

City of Fort Lauderdale

City Hall
100 N. Andrews Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
www.fortlauderdale.gov



Meeting Minutes - DRAFT

Tuesday, July 9, 2013

6:00 PM

City Commission Chambers

CITY COMMISSION - SPECIAL MEETING

FORT LAUDERDALE CITY COMMISSION

JOHN P. "JACK" SEILER Mayor - Commissioner
BRUCE G. ROBERTS Vice Mayor - Commissioner - District I
DEAN J. TRANTALIS Commissioner - District II
BOBBY B. DuBOSE Commissioner - District III
ROMNEY ROGERS Commissioner - District IV

LEE R. FELDMAN, City Manager
JOHN HERBST, City Auditor
JONDA K. JOSEPH, City Clerk
CYNTHIA A. EVERETT, City Attorney

Meeting was called to order at 6:07 p.m. by Mayor Seiler.

ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL

Present 5 - Mayor John P. "Jack" Seiler, Vice Mayor- District I Bruce G. Roberts, Commissioner Dean J. Trantalis, Commissioner Bobby B. DuBose, and Commissioner Romney Rogers

Also Present: 4 -City Manager, Lee R. Feldman; City Auditor, John Herbst; City Clerk, Jonda K. Joseph; City Attorney-Elect, Cynthia A. Everett

Vote Roll Call Order for this Meeting

Commissioner Rogers, Vice Mayor Roberts, Commissioner Trantalis, Commissioner DuBose, and Mayor Seiler

Invocation

Chaplain Luke Harrigan, Fort Lauderdale Police Department

Pledge of Allegiance

Led by youth in attendance.

AGENDA

- 1 13-0997** RESOLUTION - HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT MODIFICATION FOR ROOF REPLACEMENT AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS - amending Fiscal Year 2013 budget and Community Investment Plan for City's contribution, extending deadline through November 30, 2013 and authorizing City Manager to execute modification - Florida Division of Emergency Management

Commissioner Trantalis introduced the resolution, which was read by title only.

Aye: 5 - Mayor Seiler, Vice-Mayor Roberts, Commissioner Trantalis, Commissioner DuBose and Commissioner Rogers

- 2 13-0993** PUBLIC HEARING - MOTION - ANNUAL ACTION PLAN FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014 ENTITLEMENT GRANT PROGRAMS THROUGH U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Motion made by Commissioner Trantalis and seconded by Vice Mayor Roberts to approve the item as recommended, was later amended as reflected below.

Mayor Seiler opened the public hearing.

Jonathan Brown, Housing and Community Development Manager, provided some detail about expanding the neighborhood revitalization strategy area for Charles King of 105 North Victoria Park Road.

There being no other individuals wishing to speak on this matter, a **motion** was made by Commissioner Trantalis and seconded by Vice Mayor Roberts to close the public hearing. Roll call showed: **Aye:** 5 - Mayor Seiler, Vice-Mayor Roberts, Commissioner Trantalis, Commissioner DuBose and Commissioner Rogers

Vice Mayor Roberts referred to Exhibit 1 of Commission Agenda Memorandum 13-0993 and made reallocation suggestions with respect to Legal Aid, noting funding is being allocated in two categories. Legal Aid just recently received \$250,000, therefore he did not think it would be exhausted in the short-term. As such the Commission will have time to re-assess. He wanted to reallocate the \$187,065.82 to HOPWA and the \$35,595 in Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) to the listed public service organizations. The City Manager responded to the question of impact. His recommendation would be to reallocate the funds to those organizations that have experienced a reduction in funding. He understood that the \$187,065.82 would be used for the same purpose as the \$250,000.

Tony Karrat, representing Legal Aid Service of Broward County, advised that all of this information was provided to the Community Services Board for their determination of reallocation.

