THE VILLAGE OF ESTERO COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 2020, 9:30 A.M.

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09:30:05   >>Mayor Ribble: I WOULD LIKE TO CALL THE MEETING OF
09:30:09   JULY 22nd OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL TO ORDER.
09:30:12   FIRST UP, WE HAVE FATHER TONY FROM LADY OF LIGHT COMMUNITY
09:30:16   CHURCH TO DO THE INVOCATION.
09:30:19   FATHER TONY, I'LL TURN IT OVER TO YOU.
09:30:27   >> LET US TAKE A MOMENT TO CENTER OURSELVES.
09:30:29   WE GATHER HERE TODAY WITH THE INTENT OF DOING GOOD WORK.
09:30:39   WE SEEK TO REPRESENT FAIRLY AND WELL THOSE WHO HAVE GIVEN US
09:30:42   THE TASK TO DO SO.
09:30:44   MAY OUR EFFORTS BE BLESSED WITH INSIGHT, BE GUIDED BY
09:30:48   UNDERSTANDING AND WISDOM, AND WE SERVE TO RESPECT
09:30:54   EVERYBODY THAT WE KNOW THAT IS HERE AND THE COMMUNITY AS
09:30:58   WELL.
09:30:58   MAY OUR PERSONAL FAITHS GIVE US THE STRENGTH TO ACT HONESTLY
09:31:02   AND WELL IN THE MATTERS THAT ARE SET BEFORE US TODAY AND
09:31:06   EVERY DAY, SO BE IT.
09:31:09   >>Mayor Ribble: THANK YOU, FATHER TONY.
09:31:15   I DID WANT TO ADD, BACK TO FATHER HUGH, WE MOST APPRECIATE
09:31:20   YOU PUTTING YOUR MORNING MASS ON Facebook.
09:31:23   I SEE AN AWFUL LOT OF CONSTITUENTS, LIKE JIM BOESCH IN THE
09:31:27   ROOM HERE, ALWAYS GIVE YOU GUYS KUDOS EVERY MORNING.
09:31:30   I ENCOURAGE YOU TO KEEP THE POSTS GOING.
09:31:32   THEY ARE VERY MUCH APPRECIATED, ESPECIALLY DURING THIS VERY
09:31:35   DIFFICULT TIME.
09:31:36   WOULD YOU PLEASE STAND AND JOIN ME IN THE PLEDGE TO THE
09:31:39   FLAG?
09:31:40   I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF
09:31:43   AMERICA, AND TO THE REPUBLIC, FOR WHICH IT STANDS, ONE
09:31:46   NATION UNDER GOD, INDIVISIBLE, WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR
09:31:49   ALL.
09:31:54   >>Mayor Ribble: I WOULD LIKE TO REMIND EVERYONE TO PLEASE
09:31:56   SILENCE THEIR CELL PHONE.
09:31:58   IF YOU'RE SPEAKING, INCLUDING THE COUNCIL, BE LIKE FATHER
09:32:02   TONY WAS AND SPEAK RIGHT INTO THE MIKE SO WE CAN HEAR YOU
09:32:06   CLEARLY.
09:32:06   THOSE FOLKS AT HOME WATCHING ON TV, IF WE DON'T GET NEAR THE
09:32:09 MIKES WITH THE FACE MASKS ON, OUR SPEECH GETS STIFLED.
09:32:14 MADAM CLERK, WOULD YOU PLEASE CALL THE ROLL?
09:32:16 >>Carol Sacco: COUNCIL MEMBER LEVITAN?
09:32:18 >>Howard Levitan: HERE.
09:32:20 >>Jon McLain: HERE.
09:32:22 >>Jim Boesch: HERE.
09:32:26 >>Nick Batos: HERE.
09:32:28 >>Jim Wilson: HERE.
09:32:31 >>Vice-Mayor Errington: HERE.
09:32:33 >>Mayor Ribble: HERE.
09:32:34 NEXT ON THE AGENDA IS THE APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
09:32:37 DOES ANYONE HAVE ANY ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, OR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA?
09:32:41 HEARING NONE, I'LL ENTERTAIN A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS READ.
09:32:49 >> SO MOVED.
09:32:49 >>Mayor Ribble: NICK.
09:32:50 SECONDED BY KATY.
09:32:53 MADAM CLERK, PLEASE CALL THE ROLL.
09:32:57 >>Carol Sacco: COUNCIL MEMBER LEVITAN?
09:32:59 >>Howard Levitan: YES.
09:33:01 >>Jon McLain: YES.
09:33:03 >>Jim Boesch: YES.
09:33:05 >>Nick Batos: YES.
09:33:07 >>Jim Wilson: YES.
09:33:10 >>Vice-Mayor Errington: YES.
09:33:12 >>Mayor Ribble: YES.
09:33:13 WE'LL NOW TAKE PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS THAT ARE NOT ON THE AGENDA.
09:33:19 HAS ANYONE SIGNED UP TO SPEAK?
09:33:21 >>Carol Sacco: YES, MAYOR.
09:33:22 WE HAVE ONE PERSON HERE TODAY AND ONE PUBLIC COMMENT.

09:33:25 I'LL CALL THE IN-PERSON.
09:33:26 MR. JACK MEEKER OF THE BROOKS COPPERLEAF.
09:33:29 IT'S REGARDING THREE OAKS AND COCONUT.
09:33:37 >> GOOD MORNING.
09:33:38 CAN YOU HEAR ME?
09:33:39 I'M NOT USED TO THIS MASK.
09:33:41 I'M SORRY.
09:33:41 LET ME BE CLEAR ABOUT ONE THING.
09:33:46 I'M FROM ESTERO.
09:33:48 I'M FROM THE COPPERLEAF IN THE BROOKS.
09:33:51 THE PROPOSAL BEFORE ESTERO FOR AN IMPROVEMENT TO THE BROOKS TOWN CENTER.
09:34:01 LET ME BE CLEAR, WE DON'T WANT THIS.
09:34:08 WE DO NOT WANT THIS APARTMENT HOUSE ON THAT CORNER OF THREE
OAKS AND COCONUT ROAD.

IT IS NOT REFLECTIVE OF THE GOOD WORK THAT BONITA BAY GROUP HAS DONE IN OUR COMMUNITY.

IT SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN.

ESTERO NEEDS GREENSPACE.

NOW, PASS A PARK WITH SOME BENCHES, BOTANICAL GARDENS,

GIVING OUR RESIDENTS A PLACE TO STROLL, SIT AND RELAX AND SMELL THE FLOWERS WOULD BE A GOOD THING FOR THIS COMMUNITY.

WE ALL NEED SOME RELIEF FROM THE STRESSES OF EVERYDAY LIVING.

I THINK THIS CONCEPT WOULD WORK PHYSICALLY AND ECONOMICALLY.

I THINK WE'RE SMART ENOUGH TO MAKE IT HAPPEN, AND I THINK IT WOULD BE A GREAT IMPROVEMENT.

IT WILL CERTAINLY BE A WELCOMING SIGNAL TO ANYBODY CONSIDERING MOVING INTO OUR WONDERFUL NEIGHBORHOOD.

THANK YOU.

>>Mayor Ribble: OKAY.

THANK YOU, JACK.

NEXT ON THE AGENDA IS CONSENT AGENDA --

>>Carol Sacco: EXCUSE ME, MAYOR, WE HAVE ONE MORE.

>>Mayor Ribble: OH, YOU HAVE ONE MORE, OKAY.

>>Carol Sacco: PUBLIC COMMENT CARD.

BOB DION FROM PELICAN SOUND GOLF AND RIVER CLUB.

AS WE KNOW, ESTERO RIVER HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS SPECIAL WATER AND IMPAIRED FROM BACTERIA.

THAT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE.

JUST THINK OF HOW THE RIVER WILL BE IN ONE TO TWO YEARS IF SEPTIC SYSTEMS ARE NOT CONVERTED TO SEWER BEFORE THEN.

I REMEMBER HEARING THAT IT WILL TAKE TWO YEARS BEFORE SHOVELS ARE IN THE GROUND.

PLEASE ESTABLISH AN ACTION PLAN TO CONVERT SYSTEMS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

ALSO, CAN WE GET STATE OR FEDERAL FUNDS TO HELP?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION TO THIS MATTER.

>>Mayor Ribble: IS THAT IT, CAROL?

>>Carol Sacco: THAT'S IT, MAYOR.

>>Mayor Ribble: OKAY.

SO ONLY THOSE TWO.

NEXT ITEM ON THE AGENDA IS THE CONSENT AGENDA.

DOES ANYONE HAVE ANY COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS REGARDING THE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OR RESOLUTIONS?

>>Steven Sarkozy: MAYOR, IF I MAY, IT'S BEEN BROUGHT UP, AND THERE IS A CORRECTION TO BE MADE ON THE MINUTES OF JULY 8th.

THAT'S ON PAGE 7 OF 8, REGARDING THE COCONUT ROAD STUDY AND THE COLLABORATION WITH BONITA SPRINGS.
THE MOTION WAS ACTUALLY MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER ERRINGTON AND NOT COUNCIL MEMBER LEVITAN. THAT WOULD BE A MINOR CHANGE TO MAKE TO THE MINUTES.

>>Mayor Ribble: ALL RIGHT.

SO ANY OTHER COMMENTS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA?

IF NOT, I'LL TAKE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA.

KATY.

SECONDED BY JON McLAIN.

MADAM CLERK, PLEASE CALL THE ROLL?

>>Carol Sacco: COUNCIL MEMBER LEVITAN?

>>Howard Levitan: AYE.

>>Jon McLain: AYE.

>>Jim Boesch: AYE.

>>Nick Batos: AYE.

>>Carol Sacco: COUNCIL MEMBER WILSON?

>>Mayor Ribble: JIM WILSON?

OKAY.

>>Carol Sacco: VICE-MAYOR ERRINGTON.

>>Vice-Mayor Errington: AYE.


STEVE, WOULD YOU LIKE TO INTRODUCE THIS?

>>Steven Sarkozy: THANK YOU, MAYOR, MEMBERS OF COUNCIL, UNDER THE TERMS OF OUR VILLAGE CHARTER, THE STAFF IS REQUIRED TO SUBMIT TO THE COUNCIL A BUDGET ON OR BEFORE JULY 15th EACH FISCAL YEAR, EACH YEAR. THIS YEAR IS VERY DIFFERENT THAN WHAT WE'VE EXPERIENCED IN THE PAST AS A RESULT OF THE COVID CRISIS. AND WE KNOW THAT THERE ARE GOING TO BE SOME VERY SUBSTANTIAL CUTS IN OUR REVENUE THAT WE RECEIVE AS PASS-THROUGHS FROM THE STATE. WHAT WE'VE DONE IN THIS BUDGET IS TO COMPLY WITH THE CHARTER.

WE FRAMED THE BUDGET VERY SIMILAR TO WHAT WE'VE DONE IN THE PAST WITH THE FULL KNOWLEDGE THAT WE'RE GOING TO NEED TO BE ADJUSTING THE BUDGET IN THE NEAR FUTURE AS WE KNOW CUTS THAT WILL BE COMING IN FROM THE STATE. WE'RE ANTICIPATING AT THIS POINT THAT WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TWO PUBLIC HEARINGS TO BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 9 AND SEPTEMBER 23rd, BUT WE ALSO EXPECT CHANGES IN THE STATE IN TERMS OF THE REQUIRED ADOPTION OF OUR BUDGETS THAT'S REQUIRED BY THE END OF SEPTEMBER. WE'RE GUESSING THAT THERE'S GOING TO BE AN EXTENSION OF THAT BECAUSE OF THE COVID CRISIS.

SO WE'RE PRESENTING THIS BUDGET TO YOU WITH FULL KNOWLEDGE
THAT THIS IS GOING TO CHANGE, THAT IT'S VERY PRELIMINARY, AND THAT WE'RE GOING TO NEED TO RESPOND TO SOME OF THE CUTS THAT WE FULLY KNOW ARE GOING TO OCCUR IN OUR REVENUE STRUCTURE. SO THIS IS PRESENTED TO COMPLY. IT, OF COURSE, SHOWS THAT WE HAVE ADEQUATE FUNDS IN TERMS OF LIVING BY THIS BUDGET, BUT WE KNOW THERE ARE GOING TO BE SOME ADDITIONAL ADJUSTMENTS WE NEED TO MAKE. WHEN I SAY WE LIVE WITH THIS BUDGET, WE KNOW THAT WE HAVE SUBSTANTIAL RESERVES, RESERVES IN THE FORM OF OUR DEEP RESERVES THAT PROVIDE FOR 100% OF OUR ANNUAL OPERATING REVENUE. SHOULD YOU CHOOSE TO DO THAT. WE ALSO HAVE A VARIETY OF CUTS THAT WE CAN MAKE IN THE LINE ITEMS OF THE BUDGET. THIRDLY, WE ALSO HAVE UNSPENT FUNDS FROM PRIOR YEARS THAT COULD BE USED EITHER FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS OR REDIRECTED TO THE OPERATING EXPENSE. ALL OF THAT WILL COME TOGETHER BY THE END OF SEPTEMBER AND WE'LL BE BRIEFING THE COUNCIL REGARDING THOSE ANTICIPATED CHANGES AS THEY BECOME KNOWN.

WE SHOULD HAVE ANOTHER BIT OF INFORMATION COMING IN FROM THE STATE BY THE END OF THIS WEEK, BUT THIS IS A VERY FLUID TIME IN TERMS OF THE FINANCES AS A RESULT OF THE COVID CRISIS. WE'RE COMPLYING WITH THE CHARTER BUT KNOWING FULL WELL THAT THIS WILL BE -- IT'S ONLY A DRAFT AT THIS POINT.

>>Mayor Ribble: YEAH, I DID WANT TO MAKE A COMMENT FOR THE PUBLIC AND JUST A REMINDER TO THE COUNCIL, IN THE ESSENCE OF TIME HERE TODAY, WE'VE ALL HAD THIS BUDGET -- I'VE HAD THIS FOR SEVERAL WEEKS NOW. I KNOW OFFICIALLY IT CAME OUT ON FRIDAY, AND WE ALL HAD A CHANCE TO GO THROUGH IT. WE ALL HAVE A LOT OF QUESTIONS ON THE BUDGET I'M SURE. I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY OF THE MEETINGS HAVE BEEN SET UP, STEVE.

