

**MINUTES OF MEETING
SPRING LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**

A public hearing on the FY 2021 Budget and Utility Rates and Fees was held Wednesday, August 12, 2020, at the District Office, 115 Spring Lake Boulevard, Sebring, Florida. The regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Spring Lake Improvement District immediately followed.

Present were:

Tim McKenna	Chairman
Bill Lawens	Vice Chairman
Kay Gorham	Secretary
Brian Acker	Asst. Secretary
Melony Culpepper	Asst. Secretary

Also present were:

Bill Nielander	District Attorney
Joe DeCerbo	District Manager
Diane Angell	District Administrator
Clay Shrum	Director of Operations

Residents & Guests	“See Sign in Sheet”
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FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS

Call to Order

Chairman McKenna called the meeting to order and led the pledge. Tim welcomed Laurie Hurner and congratulated her for being appointed the new Assistant County Administrator.

SECOND ORDER OF BUSINESS

Public Hearing FY 2021 Budget/Utility Rates

FRWA conducted rate and impact fee studies for the water and wastewater funds. District Manager Joe DeCerbo, District Engineer Gene Schriener, and District Chairman Tim McKenna had meetings with the major developers coming to the area.

Joe DeCerbo presented a 2021 Budget Summary to the Board for discussion. After discussion the following rates and fees will be presented for approval by resolution at the September meeting.

General Fund Assessment \$291.36 per unit (FY '20 was \$293.76).

Water Fund FY 2021 as presented is in deficit by \$71,401 (\$3.82 increase per month, per user, needed to balance the budget). Current Base rate for a 5/8” water meter is \$22.00. FRWA rate study recommendation \$26.40. Board recommendation \$27.00. The per1,000-gallon tier rates will remain the same.

The Wastewater Fund current base rate is \$74.60 and includes the first 2,500 gallons of water with 1.41 per 100 gallons after 2,500. FRWA recommendation is \$82.06 base rate with first 1,000 gallons of water with \$15.51 per 1,000 gallons after 1,000. The FRWA recommendation for an average bill using 2,500 gallons of water would be \$105.33. After Board discussion the Board recommendation was \$90.00 base rate to include first 2,500 gallons of usage and to leave the \$1.41 per 100 after 2500 in place.

H3 with Signature H group addressed the Board regarding their plans for development in Spring Lake and explained the extra costs for marketing their products.

FRWA recommendation for single family homes is \$3,180 for water and \$2,150 for wastewater for a total of \$5,330. District Engineer Gene Schriener reviewed future development of apartments, cabins, small homes, and RV pads and recommended connection fees of \$1,000 for apartments, cabins and small homes and \$500.00 for RV Pads.

Staff will prepare water and wastewater rates sheets to present to the Board for adoption at the September meeting.

THIRD ORDER OF BUSINESS

Upcoming Meetings/Events/Correspondence

- A. August 12th, WWTP Ribbon Cutting following Board Meeting
- B. August 13th, RPAC, 2:00 p.m.
- C. August 18th, Election Primary @ Community Center
- D. August 26th-27th, Florida Stormwater Association Staff Training, here
- E. September 7th, Office Closed Labor Day

Correspondence was received from the following:

Sue Duchac from 1208 Heavitree Court said "Thank You, Thank You, Thank You, after two years waiting Duke finally installed a street light".

Article in the Highlands News-Sun. Fire Chief Marc Bashoor said "the county needs five new fire stations within the next five years. That will include having a station in Spring Lake Improvement District between Sebring and Lorida."

FRWA "The Florida Rural Water Association would like to take this opportunity to thank Spring Lake Improvement District for thirty years of continuous membership with our association. In recognition of your continued support we would like to present you with the enclosed paper weight. This award is usually presented during the FRWA Annual Conference, however with the COVID-19 crisis, we were forced to cancel this year's event. We hope that you will be as proud of your award as we are in the spirit that we present it. We look forward to being able to serve you in the future. Sincerely, Gary Williams, Executive Director".

Monica Griffith "Hi Joe! Happy to hear you enjoyed your lunch. We wanted to express our appreciation and decided what better way then a home cooked meal. It was nice to have all the staff present, and please send an extra thank you to Board members Tim, Bill, and Kay for taking the time to participate in our event. It was very much appreciated. See you soon and much thanks Monica".

Congratulations to staff members Kyle Murray and Matt Thompson on passing the Water Distribution Level 3 exam.

FOURTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes

The Board received copies of the minutes from July 8, 2020 for review. There being no further questions.

ON MOTION by Kay Gorham, seconded by Brian Acker with all in favor the minutes from July 8, 2020 Board meeting was approved.

FIFTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Approval of Financials

The Board received copies of the July 2020 Financials for review. There being no further questions.

ON MOTION by Bill Lawens, seconded by Brian Acker with all in favor the financials from July 2020 were approved.

SIXTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Treasurer Report

A. Update

Assessment deposit of \$6,508 was received. Collections for the year are General Fund 90%, Lot Mowing 91%, and Village I Parks 105%.

SEVENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Attorney

A. Surplus Lands Sale

The closing is scheduled for September 28th.

B. Comcast Building

A letter was sent and there has been no response. Joe and Clay will try to make contact by phone.

EIGHTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Manager

A. Update

Joe sent his update in the Board Packet and there were no questions.

B. Community Center

The Community Center has been closed for several months because of COVID-19.

ON MOTION by Bill Lawens, seconded by Kary Gorham with all in favor to keep the Community Center closed until January 15, 2021.

NINTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Supervisor Requests

Tim McKenna said he was disappointed when Joe informed him that JR Clarke resigned. It is upsetting that after 19 years of service, we lost a good employee. Tim met with Clay and Randy and came away from the meeting without a good explanation.

Bill Lawens said that he received an unexpected call from JR apologizing for not speaking to him before he left. JR blamed lack of support from management.

Melony Culpepper reminded everyone to get out and Vote.

TENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Public Comments

Jerry Moore said that August was the slowest month of the year at the golf course and restaurant and encouraged everyone to come out.

PJ Steeby thanked the Board for their efforts in providing services. She is President of the Waterway II Board.

Phil Gentry said he posted JR’s business card on Nextdoor.

Bob Rider thanked the Board for what they do.

Laurie Hurner thanked Joe for his excellent working relationship with the County and she was looking forward to working together in her new position.

ELEVENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Wednesday, September 9, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. Resolutions adopting the FY 2021 Budget and Utility Rates and Fees will be presented.

TWELFTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Motion to Adjourn

ON MOTION by Bill Lawens, seconded by Brian Acker
with all in favor the meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Tim McKenna, Chairman

Kay Gorham, Secretary