**Citizen’s Budget Review Committee**

**Minutes**

**Thursday, May 12, 2022 at 3:00 pm**

**Florida Room, Building C, 3rd Floor**

**Government Center, 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Viera**

# **Call to Order**

**The regular meeting of the Citizen’s Budget Review Committee was called to order at 3:25 pm on Thursday, May 12, 2022, at the Government Center, 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Viera.**

# **Roll Call**

1. **Sign‐in sheet was circulated among the attendees.**
2. **Present:**
   1. **D2 - Stephen Burdett**
   2. **D3 – Kevin Gholston**
   3. **D4 - Peter Fusscas**
   4. **Jill Hayes – Budget Office Director**
   5. **Boris Soudakoff – Budget Office, Administrative Assistant**
3. **Absent:**
4. **D1 – Eric Hoppenbrouwer**
5. **D5 – John Silvers**

# **Approval of minutes from last meeting.**

**Minutes approved from the previous meeting on March 24, 2022.**

**Motion passed 3-0 with no specific comments.**

# **New Business**

**A. Amendment to Uniform Advisory Boards**

**Jill Hayes provides an overview of the Ordinance on all non-mandatory advisory Boards that was passed by the BoCC on May 3, 2022 and explains that it was aimed at creating uniformity, while highlighting two significant changes related to the attendance and the number of meetings limited to 4 every year.**

**The Committee members discussed the new limitations of the Ordinance, stressing the fiscal impact, the effects of the Sunshine law combined with the new limitations, and expressed concerns that the reduced number of meetings could result in a greater difficulty obtaining information that is now subject to a vote during a meeting.**

**The Committee agrees to focus on specific issues narrowed to 3 or 4 on a yearly basis, while altogether expressing the need to potentially request an increase in the number of meetings to 6 if necessary, which would require approval by the County Manager.**

**B. Open Discussion**

**1) Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) – 5.8%:**

**Discussion on the strategic reduction of long-term vacancies to fund COLA and pay adjustments within existing resources**

**2) Building Department: Building code compliance, cost/charges:**

**The Committee is focusing on a $9.6 Million amount that has been carried-forward as fund balance. The Committee is evaluating the Permit Fees and the accumulated fund balance, and will consider making a recommendation to the Board to lower the fees, potentially even recommending zero fees for a year, with subsequent reevaluation. The Chair will draft language for a proposed recommendation for the next meeting.**

**3) Audit Public Works – County Transportation**

**The Committee asked if Public Works has acquired a Project Management Software in order to move projects up more cost efficiently, and required a cost/benefit analysis, raising financing issues and inflation on roads maintenance.**

**C. Next Meeting Date**

**The next meeting date has been approved as Thursday, August 25, 2022 at 3:00pm in the Florida Room.**

# **Public Comments**

* **Ms. Sandra Sullivan**

# **Adjournment**

**Meeting adjourned at 5:00pm**