

BUDGET MEETING MINUTES
TROPICAL GULF ACRES STREET & DRAINAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
October 16, 2007
10:00 a.m.

Attendees: Flo Strawson, John Quinn, Richard Leisman, and Lynne Ambrose

The meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m.

Business:

- Mr. Leisman stated that he does not have much experience with budgets, especially one this complex. Mr. Quinn agreed and said that the members need to determine what needs to be done and how much money there is.
- Mr. Leisman asked how we determine the amount of money available. Ms. Ambrose said we have a finite amount, which at present is \$38.02 per occupied and \$41.00 per vacant. Public Works numbers, however, do not appear to equal the Property Appraiser's numbers. The Appraiser's site shows 402 occupied (this includes four listings of multi--less than ten units) and 6,197 vacant, for a total of 6,599 (this list includes duplicate names, which are listed per strap number). Public Works shows 666.25 occupied and 6,648.30 vacant, for a total of 7,314.55.
- Mr. Quinn suggested that we concede that Chinquapin floods out for two blocks from US 41 and just repair that area first. Ms. Ambrose said that Ms. Harrison should provide the Committee with the reasoning if this work cannot be done.
- Ms. Strawson said we should ask Marty Simone where the "248 linear feet of small pipe" was installed. (See page 2, Program 3004 on Work Progress Overview Detail 10-1-06 to 9-30-07.)
- Mr. Leisman asked what it costs to install a culvert and suggested there appears to be different rates. Mr. Quinn advised that some culverts are done on one street corner, and some are done on all four corners.
- Ms. Strawson said that someone from the County--or at least our representative, Dawn Harrison--should attend the meetings to answers these types of questions.

Public Comments:

- Mr. Bob Hill stated that we have a finite amount of money, and that is all you can work with. Ms. Harrison, Mr. O'Kane, and Mr. Simone have chosen to be unresponsive to this Committee. The Chairman should make an appointment with Bruce Loucks and explain what is happening. If answers are still not received, an appointment should be made with the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, Richard Loftus. If the response is still unsatisfactory, then go to Paige Kreegel.
- Regarding calls to the Sheriff's Department about ATV's, Mr. Hill said that, when they do come out, the officers tell the people to "stop tearing up the swales" and leave. The people just go right on tearing them up. Ms. Strawson said Ms. Harrison received complaints with pictures, which is the documentation she said she needed.

- Ms. May Lindholm said there are quite a few reckless drivers speeding up and down the roads. It was advised that one of the speeders drives a gray Jeep and does not know the meaning of a stop sign. The direct number for the Sheriff is 639-0019.
- Before we had this Committee, Bob said we offered \$75.00 per ERU and had three Commissioners agreeing to it. When it came up before the Commission for a vote, the turnout was so large that the meeting had to be rescheduled for the Tentatoruim. So many people showed up and complained that the Commissioners decided to do nothing. Ms. Strawson said that was because it was pointed out to the Commissioners that the taxes were assessed unfairly. She stated one Commissioner said that, if you agree to give them any more money, you better stipulate how long it would entail, otherwise it would never go down. Bob said you are not going to have lower taxes, and people need to realize that this is coming. Ms. Strawson said square footage is the fairest way to assess the tax.
- Mr. Leisman said we should try to request a meeting with other MSBU's to see if they are having the same problems we are.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynne Ambrose
Tropical Gulf Acres Street & Drainage Advisory Committee

LA:srb

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