requirement for the poll workers to count the number of signatures at the end of Election Day and compare those with the number of votes on the voting machines that day; this is a task they have done in the past the day after election. New software will automate and make that process more accurate.

In response to Commissioner Lowther, **Mrs. Clem** explained the reason for the small print size on cable TV after the March election and advised that it has been corrected.

**Mrs. Clem** explained her increased warehousing needs and mentioned that she would probably come back next year for funding for paper audit trails. She believed it was a good move to move her office out to the 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue site. When that decision was made, the sitting Commission agreed to it with the provision that she would have a satellite office in the new County Administration Building and she had agreed but reminded them that it would need to be staffed resulting in an on-going expense. She did not want or need that office.

**Mrs. Clem**, Commissioners, and Administrator Baird discussed whether or not an Elections satellite office in the County Administration Complex necessitated the additional expense. There was CONSENSUS to not have such an office and that the expenses in the proposed budget for that office would be cut.

**Frank Coffey** commented that the Space Needs Committee's recommendation was to have the Elections office in the same complex with all the other government functions, including Emergency Services. He understood there were good reasons for separating the Elections office and the Emergency Services Department and his opinion was that Mrs. Clem knew what was best for her office.

The meeting was recessed for a lunch break at 11:54 a.m.

The Chairman reconvened the meeting at 1:30 p.m. with all members present who attended the morning session.

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## **PUBLIC HEARING – SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL DISTRICT (SWDD)**

Those minutes have been prepared separately.

At 1:40 p.m., the Chairman resumed the budget workshop agenda.

## **CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS (CONTINUED)**

### **SHERIFF – ROY RAYMOND**

Administrator Baird introduced the Sheriff's proposed budget for a total of \$42,270,137; it is a \$4,452,789 increase over last year. The General Fund portion of that is \$41,788,674, a \$4,082,287 or a 10.8% increase over last year

**Sheriff Roy Raymond** assured the Commissioners that although the Chambers overflowed with his personnel, they were either off-duty or on leave time. He used PowerPoint illustrations to aid in his presentation. He advised that his first proposed budget submitted was for \$42,340,671. Passage of HB 5025 increased the retirement contribution rate resulting in a \$560,546 increase, which brought their budget up to \$42,901,217 for a 13.44% increase. The salary cuts on this budget requested by Administrator Baird and Director Brown were unacceptable and would put them behind other counties. By gambling on attrition by retirement or resignations, he reduced the salary adjustment from 6% to 3% resulting in a \$1 million cut. He stressed that his budget also covers 100 volunteers' uniforms and vehicles, civilian employees for both law enforcement and the Jail. His office is a 24-hour operation; he must have sufficient manpower for emergencies provide clothing and special equipment for deputies; and, they must comply with mandated State training hours. He pointed out that electricity costs are up 35%, gasoline costs are up 40%, and liability insurance costs have increased. He also explained the need for each position he wanted to add. He appreciated the ability to transfer funds from unused categories to capital to fund purchases of needed capital expenditures. It particularly helps to purchase vehicles at the end of the budget year when prices are down. He noted their need for sufficient generator power for the building if electric power fails for air-conditioning in their windowless building. In closing, he noted that George Gross, the Citizens' Review Committee's representative, was present during the whole budget process.

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**George Gross**, representing the Citizens' Review Committee, explained the CRC's formation 5 years ago, its purpose, its membership of 2 individuals appointed by each Commissioner, the process the CRC uses in regard to the Sheriff's budget, and how they make decisions. He spoke well of the Sheriff's management philosophy and use of the zero-based budget.

**Deputy Charles Philip Craig** was concerned about keeping employees and the need to pay them so they can work here and live here.

**Duane Weiss**, representing IRC Taxpayer's Association president, advised that Mr. Coffey prepared a PowerPoint presentation on their behalf:

**Frank Coffey** expressed appreciation to the Commissioners with whom he and Mr. Weiss had met, and to staff members for their time and help. He advised of the Taxpayers' Association's concerns regarding the Sheriff's proposed budget and request for additional employees. He made several suggestions for reductions in the proposed budget and recommended that the Board establish a "citizen's budget oversight committee". (A copy of Mr. Coffey's presentation is on file with the backup.)

