

City of Clearwater

*Main Library - Council Chambers
100 N. Osceola Avenue
Clearwater, FL 33755*



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 1, 2022

6:00 PM

Main Library - Council Chambers

City Council

Roll Call

Present: 5 - Mayor Frank Hibbard, Vice Mayor Kathleen Beckman, Councilmember David Allbritton, Councilmember Mark Bunker and Councilmember Lina Teixeira

Also Present: Jon Jennings – City Manager, Micah Maxwell – Assistant City Manager, Michael Delk – Assistant City Manager, David Margolis – City Attorney, Rosemarie Call – City Clerk and Nicole Sprague – Deputy City Clerk.

To provide continuity for research, items are listed in agenda order although not necessarily discussed in that order.

Unapproved

1. Call to Order – Mayor Hibbard

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Invocation – Reverend Dr. Rhonda Blevins from Chapel by The Sea

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Special recognitions and Presentations (Proclamations, service awards, or other special recognitions. Presentations by governmental agencies or groups providing formal updates to Council will be limited to ten minutes.) – Given.

4.1 End of Session Report - Senator Ed Hooper

4.2 National Library Card Sign-Up Month Proclamation, September 2022 - Linda Rothstein, Assistant Director Clearwater Public Library

5. Approval of Minutes

5.1 Approve the minutes of the August 18, 2022 City Council Meeting as submitted in written summation by the City Clerk.

Councilmember Allbritton moved to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2022 City Council Meeting as submitted in written summation by the City Clerk. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

6. Citizens to be heard re items not on the agenda

Matt Croasmum said his nephew, Ethan Wisner, was killed last Friday trying to cross Belleair Road. He expressed concerns with the lack pedestrian safety on that section of Belleair Road and asked the City to partner with the Pinellas County School Board to improve pedestrian safety.

Gerry McGuire expressed concerns with the living conditions at Hacienda Gardens.

Sheila Sullivan urged City Council to adopt the Ready for 100-Resolution, which will ensure the City's commitment to adopting 100% clean energy.

Mr. Holuba expressed concerns that the inflation reduction act included tax incentives that would only benefit the wealthy.

7. Consent Agenda – Approved as submitted, less Item 7.3.

- 7.1** Authorize a Guaranteed Maximum Price proposal to J.O. DeLotto and Sons, Inc., of Tampa, FL for replacement of digital marquee sign at BayCare Ballpark, in the amount of \$145,519.00, which includes a 10% contingency, pursuant to RFQ 40-20, Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) Services for Continuing Contracts and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. (consent)
- 7.2** Approve establishing capital improvement project M2210, Clearwater Municipal Cemetery Renovations, in the amount of \$600,000 for improvements to the Clearwater Municipal Cemetery located at 1300 South Myrtle Avenue and transfer \$600,000 of general funds from the Parks and Recreation operating budget as a third quarter budget amendment. (consent)
- 7.3** Approve a purchase order to Pinellas County Sheriff's Office for the Hexagon Computer-Aided Dispatch and Records Management System (CAD/RMS) product in the amount of \$124,879.00 in accordance with Clearwater Code of Ordinances Section 2.563(1)(c), Cooperative purchasing; approve a purchase order to Pinellas Regional Information Management Enterprise (PRIME) for the personnel and operating expense of PRIME in the amount of \$165,984.00, and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same.

See below.

- 7.4** Award a construction contract to Razorback LLC of Tarpon Springs, Florida, for Water

Treatment Plant 3 East Dome and Aerator Repairs and Miscellaneous Improvements in the amount of \$1,791,334.60 per Invitation to Bid 20-0012-UT, approve Supplemental Work Order 1 to Biller Reinhart Engineering Group, Inc., of Tampa, Florida, in the amount of \$78,067, increasing the contract from \$29,810 to \$107,877, pursuant to Request for Qualifications (RFQ) 26-19, Engineer of Record Consulting Services (EOR) and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. (consent)