Jonathan Brown, Housing and Community Development Manager, advised that the Commission approved a three-year HOPWA contract, that is, one-year that can be renewed for two additional, one-year periods with a fiscal year commencing October 1. Between the two program years, there would be some \$437,000 in play. Commissioner Rogers thought that unlike the other organizations, if there is insufficient work for the funding, it will not be spent in the case of Legal Aid. He noted the vetting and Community Services Board recommendation and supported it. The City Manager noted if reimbursements are not handled timely, the City is penalized by HUD (U.S. Department of Housing and Development) in terms of future grants. Not spending the allocation is just as much of a problem as submittal of paperwork. Commissioner Rogers felt Legal Aid should be given until September 30. Commissioner DuBose commented about the challenges in dealing with HUD. He was adamantly in agreement with Vice Mayor Roberts. It is yet to be seen how Legal Aid fairs with HUD. If there are problems, it tends to affect the City with future allocations. The City needs to be as cautious as possible. Karrat advised that Legal Aid has experience interacting with HUD. It took a great part of this year for Legal Aid's contract to be approved, reverting back to October 1 of last year. He did not know how much Legal Aid has expended this year.

Commissioner DuBose respected the Community Services Board recommendation, but the Commission makes the decision ultimately. These dollars make the difference between life and death. The HOPWA allocation is to serve the entire county. He was concerned with an additional allocation of \$187,000 in light of cuts made to other existing agencies. This is Legal Aid's first year. Karrat noted that the Community Services Board ranked Legal Aid number one in the category. Vice Mayor Roberts felt for this particular year it would be best that the \$187,000 go to the other programs that were severely cut. Mayor Seiler suggested a \$63,000 reduction so that Legal Aid would average \$187,000 over the three years. Vice Mayor Roberts preferred to cut \$187,000 because next year is unknown. Mayor Seiler was concerned that Legal Aid may have already incurred expenses during the year and there may not be enough carry-over from the \$250,000. Commissioner DuBose felt the opposite could occur because the City is funding a second round of funding for this program without having the outcomes. Funding is allocated every year.

Amendment to Motion made by Vice Mayor Roberts and seconded by Commissioner DuBose to amend the HOPWA Program funding by reallocating Legal Aid's allocation of \$187,065.82 to the other HOPWA activities.

Aye: 3 - Vice-Mayor Roberts, Commissioner Trantalis, Commissioner DuBose;
Nay: 2 - Commissioner Rogers and Mayor Seiler

Amendment to Motion made by Commissioner Trantalis and seconded by Vice Mayor Roberts to allocate the \$187,065.82 to the other HOPWA activities proportionately based on their existing allocations.

Aye:3 - Vice-Mayor Roberts, Commissioner Trantalis, Commissioner DuBose;
Nay: 2 - Commissioner Rogers and Mayor Seiler

In response to Commissioner Trantalis as to the potential for the City to find funding for Legal Aid going forward, Commissioner DuBose noted that from time to time the plan is amended. Brown confirmed that the plan can be amended and a provider would be added, but there could not be a contract in place for the dollars. The City Manager pointed out if an agency cannot expend their allocated funding within the required period of time, those funds could be reallocated. He suggested the submittal to HUD leave reference to Legal Aid with zero funding. Mayor Seiler noted another reason would be non-compliance by an agency. Commissioner Trantalis felt the Commission should make a commitment to Legal Aid that they would be first in line for any available funding. It was confirmed for Karrat that if all of the \$250,000 is not expended this year, it would roll over to the next year.

3 13-0595 PUBLIC HEARING - WAVE STREETCAR PROJECT - FINAL RESOLUTION FOR IMPOSITION OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT - completely or partially within Downtown Regional Activity Center and South Regional Activity Center Land Use Designations

Mayor Seiler opened the public hearing.

Dr. Mervyn J. Dixon, 1620 SE 4 Ave., said over the 25-year period, the assessment will come to \$4,326. He suggested the Commission should have had a free trolley run the route for three to six months and count the ridership. There are two bus routes in the area and he has never seen people lined up that were unable to get on a bus. He thinks the streetcar project is an exercise in futility.

John Ropes, vice chair of the Downtown Development Authority which sponsors the project, said the DDA has done due diligence on the project for 11 years in partnership with federal, state and local government. The project is a game-changer for the City and will bring young people to the area.