FOR THE PUBLIC'S KNOWLEDGE, WE OCCASIONALLY HAVE WHAT WE CALL HEAD TO HEADS IN THE INDUSTRY OR AS WE CALL IN ESTERO, ONE ON ONES WITH THE MANAGER AND STAFF. I'D LIKE TO ENCOURAGE THE COUNCIL THAT IF YOU SEE SOME THINGS ON THERE THAT YOU HAVE CONCERNS OR QUESTIONS ABOUT, RATHER THAN TIE US UP TODAY AND PUT LISA ON TRIAL FOR HER HARD WORK, WHY DON'T WE WAIT UNTIL WE HAVE A ONE-ON-ONE TIME, COME OVER HERE, SPEND YOUR HOUR, TWO HOURS, WHATEVER YOU NEED, AND GO DOWN THROUGH THOSE THINGS AND SEE IF WE CAN'T IRON THOSE OUT, AND THEN WE'LL COME BACK AND REGROUP AS A COUNCIL AND MOVE FORWARD.
09:42:09 IS EVERYONE OKAY WITH THAT?
09:42:11 DO I HAVE CONSENSUS?
09:42:13 NICK, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT WITH THAT?
09:42:15 >>Jim Wilson: YES.
09:42:16 >>Mayor Ribble: HOWARD?
09:42:18 >>Howard Levitan: ABSOLUTELY.
09:42:20 >>Mayor Ribble: JIM, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
09:42:22 JON, YOU'RE ALL RIGHT WITH THAT?
09:42:23 OKAY.
09:42:24 DO WE WANT TO GO THROUGH THE PRESENTATION, OR DO WE WANT TO
09:42:27 FOREGO THAT TODAY.
09:42:28 >>Steven Sarkozy: I'D RECOMMEND THAT WE FOREGO THE FORMAL
09:42:32 PRESENTATION BECAUSE THIS BUDGET IS VERY MUCH LIKE THE ONE
09:42:35 LAST YEAR, AND THERE ARE VERY FEW CHANGES, AND WE KNOW THAT
09:42:39 THAT'S GOING TO NOT PREVAIL, ULTIMATELY.
09:42:42 IT WILL STILL BE APPROPRIATE TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED BUDGET
09:42:47 WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT IT WILL BE MODIFIED.
09:42:50 >>Mayor Ribble: OKAY.
09:42:51 JIM?
09:42:54 >>Jim Boesch: I WOULD SAY IT'S IMPORTANT NOT ONLY FOR US BUT
09:42:58 FOR THE RESIDENTS, GO THROUGH THE PRESENTATION, THE GENERAL
09:43:06 PRESENTATION THAT SHE HAS BECAUSE THE CONCEPT OF THIS WHOLE
09:43:10 BUDGET -- [LOW AUDIO] -- WE ARE GOING TO BE UNDERFUNDED BY
09:43:19 ALMOST -- [DIFFICULT TO HEAR] -- SHOCKED.
09:43:30 FOR ANY MUNICIPALITY GO THROUGH A CHANGE LIKE THAT IS
09:43:40 THEY SHOULD BE PROUD AFTER GOING THROUGH ALL THESE CUTS AND
09:43:48 SO FORTH THAT WE CAN COME UP WITH A -- [INAUDIBLE] --
09:44:01 [CANNOT HEAR] -- BASICALLY BECAUSE OF THE GENERAL CONCEPT
09:44:08 THAT THE COUNCIL PEOPLE ADOPTED -- INSIST ON STAYING ON THAT
09:44:16 TRACK.
09:44:16 KEEP IN MIND THAT THIS BUDGET IS BASED ON THE 30% REDUCTION
09:44:25 -- [INAUDIBLE] -- REVENUE WE GET, ESPECIALLY FROM THE STATE.
09:44:31 [INAUDIBLE]
09:44:53 >>Mayor Ribble: HOW LONG DO YOU NEED TO DO THAT, LISA?
09:44:57 >>Lisa Roberson: MAYBE, FIVE, TEN MINUTES.
09:44:59 >>Mayor Ribble: OKAY.
09:44:59 LET'S GO AHEAD AND DO THAT.
09:45:00 I DO WANT TO RESPOND TO MR. BOESCH'S COMMENTS ABOUT THE
09:45:03 CUTBACKS.
09:45:04 WE HAD A FULL-FLEGGED FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES MEETING ON
09:45:08 THURSDAY, AND EVERY ONE OF OUR CITIES CAME TO THAT MEETING
09:45:11 WITH THEIR BUDGET PLAN AND REDUCTIONS.
09:45:14 I'VE GOT TO TELL YOU, LISA'S PLAN IS RIGHT THERE WITH THE
09:45:17 REST OF THE CUTBACKS.
09:45:19 SO I WAS VERY IMPRESSED WITH WHAT I'VE SEEN.
09:45:22 FEW THINGS THAT WE'LL MEET WITH YOURSELF AND STEVE.
I'll ask you guys to tweak.

But I thought compared to the other municipalities, you're right there.

Everyone is taking this seriously, Jim, as you well know.

Some of them, like Sanibel, they are not -- their parking fees and bridge tolls is a big bucket of revenue that they lost.

Of course, we don't have those two issues.

But everyone is feeling the pinch.

There's not one city that's in great shape with this thing.

And they are all adjusting accordingly and cutting back.

I'll turn it over to you.

Lisa Roberson: Thank you.

For the record, Lisa Roberson, finance director for the Village of Estero.

I will make this really brief.

This presentation is designed to give council and the residents as much information as we have right now about the COVID impacts of our revenue.

It briefly just touches on where we're at overall with our funds, but it's not meant to go into detail, because we know these numbers are going to change.

You guys will see constantly in your packet that you have and in your presentation preliminary, preliminary, because of the uncertainty we're certain we're facing.

I believe our manager touched on these dates before.

Our budget calendar today, we're doing a brief presentation to the council, so you all will see in compliance with our charter, a fully balanced preliminary budget.

Today, we're going to be required by Florida law to take a preliminary millage rate vote.

That will be the first of three votes.

This will be the preliminary vote you make today is what will be on the trim notice, truth in millage notice that will be mailed out by the property appraiser to every property owner in the village.

You can go -- you have two more votes after that.

You can go down.

You can reduce your millage rate after that, but you cannot increase it.

So today's vote will be the maximum millage rate that you can assess this year.

I just want to make sure that is clear.

That is the limitation placed on us by Florida law.

As our manager mentioned, September 9, it will be at 5:30, tentatively, if these dates change, we'll let you all know.
AS SOON AS WE CAN.
WE'LL BE REACTING IN CASE THINGS COME DOWN FROM THE STATE.
SEPTEMBER 23rd IS ALSO A 5:30 MEETING.
AT BOTH OF THESE MEETINGS, YOU WILL BE APPROVING THE BUDGET
AND YOU'LL BE APPROVING, TAKING A MILLAGE RATE VOTE.
TODAY, LEGALLY, YOU DON'T HAVE TO APPROVE THIS BUDGET, BUT
YOU DO HAVE TO TAKE A MILLAGE RATE VOTE.
EVERYBODY GETS AN IDEA, THE FACT THAT WE CAN BALANCE OUR
BUDGET, AND WE ARE GOING TO BE MAKING OUR ADJUSTMENTS AS WE
NEED TO GOING FORWARD.
I APOLOGIZE.
THIS MASK, IT'S HARD TO BREATHE.
IF I SEEM TO BE HYPERVENTILATING -- MARY TOLD ME, JUST DON'T
FAINT.
REVENUE PROJECTIONS.
WE CAN'T STATE ENOUGH HOW UNCERTAIN THEY ARE RIGHT NOW AS A
WE ARE, AS WE'VE MENTIONED SEVERAL TIMES, WE'RE GOING TO
CONTINUE TO MAKE ADJUSTMENTS AS ADDITIONAL DATA IS RECEIVED
BOTH BY THE STATE AND OUR LOCAL COLLECTION DATA.
THE SCARIEST PART RIGHT NOW, WE ONLY HAVE, BECAUSE OF THE
TIMING OF THE IMPACTS OF COVID IN OUR FISCAL YEAR, WE ONLY
HAVE ABOUT TWO MONTHS OF COLLECTION DATA.
SO WE HOPE TO BUILD MORE DATA LOCALLY AND GET MORE INPUT
FROM THE STATE.
THE STATE ESTIMATES ARE MENTIONED HERE.
THEY ARE HOPEFULLY COMING OUT THIS WEEK.
THEY HAVE USUALLY HISTORICALLY COME OUT IN JUNE OR JULY.
WE KNOW THE STATE HAS THEIR HANDS FULL.
THE ECONOMISTS ARE WORKING.
WE KNOW THEY'LL GET US SOME NUMBERS.
WE DO WANT TO STRESS THAT THEY ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
HISTORICALLY, THE STATE WILL DO QUARTERLY ESTIMATING
CONFERENCES.
AGAIN, THEY HAVE GOT THEIR PLATE FULL.
WE DON'T KNOW IF THAT WILL HAPPEN.
THEY WILL PROBABLY RELEASE ESTIMATE CHANGES AS THEY NEED TO,
AS THE CONDITIONS WARRANT.
PRIOR TO COVID-19, THE GENERAL FUND REVENUE AND THE BUILDING
FEE REVENUES WERE EXCEEDING PROJECTIONS.
WE ALL KNOW OUR ECONOMY WAS BOOMING.
WHAT THIS DID FOR US THIS FISCAL YEAR, IS IT HELPED US
LESSEN THE IMPACTS ON OUR REVENUE IN THESE TWO PARTICULAR
AREAS.
AS YOU CAN SEE RIGHT HERE, THE GENERAL FUND REVENUE THIS
FISCAL YEAR, NOT A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND BUILDING FEE
REVENUES, WE ACTUALLY ANTICIPATE MAKING BUDGET.
I DO WANT TO STRESS, BUILDING FEE REVENUES, WE'LL TALK ABOUT THOSE GOING FORWARD.
WE ARE STILL SEEING A LOT OF SMALL INSPECTION NEEDS, AND WE'RE GETTING A PRETTY SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF REVENUE CONSIDERING WHAT WE'RE GOING THROUGH STILL DOWNSTAIRS IN PERMITTING.
PEOPLE ARE DOING WORK, NOT NEW CONSTRUCTION, BUT PEOPLE ARE DOING WORK AND DOING HOME IMPROVEMENTS, I GUESS, THINGS LIKE THAT.
I'M SO HAPPY.
THAT'S A GOOD SIGN.
HOPEFULLY THAT CONTINUES.
IMPACT FEES GENERATED BY NEW CONSTRUCTION, THEY ARE ANTICIPATED TO BE SIGNIFICANTLY BELOW OUR GROWTH PROJECTIONS.
AS YOU ALL KNOW, EACH YEAR, WE GET SPECIALIST PLANNERS TO PROJECT, LOOK AT OUR AVAILABLE OPEN SPACE, AVAILABLE LAND FOR DEVELOPMENT, AND MAKE PROJECTIONS ABOUT WHAT THEY THINK OUR IMPACT FEES WILL BE.
OBVIOUSLY, WE HAVE NOT SEEN HARDLY ANY NEW CONSTRUCTION SINCE COVID HAS HIT.
SO YOU CAN SEE ROUGHLY $2 MILLION REDUCTION THIS FISCAL YEAR ALONE FROM ROAD IMPACT FEES.
WE ANTICIPATE THAT MAY CONTINUE.
THE LEE COUNTY ESTERO PARKWAY REIMBURSEMENT HERE, I JUST WANT TO STRESS THIS IS NOT A REVENUE SHORTFALL.
IT WILL BE REBUDGETED NEXT YEAR.
IT'S JUST A TIMING.
ESTERO PARKWAY CONSTRUCTION IS A LITTLE DELAYED, SO WE WON'T QUALIFY FOR REIMBURSEMENT THIS YEAR.
WE'RE REBUDGETING THAT LAST YEAR.
THAT WILL NOT BE AN OVERALL REVENUE REDUCTION.
JUST A TIMING WITH RESPECT TO THE FISCAL YEAR.
THE STATE REVENUES WITH THE MOST IMMEDIATE, SIGNIFICANT PROJECTION IMPACTS ARE GAS TAX, MUNICIPAL REVENUE SHARING AND HALF-CENT SALES TAX.
WHAT YOU HAVE BEFORE YOU ARE ACTUAL COLLECTIONS WE'VE SEEN FOR TWO MONTHS, THE REDUCTIONS, AND THEN WHAT WE'RE PROJECTING FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS FISCAL YEAR.
THIS FISCAL YEAR ENDS 9/30.
THAT IS JUST A TIMING WITH RESPECT TO THE FISCAL YEAR.
THESE PROJECTIONS, AND SOME OF THESE REDUCTIONS ARE IN LINE WITH A LOT OF OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.
AS THE MAYOR INDICATED, WE'RE CONSTANTLY NETWORKING WITH OTHER LOCAL FINANCIAL PROFESSIONALS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, LOCALLY AND STATEWIDE TO MAKE SURE WHAT INFORMATION THEY
HAVE IN SHARING INFORMATION, MAKING SURE WE'RE ON THE SAME PAGE.

OUR GAS TAX, 11% REDUCTION IN APRIL.

32% IN MAY.

WE'RE PROJECTING 30% REDUCTION THE REMAINDER OF THE FISCAL YEAR.

MUNICIPAL REVENUE SHARING, THAT IS PRIMARILY SALES TAX DRIVEN.

24% REDUCTION WE SAW IN APRIL.

44% WE SAW IN MAY.

AND A 30% REDUCTION GOING FORWARD.

HALF-CENT SALES TAX, 21% REDUCTION IN APRIL.

32% IN MAY AND AGAIN 30% PROJECTION GOING FORWARD.

THAT 30% NUMBER IS KIND OF WIDELY WHAT PEOPLE ARE SEEING AND WHAT PEOPLE ARE PROJECTING.

GAS TAX, THESE ARE PRIMARILY CONSIST OF SALES TAX AND THEN SOME GAS TAX.

THIS GIVES YOU JUST A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE ACTUAL DOLLAR SHORTFALLS WE'RE GOING TO PROJECT THIS FISCAL YEAR.