- 7.5** Ratify and confirm purchase order to Rowland, Inc. of Pinellas Park, Florida in the amount of \$1,909,650.00 for the Marshall Street and Northeast Water Reclamation Facility Digester Covers Evaluation and Repairs Project (21-0022-UT) and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. (consent)
- 7.6** Approve a proposal from Biltmore Construction Co., Inc of Belleair, Florida, for demolition of the former City of Clearwater City Hall Building (19-0009-EN) at the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) of \$557,693, pursuant to Request for Qualifications (RFQ) 40-20, Construction Manager at Risk, and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. (consent)
- 7.7** Authorize a purchase order to Hewlett-Packard Enterprise, of Spring, TX, for the equipment lease of desktops, laptops, and tablet computers in an amount not-to-exceed \$525,000.00 for the term of August 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023, pursuant to Clearwater Code of Ordinances Section 2.563 (1)(c), Piggyback, and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. (consent)
- 7.8** Appoint Charles Engel to the Municipal Code Enforcement Board to fill an unexpired term through October 31, 2023. (consent)

Vice Mayor Beckman moved to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted, less Item 7.3, and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

- 7.3** Approve a purchase order to Pinellas County Sheriff's Office for the Hexagon Computer-Aided Dispatch and Records Management System (CAD/RMS) product in the amount of \$124,879.00 in accordance with Clearwater Code of Ordinances Section 2.563(1)(c), Cooperative purchasing; approve a purchase order to Pinellas Regional Information Management Enterprise (PRIME) for the personnel and operating expense of PRIME in the amount of \$165,984.00, and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. (consent)

In 2019, a consortium of public safety entities in Pinellas County began working

on a unified CAD/RMS for public safety entities in Pinellas County. Since 2007, Clearwater Police Department (CPD) has been using TriTech and spends approximately \$189,000.00 annually for maintenance. While this product has serviced the department's needs, it does not provide some of the advanced features a modern product will, nor does it integrate with other public safety entities in Pinellas County.

In May 2021, Pinellas County Sheriff published Request for Proposal (RFP) 21-02 for a CAD and RMS system based on the specifications determined by the consortium. In October 2021, the consortium entered a memorandum of understanding to establish a protocol on how to establish a PRIME work group to evaluate the vendor responses received from Pinellas County Sheriff RFP 21-02 and to provide the Pinellas County Sheriff feedback to make a purchasing decision.

On May 19, 2022, Council approved an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) between the City of Clearwater, City of Largo, City of Pinellas Park, Pinellas County, and Pinellas County Sheriff to create the administrative entity of PRIME and agreed to participate in the purchase, implementation, and operation of a shared CAD and RMS.

Through a competitive procurement process conducted by the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, Hexagon was selected as the vendor to provide a CAD/RMS product for all parties. The resulting contract negotiation process is now complete and pricing for each party has been set in the manner defined in the ILA. Each Party of the ILA is responsible to pay a pro rata share of the cost of the CAD/RMS product to the Pinellas County Sheriff and the pro rata share for the personnel and operating costs of PRIME, based on the number of user licenses per Party.

The total costs of the Hexagon Contract for the initial purchase, not including future maintenance costs, is \$9,704,825.00. In the ILA, Pinellas County committed to paying a not to exceed amount of \$9.3M of the initial purchase price of the CAD/RMS product, which included an additional RMS product specific to the needs of FIRE and EMS. The County has decided to remove the FIRE/EMS RMS component and address that need through a different project. The adjusted amount of the County contribution for the initial purchase is \$8,552,119.00, leaving a balance amongst law enforcement Parties of \$1,152,706.00. The City of Clearwater's pro rata responsibility for the initial CAD/RMS purchase, payable to the Pinellas County Sheriff, is \$124,879.00.

Additionally, all parties are responsible for paying a pro rata share of the personnel and operating expenses of PRIME. The total expenses of PRIME from August 1, 2022, through September 30, 2022, are \$567,149.00; and the

total expenses of PRIME from October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023, are \$1,969,218.00. The City of Clearwater's pro rata share of these total costs is \$165,984.00 payable to PRIME (\$37,115.00 for August 1, 2022, through September 30, 2022; and \$128,869.00 for October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023).

APPROPRIATION CODE AND AMOUNT:

The department anticipated these expenses and funds are available in Capital Improvement Program C2201 - Police CAD Project.