Charles King, 105 N. Victoria Park Road, supported the project. He would like nonprofits, colleges and churches to pay their fair share in taxes for the project.

Sam Poole, 350 E. Las Olas Blvd., said some people may believe if we don't build effective transit, people won't come here, but Florida has proven that whether we are prepared or not, people are coming. With the growth this area is experiencing, the current system of mobility does not work. It is essential to the economic development of the City that it has an effective transit system.

Eric Jaiven, 520 SE 5 Ave., said he was originally a big proponent of The WAVE but has done more research and determined that streetcars are not the most efficient means of transporting people. He inquired about costs to ride the streetcar and whether the DDA has looked at alternative options.

Genia Ellis, president and CEO of the Riverwalk, said she supports the project.

Richard Buckhana of Broward College, said he believes The WAVE will add value for students at Broward College who use public transportation and those who cannot afford to have their own private transportation. It will also be good for tourism.

Brian Kronberg, project manager for All Aboard Florida, said his company is building a rail system between downtown Miami and Orlando with stations in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The project will be an economic engine for the City, the southeast region and the state. The All Aboard Florida team strongly supports The WAVE streetcar.

Brian Bagnall, 347 N. New River Drive E, said he represents the majority of the people who will have to pay the extra tax but do not support the project. He suggested modern hybrid buses. The system being proposed is too expensive. His group is going to be watching, photographing and publicizing what goes on in comparison to the lofty promises being made. He is very disappointed that the Mayor gave a speech about the core of downtown being the river and the Riverwalk. He felt the Riverwalk is a slum full of homeless people and should be rebuilt.

Kathy Schauer, 401 SW 4 Ave, vice-president of the Esplanade on the River Condominium, said she has seen two informative presentations by the Downtown Development Authority. The Esplanade Board voted to support The WAVE. Speaking as an individual, she trusts the findings of many studies that have shown how transit cities reap positive benefits in terms of stimulating businesses, attracting restaurants and retail, encouraging private investment and increasing property values. The project is important because it reduces carbon emissions and will bring construction and engineering jobs. The tax – which she broke down to 27 cents per day – is pretty reasonable.

Joseph Marschhauser, 533 NE 3 Ave. and 1800 N. Andrews Ave., said that before World War II most cities had trolleys but gave them up for buses, which require a lot of maintenance. He added that many cities would probably gladly take back the trolley system because it does not require much maintenance.

Judy Miller, BAE Davie Properties, 100 SW Davie Blvd., said small businesses and local merchants are struggling to survive. One of her businesses recently had to close during a period of construction on Interstate 595 which prompted a 60 percent drop in retail and commercial sales. She thinks the project proposal is “absolutely wonderful,” but small businesses should not be taxed for it.

Joseph Hirzinger, 500 N. Andrews Ave., said he does not think the project will ever make money or be self-supporting, and citizens are expected to pay the bills. If the trolley is not going by his business, he should not have to pay for it.

Anthony Abbate, 1222 SE 1 St., said he supports the project. It will link to other projects that are part of a City vision to attract young urban professionals and increase the downtown population without the vehicular traffic that would limit quality of life. The City needs to build infrastructure that is not dependent on fossil fuels. The project is a critical first step toward a healthy and sustainable future for Fort Lauderdale. Studies have shown similar streetcar systems have improved public health.

Diana Centorino, 1230 SE 4 Ave., said she sees the Sun Trolley go by day after day with no passengers. There should be a trial run period using the Sun Trolley on this route to see if there really is a high demand. She thinks it is going to be a colossal waste of money. It does not benefit small business owners who are being assessed at a higher rate. It would take almost as long to walk to the bus stop as it does to walk to the actual destination in some cases. She agrees it is a wonderful concept but the Commission should be focused on not taking money out of people’s pockets in the private sector.

Matthew Pici, President of Flagler Village Civic Association and a downtown property owner. On April 17, the Association heard a presentation on The WAVE and voted in support of it. On a personal note he supports the project and has seen how the rail system in Charlotte, N.C., has transformed the City. He thinks the City needs to think about how to court young professionals or they will go elsewhere.

