

**MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS FOR THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA, HELD IN THE COMMISSION CHAMBERS AT CITY HALL, August 9, 2011 AT 5:00 P.M.**

The following were present: Mayor Magidson, Commissioners Gingell, Patterson and Kennedy. City Manager Charlie Weston, Attorney Tom Gibson and City Clerk Jim Anderson were also present. Commissioner Buzzett was absent.

**2011-2012 Budget, Health Insurance & COLA:**

Mr. Weston noted that the proposed Millage Rate has been returned to the Property Appraiser's office at 4.1914 for flexibility. Our intention is to fall back to our current Millage of 3.5914. Staff will be providing recommendations on how we can balance the budget.

Mr. Dwight Van Lierop presented the Commission with several BC/BS plans comparable deductible wise, to our current United Healthcare Plan.

Commissioner Kennedy asked, "Why are we considering BC/BS plans?"

Mr. Weston indicated that the City switched Healthcare Providers last year merely based on dollars and we are looking for the best value for the City.

Mr. Van Lierop also noted that as the City's Insurance Agent of Record, he feels that it's necessary to shop our plan to get the best option available. It's not possible to compare exact apples to apples with insurance plans, but we do find comparable plans. We also went back to United and asked them to lower the deductible, prescription cost and the family deductible. Information was received late today, but has not been thoroughly reviewed.

Commissioner Kennedy has utilized BC/BS for many years and has had a wonderful experience with them.

Glenn Davis has encountered a lot of problems with United. One of the problems is getting adequate supplies of medicines.

Mayor Magidson indicated that the determining factor to him is how much the employees will have to pay, because they don't make a lot of money.

Mr. Van Lierop noted that BC/BS could cost employees more in out of pocket cost.

Chief Barnes indicated that United has cost him more in out of pocket cost than our previous plan with BC/BS.

Mr. Van Lierop will give a copy of the utilization report to Mr. Weston for distribution to the Commission.

**Non-Departmental:**

Mr. Weston noted that last year the City budget for non-departmental expenses were \$16,500 including the Chamber of Commerce or EDC.

Commissioner Gingell asked, "Why do we have anything to do with the Chamber or EDC?"

Mr. Weston responded, "Due to the Interlocal Agreement."

Commissioner Gingell noted that the County verbally agreed to changing the Interlocal Agreement and the City was not invited to discuss the EDC and Chamber consolidation.

Mr. Weston noted that he continuing to work the sale of the Surplus Generators. He also asked, "If funds are received from the BP Claim, will they have total flexibility?"

Mr. Weston noted that staff really wants to concentrate on paying down our debt.


Mayor Magidson indicated that the extra dollars are somewhat of a windfall and maybe we should put some of the non-departmental items back in the budget. He also suggested giving employees a bonus plus a COLA.

Commissioner Kennedy agrees but we need to couch this in a way that everyone understands this may not happen every year. He would also like to see funding for maintaining our recreational component.

The workshop was adjourned at 6:41 P.M.

Approved this 6<sup>th</sup> day of September 2011.

  
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Mayor Magidson

  
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Jim Anderson, City Clerk