One individual spoke in support and suggested reducing the number of officers and disbanding the Clearwater Police Department.

One individual spoke in support and suggested investing more in Clearwater officers and maintaining the Clearwater Police Department.

Councilmember Bunker moved to approve a purchase order to Pinellas County Sheriff's Office for the Hexagon Computer-Aided Dispatch and Records Management System (CAD/RMS) product in the amount of \$124,879.00 in accordance with Clearwater Code of Ordinances Section 2.563(1)(c), Cooperative purchasing; approve a purchase order to Pinellas Regional Information Management Enterprise (PRIME) for the personnel and operating expense of PRIME in the amount of \$165,984.00, and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

Public Hearings - Not before 6:00 PM

8. Administrative Public Hearings

- 8.1** Approve the request from Aurora Civil Engineering, Inc., on behalf of Ferman of Countryside, LLC, the owner of property addressed 24825 US Highway 19 North, Clearwater to vacate the platted Drainage Easement (Stormwater Pond), the platted 10-Foot-Wide and 20-foot wide Drainage Easement, and a portion of the 10-foot wide platted Utility Easement (up to the south property line), located on Lot 1, Ken Marks Ford First Add, according to the map or plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 105, Page 100, of the Public Records of Pinellas County, Florida, and pass Ordinance 9610-22 on first reading.

The property owner at 24825 US Highway 19 North, Clearwater, has requested that the City vacate the platted Drainage Easement (Stormwater Pond that City

maintained), the platted 10-foot wide and the 20-foot wide Drainage Easement, and a portion of the 10-Foot-Wide platted Utility Easement (up to the south property line).

The purpose of this vacation is to allow for construction of a new service building and to release the City from its maintenance obligations of the privately owned stormwater pond. A new stormwater pond will be maintained by Ferman of Countryside, LLC.

There are no city utilities that will be affected by the proposed easements to be vacated. All private utility companies have no objection to the vacation. City staff have reviewed this vacation and have no objection.

Ordinance 9610-22 was presented and read by title only.

Councilmember Teixeira moved to approve the request from Aurora Civil Engineering, Inc., on behalf of Ferman of Countryside, LLC, the owner of property addressed 24825 US Highway 19 North, Clearwater to vacate the platted Drainage Easement (Stormwater Pond), the platted 10-Foot-Wide and 20-foot wide Drainage Easement, and a portion of the 10-foot wide platted Utility Easement (up to the south property line), located on Lot 1, Ken Marks Ford First Add, according to the map or plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 105, Page 100, of the Public Records of Pinellas County, Florida, and pass Ordinance 9610-22 on first reading. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:

Ayes: 5 - Mayor Hibbard, Vice Mayor Beckman, Councilmember Allbritton, Councilmember Bunker and Councilmember Teixeira

9. Second Readings - Public Hearing

9.1 Adopt Ordinance 9570-22 on second reading, amending Code of Ordinances, Appendix A - Schedule of Fees, Rates and Charges, Article XXIV Public Works - Fees, Rates and Charges; Section 2 Connection Charges, Fees and Taps on Mains; Section 3 Rates; Section 3A Water Rates; Section 3B Wastewater Collection Utility Rates; Section 3F Reclaimed Water Rates.

Ordinance 9570-22 was presented and read by title only.

Councilmember Allbritton moved to adopt Ordinance 9570-22 on second and final reading. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:

Ayes: 5 - Mayor Hibbard, Vice Mayor Beckman, Councilmember Allbritton, Councilmember Bunker and Councilmember Teixeira

- 9.2 Adopt Ordinance 9608-22 on second reading, amending the Clearwater Code of Ordinances Appendix A Schedule of Fees, Rates and Charges, Article XXIV, Public Works - Fees, Rates and Charges, Section 3E Stormwater Management Utility Rates.

Ordinance 9608-22 was presented and read by title only. Vice Mayor Beckman moved to adopt Ordinance 9608-22 on second and final reading. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:

Ayes: 5 - Mayor Hibbard, Vice Mayor Beckman, Councilmember Allbritton, Councilmember Bunker and Councilmember Teixeira

10. City Manager Reports

- 10.1 Establish a Sister Cities relationship with Ixmiquilpan, Mexico and adopt Resolution 22-18.