Doug Colman, representing the Downtown Council's Urban Core Subcommittee, asked the Commission to approve the project. The first phase of the project is appropriate because it is starting small and building. He added that he thinks this is the beginning of something big, and while change is not necessarily easy, he believes the assessments will eventually be reduced.

Hugh Johnson, 612 SW 4 Ave., said he is with a local landscape architecture firm that is within the assessment area. He supports The WAVE streetcar and the assessment, adding that there are 22 American cities that are considering or already have streetcars. He cited the Pearl District Streetcar in Portland, Ore., which he said has been the catalyst for 10,000 housing units and 5.4 million square feet of development which equates to \$3.5 billion in private investment.

Tim Petrillo, chairman of the DDA, said there has been a tremendous community outreach effort with mostly positive results. The project would be a catalyst for growth and connectivity – no different than years ago when the Broward Center was pondered. He said he owns property in the area around the Broward Center and would not have located there without that anchor. He sees people continuously getting on and off the Sun Trolley in front of his restaurant on the beach. It is important to remember that the federal government is contributing a significant amount of money to the project.

Alan Fishman, 110 N Federal Highway, said he recently moved to the area from Portland, Oregon. The urban landscape there, he said, was very densely populated. He does not think the streetcar system is worth the price. The City already has a bus system that is not providing the appropriate ridership.

Chet Bannister, 653 SW 8 Terrace, said he owns a warehouse off South Andrews and does not believe the tenants would use the trolley or benefit from it. He spoke in opposition to being taxed for the project. He believed the project will make traffic worse.

Rick Banach, 2151 SW 23 Terrace, said he is Bannister's business partner and reiterated that The WAVE would not help their tenants. He spoke in opposition to the assessment.

Dennis O'Shea, 112 S Victoria Park Road, said the project is important to the City. He urged the Commission to support the project.

Michelle Klymko, representing Pinnacle Housing, spoke in support of the project and asked for a reduction in the assessment or potential impact fees for workforce housing units.

Gale Butler, representing Auto Nation, voiced support for the project. She believes The WAVE will be good for tourism and will enable local residents to get to work and appointments on time and with ease.

Paul Finizio, 106 SE 9 St, said he supports initiatives to bring people downtown. He has lived in several cities that have had to deal with the issues associated with a fixed track. There are challenges with expenses, maintenance and disrupting businesses during construction. He felt there is a cheaper way to move people around the City.

Doug McCraw, Peregrine Partners Group, 17 NW 5 St., spoke in support of the project and said the Fat Village Association voted unanimously to support it. He explained that he has lived in cities with extensive

urban transit systems that were heavily used. He believes the project is a bold and courageous step forward.

Don Gibson, 452 SW 4 Ave., spoke against the project.

Jacob G. Horowitz, representing North Broward Hospital District, said the District supports the project but has some concerns about the District's legal ability to pay an assessment.

Dan Lindblade, president of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce, said he wanted to speak on behalf of the Chamber's vision for connecting all the systems that deal with growth, sustainability and a family-friendly atmosphere. A tremendous amount of work has gone into the project and they know it will work.

David Coddington, 1228 NE 16 Terrace, spoke in support of the project.

There being no other individuals wishing to speak, a **motion** was made by Commissioner Trantalis and seconded by Vice Mayor Roberts to close the public hearing. **Aye:** 5 - Mayor Seiler, Vice-Mayor Roberts, Commissioner Trantalis, Commissioner DuBose and Commissioner Rogers