YOU CAN SEE, WE WERE REALLY AGAIN BOOMING BEFORE THEN.

NOT A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30th.

THIS IS A SUMMARY OF ALL OF THE GOVERNMENT-WIDE INDIVIDUAL FUNDS, AGAIN, FOR THIS FISCAL YEAR ONLY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30th.

YOU CAN SEE THE BIGGEST REDUCTION WE'RE FACING ARE CAPITAL PROJECT REVENUES, WHICH WE JUST COVERED, NEW CONSTRUCTION GENERATED.

THE PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES FOR NEXT FISCAL YEAR FOR OUR MAJOR STATE REVENUES, WE'RE RIGHT NOW LOOKING AT A 30% REDUCTION FOR THE THREE MAJOR FUNDS.

AGAIN, IN LINE WITH WHAT OTHERS ARE SEEING ACROSS THE STATE.

THIS SLIDE DEMONSTRATES WHAT THAT MEANS NUMERICALLY FOR EACH OF THE REVENUE SOURCES.

WE ALSO WANT TO MAKE SURE WE TAKE AN OPPORTUNITY TO MENTION TO EVERYONE THAT WE THINK THERE ARE SOME LOCAL FEES AND TAXES THAT HAVE EXPOSURE TO EXTENDED IMPACTS OF COVID-19.

THESE ARE TWO SIGNIFICANT REVENUE SOURCES THE VILLAGE RELIES UPON, COMMUNICATION SERVICES TAXES AND ELECTRICAL FRANCHISE FEES.

THESE HAVE HISTORICALLY GROWN SIGNIFICANTLY EACH FISCAL YEAR AS OUR ECONOMY WAS BOOMING, THEY WERE GROWING.

YOU CAN SEE COMMUNICATION SERVICES TAX LAST YEAR ALONE GREW 9%.

THIS YEAR WE'RE ONLY GOING TO SEE A 3% GROWTH.

WHAT WE'RE GOING TO DO ON BOTH OF THESE IS WE'RE GOING TO SEE FLATTENING NEXT YEAR.
WE'LL SAY NO NEW GROWTH PRELIMINARILY.
AGAIN, THAT'S WHAT EVERYONE ELSE IS HOPING.
THESE AREN'T QUITE AS SUSCEPTIBLE TO SOME OF THE IMPACTS OF 
COVID, AT LEAST INITIALLY, BUT WE DO FEAR, WITH EVERYTHING 
ELSE, IF THE IMPACTS OF COVID CONTINUE AND ARE EXTENDED FOR 
A LENGTH OF TIME, WE'LL WATCH THESE AND MAKE ADJUSTMENTS AS 
WE NEED TO.
HERE WE HAVE THE PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES FOR NEXT FISCAL YEAR
FOR REVENUES.
YOU CAN SEE THE GENERAL FUND REVENUES.
WE'VE TALKED ABOUT THE DETAIL SHORTLY, ABOUT 1.2 MILLION.
THE CAPITAL PROJECTS REVENUE, AGAIN, THAT'S PRIMARILY NEW 
CONSTRUCTION, IMPACT FEE DRIVEN.
WE'D LOVE TO SEE SOMETHING POSITIVE HAPPEN, AND WHEN THIS 
NEW CONSTRUCTION, IF IT WILL COME BACK, WHEN IT DOES, WE'LL 
BE RATCHETING IT UP.
WE CAN CHANGE THE NUMBERS AT ANY TIME DURING THE YEAR.
THOSE ARE RESTRICTED FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS.
WE CAN MAKE THOSE ACCESSIBLE AS SOON AS WE GET THEM AND HAVE 
THEM IN THE BANK, HELP YOU ALL APPLY THAT HOWEVER YOU'D LIKE 
GOING FORWARD.
THESE CAN BE VERY FLUID AND WE CAN MAKE CHANGES AS WE NEED.
THIS IS JUST A QUICK SUMMARY OF OUR GENERAL OPERATING FUND.
IT'S COMPARATIVE IN NATURE.
IT SHOWS THE CURRENT YEAR BUDGET TO NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET.
I THINK WHAT YOU CAN SEE HERE IS IN THE NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET, 
EVEN WITH THE REVENUE SHORTFALL, AND EVEN AFTER PAYING OUR 
DEBT SERVICE, WHICH WE'RE REQUIRED TO FUND, AND THEN OUR 
ADDITIONAL DEBT REDUCTION THAT WE HAVE BEEN SETTING ASIDE 
ANNUALLY, WE'RE NOT AT THIS POINT PROJECTING A DEFICIT IN 
OUR GENERAL OPERATING FUND.
HOWEVER, THAT IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND WE'LL BE MAKING 
CHANGES AS WE NEED TO GOING FORWARD.
THIS GIVES YOU AT THE BOTTOM OF THE SLIDE, IT GIVES YOU 
CUMULATIVE ALLOCATIONS.
OUR OPERATING REVENUES SHOWS.
THOSE ARE AT 12 MONTHS.
IT SHOWS OUR LITIGATION DEFENSE FUND RESERVES, OPERATING 
RESERVES, EXCUSE ME.
MAJOR REVENUE RESERVES.
AND ALSO, OUR REMAINING FUND BALANCE FOR THE GENERAL FUND. 
AGAIN, THESE ARE PRELIMINARY, FLUID AND WE'LL CHANGE THESE
AS WE NEED TO.
BUILDING PERMIT FEES, AGAIN, WE'RE VERY PLEASED THAT WE'RE 
SEEING SOME REVENUE CONTINUING DOWNSTAIRS.
ONE THING WE HAVE ON THE SLIDE THAT I WANTED TO CALL YOUR
ATTENTION, THERE IS A NEW STATE REGULATION.

FIRST, I WANT TO LET YOU ALL KNOW ABOUT IT BECAUSE IT WILL CHANGE HOW WE BUDGET AND HOW WE OPERATE IN THE BUILDING PERMIT FEE FUND.

THE STATE IS DISALLOWING GOVERNMENTS TO CARRY FORWARD MORE THAN AN AVERAGE OF THE LAST FOUR FISCAL YEAR OPERATING EXPENSES.

WE'VE CALCULATED THAT NUMBER FOR US AND WE SHOWED IT THERE. IT'S 900,000.

WE'RE ONLY AT 500,000.

WE'RE WELL IN COMPLIANCE, BUT WE WILL BE WATCHING THIS EVERY YEAR BECAUSE IT IS A NEW LAW AND IT WILL CHANGE HOW WE BUDGET AND OPERATE IN THE BUILDING PERMIT FUND.

DEBT SERVICE FUND.

THIS IS A COMPARISON.

LAST CURRENT YEAR BUDGET TO NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET.

AND YOU CAN SEE THE MOST IMPORTANT THING ON THIS SIDE IS THE CUMULATIVE ALLOCATION FOR THE DEBT REDUCTION.

WE'RE PROJECTING TENTATIVELY TO CONTINUE TO MAKE THAT ADDITIONAL 1.1 DEBT REDUCTION FUNDING, WHICH IS ACCUMULATING TO PAY OFF OUR DEBT.

SO IF THIS BUDGET HOLDS, WE COULD BE AT 5.2, $5.3 MILLION THE END OF NEXT FISCAL YEAR.

CAPITAL PROJECTS, AGAIN, YOU SEE THE REVENUE REDUCTION THERE, BUT YOU ALSO SEE THE REDUCTION IN CAPITAL PROJECTS FUNDING.

THE REMAINING FUND BALANCE IS THERE.

THIS MONEY IS VERY IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER.

IT CAN ONLY BE SPENT ON CAPITAL PROJECTS.

IT'S ACCUMULATED OVER TIME.

WE LOVE TO DO PAY AS YOU GO HERE.

WE ACCUMULATE THE MONEY.

YOU APPROVE THE PROJECT, THEN WE FUND THE PROJECT WITHOUT HAVING TO GO OUT FOR DEBT.

THAT'S WHY YOU SEE THESE BUILDUPS AND THESE CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDS.

BEYOND 2020, 2021, CONCERNS.

OUR TAXABLE VALUE THAT YOU HAVE IN YOUR CURRENT BUDGET IS BASED ON JANUARY 2020 VALUES.

YOUR NEXT BUDGET WILL BE JANUARY 2021.

IT'S WIDELY ACCEPTED THAT THOSE PROPERTY VALUES ARE GOING TO DECLINE.

WE'LL BE WATCHING THAT, AND THE PROPERTY APPRAISER WILL GIVE US OUR EXACT NUMBERS AS WE MOVE THROUGH NEXT FISCAL YEAR, BUT THAT IS A CONCERN FOR US BALANCING OUR BUDGET NEXT YEAR.
CONTINUING NEGATIVE ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF COVID.

THAT MAY GO WITHOUT SAYING, BUT WE ARE WATCHING THOSE --

WATCHING IT AS CLOSELY AS WE CAN AND MAKING OUR ADJUSTMENTS

AS WE NEED.

ONE THING WE ALSO WANTED TO POINT OUT TO YOU IS PERSISTENT

HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT HAS A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON OUR SALES TAX

AND OUR GAS TAX COLLECTIONS.

WE'RE SEEING THAT ALREADY.

IF THAT CONTINUES OR ESCALATES, IT WILL HAVE A CONTINUED

DAMPENING EFFECT.

UNFORTUNATELY, IF THAT GOES ON TOO LONG AND IT’S TOO

EXCESSIVE, WE JUST WANT TO MAKE YOU AWARE IT COULD LEAD TO

FORECLOSURES WHICH, OF COURSE, FOR OUR IMPACT FOR

FORECLOSURES WILL BE LOWER TAXABLE VALUES.

WE HOPE AND PRAY THAT THAT -- WE'RE NOT GOING TO BE FACED

WITH THAT.

BUT WE ARE PREPARED.

WE'RE WATCHING AND WE'RE READY TO MAKE WHATEVER ADJUSTMENTS

AND WHATEVER CHANGES WE NEED TO.

WE WANTED TO MAKE SURE YOU WERE AWARE THAT WE HAVE A

CONTINGENCY PLAN IN PLACE FOR NEXT FISCAL YEAR TO ADJUST --

TO ADDRESS ANY OF THOSE CONCERNS, IF THEY SHOULD MATERIALIZE

AND DEAL WITH WHATEVER WE'RE FACING.

OUR OPERATING RESERVE IS 5.9 MILLION.

THAT'S AVAILABLE TO OFFSET FUTURE REVENUE REDUCTIONS.

ANOTHER OPTION WOULD BE TO DELAY NON-TIME SENSITIVE CAPITAL

PROJECTS.

ANOTHER OPTION THAT WE HAVE WOULD BE TO DISCONTINUE THE

ANNUAL SURPLUS FOR DEBT REDUCTION FUNDING OF 1.1.

THOSE ARE SEVERAL AREAS THAT COULD HAVE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

ON HELPING US BALANCE OUR BUDGET GOING FORWARD IN THE EVENT

WE NEED TO USE THAT.

THAT'S IT.

DOES ANYONE HAVE ANY QUESTIONS?

I THINK WE'RE GOING TO -- I THOUGHT WE WERE

GOING TO HOLD OFF OUR QUESTIONS UNTIL THE MEETING, JIM.

ANTICIPATE NEXT YEAR WE WILL BE UNDERTAKING

SOME OF THE -- NOT 30% -- I CAN TELL YOU, MY EXPERIENCE WITH

THE STATE LEGISLATURE -- [INAUDIBLE] -- WHAT'S GOING TO

Happen.

GENERALLY, WHEN THE STATE HAS A REDUCTION IN THEIR BUDGET

AND THEN THE MONEY COMES BACK AGAIN, NOT SO GENEROUS

REPLACING MONEY GIVE TO MUNICIPALITIES.

I THINK WE ARE GOING TO BE IN A DIFFERENT REVENUE POSITION

IN THE FUTURE.

30% REDUCTION IN EXPENDITURES IS -- STEVE AND LISA GOING

OVER THE BUDGET -- [INAUDIBLE] -- SOME OF THE ANSWERS --
10:01:21 [INAUDIBLE]
10:01:27 >>Mayor Ribble: ANYONE SIGNED UP FROM THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK?
10:01:29 >>Carol Sacco: NO, MAYOR.

10:01:30 >>Mayor Ribble: WE'RE GOING TO FOREGO, STEVE, AT THIS TIME
10:01:33 TO MAKE A MOTION ON THIS.
10:01:35 WE WANT TO WAIT FOR OUR ONE ON ONES WITH YOU.
10:01:39 WE'RE NOT GOING TO MAKE A MOTION AT THIS TIME BECAUSE THERE
10:01:41 WILL BE SEVERAL CHANGES, I THINK, AS WE MEET IN THE NEXT
10:01:44 COUPLE OF WEEKS.
10:01:44 OKAY.
10:01:46 MOVING RIGHT ALONG, THE NEXT ITEM ON THE AGENDA IS
10:01:48 RESOLUTION 2020-13, THE VILLAGE COUNCIL, VILLAGE OF ESTERO,
10:01:54 FLORIDA, DETERMINING THE PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE FOR FISCAL
10:02:02 WOULD THE CLERK PLEASE READ THE RESOLUTION?
10:02:04 >>Carol Sacco: RESOLUTION 2020-13, A RESOLUTION OF THE
10:02:07 VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF ESTERO, FLORIDA,
10:02:09 DETERMINING THE PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR
10:02:12 2020-2021, SETTING THE DATE, TIME, AND PLACE FOR PUBLIC
10:02:16 HEARINGS REQUIRED BY STATE LAW; DIRECTING STAFF TO TRANSMIT
10:02:21 NECESSARY DOCUMENTATION PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF
10:02:24 FLORIDA STATUTES AND THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE
10:02:26 DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA; AND PROVIDING
10:02:29 AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
10:02:32 >>Mayor Ribble: STEVE, YOU'RE UP AGAIN, MY FRIEND.
10:02:34 >>Steven Sarkozy: THANK YOU, MAYOR.
10:02:35 MEMBERS OF COUNCIL, THIS COMES TO YOU AS A RESULT OF THE
10:02:40 RETIREMENT OF KATHY HALL, OUR VILLAGE CLERK.