In March 2022, representatives from the Orlando office of the Mexican Consulate, the Mayor of Ixmiquilpan, Aracelli Beltran Contreras, and representatives from the Federation of Hidalguense met with Mayor Hibbard expressing interest in establishing a Sister Cities partnership. Per the Sister Cities International protocol, a new relationship is initiated by each city passing a resolution declaring their desire to establish a Sister Cities partnership. Following this resolution, the cities will develop a Partnership Agreement that outlines the parameters and activities of the partnership and whether to, and how to, establish an exchange program. The Partnership Agreement is enacted at a signing ceremony, officially establishing the Sister Cities relationship.

The Sister Cities Advisory Board has reviewed the request from Ixmiquilpan at their July 28, 2022 meeting and unanimously indicated their support of establishing a new Sister Cities partnership.

Located in the central-eastern Mexican state of Hidalgo, about 3 hours (100 miles) north of Mexico City, Ixmiquilpan was originally settled by the Otomi people prior to the arrival of the Toltec civilization (c. 950 CE). The municipality was first established in 1550 with the arrival of Spanish colonials and the construction of the church and monastery of San Miguel Archangel.

It is the 7th largest municipality (of 84) in Hidalgo with a population of 98,654 in 2020. The traditional economy is based on mining (magnesium, zinc, silver) and agriculture. Modern industry has focused on manufacturing (autos, trains, metal products, and cement) and tourism, which employ about 30% and 44% of the population, respectively. Residents not employed in these industries find work as construction workers and day laborers or support themselves with the creation of traditional craft art and goods for sale as souvenirs.

Tourism is centered on the Church of San Miguel Archangel, which was declared a national monument in 1933, and includes unique murals that blend pre-Hispanic indigenous Otomi and Aztec mythology with Christian imagery from the European Renaissance. Also of note, the city's central plaza fountain which features a statue of Diana, the huntress (photo attached), which serves as an homage to strength, beauty, and freedom and has become an icon of home to many Hidalguense living abroad. Ixmiquilpan also has many water parks, fed by warm mineral springs and streams and are claimed to have curative powers.

Three individuals spoke in support.

Resolution 22-18 was presented and read by title only.

Councilmember Bunker moved to establish a Sister Cities relationship with Ixmiquilpan, Mexico and adopt Resolution 22-18. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:

Ayes: 5 - Mayor Hibbard, Vice Mayor Beckman, Councilmember Allbritton, Councilmember Bunker and Councilmember Teixeira

10.2 Appoint 11 members to the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee, to include the appointment of Vice Mayor Beckman as the locally elected official, and adopt Resolution 22-19.

Florida Statute Section 420.9076 states that counties and cities receiving State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) program funds are required to establish annually an Affordable Housing Advisory Committee (AHAC) and prepare a Local Housing Incentive Strategy (LHIS). The statute further provides that the committee be made up of 11 members appointed by the City. The 11 members must represent a specific industry or a specific group.

The required groups and recommended individuals are listed below:

- Banking industry/mortgage: Robyn Fiel
- Area of labor engaged in home building: Maria (Gaby) Camacho
- Advocate for low-income person: Peter Scalia
- Not-for-profit provider of affordable housing: Kevin Chinault
- Real estate professional engaged in affordable housing: Lindsay Dicus-Harrison
- Representative of employers: Camille Hebtng
- Clearwater resident: Carmen Santiago
- Member of the local planning agency: Bruce Rector to be recommended by the CDC on 8/16
- Essential Services representative: Jacqueline Rivera
- Residential home building: Pierre Cournoyer

- Locally elected official: TO BE DETERMINED BY CITY COUNCIL

The duties of the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee shall include reviewing policies and procedures, ordinances, land development regulations and the City's adopted comprehensive plan and shall recommend specific actions or initiatives to encourage or facilitate affordable housing while protecting the ability of the property to appreciate in value.

