

**MINUTES OF THE**  
**ST. AUGUSTINE PORT, WATERWAY & BEACH DISTRICT**  
**FIRST PUBLIC HEARING ON BUDGET & MILLAGE RATE**

**Tuesday, September 11, 2012**

The First Public Hearing of the St. Augustine Port, Waterway & Beach District on the proposed budget and millage rate for fiscal year 2012-2013 was held at the St. Augustine Beach City Commission Meeting Room, 2200 A1A South, St. Augustine Beach, Florida on Tuesday, September 11, 2012.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Dixon called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

All Commissioners were in attendance except Commissioner Herb Rippe. Also in attendance were Secretary-Treasurer Elyse Kemper and District Counsel Jim Bedsole.

**SET MILLAGE RATE AND BUDGET**

Secretary-Treasurer Elyse Kemper began the discussion by reminding the Commission they had previously indicated the roll-back rate of .0638 mils would be used for fiscal year 2012-2013. She said this rate would yield tax revenues of about \$370,155.00 for the District.

Chairman Dixon said he had reviewed the proposed budget and that there should be a separate line item for a study of the markers in Salt Run. He said all of the markers are old and in need of constant repair and that they should all be replaced. He said the Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) would possibly split the cost of replacing the markers. Commissioner Bliss said he was in agreement with setting aside money for replacing markers, but did not want to waste money on a “study” of the situation.

Chairman Dixon said he would like to see a separate line item in the budget for miscellaneous or undefined marine projects so the Commission could fund small projects without altering its budget. Commissioner Benjamin said he thought a miscellaneous fund would be a good idea and said the Commission should have advance information and lead time prior to making any decisions on funding.

**MOTION**

**A motion made by Chairman Dixon and seconded by Commissioner Benjamin to adopt the roll-back rate of 0.0638 passed unanimously.**

Secretary-Treasurer Kemper said the total of special projects in the proposed budget was \$243,215.00. Chairman Dixon said the first four on the list, St. Johns County Sheriff's Office Overtime, St. Augustine Police Department Overtime, Artificial Reef, and Derelict Boats were all acceptable and the same as last year's budget.

Commissioner Bliss suggested changing the budget for Summer Haven River restoration to forty thousand, as sixty thousand from last year's \$100,000 project budget had already been spent. Secretary-Treasurer Kemper suggested the Salt Run marker replacement budget be set at \$8,500.00 and the Commission agreed. The Commission also agreed to budget \$100,000.00 for dredging and to place remaining special projects funds in an undefined marine projects category.

A discussion then ensued regarding the Governor's announced audit of special districts and the question of the proper date for taking office after the November election. Secretary-Treasurer Kemper said she would be speaking again with the Governor's office in a week and that she would ask for clarification.

Chairman Dixon announced the final TRIM meeting to adopt the millage rate and budget would take place September 27, 2012 at 5:05 p.m.

**ADJOURN:**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Dixon.

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Secretary-Treasurer

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Chairman