10:02:43 KATHY RESIGNED AND RETIRED ON JUNE 12th OF THIS YEAR.
10:02:48 WE'VE BEEN LOOKING AT HOW TO FILL THE DUTIES OR PERFORM THE
10:02:52 DUTIES THAT THE VILLAGE CLERK HAD HAD.
10:02:56 >>Mayor Ribble: WE'RE ON THE MILLAGE RATE, AREN'T WE, STEVE?
10:02:59 >>Steven Sarkozy: I'M SORRY.
10:02:59 I'M LOOKING AHEAD.
10:03:01 THANK YOU.
10:03:01 THE MILLAGE RATE -- DROPPED THE MILLAGE RATE EACH OF THE
10:03:08 LAST BUDGETS SINCE INCORPORATION.
10:03:12 AND THAT HAS PUT YOU IN A POSITION WHERE YOUR MILLAGE RATE
10:03:15 IS WE BELIEVE THE LOWEST IN SOUTH FLORIDA AND QUITE POSSIBLY
10:03:22 ONE OF THE LOWEST IN THE ENTIRE STATE.
10:03:24 THAT HAS PROVIDED AN IMMEDIATE BENEFIT TO OUR PROPERTY Tax
10:03:30 PAYERS, BOTH THE BUSINESS PROPERTY TAXPAYERS AND RESIDENTIAL
10:03:34 PROPERTY TAXPAYERS IN ESTERO AS A RESULT OF INCORPORATION.
10:03:37 THIS YEAR, AS A RESULT OF THE COVID CRISIS, WE KNOW THAT
10:03:44 WE'RE GOING TO GET HIT WITH A REDUCTION IN REVENUES, AS LISA
10:03:50 JUST OUTLINED.
WE DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT WILL BE, BUT WE KNOW IT WILL BE SIGNIFICANT.
WE BELIEVE THAT IN RESPONSE TO THAT, OUR EFFORTS TO KEEP THE PROPERTY TAX LOW, PROBABLY REACHED A POINT WHERE IT WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE AND INADVISABLE TO DROP THEM FURTHER.
AT THE SAME TIME, THE COUNCIL SHOULD BE COMMENDED, UNLIKE ANY OTHER COMMUNITY, YOU'VE SET ASIDE MONIES IN RESERVE THAT PROTECT YOU.

SO THIS DOWNTURN IS REALLY BAD NEWS FOR A LOT OF CITIES IN THE STATE AND COUNTIES, BUT YOU CAN BE ASSURED SITTING HERE, MONEY SET ASIDE FOR THE SHORT-TERM IMPACTS ON OUR BUDGET. NOW, WHEN I SAY "SHORT-TERM," THAT COULD BE TWO OR THREE YEARS THAT IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE COVERED FOR, SHOULD YOU DECIDE TO USE THE RESERVES AND GO THAT DIRECTION.

SO WE'RE NOT MAKING ANY ASSUMPTIONS, BUT THE TIME TO WORRY ABOUT A DOWNTURN IS WELL BEFORE IT EVER HAPPENS, AND YOU'VE DONE THAT.

YOU'VE SET MONEY ASIDE IN A VERY CONSERVATIVE APPROACH TO PROTECT YOUR COMMUNITY FOR JUST THIS SUCH EVENT.
AND IF YOU'LL RECALL, WHEN WE WERE TALKING ABOUT RESERVES IN THE PAST, WE DESCRIBED THE NEED FOR RESERVES TO BE IN RESPONSE TO A FISCAL DOWNTURN, WHICH WE'VE GOT, OR A SIGNIFICANT NATURAL DISASTER.
THE ONE-TWO PUNCH THAT WE'VE RECEIVED IS IN 2017, IRMA HITTING US, A DIRECT IMPACT, AND THE RAINS THAT PRECEDED THAT, WE WEATHERED THAT STORM FIGURATIVELY AND LITERALLY.

BUT ALSO NOW YOU'VE GOT THE COVID-19 FISCAL CRISIS. AND IT IS SEvere.
IT WILL MEAN SOME SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO US, BUT YOU'RE IN A VERY COMFORTABLE POSITION.
YOU'VE PLANNED AHEAD.

BECAUSE OF ALL OF THAT, WE'RE NOT RECOMMENDING A DOWNTURN OR A REDUCTION IN THE TAX RATE.
WE'RE RECOMMENDING THAT IT STAY FLAT, STAY THE SAME THIS YEAR, AND CONTINUE THAT THROUGH THE UPCOMING YEAR.
AT SOME POINT, YOU MAY, AND I UNDERSCORE THIS, MAY HAVE TO RESPOND AGAIN TO THE COVID CRISIS, AND WE WOULD LEAVE AS A FUTURE OPTION AN INCREASE, SLIGHT INCREASE IN THE TAX RATE, BUT RECOMMENDATION AT THIS POINT IS THAT WE LEAVE IT AS A FLAT PROPERTY TAX.

>>Mayor Ribble: COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM COUNCIL?

10:07:03 WITH SOME OF THE UNCERTAINTY THAT WE HAVE RIGHT NOW, THE WAY
10:07:07 THIS WORKS, I'M NOT 100% CONFIDENT ON HOW THIS WORKS, WOULD
10:07:11 IT BE PRUDENT FOR US TO INCREASE THE RATE NOW, AND AS WE GO
10:07:19 THROUGH THE PROCESS, AS WE GET MORE DATA ABOUT THE
10:07:21 SHORTFALLS IN OUR BUDGET, WE CAN LOWER IT, BUT WE CAN'T
10:07:26 RAISE IT IF WE FIND THE IMPACTS OF DOWNTURN IS MORE
10:07:31 SIGNIFICANT IN THE FUTURE THAN WE THOUGHT.
10:07:33 SO THE TIMING -- MAYBE I ASK THIS OF LISA.
10:07:36 WHAT IS THE TIMETABLE WE HAVE FROM TODAY, MAINTAINING OR
10:07:41 MAYBE INCREASING, TO BE ABLE TO REDUCE IT IF NEED BE IN THE
10:07:46 FUTURE, IF WE DECIDE THAT THE SHORTFALLS ARE NOT QUITE AS
10:07:49 STAGGERED AS WHAT WE THINK?
10:07:53 >>Lisa Roberson: WITH RESPECT TO THIS UPCOMING FISCAL YEAR,
10:07:55 THE BUDGET PROCESS THAT WE'RE IN RIGHT NOW, YOUR TWO
10:07:58 SEPTEMBER MEETINGS WOULD BE YOUR TWO NEXT MILLAGE RATE
10:08:01 VOTES, AND YOU COULD VOTE TO REDUCE THE MILLAGE RATE AT
10:08:05 EITHER OF THOSE MEETINGS.
10:08:07 >>Jon McLain: CAN'T INCREASE IT IF TODAY WE VOTE TO MAINTAIN
10:08:12 IT.
10:08:12 >>Lisa Roberson: YES, TODAY WILL BE YOUR MAXIMUM MILLAGE
10:08:15 RATE FOR THIS UPCOMING FISCAL YEAR THAT YOU CAN ASSESS.
10:08:18 >>Jon McLain: THAT'S KIND OF MY POINT, SINCE WE HAVE A LOT
10:08:21 OF UNKNOWNS, WOULD IT BE PRUDENT FOR US TO PRELIMINARILY
10:08:26 INCREASE IT BY A CERTAIN AMOUNT WITH THE OPTION OF BEING
10:08:31 ABLE TO REDUCE IT DOWN TO CURRENT -- [INAUDIBLE]
10:08:36 >>Mayor Ribble: NICK.
10:08:38 >>Nick Batos: JUST TO RESPOND TO THAT, I WOULD BE OPPOSED TO
10:08:42 RAISING THE RATE ANY AMOUNT.
10:08:46 I THINK THAT IF WE ARE REALLY CONCERNED ABOUT IT, WITHIN
10:08:51 THIS BUDGET, THERE ARE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS THAT WE COULD
10:08:54 TAKE OUT OF THE BUDGET AND MAKE UP IF WE NEED TO MAKE UP
10:08:59 MONEY.
10:08:59 THERE'S PLENTY OF MONEY IN THIS BUDGET.
10:09:02 $5 MILLION IN RESERVES.
10:09:04 AND TO RAISE THE RATE TO OUR RESIDENTS, OR POTENTIALLY RAISE
10:09:08 IT, I THINK IT WOULD BE SENDING THE WRONG MESSAGE UNTIL WE
10:09:11 KNOW WE'VE DONE EVERYTHING WE CAN TO USE THE RESERVES WE
10:09:14 HAVE OR TO LOOK AT THE BUDGET ON A LINE-BY-LINE BASIS TO SEE
10:09:22 WHAT ITEMS ARE IN THE LINES.
10:09:24 I'VE LOOKED AT THEM.
10:09:25 I WON'T GO THROUGH THE ITEMS NOW.
10:09:27 BUT I THINK THERE ARE PLENTY OF LINES THAT WE CAN REMOVE IF
10:09:30 WE FELT WE HAD TO.
10:09:34 >>Jim Boesch: JON, I THINK PROBABLY THE BIGGEST ADVANTAGE IS
10:09:40 -- THAT IN DEVELOPING THIS --
10:09:43 >>Carol Sacco: HE HAS TO SPEAK LOUDER.
They can't hear him.

Jim Boesch: In developing this concept of government, we also incorporated some nice reserves that we put into place.

And that is the advantage of this concept in government. So when things get really -- this is a pandemic, but it's a disaster.

We would consider it, municipalities, a disaster.

We have always sought to try to get one full year of operational -- moving forward with the budget, so,

Fortunately, we've put money into reserves and so it can be utilized at a particular period of time in order to keep the very favorable property tax rate that we have in this whole state.

Probably we are going to be one of the lowest, one of the very few people that do not raise the tax rate.

It's all because of the previous six years that we've run the government and put money into reserves.

That's the credit that we should be getting for doing money in the government that particular way.

In accordance with that, we can afford to keep -- we have $190 million C.I.P. budget.

It may take a little longer to get it, slow down a little bit.

I personally would agree with Nick.

If we can keep this concept and position that we've had, I'm in favor -- [inaudible] -- operation budget.

Certainly can be discussed -- [inaudible] -- we should all be proud that we can bring this same rate to the residents.

[inaudible]

Mayor Ribble: You have something else?

Nick Batos: One other thing, Jon, I think we know there are many people who are really hurting in our community.

And I think that until we get to the position that we've done everything we can to even send the message that we're going to be doing it, knowing that we have all these reserves and all the budget items that we can do things to keep it where we have to keep it.

I think it's sending the wrong message of what we've intended from the day we incorporated.

Jon McLain: I agree with both of you.

I surely don't want to raise the rate.

I'm being cautious, and we have the mechanics that allow us to go through and fine-tooth comb our budget, which we haven't been able to do yet.

If we find, you mentioned that the state will be slowly
RECOVERING DOLLARS BACK TO US, I'D ONLY IMPLEMENT THIS AS A
LAST CAUSE, LAST ELEMENT.

BUT BECAUSE WE HAVE THE TIME TO DO IT, IT MAKES SENSE TO ME
to say let's err on the caution side of allowing us the
opportunity to at least review it.

I'm open for it. We have reserves.

We can cut through.

I'd like to see the village of Estero continue to see
improvements.

And if that means a few extra dollars, I think they'd rather
see us make this a more beautiful village.

I know there are some economic concerns.

I'm not saying we do it.

I'm just saying, hey, let's give us the opportunity if after
further review, we see that this is --

>>Mayor Ribble: Let's hear from the rest of the council
here.

Katy, you haven't spoken yet.

>>Vice-Mayor Errington: Jon, I understand where you're
coming from.

However, if we voted here today to raise the rate, we would
make the headlines of the local news media, the newspapers.
And I think the message would be not what we want the
Village of Estero.

I don't want anyone to become alarmed that our taxes are
going up.

It seems like there's nothing we can talk about in
government that gets people -- than raising taxes.

I understand where you're coming from.

I just can't support it right now.

We've gone through Lisa and Steve, everybody involved, a
tremendous job in getting where we are today.

And I'm very grateful, thankful for any reserve fund.

The whole time we were working on that, always gave the
impression it was for a hurricane or a tropical storm.

Never in my life did I imagine we would be sitting here
today with masks on going through what we're going through.

Let's keep the people calm and calm their fears that we are
not going to raise taxes this given year.

>>Mayor Ribble: How about Jim Wilson and Howard?

>>Howard Levitan: I'd like to chime in on this one, Bill.

>>Mayor Ribble: Go ahead, Howard.

>>Howard Levitan: I think we spent at least the past five
years being as fiscally conservative as we possibly can.

I'm having trouble even thinking about having a discussion
10:15:34  ABOUT RAISING TAXES.
10:15:35  SO I WOULD BE AGAINST THIS COMPLETELY.
10:15:40  >>Mayor Ribble: OKAY.
10:15:41  JIM WILSON?
10:15:43  >>Jim Wilson: YES, MR. MAYOR, I AGREE WITH HOWARD.
10:15:47  WE HAVE A VERY GOOD RECOMMENDATION FROM THE VILLAGE MANAGER
10:15:51  AND FROM THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT THAT HAVE GONE THROUGH ALL
10:15:55  OF THE NUMBERS.
10:15:57  STEVE FEELS COMFORTABLE THAT WE HAVE SIGNIFICANT RESERVES
10:16:03  AND THAT WE'RE IN A UNIQUE FINANCIAL POSITION.
10:16:07  SO, NO, I THINK WE SHOULD GO WITH HIS RECOMMENDATION, USE
10:16:12  THE PROPOSED VILLAGE RATE AS RECOMMENDED BY STAFF AND GO
10:16:16  WITH IT.
10:16:17  >>Mayor Ribble: DOES THAT MEAN YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE THE
10:16:19  MOTION, JIM, SINCE YOU'RE THE LAST ONE TO SPEAK?
10:16:22  >>Jim Wilson: I WOULD BE HAPPY TO.
10:16:23  I WOULD MOVE THAT WE ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE
10:16:26  VILLAGE MANAGER AND SET THE PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE FOR THE
10:16:30  FISCAL YEAR AT 0.7726 MILLS.
10:16:39  >>Mayor Ribble: NICK HAD HIS HAND UP FIRST.
10:16:41  NICK.
10:16:46  MADAM CLERK, WOULD YOU PLEASE CALL THE ROLL?
10:16:45  >>Carol Sacco: COUNCIL MEMBER WILSON?
10:16:47  >>Jim Wilson: AYE.
10:16:49  >>Nick Batos: AYE.
10:16:51  >>Jim Boesch: AYE.
10:16:53  >>Jon McLain: AYE.
10:16:56  >>Howard Levitan: AYE.
10:16:59  >>Vice-Mayor Errington: AYE.
10:17:00  >>Mayor Ribble: AYE.
10:17:01  GOOD DISCUSSION.
10:17:03  NEXT ON THE AGENDA IS RESOLUTION NUMBER 2020-12A, RESOLUTION
10:17:10  OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF ESTERO, FLORIDA,
10:17:14  NAMING THE LEE COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS AS THE VILLAGE
10:17:16  OF ESTERO'S QUALIFYING OFFICIAL.
10:17:19  WOULD THE CLERK PLEASE READ THE TITLE OF THE RESOLUTION?
10:17:24  >>Carol Sacco: RESOLUTION NUMBER 2020-12, A RESOLUTION OF
10:17:26  THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF ESTERO, FLORIDA,
10:17:30  NAMING THE LEE COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS AS THE VILLAGE
10:17:33  OF ESTERO'S QUALIFYING OFFICIAL AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE
10:17:36  DATE.
10:17:38  >>Mayor Ribble: STEVE?
10:17:39  YOU ALREADY STARTED THIS.
10:17:42  >>Steven Sarkozy: I STARTED THIS ONE ALREADY.
10:17:43  I APOLOGIZE AGAIN.
10:17:46  AS I STARTED TO MENTION, THAT WHEN THE VILLAGE CLERK, KATHY
10:17:50  HALL RESIGNED AND RETIRED EARLIER THIS YEAR, WE LOOKED AT
ALTERNATIVE WAYS OF FILLING THAT POSITION.