The LHS must be submitted to City Council by December 31, 2022, and will encompass the definition, vision, strategic focus areas, and action plan (including potential amendments to procedures and existing regulations) in order to facilitate the development of affordable housing in the city.

At the August 29 work session, there was council consensus to appoint Vice Mayor Beckman as the locally elected official.

Resolution 22-19 was presented and read by title only.

Councilmember Teixeira moved to appoint 11 members to the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee, to include the appointment of Vice Mayor Beckman as the locally elected official, and adopt Resolution 22-19. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:

Ayes: 5 - Mayor Hibbard, Vice Mayor Beckman, Councilmember Allbritton, Councilmember Bunker and Councilmember Teixeira

- 10.3** Approve a purchase order to Rep Services, Inc., of Longwood, Florida for the purchase and installation of playground equipment and wood fiber mulch in the amount of \$145,446.94, pursuant to Clearwater Code of Ordinances Section 2.563(1)(c), Piggyback, and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same.

The City of Clearwater has 27 playgrounds located throughout the city. Staff inspects all playgrounds for safety purposes bi-monthly and performs maintenance as needed. This proactive maintenance program allows for most playground equipment to last a minimum of 12 to 15 years.

During Fiscal Year 2023, playground equipment is scheduled to be replaced at Del Oro Park. Staff from the city's Parks and Recreation Department have engaged with the Del Oro Neighborhood Association to solicit feedback from residents to ensure the design and integrated components of the playground are replaced with interactive play features that are appealing for use by the surrounding community.

This contract will provide for the purchase and installation of age-appropriate equipment, including spinners, slides, swings, climbers and play booster sets. This contract is for a period of 150 days, to begin in September 2022.

The proposed pricing with Rep Services, Inc., has been established under a

piggyback contract with Clay County, pursuant to RFP No. 18/19-2 which has been extended through May 22, 2023.

APPROPRIATION CODE AND AMOUNT: Funds are available in capital improvement project M2206 - Parks & Beautification R&R.

Councilmember Allbritton moved to approve a purchase order to Rep Services, Inc., of Longwood, Florida for the purchase and installation of playground equipment and wood fiber mulch in the amount of \$145,446.94, pursuant to Clearwater Code of Ordinances Section 2.563(1)(c), Piggyback, and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

- 10.4** Award construction contracts to the following contractors: Engineered Spray Solutions, of Lakeland, FL; Inliner Solutions, of Sanford, FL; Rowland, Inc. of Pinellas Park, FL; and USSI, LLC of Venice, FL, for the 2023 Sewer Point Repairs and Improvements in the amount of \$32,000,000 for an initial one-year term on a unit price basis pursuant to Invitation to Bid (ITB) 22-0006-UT and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same.

The City has initiated a comprehensive maintenance program to clean, inspect, rehabilitate, and repair existing sanitary sewer pipelines and manholes throughout the City. The goal is to maintain the integrity of the sanitary sewer system and minimize inflow and infiltration of groundwater and stormwater. There are six groups of different type of work included in this program: Groups A through Group F.

Per Invitation to Bid 22-0006-UT, bids were reviewed by city staff based on unit prices and are awarded to the lowest responsible bids received in accordance with plans and specifications.

Inliner Solutions, LLC will be contracted to perform Group A - Sanitary Sewer Trenchless Reconstruction. This work includes cured in place pipe lining of selected sanitary sewer pipelines to rebuild the pipe's structural integrity, not to exceed \$10,000,000.00 one-year term.

----Inliner Solutions, LLC will be contracted to perform Group B - Cleaning and Video inspection services. This work includes gravity main cleaning and inspection services, not to exceed \$3,000,000.00 per one-year term.

Rowland, Inc. will be contracted to perform Group C - Emergency/Non-Emergency Repairs and Improvements of Gravity Sewers, Force Mains and Manholes, not to exceed \$15,000,000.00 per one-year term.

---Rowland, Inc. will also be contracted to perform Group D - Sanitary

Cleanouts and Lateral installations, not to exceed \$1,000,000.00 per one-year term.

Engineered Spray Solutions will be contracted to perform Group E - Manhole Surfacing Services, not to exceed \$ 2,000,000.00 per one-year term.