**Sheriff Raymond** made a brief rebuttal stating that he has, every year, offered Mr. Coffey and the Taxpayers' Association the opportunity to participate in their budget process. He also disputed several figures in Mr. Coffey's presentation.

Discussion ensued.

MOTION WAS MADE by Commissioner Lowther,  
SECONDED by Chairman Neuberger, to raise (Sheriff's  
Office) salaries to where Martin County's (Sheriff's  
Office) salaries are.

**Barbara Armor**, a local bank's residential lender, supported the Motion based on the thought that a starting salary in IRC might qualify someone to buy only a \$95,000 house.

The following spoke in support of the Sheriff's budget request:

**Sgt. Bill Lawson, Deputy Robert Hatton, Corrections Officer Roger Harrington, Deputy Annie Norton, Deputy Valerie Reinhart, Deputy Marshall Bruce, Sgt. Troy Skullings, Jail Nurse Yvonne Paz, and Captain Bill McMillan.**

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**Captain McMillan** commented on the over 400,000 prescriptions for Jail inmates last year, adding that jail systems everywhere have become part of the indigent care network and jails are obliged to treat them.

Discussion ensued on how the Sheriff's budget might be able to bring back the raises to 12% on the \$440,000 and how the loss of the proposed additional \$650,000 would affect the overall operation.

**Sheriff Raymond** advised that he had hired or had commitments for all the new Jail positions by the end of this fiscal year. Most of them have been phased in.

Commissioner Lowther specified that his MOTION stood. He wanted to make certain the motion included the 12% increase. He advised of his intention to do likewise with other public safety groups and wanted it done for teachers as well.

Vice Chairman Wheeler emphasized that he wanted to make certain that whatever amount is added back to the Sheriff's budget stayed in salaries and was not transferred to any other purpose without making it public by coming back to the Commission for approval.

**Sheriff Raymond** advised that he could not make such a transfer without coming to the Commission. He also responded to questions concerning loss of employees and comparisons to other counties' salaries.

Discussion ensued. An unidentified deputy stated that he had to have a second job "catching critters" to make ends meet.

The Chairman CALLED THE QUESTION and the motion carried unanimously. (4-0, Commissioner Bowden was absent). (Clerk's Note: \$440,000 was put back into the Sheriff's proposed budget.)

The Chairman called a 10-minute recess at 3:31 p.m. The meeting was reconvened at 3:42 p.m. with Chairman Neuberger, Commissioner Lowther, and Vice Chairman Wheeler present. Commissioner Davis entered moments later.

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## **NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS**

Administrator Baird advised that a few years ago the Commission capped the non-profits at \$110,772 total. He announced each of the non-profit organizations and their proposed budgets. He recounted that the policy is that they would fund an agency for a maximum of 3 years. There was a brief discussion about the World Changers' carryover from the previous budget.

## **QUASI-NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS**

Administrator Baird advised that these agencies do a function that the County would have to do if they went out of business and that we usually have a contractual arrangement with them. He announced each agency and their proposed budget.

## **CHOOSE LIFE LICENSE PLATE PROGRAM**

Administrator Baird advised that the fund for Carenet is a pass-thru of funds collected from license plates and announced the amount recommended.

## **CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

Administrator Baird advised of the amount of \$1,208,100 that the Board voted for the Children's Services Advisory Committee to allocate.

## **SEBASTIAN COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AREA**

Administrator Baird announced the proposed amount of \$301,000 for the Sebastian CRA and added that he would have to add an additional \$34,410 for the **Fellsmere Community Redevelopment Area**. Director Brown advised that information was received just this morning. Administrator Baird added that we are legally obligated to pay it so it will have to be added to the budget.