AND THAT'S STILL AN OPENQUESTION ON HOW WE DO THIS, BUT WE THINK WE CAN FIND AN EFFICIENT WAY OF FILLING THE POSITION AND SAVING A LITTLE MONEY AND KEEPING OUR EMPLOYEE COUNT LOW.

NONETHELESS, WE HAVE AN ELECTION YEAR THIS YEAR, AND WE NEED TO RESPOND TO THAT WITH SERVICES THAT HELP US GUIDE THE ELECTION PROCESS.

AND THIS IS A UNIQUE KNOWLEDGE BASE OR SET OF RULES THAT WE HAVE TO COMPLY WITH, AND WE THINK THAT IN THE SHORT TERM, THE BEST WAY TO DO THIS WOULD BE TO ENGAGE IN A SHORT-TERM CONTRACT WITH THE COUNTY ELECTIONS OFFICE.

THEY'VE INDICATED THAT IT WOULD BE FOR A MAXIMUM OF $20,000, BILLED TO US AT AN HOURLY RATE FOR THE SERVICES THEY PERFORM.

THE BEAUTY OF THIS IS WE DO NOT NEED TO GO THROUGH THE TRAINING OR AN AGGRESSIVE AND IMMEDIATE RECRUITMENT FOR A CLERK, BUT WE COULD HAVE THESE PEOPLE STEP IN AND PROVIDE SERVICES TO US.

THESE ARE THE PEOPLE THAT WE WOULD GO TO FOR ANSWERS TO ANY QUESTIONS WE WOULD HAVE ANYWAY.

SO WE THINK THIS ELIMINATES SOMETHING OF A REDUNDANCY IN THE PROCESS AND PROVIDES GREAT SERVICES TO THE VILLAGE.

IT'S ALSO FLEXIBLE ENOUGH THAT IF WE NEED SOMEBODY HERE FOR A PERIOD OF TIME TO RESPOND TO FOLKS WHO ARE RUNNING FOR ELECTION OR HAVE QUESTIONS REGARDING THE PROCESS, WE'LL HAVE ONE POINT OF CONTACT THAT THAT PERSON CAN EITHER COME HERE AND MEET INDIVIDUALLY OR SKYPE OR BY PHONE, ANSWER SPECIFIC QUESTIONS.

SO WE THINK THIS IS A GOOD WAY TO GO.

WELL, WE WOULD, AND WE MAY THEN HAVE THAT COUNTY PERSON HERE PHYSICALLY TO ANSWER QUESTIONS SHOULD THAT BE NEEDED.

THAT'S GET VERY TRICKY.

YOU GIVE THE WRONG ANSWER, THEN YOU BECOME LIABLE.
10:20:43  >>Steven Sarkozy: EXACTLY.
10:20:43  THE PEOPLE AT THE COUNTY OFFICE ARE THE PEOPLE WHO WE WOULD
10:20:49  CHECK OUR INFORMATION WITH TO PROVIDE YOU, AS AN ELECTED
10:20:53  OFFICIAL, THAT INFORMATION ON HOW TO COMPLY WITH THE
10:20:55  STATUTES.
10:20:57  SO RATHER THAN HAVE A PERSON LEARN HERE, WE'LL GO RIGHT TO
10:21:02  THE SOURCE AND HAVE THAT PERSON RESPOND.
10:21:06  >>Mayor Ribble: NICK?
10:21:10  >>Nick Batos: I THINK THIS IS A GREAT SOLUTION TO A PROBLEM
10:21:12  THAT WE'RE IN NOW.
10:21:13  I THINK ANY OF US WHO HAVE DEALT WITH THE SUPERVISOR OF
10:21:17  ELECTIONS OFFICE KNOWS THAT THE QUALIFYING -- ARE REALLY,
10:21:21  REALLY SUPER.
10:21:22  THEY ARE VERY COOPERATIVE, VERY PROFESSIONAL, AND REALLY
10:21:27  WELL -- HAVE A LOT OF KNOWLEDGE AS TO WHAT TO DO.
10:21:30  I'M ALL FOR THIS.
10:21:31  HOWEVER, I THINK IF POSSIBLE, TO HAVE A DESIGNATED DAY OR
10:21:40  WEEK, EVERY OTHER WEEK, THAT A PERSON WOULD BE HERE BECAUSE
10:21:44  IT IS GOING TO BE A TRIP TO GET DOWN TO --
10:21:49  >>Mayor Ribble: THAT'S A GREAT IDEA.
10:21:51  >>Nick Batos: I THINK A DESIGNATED TIME, ONCE A WEEK, ONCE
10:21:55  EVERY OTHER WEEK, WHATEVER IT IS, THAT THE CANDIDATES WHO
10:21:58  ARE RUNNING FOR IT WOULD KNOW THAT THERE ARE QUESTIONS.
10:22:02  THEY CAN COME DURING THAT TIME PERIOD AND GET THEM ANSWERED
10:22:05  I THINK WOULD BE A BIG HELP ALSO.
10:22:09  >>Mayor Ribble: ANY OTHER COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL?
10:22:11  ANYONE SIGNED UP FROM THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK?
10:22:17  >>Carol Sacco: NO, MAYOR.
10:22:18  >>Mayor Ribble: CAN I HAVE A MOTION?
10:22:21  JIM.
10:22:21  SECONDED BY KATY.
10:22:22  MADAM CLERK, PLEASE CALL THE ROLL.
10:22:25  >>Carol Sacco: COUNCIL MEMBER LEVITAN?
10:22:27  >>Howard Levitan: YES.
10:22:29  >>Jon McLain: AYE.
10:22:30  >>Jim Boesch: AYE.
10:22:32  >>Nick Batos: AYE.
10:22:37  >>Vice-Mayor Errington: AYE.
10:22:38  >>Mayor Ribble: AYE.
10:22:39  THE NEXT ITEM ON THE AGENDA IS THE TRANSPORTATION IMPACT FEE
10:22:44  CREDIT AGREEMENT.
10:22:45  STEVE?
10:22:45  >>Steven Sarkozy: THANK YOU, MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL.
10:22:47  THE COUNCIL IS WELL AWARE THAT WE'VE BEEN DEALING FOR OVER A
10:22:53  YEAR IN AN EFFORT TO TRY TO INSTALL A TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT U.S.
AND PELICAN COLONY BOULEVARD.

IN THAT PROCESS, WE'VE BEEN LOOKING TO MAKE SURE THAT THE
PRIVATE DEVELOPERS WHO HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR INCREASING
THE VOLUME OF TRAFFIC IN THAT AREA, MAKING NECESSARY THE
TRAFFIC SIGNAL PAY THEIR FAIR SHARE.

AND WE'VE BEEN IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH ALL OF THE PARTIES THAT
CONTROL EACH OF THE LEGS OF THE INTERSECTION.

AND SAFE TO SAY IT'S A COMPLICATED ISSUE.

IT'S INTERGOVERNMENTAL IN THE SENSE THAT IT ALSO INVOLVES
BONITA SPRINGS, BUT IT ALSO INVOLVES ALL OF THE DEVELOPERS
THAT HAVE IMPACTED THAT AREA.

WHAT WE'RE RECOMMENDING IS THAT WE DEVELOP THIS IMPACT FEE
CREDIT APPROACH THAT PROVIDES AN OFFSET FOR ONE OF THE
DEVELOPERS, AT LEAST THAT'S INVOLVED.

I'D LIKE TO TURN THIS OVER TO OUR VILLAGE ATTORNEY
REPRESENTATIVE, DEREK ROONEY, FOR FURTHER EXPLANATION OF
THIS.

>>Derek Rooney: YES.

THANK YOU, COUNCIL.

AS YOU RECALL IN THE PAST, WHEN WE'VE BEEN TRYING TO
DETERMINE THE RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF ALL THE PARTIES, YOU
HAD AUTHORIZED THE MAYOR TO ENGAGE OUTSIDE COUNSEL FOR
LITIGATION, IF WE NEEDED TO DO THAT.

WE HAVE BEEN, HOWEVER, WORKING TO COOPERATIVELY RESOLVE THIS
ISSUE.

WCI, WHO WAS THE ORIGINAL DEVELOPER OF PELICAN LANDING, HAD
SOME -- THEIR CONCERNS AND THEIR OBJECTIONS WERE WHETHER OR
NOT THEIR PROJECT TRIGGERED THE IMPROVEMENTS AT THIS TIME.
AND THEN WHETHER OR NOT THEY WOULD BE ELIGIBLE FOR IMPACT
FEE CREDITS.

IN ORDER TO GET THIS RESOLVED TODAY AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE,
WHILE WE HAVE COCONUT POINT WHO IS ALSO OBLIGATED TO PAY
THEIR PROPORTIONATE FAIR SHARE OF THE IMPROVEMENTS, WE HAD
INITIATED DISCUSSIONS ALONG THE LINES AND ULTIMATELY IN THE
AGREEMENT BEFORE YOU TODAY.

IN THE LAST WEEK, WE HAVE BEEN MADE AWARE OF RAPTOR BAY IN
THE TRAFFIC ANALYSIS SUBMITTED BY LONDON BAY HOMES FOR THAT
SHOWS IN THEIR TRAFFIC ANALYSIS THAT THAT INTERSECTION MAY
BE CRITICAL TO THAT PROJECT.

THEREFORE, WE ARE ASKING FOR YOUR APPROVAL TODAY OF THIS SO
THAT WE CONTINUE TO WORK OUT THE DETAILS OF ANY AGREEMENT,
WHETHER IT IS BETWEEN ULTIMATELY WCI, LONDON BAY HOMES, OR
THE CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS, WHILE YOU'RE ON YOUR SUMMER
BREAK.
WE DIDN'T WANT TO LOSE ANY MOMENTUM.

BUT IT MAY ULTIMATELY BE AN ISSUE WHERE THOSE IMPACT FEE
CREDITS AND OTHER OBLIGATIONS ARE COMING FROM THE CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS INSTEAD OF FROM THE VILLAGE OF ESTERO.
WE JUST WANT BROAD AUTHORIZATION TO, IF NECESSARY, AMEND THE SCOPE OF THIS AGREEMENT AND ANY DETAILS SO THAT WE CAN WORK FORWARD DURING YOUR SUMMER BREAK TO GET A RESOLUTION THAT ALLOWS THIS SIGNAL TO BE BUILT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

Mayor Ribble: OKAY.

COMMENTS AND REQUEST HE IS FROM COUNCIL?
Derek Rooney: A REPRESENTATIVE FROM WCI IS HERE IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.

Mayor Ribble: NICK, DID YOU HAVE SOMETHING?
Nick Batos: I'M ALL FOR THE LIGHT.

I THINK THAT WE HAVE PLAYED AROUND THIS SO LONG, I THINK THAT WCI IS NOT GIVING -- NOT BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOR TO THE PEOPLE AROUND THEM.
I THINK THAT IF WE HAD TO, I WOULD BE ALL IN FAVOR OF US PAYING FOR IT.
BASICALLY, UNDER THIS AGREEMENT, WE ARE PAYING FOR IT ANYWAY.
THEY MAY PUT UP THE MONEY BUT WE'RE GOING TO GIVE IT BACK TO THEM ANYWAY.
I HOPE THAT YOU CAN GO AHEAD AND MAKE OTHER NEGOTIATIONS, BUT I WOULD EVEN BE IN FAVOR OF US PAYING FOR IT RATHER THAN GIVING THEM -- LOOKING LIKE THEY ARE PAYING BECAUSE THEY ARE NOT.

Mayor Ribble: ANY OTHER QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL?
I WANT TO MAKE A COUPLE OF COMMENTS TO THIS ONE.
WHAT'S THAT?
IT'S MY TURN TO TALK.
THEY DIDN'T WANT TO TALK.
I ASKED THEM.
NO ONE CHIMED IN.
LET ME JUST SAY A COUPLE OF THINGS ABOUT THIS.
THIS PROBABLY HAS THE THICKEST PACKET WE'VE HAD ON ANY ITEM OF THE COUNCIL MEETINGS WE'VE HAD.
THIS THING GOES BACK BEFORE WE WERE EVEN AN EMBRYO AS A COUNCIL.