USSI, LLC will be contracted to perform Group F - Smoke and Dye Testing, not to exceed \$1,000,000.00 per one-year term.

The City will direct contractors to high priority areas as identified in the Public Utilities Department Capital Improvement Plan, the Wastewater Collection System Master Plan, and ongoing Inflow and Infiltration investigations.

The City of Clearwater's Public Utilities Department is responsible for owning, operating, and maintaining the wastewater collection system including all gravity sewer, force main pipelines and manholes that convey raw sewage to the lift stations and/or City Water Reclamation Facilities.

APPROPRIATION CODE AND AMOUNT:

3217321-546900-96665	\$10,000,000
3217321-546900-96665	\$ 3,000,000
3217321-546900-96665	\$10,000,000
3217321-546900-96664	\$ 3,000,000
3217321-546900-96212	\$ 2,000,000
3217321-546900-96665	\$ 1,000,000
3217321-546900-96665	\$ 2,000,000
3217321-546900-96665	\$ 1,000,000

Third quarter budget amendments will transfer Water Sewer Revenues in amounts of \$4,000,000 from 96212 Sanitary Sewer Upgrade, \$2,000,000 from 96654 Facilities Upgrade & Improvements, \$1,000,000 from 96664 WPC R&R, \$4,000,000 from 96686 Pump Station Replacement, \$13,500,000 from 96773 Groundwater Replenishment, for a total of \$24,500,000 to 96665 Sanitary Sewer R&R.

Additional funding is available in Capital Improvement projects in amounts of \$2,000,000 in 96212 Sanitary Sewer Upgrade, \$3,000,000 in 96664 WPC R&R, and \$2,500,000 in 96665 Sanitary Sewer R&R to fund the contracts and will be included in FY2023-FY2026 Capital Improvement Program for future renewals in amounts of \$32,000,000 per year.

Vice Mayor Beckman moved to continue Item 10.4 to September 15, 2022. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

10.5Endorse the Safe Streets Pinellas Action Plan, a data driven plan to work towards zero traffic-related deaths and serious injuries by 2045 on the city transportation network, and adopt Resolution 22-12.

Forward Pinellas expressed safety concerns during their update at the August

29, 2022 work session, with interest in the City to participate in the Safe Streets Pinellas Working Group to coordinate safety improvements, advance local priorities that will make streets safer for the traveling public, and access technical assistance and support in reducing fatal and serious injury crashes.

One individual spoke in support.

Resolution 22-12 was presented and read by title only.

Councilmember Bunker moved to endorse the Safe Streets Pinellas Action Plan, a data driven plan to work towards zero traffic-related deaths and serious injuries by 2045 on the city transportation network, and adopt Resolution 22-12. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:

Ayes: 5 - Mayor Hibbard, Vice Mayor Beckman, Councilmember Allbritton, Councilmember Bunker and Councilmember Teixeira

10.6 Provide direction on the budget.

Budget Officer Kayleen Kastel said the first public hearing to adopt next year's budget, which begins October 1, 2022, will be held September 15. To make that process successful, staff needs direction tonight if Council wishes to present the millage as proposed or at a reduced rate. Staff is proposing a 5.9550 mills, which is the same rate levied in the current year.

Discussion ensued with comments made that the City's revenues have increased by 13% and is a basis to give back the citizens a portion of that. Concerns were expressed that certain areas of the organization are understaffed. It was suggested that a discussion regarding outsourcing versus insourcing and hours of operation at recreation facilities and libraries be held during the strategic planning process.

In response to questions, Ms. Kastel said a 25% millage rollback (0.15 mills) would be a \$15 reduction for every \$100,000 of taxable value. A home with a \$300,000 value would save \$45 annually. She said 1 mill equals \$1.00 for every \$1,000 of taxable value. Homesteaded properties are limited to the Save Our Homes cap, which is the lesser of 3% or the CPI. She said this year the maximum taxable growth is 3%. The City Manager said if there is a consensus among Council for a millage reduction, he prefers Council provide a number tonight. Staff is prepared to discuss potential budget cuts. Assistant City Manager Micah Maxwell said for noticing purposes and for the upcoming agenda item, staff needs a number tonight.