The Commissioners agreed to Administrator Baird's suggestion to continue on the budget workshop agenda so they would not have to come back the next day.

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## **ENTERPRISE FUNDS**

### **SHOOTING RANGE**

Administrator Baird announced the proposed budget is in the amount of \$440,240 and responded to questions regarding the need and delay for the skeet shooting permitting. He thought it would be a big moneymaker and that we would need help from our State Representative. He noted that our Auditor would require that we put this under the General Fund if it cannot meet the Enterprise Fund requirements. It was suggested that this matter be put on the next agenda.

**Duane Weiss** presented figures on the shooting range and advised that he continued to support increasing user fees or some other means to be a true enterprise.

**Mr. Weiss** also questioned the budget each year of \$40,000 for the **Law Library**.

Administrator Baird explained the cost, and County Attorney Collins added that the Law Library was for the use of the general public in addition to the lawyers and judges.

**Frank Coffey** reinforced Mr. Weiss' comments regarding the Shooting Range.

Administrator Baird acknowledged that it is not making money. He explained that staff had said they would attempt to make it an Enterprise Fund. A couple of things have caused a negative draw: the skeet shooting not opening and significant hurricane damages. He stated that if it does not make money in the next year or two, it would have to be put into the General Fund.

### **CLUBHOUSE (GOLF COURSE)**

Administrator Baird announced the proposed budget as \$3,451,608 and the that golf course is doing very well, up about \$300,000 above last year in revenues.

### **BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

Administrator Baird announced the proposed budget is \$4,663,724. There is one new position in the budget.

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## **ENTERPRISE FUNDS**

### **UTILITIES**

Administrator Baird announced the proposed budget is \$37,054,743 and there are 9 new positions due to the 6.7% growth in the last year. This fund does make a profit.

### **UTILITY IMPACT FEES**

Administrator Baird announced the proposed budget is \$6,151,250.

## **INTERNAL SERVICE FUNDS**

### **FLEET MANAGEMENT**

Administrator Baird announced the proposed budget is \$3,748,785.

### **RISK MANAGEMENT (SELF-INSURANCE FUND)**

Administrator Baird announced the proposed budget is for Workers' Compensation, Property and Casualty, and is in the amount of \$6,323,569.

### **HEALTH INSURANCE FUND**

Administrator Baird announced the proposed budget is \$13,608,690.

### **GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS**

Administrator Baird announced the proposed budget for GIS is \$1,394,754.

## **MISCELLANEOUS FUNDS**

Administrator Baird announced the following proposed budgets and briefly commented and responded to questions on each, as necessary:

Road Improvement Fees \$3,584,149

New Traffic Improvement Fees \$53,223,956

Additional Impact Fees \$8,253,576

Court Facilities Funds \$52,000

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Housing Authority \$222,422  
Rental Assistance \$1,807,965  
Secondary Road Construction \$25,823,475  
Special Law Enforcement - STARTS AT ZERO  
Parks Development \$25,000  
Tree Ordinance Fines \$25,000  
Tourist Development Fund \$624,750  
911 Surcharge \$864,318  
Drug Abuse Fund \$108,822  
IRCLHAP/SHIP \$1,809,061  
Metro Planning Organization (MPO) \$791,963  
Land Acquisition \$50,000 START  
MACE Law Enforcement Trust Fund - STARTS AT ZERO  
Native Uplands Acquisition \$55,000  
Beach Restoration \$16,604,526  
Community Development Block Grant \$250,700  
Florida Boating Improvement Program \$415,000  
Disabled Access Programs \$20,000  
Intergovernmental Grants \$255,664  
Traffic Education Program - STARTS AT ZERO  
CDBG Disaster Recovery Grant \$9,975,550  
Court Facility Surcharge Fund \$107,967  
Additional Court Costs Fund \$116,715  
Court Technology Fund \$567,501  
Land Acquisition Series 2006 \$25,000,000  
Dodger Bonds \$1,244,063

**Laura Alexander**, Executive Director of the **Treasure Coast Food Bank**, (Quasi-Non-Profit Organization) was grateful for the funds given them but was asking for full amount of their request and stressed the importance, the demand, and cost increases for delivering food to Indian River County.