BACK IN 2010, THAT INTERSECTION HAS BEEN A DISASTER.
I BOUGHT IN IN 2007.
BACK THEN, THE INTERSECTION, IF YOU GO DOWN THERE AT 4:00, EVEN TODAY, NONSEASON, IT'S LIKE SUICIDE ALLEY.
YOU'VE GOT PEOPLE COMING FROM THE EAST GOING WEST, WEST TO THE EAST, THEY STACK THEM UP FIVE AND SIX, CAPITAL BLAKELY, IF YOU REMEMBER WHEN WE DID OUR OPEN HOUSE, HE WAS ONE OF THE THINGS HE ASKED US AS A GROUP, WHEN ARE YOU GUYS GOING
10:28:00 TO GET THIS LIGHT UP HERE?
10:28:01 I HAD A SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT CRUISER TOTALLY DEMOLISH AND
10:28:07 SHERIFF'S DEPUTY INJURED AT THE INTERSECTION.
10:28:10 IF YOU GET BORED SOMEDAY AND YOU WANT TO DO SOMETHING AND
10:28:12 YOU WANT TO BE BY YOURSELF, GET YOURSELF A COFFEE OR
10:28:17 FAVORITE BEVERAGE, NONALCOHOLIC, OF COURSE, AND PARK ON THE
10:28:20 EAST SIDE OF 41 ON PELICAN COLONY BOULEVARD.
10:28:23 THERE IS A SPACE THAT YOU CAN PARK THERE, AND JUST WATCH THE
10:28:26 AMBULANCE TRAFFIC GOING IN AND OUT OF THERE.
10:28:29 IF THEY HAVE TO MAKE A CALL GOING SOUTH ON 41, THEY CAN'T
10:28:32 GET OUT.
10:28:33 THEY CAN'T GET ACROSS.
10:28:35 EVEN WITH THE LIGHTS AND STUFF GOING, PEOPLE DON'T YIELD TO
10:28:37 IT.
10:28:37 IT'S LIKE SUICIDE ALLEY RUNNING UP AND DOWN THERE.
10:28:40 AS YOU CAN SEE, I'M VERY PASSIONATE ABOUT THIS LIGHT.
10:28:42 WE FINALLY GOT THE WARRANTS LAST AUGUST, IF YOU WENT THROUGH
10:28:47 YOUR PACKET.
10:28:48 IT'S ALMOST A YEAR NOW THAT WE'VE HAD THE WARRANTS AND WE
10:28:51 CAN'T GET THIS LIGHT MOVED FORWARD TO GET IT DESIGNED.
10:28:54 FIRST, WE COULDN'T GET THE WARRANTS.
10:28:56 NOW THE VILLAGE DID A GREAT JOB GETTING AN ENGINEER TO DO
10:28:59 THE STUDY, THE HOSPITAL COOPERATED.
10:29:03 NED DEWHIRST -- I'VE GO TO DROP HIS NAME -- OAKBROOK
10:29:05 PROPERTIES, HE'S BEEN JUST A GREAT CORPORATE CITIZEN TO
10:29:08 ESTERO.
10:29:08 HE'S STEPPING UP TO HIS PLATE OF RESPONSIBILITIES.
10:29:12 WE JUST GOT THIS ONE GROUP, FOR WHATEVER REASON, HAS BEEN
10:29:15 PLAYING HARD BALL ON THIS THING, BUT IT'S TIME TO GIVE THE
10:29:18 PEOPLE OF ESTERO WHAT THEY WANT, JUST LIKE WE DID THE OTHER
10:29:21 LIGHTS IN THE COMMUNITY WHERE WE HAD DANGEROUS SITUATIONS IN
10:29:23 THE PAST.
10:29:24 SO I WOULD APPRECIATE IF I COULD GET SOMEONE -- WE HAVE TO
10:29:28 HEAR FROM THE PUBLIC FIRST, THOUGH, RIGHT?
10:29:30 GO AHEAD, JON.
10:29:34 >>Jon McLain: I'M 100% IN FAVOR OF THE LIGHT.
10:29:40 I THINK SINCE LAST AUGUST, HAD THE WARRANTS -- [INAUDIBLE]
10:29:45 -- I'M JUST CONCERNED, AND I'M GLAD THAT WCI IS WILLING TO
10:29:49 PUT THE MONEY UP FRONT, WHICH IS GOOD, BUT WE'RE GOING TO
10:29:53 REVERSE IT BACK.
10:29:54 I TALKED WITH STEVE A LITTLE BIT ABOUT THIS.
10:29:56 I SEE -- THERE ARE TWO SIDES.

10:30:01 THE EXIT THAT COMES FROM PELICAN LANDING, IS THAT ESTERO OR
10:30:05 IS THAT --
10:30:07 >> IT'S BOTH.
10:30:10 >>Mayor Ribble: IT'S BOTH.
YOU'RE AT THE DIVIDING LINE THERE.
IT'S THE BOUNDARY.

Jon McLain: I'M CONCERNED ABOUT US GIVING THEM IMPACT FEE CREDITS FOR THIS WHEN, IN FACT, THEIR BUILDING FOR RAPTOR BAY -- [INAUDIBLE] -- OUR SISTER CITY DOWN THERE, IT SEEMS LIKE THEY WOULD HAVE MORE OPPORTUNITY -- [INAUDIBLE] -- I WANT TO SEE THIS THING MOVE FORWARD, BUT I HATE TO SEE US BEING THE CITY THAT WILL TAKE THE BURDEN.

SEEMS LIKE PART BONITA AND PART US.

ASSIGNED YOU TO WORK WITH BONITA.

MY QUESTION TO YOU IS [INAUDIBLE] -- SOME IMPACT ON THIS WITH BONITA.

IS THERE A RESOLUTION?

Mayor Ribble: WE'LL TRY TO NEGOTIATE.

Derek Rooney: DIRECTLY TO COUNCILMAN McLAIN'S POINT.

WHEN WE STARTED DISCUSSING THE ISSUE ABOUT WHETHER OR NOT WCI HAD AN OBLIGATION.

I'VE DRIVEN THROUGH THAT INTERSECTION.

IT'S TERRIFYING.

THE ISSUE ON WHETHER IT'S TRIGGERED, THE TWO PARTS OF THE DEVELOPMENT, THE DRI AGREEMENT FOR PELICAN LANDING, IS THERE IS A COMPONENT OF WHEN IT IS TRIGGERED.

WE ARGUED, OF COURSE, WHEN IT WAS F.D.O.T. WARRANTED.

THERE IS SOME DOCUMENTATION GOING BACK TO THE ORIGINAL APPROVAL THAT WENT BEFORE THE COUNTY COMMISSION THAT INDICATES IT WOULD BE DETERMINED ON A PER-PROJECT BASIS.

OBVIOUSLY, THE WARRANTS WERE RELATED TO THE COCONUT POINT DEVELOPMENT GOING FORWARD.

SO WCI'S POSITION IS, WELL, IT'S TIED TO THEIR PROJECT, NOT OURS.

THE QUESTION OF IMPACT FEES IS AN OPEN QUESTION UNDER THE DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL IMPACT ORDER, WHETHER OR NOT THE IMPROVEMENTS WOULD BE A CAPACITY-ADDING IMPROVEMENT OR NOT.

NOW, WHAT WE LEARNED IN THE LAST WEEK WAS FROM THE RAPTOR BAY PROJECT, WHICH WE HAD NOT BEEN DISCUSSING PREVIOUSLY.

BUT AS YOU'RE WELL AWARE, APPOINTED THE MAYOR TO NEGOTIATE ISSUES RELATING TO THAT WITH THE CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS.

THAT PROJECT APPEARS TO TRIGGER IT BECAUSE IT RELIES ON THAT COLONY POINT INTERSECTION BEING THERE IN ORDER TO AVOID TRAFFIC PROBLEMS ON COCONUT ROAD.

IF THAT IS CORRECT -- AND I'VE HAD AT LEAST PRELIMINARY CONVERSATION WITH THE PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR FOR THE CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS, IT WOULD BE A CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS IMPACT FEE CREDIT SO IT WOULD NOT BE COMING FROM THE VILLAGE OF ESTERO.
10:32:53  NOW, WE HAD OFFERED THE IMPACT FEE CREDITS FOR VILLAGE
10:32:57  PROJECTS, ENTICEMENT IN ORDER TO GET THIS TO GO FORWARD AND
10:33:01  BASICALLY SAY WE'LL PUT THAT ARGUMENT ASIDE AS FAR AS WHEN
10:33:04  IT'S TRIGGERED AND WHETHER CREDIT AVAILABLE BECAUSE WE WANT
10:33:09  THIS DONE NOW AND DOLLAR AMOUNTS ARE FAIRLY SMALL.
10:33:11  YOU ARE CORRECT, IF THIS IS NOW TRIGGERED BY RAPTOR BAY --
10:33:14  AND I HAVE HAD SOME DISCUSSIONS WITH LONDON BAY AND IT LOOKS
10:33:18  VERY POSITIVE -- THAT IT WILL BE CREDIT AVAILABLE FOR
10:33:20  BONITA.
10:33:21  IT WILL NOT BE SOMETHING THAT THE VILLAGE WILL HAVE TO DEAL
10:33:24  WITH.
10:33:25  WE MAY FIND OUT WHEN YOU COME BACK FROM SUMMER BREAK THAT WE
10:33:27  NEVER HAD TO ENTER INTO ANY AGREEMENT.
10:33:31  THE ISSUE IS NOT NECESSARILY WHETHER IT'S A CONDITION AND
10:33:34  WHETHER IT'S CREDIT AVAILABLE, BUT WE STILL WANT IT TO BE
10:33:37  MOVED FORWARD.
10:33:37  BECAUSE RAPTOR BAY MAY NOT BUILD OUT FOR SEVERAL YEARS SO
10:33:41  THAT DOESN'T DO US MUCH ADVANTAGE TO HAVE CREDITS AVAILABLE
10:33:45  AND THE CONDITION OF DEVELOPMENT.
10:33:46  WE NEED IT TO OCCUR QUICKER.
10:33:50  >>Jon McLain: THE AGREEMENT WE HAVE -- I DID NOT GO THROUGH
10:33:54  IT IN GREAT DETAIL.
10:33:55  BONITA.
10:33:56  >>Derek Rooney: NO.
10:34:00  THIS WAS DRAFTED AT A TIME BEFORE WE REALIZED THE RAPTOR BAY
10:34:09  PROJECT RELIED ON THIS.
10:34:10  THAT'S WHY I'VE ASKED FOR A LITTLE BIT BROADER SCOPE TO BE
10:34:13  ABLE TO CHANGE THIS, IF NECESSARY.
10:34:14  AT THIS POINT, THE ONLY REASON THIS IS STILL ON THE AGENDA
10:34:17  IS AS A BACKUP OPTION.
10:34:19  OUR PROPOSAL IS TO HAVE CONVERSATIONS WITH THE CITY OF
10:34:23  BONITA SPRINGS AND WITH LONDON BAY HOMES ABOUT WHETHER OR
10:34:26  NOT THEY, AS A SUCCESSOR DEVELOPER TO WCI, SHOULD BE THE
10:34:29  RESPONSIBLE PARTY.
10:34:30  AND HOW QUICKLY THAT CAN BE RESOLVED.
10:34:35  >>Howard Levitan: CAN I JUMP IN ON THIS ONE, BILL?
10:34:37  >>Mayor Ribble: YEAH, HOWARD.
10:34:38  >>Howard Levitan: I JUST WANTED TO SAY THAT I AGREE WITH A
10:34:41  LOT OF WHAT'S BEEN SAID PREVIOUSLY.
10:34:43  I'VE LOOKED AT THE DRI DO LANGUAGE AND IT'S FUZZY AT BEST.
10:34:50  THE REAL ISSUE IS WHETHER OR NOT THIS SIGNAL ITSELF, WITHOUT
10:34:55  LOOKING AT OTHER ASPECTS OF THE PROJECTS WOULD TRIGGER AN
10:35:01  IMPACT FEE CREDIT.
10:35:02  I DON'T KNOW THE ANSWER TO THAT, BUT I THINK IT'S REALLY
10:35:06  SPECULATIVE.
10:35:07 BUT WHEN YOU ADD IN RAPTOR BAY AND THE IMPACTS THAT'S GOING
10:35:11 TO CREATE, I THINK WE HAVE A MUCH STRONGER CASE.
10:35:14 SO I THINK WE OUGHT TO PASS THIS TODAY AND LET DEREK AND
10:35:19 BILL WORK THIS OUT WITH BOTH BONITA SPRINGS, LONDON BAY AND
10:35:24 WCI.
10:35:25 >>Mayor Ribble: OKAY.
10:35:26 ANY OTHER COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL?
10:35:27 OKAY.
10:35:29 ANYONE FROM THE PUBLIC?
10:35:30 >>Carol Sacco: NO, MAYOR.
10:35:31 >>Mayor Ribble: OKAY.
10:35:32 I'LL ENTERTAIN A MOTION?
10:35:35 >> I'D LIKE TO MAKE A MOTION TO PASS THIS AS IT IS AND GIVE
10:35:37 THE FLEXIBILITY TO THE MAYOR AND TO DEREK, NEGOTIATE THIS AS
10:35:45 BEST WE CAN.
10:35:46 >>Howard Levitan: I'LL SECOND THAT, BILL.
10:35:48 >>Mayor Ribble: KATY ALREADY BEAT YOU TO IT, HOWARD.
10:35:51 MADAM CLERK, PLEASE CALL THE ROLL.
10:35:53 >>Carol Sacco: COUNCIL MEMBER WILSON?
10:35:55 >>Jim Wilson: AYE.
10:35:57 >>Nick Batos: AYE.
10:35:59 >>Jim Boesch: AYE.
10:36:00 >>Jon McLain: AYE.
10:36:03 >>Howard Levitan: YES.
10:36:06 >>Vice-Mayor Errington: AYE.
10:36:08 >>Mayor Ribble: AYE.
10:36:09 MOVING RIGHT ALONG, THE NEXT ITEM ON THE AGENDA IS CORKSCREW
10:36:15 ROAD/PUENTE LANE TRAFFIC SIGNAL AND CORKSCREW ROAD/PUENTE
10:36:20 LANE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT.
10:36:22 STEVE?
10:36:22 >>Steven Sarkozy: THANK YOU, MAYOR, MEMBERS OF COUNCIL.
10:36:24 THIS IS ANOTHER ONE OF OUR MAJOR PROBLEM TRAFFIC SIGNAL
10:36:28 ISSUES, AND THIS IS RIGHT BY THE ESTERO CHEVROLET, LOWES
10:36:32 AREA WHERE AT THE OUTLET OF PUENTE LANE TO CORKSCREW ROAD,
10:36:40 WE'VE HAD A NUMBER OF VERY SERIOUS ACCIDENTS.
10:36:42 A COUPLE OF FATALITIES.
10:36:44 WHAT WE'RE TRYING TO DO HERE IN THE SPIRIT OF EXPEDITING
10:36:49 THIS PROJECT AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, WE'RE RECOMMENDING AN
10:36:53 INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WHERE THE VILLAGE WOULD STEP UP AND BE
10:36:56 ONE OF THE PRIME MOVERS TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN.
10:36:59 AGAIN, I'LL TURN IT OVER TO DEREK ROONEY TO EXPLAIN THE
10:37:03 LEGAL DETAILS ON HOW WE BELIEVE IT'S NECESSARY TO HAVE THE
10:37:10 VILLAGE INVOLVED IN WHAT IS A COUNTY ROAD IMPROVEMENT.
10:37:13 DEREK?
10:37:14 >>Derek Rooney: YES.
10:37:15 LIKE THE LAST ONE, THIS IS ANOTHER ONE OF THOSE ISSUES WHERE
10:37:18 THE OBLIGATIONS, IN THIS CASE, ARE NOT UNCLEAR.
10:37:22 THEY ARE VERY CLEAR WHAT THE OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTIES
10:37:24 WERE.
10:37:25 ALL THREE DEVELOPMENTS AT THE CORNERS OF THIS INTERSECTION
10:37:29 EITHER HAD DEVELOPMENT ORDER CONDITIONS OR HAD AGREEMENTS
10:37:33 WITH LEE COUNTY TO FUND THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE
10:37:38 INTERSECTION AT PUENTE LANE WHEN REQUIRED.