One individual spoke in support of adopting a millage reduction.

One individual questioned the median assessed value of a house in Clearwater and the potential savings a millage reduction would provide versus services received.

Councilmember Allbritton moved to reduce the proposed budget by \$1 million. The motion was duly seconded and carried with the following vote:

Ayes: 4 - Mayor Hibbard, Vice Mayor Beckman, Councilmember Allbritton, and Councilmember Teixeira

Nays: 1 - Councilmember Bunker

11. City Attorney Reports – None.

12. Other Council Action

12.1 Discuss Incubator - Mayor Hibbard

Mayor Hibbard said a couple of weeks ago Council discussed allocating \$250,000 to the incubator that would be a partnership between Amplify Clearwater, Saint Petersburg College, and the City's Economic Development Department. He requested the item be brought back because there was some confusion over the motion. Since the meeting, Amplify applied for a grant through Pinellas County, which was withdrawn because concerns were raised that the City did not support the request. The program will help entrepreneurs make their businesses more successful and hopefully employ more people. He said the incubator will likely be in the new CRA.

The City Attorney suggested that Council refer back to one of the buckets Council approved on August 4, 2022. Because there is a finite amount of money, Council may 1) reallocate funds from one of the existing buckets, reducing the amount by \$250,000, or 2) allocate \$250,000 from one of the buckets specifically for the incubator. He expressed concerns that the \$1 million for the Non-Profit Grants Based Program is described as a cultural affairs program and was not sure the incubator would meet that criteria. He suggested reducing one of the buckets by \$250,000 and create a new one for the incubator.

Discussion ensued with concern expressed that the request before

Council does not inform the residents what the program is or how the organization will be held accountable. Support was expressed to reduce the Education Grant category by \$250,000.

One individual supported Amplify Clearwater lease the city-owned property for market rate.

One individual spoke in support but expressed concerns that details of the program are not available and questioned the process for organizations making funding requests to Council.

One individual spoke in support.

Councilmember Teixeira moved to reallocate \$250,000 from the Education bucket and reassign it to the Amplify Clearwater Incubator. The motion was duly seconded and carried with the following vote:

Ayes: 3 - Mayor Hibbard, Councilmember Allbritton and Councilmember Teixeira

Nays: 2 - Vice Mayor Beckman and Councilmember Bunker

13. Closing comments by Councilmembers (limited to 3 minutes)

Councilmember Teixeira said last Saturday was the Clearwater Kids Stepping Up Wearable Art Show and thanked Ms. Jay from North Greenwood Recreation Center who saved the day. She said yesterday Clearwater hosted the Big-C meeting and thanked staff for their help and she attended the swearing in of the new Clearwater fire fighters this morning. She said she just returned from Memphis, TN and said Memphis has some of the same challenges as Clearwater in that they are also building a multi-modal center and addressing blighted property in their downtown.

Councilmember Bunker said he was delighted to join city staff and Councilmembers at the fire fighter graduation ceremony this morning. He said he also attended a ribbon cutting at the Trinity Presbyterian Church for their new solar panels and that the city should strive for to reach the goals that they have reached. In response to Senator Hooper's presentation at the beginning of the meeting, he said he cannot accept it when state and federal officials say there is nothing they can do regarding Scientology and that he will keep fighting.

Vice Mayor Beckman said SPC had an open house at the North Greenwood Recreation Center in conjunction with the Clearwater Urban Leadership Coalition which displayed all the wonderful services and resources they

offer. She said she serves on the Paint Your Heart Out Clearwater board and encouraged residents to reach out if they are interested in joining a team.

Councilmember Allbritton said he reached out to PSTA's Brad Miller and PSTA is still moving forward on the intermodal facility as they received the grant funding. Mr. Miller told him PSTA will get gap funding from the County in October and has already had an engineer and architect on the site.

14. Closing Comments by Mayor

Mayor Hibbard reviewed recent and upcoming events and expressed condolences to Ethan Wiser's family.

15. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Attest

Mayor
City of Clearwater

City Clerk