**July 12, 2006**

Administrator Baird explained that the County had eight (8) agencies requesting, but only 4 of them received funds. The funding recommendation for this agency would be a 48% increase over last year.

**Michael Hubler, Gifford Youth Activity Center, (GYAC)** (Quasi-Non-Profit Organization) thanked the Commission for their support and noted that they are serving four times as many kids as when they opened. He suggested that the existing caps need to be addressed and that future considerations be given to the services they are providing for children. He noted that the demand and the need have been growing exponentially.

Director Brown advised that the contract with the GYAC limits the annual increase to the consumer price index (CPI) or 3% a year. He also advised they would be receiving \$109,000 from Children's Services funding in addition to the \$136,000 already being provided in this part of the budget.

## **CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDS**

Administrator Baird announced the following proposed budgets and briefly commented and responded to questions on each, as necessary:

Dodgertown Facility \$307,000  
Dodgertown Capital Reserve Fund \$2,000,000  
Shooting Range Construction \$20,000  
Optional One-Cent Sales Tax \$52,897,480  
Gifford Road Improvements \$2,900,000  
Homeless Assistance Center \$0  
Old Fellsmere School \$0

Commissioner Davis suggested the LAP grant be looked at in conjunction with the bike path in Fellsmere, and Administrator Baird advised staff would look at that because the County has not been able to get a bid on the project for the budgeted amount.

Administrator Baird advised that staff would calculate today's changes and asked for a short period of time to check them.

**July 12, 2006**

County Attorney Collins advised that he had researched and read the applicable statute concerning Supervisor of Elections Kay Clem's request that she not be required to have an office in the new County Administration Building. He explained they could adopt a resolution after not less than two public hearings to expand the geographical area of the County Seat beyond the corporate limits of the municipality (Vero Beach). It would not extend the boundaries of the municipality or annex any property into the municipality. It was determined that County Attorney Collins would start that process.

Administrator Baird thought it might be a good idea because of the County complex being developed out on 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS ON TENTATIVE AND FINAL BUDGET AND MILLAGE RATES**

Chairman Neuberger announced that the first public hearing on the FY 2006/2007 budget and proposed millage rates would be held on September 6, 2006 at 5:01 p.m. The final budget hearing and adoption of the millage rates will be held on September 13, 2006, at 5:01 p.m.

The Chairman called a brief recess at 4:30 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

### **CHANGES IN PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE AND CHANGES IN FUNDING AS DISCUSSED AND APPROVED**

Administrator Baird announced that the new tentative General Fund proposed millage rate is a maximum of 3.1973, 10.14 % above rollback, 9.2% below current. The MSTU is at rollback now and the same millage rate of 1.1336, down from 1.3969, 18.9% below current. The Emergency Services District remained the same. Our proposed aggregate millage is 5.3681, about 14% below current.

Budget Director Brown thanked his staff and summarized the changes as follows:

Increase the Sheriff's budget approximately \$439,600;

Decrease Supervisor of Elections budget by \$27,030;

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Reduce budget for Clerk of the Court by \$69,000;  
Add \$34,410 for Fellsmere CRA;  
Remove West Brackett Library \$63,826.

(CLERK'S NOTE: ALL BUSINESS WAS COMPLETED IN THE ONE DAY AND THEREFORE A MEETING ON JULY 13 2006 WAS NOT NECESSARY AND WAS NOT HELD.)

ALL BACKUP DOCUMENTATION INCLUDING  
AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION AND  
A COPY OF THE POWERPOINT PRESENTATION  
IS ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK TO THE BOARD  
AND IS HEREBY MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES

There being no further business, on Motion duly made, seconded and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeffrey K. Barton, Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Arthur R. Neuberger, Chairman

Minutes Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

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**July 12, 2006**