Commissioner Rogers discussed the difficulty in making this decision, although he felt this is the right thing to do. This will be good for development especially with the permanency of a fixed track; it has been proven so throughout the country. He also discussed the City's urban design and need for public transportation. There will be a direct benefit of increased property values. Vice Mayor Roberts noted that the WAVE is just one part of the public transportation objectives and plans. He elaborated upon the public transportation aspect and the support of this project by other agencies. Over the past two years, the Sun Trolley ridership has grown to over 400,000 annually. In response to the comment of buses, he noted that a bus system is part of the overall plans as well. He believed it will benefit the community and those that are being assessed. Commissioner Trantalis supported this proposal and explained this is only the first piece in a larger plan. There is a need to start some place and a decision has been made that this is where to start. Commissioner DuBose felt this is long overdue. He felt the WAVE will be a real consideration in youth deciding to come back to Fort Lauderdale after college. He mentioned his cousin who moved to a City that allows her not to use her vehicle and that was something that helped her make a decision of where to move after college. He emphasized the importance of having a solid foundation. There has to be a start.

Concerning the North Broward Hospital District, the City Manager advised that staff will be working with the District and the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) to solidify the method and manner in which the District and, or DDA can participate in the assessment to make sure there are no gaps. He asked that finalization of the bond issue be contingent upon this issue being resolved.

Mayor Seiler highlighted the history of this project. He felt concerns raised are valid and will need to be worked on. He elaborated upon the downtown growth of 4,000 units already in the pipeline. Alternative modes of transportation are critical in order to avoid gridlock. All Aboard Florida is looking to locate a hub in Fort Lauderdale that will connect to Miami, West Palm Beach and Orlando. It will bring people to the downtown without a means of transportation. Eighty seven percent of this cost will be paid outside of Fort Lauderdale.

Commissioner Trantalis introduced the resolution after it was read by title.

Aye: 5 - Mayor Seiler, Vice-Mayor Roberts, Commissioner Trantalis, Commissioner DuBose and Commissioner Rogers

- 4** **13-0986** RESOLUTION - WAVE STREETCAR PROJECT -
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT SPECIAL ASSESSMENT
BONDS, SERIES 2013 - providing for issuance of special assessment
bonds in an amount not to exceed \$24 million

Commissioner DuBose introduced the resolution after it was read by title.

Aye: 5 - Mayor Seiler, Vice-Mayor Roberts, Commissioner Trantalis, Commissioner DuBose and Commissioner Rogers

- 5** **13-0964** AWARD REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL - UNDERWRITERS FOR
SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FINANCING - WAVE STREETCAR
PROJECT - in the estimated amount of \$210,491.98 to two, top
ranked proposers: Citigroup Global Markets Inc. as senior manager
and Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC as co-manager

Motion made by Vice Mayor Roberts and seconded by Commissioner Trantalis to approve the item as recommended.

Aye: 5 - Mayor Seiler, Vice-Mayor Roberts, Commissioner Trantalis, Commissioner DuBose and Commissioner Rogers

- 6** **13-0788** MOTION - FISCAL YEAR 2014 MILLAGE RATE AND BUDGET -
Setting public hearing dates for City of Fort Lauderdale and Sunrise
Key Neighborhood Improvement District - September 3, 2013 and
September 12, 2013

Motion made by Commissioner Trantalis and seconded by Vice Mayor Roberts to approve the item as recommended.

Aye: 5 - Mayor Seiler, Vice-Mayor Roberts, Commissioner Trantalis, Commissioner DuBose and Commissioner Rogers

- 7** **13-0848** MOTION - LAUDERDALE ISLES WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
FISCAL YEAR 2014 NON AD VALOREM ASSESSMENT RATE AND
BUDGET AND PUBLIC HEARING DATE - accepting non-ad valorem
assessment rate and tentative budget and setting public hearing date
for September 12, 2013

Mayor Seiler opened the floor for public comment.

George Counts, resident of Lauderdale Isles, explained that the district was formed to keep the waterways clear of weeds and navigable. As long as there is no problem, he felt the tax should be deactivated until needed again. He added that at one time the area civic association cared for this at no charge.