10:37:40 IN THE INTERVENING YEARS, ONE OF THE DEVELOPERS NO LONGER
10:37:45 EXISTS.
10:37:46 AND THIS IS THE PLAZA DEL SOL FOLKS.
10:37:48 THAT PROPERTY HAS BEEN SUBDIVIDED, SOLD OFF.
10:37:51 THE ASSOCIATION IS ARGUING THAT THEY DON'T HAVE THE
10:37:56 AUTHORITY TO ASSESS FOR IT, BUT THEY HAVE VOTED AGAINST
10:37:58 ASSESSING THEMSELVES TO PAY FOR THAT OBLIGATION.
10:38:02 STOCK DEVELOPMENT HAS AGREED TO MOVE FORWARD AND IS PREPARED
10:38:05 TO SEND FUNDING.
10:38:07 IT WOULD GO TO THE COUNTY.
10:38:08 WHAT WE HAVE TRIED TO RESOLVE AND JUST AS THE VILLAGE
10:38:13 MANAGER HAS PREVIOUSLY BROUGHT TO YOU AND PREFUNDED THE
10:38:17 DESIGN SO THAT WE COULD EXPEDITE THIS PROCESS, BECAUSE IT IS
10:38:20 STILL A COUNTY OBLIGATION AND AGREEMENTS ARE MADE WITH THE
10:38:23 COUNTY ON THAT, WE ARE NOW LOOKING TO FUND THE REMAINING
10:38:27 BALANCE OF THE CONSTRUCTION COSTS, AND WHAT WE WOULD PROPOSE
10:38:31 IS TO ASSESS THE PROPERTY OWNERS.
10:38:35 HOPEFULLY STOCK LOOKS LIKE THEY'LL CONTINUE TO MOVE FORWARD
10:38:38 AND PAY US UP FRONT.
10:38:39 BUT THE TWO REMAINING PROPERTY DEVELOPMENTS, PLAZA DEL SOL,
10:38:42 WE WOULD ASSESS EACH OF THE PARCELS IN THERE SEPARATELY, AND
10:38:45 THE KITE DEVELOPMENT WHERE THE LOWES IS, WE WOULD ASSESS AS
10:38:48 WELL.
10:38:49 SO IT'S VERY TIED TO THE LATER ITEM ON YOUR AGENDA, THE
10:38:53 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ORDINANCE.

10:38:54 BASICALLY WHAT WE WOULD DO, WE WOULD PREFUND IT, THE COUNTY
10:38:57 COULD MOVE FORWARD WITH THE CONSTRUCTION, AND WE WOULD
10:39:00 ASSESS OVER THE INTERVENING YEARS OUR COST TO DO ALL OF THIS
10:39:05 ON THOSE PROPERTY OWNERS.
10:39:07 >>Mayor Ribble: OKAY.
10:39:08 QUESTIONS, COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL?
10:39:10 NICK.
10:39:12 >>Nick Batos: [INAUDIBLE]?
10:39:13 >>Derek Rooney: THAT HASN'T BEEN DETERMINED YET.
10:39:15 MY GUESS PROBABLY NO LESS THAN FIVE.
10:39:19 >>Howard Levitan: BILL, CAN I JUMP IN.
10:39:21 >>Mayor Ribble: HANG ON, NICK IS STILL TALKING.
10:39:24 >>Nick Batos: [INAUDIBLE]
10:39:26 >>Derek Rooney: I DON'T HAVE A PRELIMINARY ESTIMATE OF COST.
10:39:28 >>Nick Batos: PROBABLY IN THE $700,000 RANGE THAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT --
10:39:31 >>Derek Rooney: THERE ARE LANE CHANGES.
10:39:36 IT'S MORE THAN JUST A SIGNAL.
10:39:40 THE SIGNAL ITSELF WOULD BE THREE TO FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS, BUT THERE ARE ADDITIONAL TURNING LANES AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS THAT ARE BEING CONTEMPLATED AS WELL.
10:39:48 >>Mayor Ribble: OKAY.
10:39:49 HOWARD?
10:39:50 >>Howard Levitan: YEAH, I'M 100% IN FAVOR OF FRONTING THE MONEY.
10:39:55 WHAT I DON'T LIKE IS TO DO THESE GUYS RELIEF BY A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FOR THEM TO SPREAD OUT THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS OVER A LONGER PERIOD OF TIME.
10:40:03 ESPECIALLY SINCE THERE ARE A LOT OF DEVELOPMENT-RELATED REQUESTS COMING FROM BOTH OF THOSE, FROM BOTH SIDES OF CORKSCREW ROAD IN BOTH PLAZA DEL SOL AND ESTERO TOWN COMMONS.
10:40:29 WE HAVE SAID IN THE PAST THAT IF THERE IS A CODE ENFORCEMENT ACTION UNDERWAY, WE WOULD NOT GRANT ANY APPROVALS DURING THE PENDENCY OF A CODE ENFORCEMENT THING, AND I THINK WE SHOULD INSIST UPON THAT AND NOT SCHEDULE ANY DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS FOR EITHER OF THOSE DEVELOPMENTS THAT ARE NOT LIVING UP TO THEIR CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS.
10:40:51 I GUESS I WOULD BE IN FAVOR OF THE RESOLUTION, BUT NOT THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS.
10:41:00 >>Mayor Ribble: OKAY.
10:41:01 DID YOU WANT TO RESPOND?
10:41:02 >>Derek Rooney: I CAN'T DISAGREE WITH COUNCIL MEMBER LEVITAN'S COMMENTS.
10:41:06 I MEAN, WITH PLAZA DEL SOL, YOU PROBABLY HAVE A COUPLE OF OWNERS IN THERE WHO ARE COMPLETELY UNAWARE OF THE DEVELOPMENT OBLIGATIONS OF THE ORIGINAL DEVELOPER WHO IS NOW DEFUNCT.
10:41:18 BUT THE REALITY IS THAT THEY ARE ALL -- THEY WOULD ALL BENEFIT, PARTICULARLY IF THE VILLAGE WAS TO MAKE THOSE IMPROVEMENTS ON THEIR BEHALF.
10:41:23 WE HAVE TALKED INTERNALLY AT THE STAFF LEVEL, ONE OF THE OPTIONS WE WOULD HAVE WOULD BE TO INSTITUTE CODE ENFORCEMENT CASES AGAINST ALL THE CONSTRUCTED PROJECTS AND TO DENY ANY PERMITS FOR ANY TO-BE CONSTRUCTED PROJECTS.
10:41:41 WE DID FEEL, THOUGH, INTERNALLY, THAT THAT WAS FAIRLY DRACONIAN AND WE WANTED TO FIND A WAY JUST TO GET IT MOVING FORWARD AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE, BUT THAT IS ALWAYS AN OPTION.
10:41:52 >>Mayor Ribble: KATY.
Vice-Mayor Errington: I HAVE A COUPLE OF QUESTIONS.

ONE IS, WHERE IS -- PLAZA DEL SOL, WHERE IS THAT?

I KNOW WHERE ESTERO CROSSING, OF COURSE, ESTERO TOWN COMMONS

AND THE OTHER QUESTION, THE RESIDENTS IN THE BACK OF THAT,

WE'RE NOT TALKING ANY KIND OF ASSESSMENT ON THOSE

DEVELOPMENTS.

>>Derek Rooney: NO, THE ASSESSMENT WOULD ONLY BE ON THE

COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES, THE ONES WHO ULTIMATELY BEAR THE

BURDEN OF THE DEVELOPMENT OBLIGATION.

AND ALL THE COSTS.

OUR STAFF TIME, THE FINANCING COST, EVERYTHING WOULD BE BORN

BY THEM.

WHEN WE HAVE THE FINAL FIGURES AND THE EXTRA COST OF ADDING,

PUTTING THE ASSESSMENTS TOGETHER WOULD ALL BE BORN BY THE

PROPERTY OWNERS.

IT WOULD NOT GO TO THE PROPERTY OWNERS BEHIND THEM.

IT'S ON THE NORTH SIDE NORTH SIDE OF THE ROAD.

>>Derek Rooney: NORTH SIDE.

>>Derek Rooney: I'M TRYING TO REMEMBER SOME OF THE NAMES OF

THE BUSINESSES.

>>Steven Sarkozy: ALL OF THE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT.

CULVER'S --

>>Derek Rooney: YEAH, YOU WILL A THE INDIVIDUAL PARCELS.

ALL OF THOSE IN THERE FROM THREE OAKS PARKWAY TO THE

EAST.

>>Vice-Mayor Errington: DO THEY KNOW THIS?

>>Derek Rooney: YEAH, THEY ARE AWARE, AND WE HAVE REQUESTED

THAT EACH OF THE PROPERTY OWNERS IN THERE, EVEN THOUGH THEY

ARE NOT REQUIRED TO, GIVE US THEIR ASSENT -- SEND A LETTER

TO US INDICATE THEY AGREE TO BE ASSESSED.

WHEN WE GO FORWARD, OBVIOUSLY, THE ASSESSMENTS WOULD NOT

OCCUR UNTIL A FUTURE YEAR.

WE DO NOT WANT ANYONE COMING AND OBJECTING TO THE

ASSESSMENTS.

THIS IS AN OBLIGATION THAT WE'RE TAKING AWAY FROM THEM AND

MAKING SURE IT GETS DONE WHEN IT'S APPROPRIATE.

Mayor Ribble: OKAY.

ANY OTHER COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS, COUNCIL?

ANYONE FROM THE PUBLIC?

>>Carol Sacco: YES, WE HAVE AN E-COMMENT FROM MR. LOUIS FRATTARELLI.

PRESERVE AT CORKSCREW.

ECCL TRANSPORTATION.

THE ECCL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL RECOMMENDS COUNCIL APPROVAL

OF THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN LEE COUNTY AND THE

VILLAGE OF ESTERO FOR THE CORKSCREW ROAD PUENTE LANE TRAFFIC
10:43:59    SIGNAL.
10:43:59    THANK YOU.
10:44:02    >>Derek Rooney: ALSO POINT OUT THAT NEALE MONTGOMERY WHO
10:44:04    REPRESENTS KITE DEVELOPMENT AS WELL AS STOCK IS HERE IF YOU
10:44:07    HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.
10:44:09    >>Jim Boesch: MAKE A MOTION WE MOVE FORWARD WITH THE PROJECT
10:44:11    WITH THE ASSESSMENTS AS RECOMMENDED BY -- [INAUDIBLE]
10:44:15    >>Mayor Ribble: SECOND?
10:44:16    KATY.
10:44:17    MADAM CLERK.
10:44:22    >>Jim Boesch: PRESENTED HERE IN THE BUDGET, WITH THE
10:44:23    ASSESSMENTS.
10:44:25    >>Mayor Ribble: INCLUDING THE ASSESSMENTS.
10:44:26    >>Derek Rooney: THE INTERLOCAL IS PREDICATED ON THE
10:44:28    ASSESSMENTS.
10:44:29    >>Mayor Ribble: THE ASSESSMENTS WILL COME TO YOU FOR A FINAL VOTE AT SOME
10:44:31    POINT IN THE FUTURE, BUT ABSENT THE ASSESSMENTS, THE
10:44:34    INTERLOCAL DOESN'T DO ANYTHING EXCEPT GIVE FREE MONEY TO LEE
10:44:37    COUNTY.