The City Manager advised that this is a recommendation from this governing board. They have a healthy reserve. He noted the budget contains plans for canal cleaning four times a year and vegetation removal as needed. Commissioner Rogers advised that he serves on the governing board. He agreed that the weeds have taken care of themselves. The board has been looking at determining their obligation. If the obligation can be met without a tax, they will address this. Other than maintenance, signage has been

purchased. Stormwater drainage and sea level rise are topics to consider. Although there is not enough money for dredging, the board is looking at debris buildup removal and whether this is within the district's scope. The tax is \$15. Commissioner Trantalis asked if a determination could be made by September 12, based on Commissioner Rogers' and Counts' comments. The City Manager felt it should probably be addressed by the governing body to the Commission although staff could provide their assessment of whether the tax could be stopped and that response could be probably by September 12.

Motion made by Commissioner Trantalis and seconded by Vice Mayor Roberts to approve the item as recommended.

Aye: 5 - Mayor Seiler, Vice-Mayor Roberts, Commissioner Trantalis, Commissioner DuBose and Commissioner Rogers

- 8 13-0850 RESOLUTION - BEACH BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT FISCAL YEAR 2014 NON AD VALOREM ASSESSMENT RATE AND PUBLIC HEARING DATE - accepting non ad valorem assessment rate of \$0.8525 and setting public hearing date for September 12, 2013**

Commissioner Trantalis introduced the resolution after it was read by title.

Aye: 5 - Mayor Seiler, Vice-Mayor Roberts, Commissioner Trantalis, Commissioner DuBose and Commissioner Rogers

- 9 13-0849 RESOLUTION - FISCAL YEAR 2014 NON-AD VALOREM ASSESSMENT - FIRE RESCUE ASSESSMENT FEE - setting rate of \$225 per single family residential household and setting public hearing date for September 12, 2013**

The City Manager explained the goal is to have a structurally balanced budget without dipping into fund balance and being able to maintain minimum reserve levels. A general fund forecasting model is available for use this evening. The City is in a deficit spending mode for the next ten years. Reserves would dwindle into nothing in fiscal year 2019-2020. He understood the Commission's objectives are not to use any fund balance to balance the budget this year; to maintain the current tax rate; ensure one hundred percent cost recovery as possible and avoid layoffs and furloughs. The proposed budget reflects an increase in the fire assessment to the one hundred percent level to \$225. With this, the budget is balanced and the fund balance improves over time. This amount is not the lowest or the highest in the county. The Budget Advisory Board has recommended this increase as well as an increase in the millage to fund future capital needs.

Commissioner DuBose asked about a lesser increase while staying above the Commission's reserve level policy. Discussion ensued, using the general fund forecast model concerning Commissioner DuBose's idea. Michael Burton stated Ninety percent cost recovery would equate to an assessment of \$203. It appears that ninety percent is the level to maintain the fund balance at the official policy target. Various scenarios were displayed. There is a spending escalation percentage factored in. The City Manager confirmed that if there are expenditure reductions, there would be an impact. Commissioner DuBose explained he has a fundamental problem with having a reserve above the policy, but he wanted more information. Michael Burton pointed out that moving into the future, there are a lot of assumptions and variables, therefore he did not think it should be concluded that the City would be above the target. In response to Commissioner DuBose, Erick van Malssen advised that the Property Appraiser provided a percentage of 4.49 as of July 1 for the property value adjustment on existing residences. It is being held flat in the forecasting. However, all of the growth mentioned by the Mayor earlier has been built in. Mayor

Seiler asked what percentage of new units are projected to be homesteaded. Erick van Malssen indicated that same percentage that currently exists has been used. Going into the future there is a slight uptake of those homesteaded, which creates a negative effect on the overall valuations. The 4.49 percent takes into account homesteaded properties that will not see that percentage. New growth would be capped at ten percent if not homesteaded. Of the single family homes, 64.9 percent are homesteaded. In response to Commissioner Rogers concerning non-property tax revenue, the City Manager referred to the Revenue Estimating Committee's review of revenue and elaborated upon the work that has been done in this area. For fiscal year 2014, the numbers are as realistic as possible and then there are assumptions based upon historical trends and knowledge of the Committee. Erick van Malssen also elaborated upon how each revenue item was scrutinized and estimated with individual varying factors. Property or population growth are two considerations. In further response, he indicated that there is no recession projected. Michael Burton noted that an overly optimistic recovery, on the other hand, is not also being projected. Erick van Malssen also noted that the full rate of growth is not included, but rather 75 percent. Vice Mayor Roberts asked about service and staffing levels. Erick van Malssen advised that service levels are static based on the 2014 preliminary budget with the assumption of being status quo. There are escalation factors for pay raises and inflationary increases in electricity for example. If there is an expense for service level to be increased based on growth, it has been included. Michael Burton showed on the forecasting software what would occur if the property valuation was different than 4.49 percent. In response to Commissioner DuBose, Michael Burton and the City Manager explained the forecasting shows one percent of operating expenditures for capital improvements, which is not cumulative.

Vice Mayor Roberts wanted to follow the City Manager's recommendation, then proceed with more study and the public hearings. It can only be decreased after this point. He stressed that the capital improvement program needs more funding.

Mayor Seiler opened the floor for public comment.

George Counts, 2449 Nassau Lane, suggested exploring use of volunteers partially to assist and supplement. He noted a facility on Riverland Road that is now vacant but was used for volunteers for many years.

Charles King, 105 North Victoria Park Road, asked if any services have been cut. He believed the police and fire unions are responsible for use of most of the City's revenue. He questioned why there has not been any discussion of the union contracts. He liked the idea of cost recovery but also applied in other areas. It is important to keep the millage rate low.

Mayor Seiler clarified that previous comments of the Commission that it does not intend to cut vital services has been interpreted that the Commission has not made any cuts. There have been substantial cuts. Commissioner Rogers enumerated categories of cuts that have been made. The Commission chose not to raise taxes during difficult times and rather to use the rainy day fund balance. He believed the difficult times are over and the City needs to get back to repair and maintenance. He recommended the repair and maintenance account be one percent and it be mandated by ordinance. He also felt capital improvements should be one percent. He would agree to the full cost recovery route with these two items.

There being no other individuals wishing to speak, a **motion** was made by Vice Mayor Roberts and seconded by Commissioner Trantalis to close the public hearing. **Aye:** 5 - Mayor Seiler, Vice-Mayor Roberts, Commissioner Trantalis, Commissioner DuBose and Commissioner Rogers
Continuing the discussion, Vice Mayor Roberts preferred to be a little higher with respect to the fund balance. He remarked how the fund balance level was helpful in the recent recession. He agreed with

Commissioner Rogers with respect to capital and repair and maintenance, but does not know the exact numbers. Commissioner DuBose wanted to know how the suggestion would impact the budget and have that information provided before the next meeting. He noted his discomfort with the \$90 assessment, but would be open to discussion. It was noted that there will be more discussion on this matter in September.

Vice Mayor Roberts introduced the resolution after it was read by title.

Aye: 5 - Mayor Seiler, Vice-Mayor Roberts, Commissioner Trantalis, Commissioner DuBose and Commissioner Rogers

10 13-0847 RESOLUTION - FISCAL YEAR 2014 MILLAGE RATE - setting proposed millage rate for fiscal year 2014 proposed budget - City of Fort Lauderdale (4.1193) and the Sunrise Key Neighborhood Improvement District (1.0000)

Mayor Seiler opened the floor for public comment.

Charles King, 105 North Victoria Park Road, felt the millage rate should not be changed and there should be other mechanisms to raise revenue besides property taxes that would be protected from access by police and fire unions. He also asked about imposing the fire assessment fee on the non-profits. It was pointed out that there is information on this topic in the backup.

There being no other individuals wishing to speak, a **motion** was made by Commissioner Trantalis and seconded by Commissioner Rogers to close the public hearing. **Aye:** 5 - Mayor Seiler, Vice-Mayor Roberts, Commissioner Trantalis, Commissioner DuBose and Commissioner Rogers

Commissioner Trantalis introduced the resolution after it was read by title.

Aye: 5 - Mayor Seiler, Vice-Mayor Roberts, Commissioner Trantalis, Commissioner DuBose and Commissioner Rogers

The meeting adjourned at 9:22 p.m.