10:44:42    >>Jon McLain: SOMEONE GETS AN ASSESSMENT LIKE THIS, DOES
10:44:45    THAT BECOME A LEGAL ISSUE POTENTIALLY?
10:44:47    FIGHT THE ASSESSMENT SAYING --
10:44:54    >>Derek Rooney: WELL, IT'S VERY UNLIKELY THAT EVEN -- WE
10:44:56    HAVE A LOT OF HISTORY HERE.
10:44:58    WE HAVE OBLIGATIONS AND AGREEMENTS MOSTLY BY THE DEVELOPERS
10:45:01    THEMSELVES.
10:45:01    THAT WE ARE FRONTING THE MONEY FOR.
10:45:05    BUT EVEN IF THERE WAS NO AGREEMENT, IT IS UNDOUBTED THAT
10:45:09    THESE INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS ARE BENEFITING THOSE
10:45:12    PROPERTIES.
10:45:12    SO, THEREFORE, I AM CONFIDENT THAT OUR ASSESSMENTS WOULD
10:45:17    SURVIVE ANY ATTACK.
10:45:18    >>Mayor Ribble: NICK, DID YOU HAVE A COMMENT?
10:45:21    >>Nick Batos: THE MOTION THAT'S UP NOW WOULD ALLOW THEM --
10:45:25    ALLOW YOU TO SEND THIS OUT OVER FIVE YEARS, RATHER THAN
10:45:29    MAKING IT EITHER A SHORTER TERM OR DOING A CODE ENFORCEMENT.
10:45:35    >>Derek Rooney: THE ONLY ITEM THAT'S BEFORE YOU RIGHT NOW IS
10:45:40    THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT AND THAT IS BECAUSE ULTIMATELY WE
10:45:43    ARE PROVIDING FUNDS TO LEE COUNTY.
10:45:45    THEY ARE THE ONES WHO ARE TELLING US HOW MUCH THEY NEED.
10:45:48    THEY ARE THE ONES GOING THROUGH THEIR PROCUREMENT PROCESS.
10:45:52    AND THEY ARE THE ONES WHO WE WILL HAVE TO GET REMITTANCE OF
10:45:56    ANY OVERAGES FROM OR ANY ADDITIONAL COSTS FROM.
10:45:59    SO THAT'S -- BUT THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT IS WE'RE FUNDING
10:46:03    THEM ON THE CONCEPT THAT WE WILL ULTIMATELY BE CHARGING BACK
10:46:07    THOSE ASSESSMENTS.
IF YOU'RE AGAINST THE ASSESSMENT IDEA IN THE FUTURE, WHICH WILL COME TO YOU NEXT YEAR WITH A TIMETABLE FOR HOW LONG AND WHAT THE DOLLAR AMOUNTS OF THE ASSESSMENTS WILL BE, WE SHOULD RECONSIDER THE INTERLOCAL. I JUST DON'T WANT TO YOU AGREE TO THE INTERLOCAL, PAY LEE COUNTY. YOU ALWAYS HAVE THE OPTION OF FINDING OTHER FUNDING SOURCES.

Nick Batos: IF WE'RE IN FAVOR OF DOING IT BUT NOT IN FAVOR OF HOW WE'RE GOING TO GET THE MONEY BACK, WE CAN STILL GO AHEAD AND VOTE FOR THIS AND --

Derek Rooney: CORRECT.

Derek Rooney: CORRECT THIS INTERLOCAL WOULDN'T TIE IT TO IT.

Howard Levitan: WAIT A MINUTE. I WOULD LIKE TO COMMENT ON THAT AS WELL.

Mayor Ribble: OKAY. HANG ON A SECOND. JON.

Jon McLain: DIDN'T WE DO THE ENGINEERING STUDIES FOR THIS AND THERE WAS -- I CAN'T REMEMBER WHAT THE COST OF THAT WAS, BUT THAT SHOULD BE PUT IN THE ASSESSMENT ALSO.

DID WE SPEND --

Mayor Ribble: HE DID.

HE MENTIONED THAT.

HE SAID ALL THEIR TIME, EVERYTHING.

HE ALREADY COVERED THAT.

WE GOT THAT IN THERE, JON.

HOWARD?

Howard Levitan: YEAH, I JUST WANT TO SAY THAT THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT ON PAGE 1 AT THE BOTTOM SAYS THAT WE'RE GOING TO DO A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT.

AND I WANT TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT WE HAVE THE OPTION OF DOING CODE ENFORCEMENT OR LITIGATION AS OPPOSED TO THAT.

SO WE AREN'T LIMITED TO JUST THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT.

I THINK THAT'S AN EASY CHANGE.

IT'S NOT GOING TO AFFECT LEE COUNTY.

Mayor Ribble: NEALE, DID YOU WANT TO COMMENT OR NO?

Derek Rooney: AND I CAN MAKE THAT CHANGE FOR COUNCIL MEMBER LEVITAN.

Mayor Ribble: YOU'RE UP.

FOR THE RECORD, NEALE MONTGOMERY.

DEREK POINTED OUT, REPRESENT STOCK AND KITE.

I THINK YOU NEED TO GO FORWARD WITH THIS BECAUSE THE LIGHT IS NEEDED.

STOCK HAS BEEN TRYING FOR I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG NOW, MORE
THAN A YEAR, TO TRY TO WORK THROUGH AN AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTRY.

THE COUNTY KEEPS INSISTING THAT THEY HAVE TO HAVE A THREE-PARTY AGREEMENT, AND THAT'S NEVER GOING TO HAPPEN. AND SO WE CAN'T GET FROM POINT A TO POINT B. ON BEHALF OF STOCK, WHAT I'M PROPOSING IS JUST COME BACK TO YOU, GIVE YOU THE CONSTRUCTION MONEY AND -- INTERLOCAL CAN DEAL WITH THE COUNTY. DONE A GOOD JOB OF GETTING THEM TO BE COOPERATIVE WITH HIM AND THE VILLAGE. SAME THING WITH KITE. KITE HAS AN EXISTING AGREEMENT, BUT THE COUNTY WON'T HONOR IT. IT'S LIKE, NO, NO, WE DON'T LIKE THAT ONE. DO OVER.

WE CAN'T DO THAT.

AND THERE ARE OTHER OWNERS THAT WEREN'T INVOLVED. THE ONLY WAY WE'LL GET FROM POINT A TO POINT B IS WITH YOUR HELP.

>>Mayor Ribble: OKAY.

I AGREE.

KATY.

>>Vice-Mayor Errington: QUESTION FOR NEALE. WHO HAS THE AUTHORITY IN THE COUNTY TO DENY THAT? IS IT ONE PERSON, A COMMITTEE, THE BOARD?

>>Neale Montgomery: NO, UNFORTUNATELY, IT'S BEEN A MYRIAD OF PEOPLE INVOLVED.

I'LL TELL YOU WHAT HAPPENED, TOO.

I GOT TO THE POINT WHERE I CALLED -- I NEED YOUR HELP. I'M BEATING MY HEAD AGAINST THE WALL TO DO SOMETHING EVERYBODY SAYS WE WANT.

LONG DISCUSSION.

I SAID, WELL, CAN YOU TALK TO DEREK?

CAN YOU GUYS TALK SO WE CAN GET SOMEWHERE SO WE CAN GET THE SIGNAL, BECAUSE I AGREE WITH STEVE, IT'S A DANGEROUS INTERSECTION, BUT WE CAN'T FIX IT WITHOUT HELP.

>>Mayor Ribble: OKAY.

I THINK EVERYBODY HAD A CHANCE TO SPEAK.

THE PUBLIC HAD THEIR CHANCE.

WE HAD THE MOTION, CORRECT?

KATY YOU SECONDED.

>>Derek Rooney: THE REQUEST -- IN THE REQUESTED ACTION, I HAVEN'T GOT ALL THE COMMENTS BACK BECAUSE YOU'RE GOING ON SUMMER BREAK, EVERYTHING BACK FROM LEE COUNTY EITHER.

I REQUESTED IN THE ACTION THAT WE HAVE AUTHORITY TO MAKE SCOPE CHANGES TO ADDRESS LEE COUNTY.
I WOULD ALSO GO AHEAD AND RECOMMEND THAT IF AT SOME POINT IN
THE FUTURE, WE DON'T MOVE FORWARD WITH THE ASSESSMENT THAT
WE PUT THE LANGUAGE THAT COUNCIL MEMBER LEVITAN REQUESTED IN
THERE, THAT WE CAN USE OTHER MEANS TO COLLECT THE FUNDS DUE.

>>Mayor Ribble: IS EVERYBODY OKAY WITH THAT?

MADAM CLERK, CALL THE ROLL, PLEASE.

>>Howard Levitan: YES.

>>Jon McLain: AYE.

>>Jim Boesch: AYE.

>>Nick Batos: YES.

>>Jim Wilson: YES.

>>Vice-Mayor Errington: AYE.

>>Mayor Ribble: AYE.

OKAY.

I'M SURE THERE'S GOING TO BE A LOT OF HAPPY FOLKS OUT THERE
IN ESTERO THAT ARE PAYING THEIR TAXES THAT ARE GOING TO BE
HAPPY TO SEE THAT THEY ARE GOING TO BE A LITTLE SAFER IN THE
FUTURE HERE.

IT WILL TAKE ANOTHER GOOD YEAR TO GET THESE LIGHTS ACTUALLY
UP.

WE HAVE A LOT OF THINGS TO DO YET TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN, AT
LEAST WE'RE ON THE ROAD IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

I THANK THE COUNCIL FOR THE GREAT VOTE THIS MORNING ON BOTH
THE ITEMS.

THE NEXT ITEM ON THE AGENDA IS THE SOLID WASTE AGREEMENT FOR
MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL, SOLID WASTE SYSTEM
ASSESSMENT AND SUPPLEMENTAL SERVICES.

STEVE?

>>Steven Sarkozy: THANK YOU, MAYOR, MEMBERS OF COUNCIL.

THIS IS ONE OF THE BIG INTERLOCAL AGREEMENTS THAT WE HAVE
WITH LEE COUNTY THAT HAS NOT BEEN UPDATED SINCE
INCORPORATION.
THE VILLAGE BEING RELATIVELY SMALL CONTRACTS FOR SOLID WASTE SERVICES WITH LEE COUNTY.
THAT'S THE SAME PROCESS THAT LITERALLY ALL OF THE OTHER CITIES IN LEE COUNTY ARE ENGAGED IN.
LEE COUNTY HANDLES ALL OF THE TRASH PICKUP AND TRANSPORT THROUGH A CONTRACT.
THEM DO RECYCLING, HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL, DISASTER RESPONSE, AND THEN ULTIMATELY TRASH DISPOSAL.
WHAT'S PROPOSED HERE IS AN EXTENSION OF AN AGREEMENT THAT'S BEEN WORKED OUT BETWEEN THE CITIES.
THIS COMES TO YOU WITH A RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL.
THERE IS ONE BIG CHANGE IN HERE THAT WILL AFFECT US, AND THAT IS THAT THE DISASTER SERVICES, WHICH HAVE PREVIOUSLY BEEN MANAGED BY LEE COUNTY IS NOW UP TO ALL OF THE CITIES TO
HANDLE, AND THIS PARTICULARLY AFFECTS ESTERO.

ALL OF THE OTHER CITIES IN THE COUNTY HAVE DEVELOPED REALLY THEIR OWN DISASTER RESPONSE APPROACH.

WE HAVE RELIED ON LEE COUNTY TO DO THIS, AND IT’S BEEN A UNIQUE ELEMENT OF SERVICES INCORPORATION THAT WE’VE HAD THAT.

YOU MAY RECALL THAT IN THE PAST, WE HAVE CONTRACTED FOR THE EMERGENCY RESPONSE WITH THE SAME FIRMS THAT LEE COUNTY UTILIZES, JUST TO BE SURE THAT WE HAVE SERVICES AVAILABLE.

SO WE’VE DOUBLED UP.

IT REALLY HASN’T BEEN NECESSARY, BUT IT WAS A PRECAUTION THAT WE TOOK JUST TO MAKE SURE THAT WE HAD SOMEONE TO MANAGE, SHOULD WE BE HIT BY A HURRICANE.

THIS WILL REQUIRE US TO CONTINUE TO DO THAT, AND ALSO, THEN, PARTNER AND COORDINATE WITH THE COUNTY ON TRASH DISPOSAL SITES FOR MATERIALS, SHOULD WE HAVE ANOTHER HURRICANE.

SO THIS IS GOING TO REQUIRE SOME MANAGEMENT, TIME, AND ATTENTION, ALTHOUGH WE THINK WE’VE BEEN DOING MUCH OF THAT ALREADY BASED ON WHAT I JUST MENTIONED.

THIS IS A PROPOSED 20-YEAR EXTENSION WITH TWO 5-YEAR OPTIONS TO RENEW.

AND IT COMES TO YOU, LIKE I SAID, WITH A RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL.

THIS HAS BEEN ADOPTED -- WILL BE ADOPTED BY ALL OF THE OTHER CITIES.

IT’S A UNIFORM APPROACH TO MANAGING SOLID WASTE SERVICES COUNTYWIDE.

THE COUNTY IS ASKING THAT WE CONSIDER THIS BEFORE THEY TAKE UP CONSIDERATION OF THIS AT THEIR LATE AUGUST MEETING.

I WOULD ALSO SAY AND INTRODUCE DOUG WHITEHEAD, THE NEW SOLID WASTE DIRECTOR AT LEE COUNTY IS HERE, SHOULD YOU HAVE ANY DETAILED QUESTIONS, BUT WE’RE OFFERING THIS UP FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL.

GOOD MORNING.

FOR THE RECORD, DOUG WHITEHEAD, DIRECTOR OF SOLID WASTE, LEE COUNTY, 10500 BUCKINGHAM ROAD, LEE COUNTY.

IT EXPIRES ON 30 SEPTEMBER OF THIS YEAR.

ANY QUESTIONS FROM COUNCIL?

>>Mayor Ribble: NICK?

WHAT IS THE EXISTING CONTRACT WE HAVE, EXPIRE?

I COULDN’T ANSWER THAT OFF HAND WITH CERTAINTY.

DOUG, WOULD YOU KNOW WHEN THAT IS?

MAYBE YOU COULD COME UP AND ANSWER SOME OF THE QUESTIONS.

DOUG WHITEHEAD.

GOOD MORNING.

FOR THE RECORD, DOUG WHITEHEAD, DIRECTOR OF SOLID WASTE, LEE COUNTY, 10500 BUCKINGHAM ROAD, LEE COUNTY.

IT EXPIRES ON 30 SEPTEMBER OF THIS YEAR.

ANY QUESTIONS FROM COUNCIL?

>>Jim Boesch: [INAUDIBLE]
Mayor Ribble: OKAY.
JIM.
Jim Boesch: [INAUDIBLE] -- DESCRIPTION THAT YOU GAVE TO US, SEVERAL, MANY CITIES THAT WOULD BE LOOKING FOR SERVICES, LOWER PRICES, WHATEVER, AND IT OCCURRED TO ME THAT THIS IS A SUBJECT THAT -- WHERE MUNICIPALITIES THINK THEY POSSIBLY COULD GET A BETTER DEAL.
SO THE FIRST THING I WOULD RECOMMEND IS THAT YOU ORGANIZE THOSE CITIES AND SEE IF IT'S A FACT THAT THEY WOULD BE WILLING TO LOOK INTO ANOTHER SERVICE OR WHATEVER, AND WOULD HAVE SOME TYPE OF A NEGOTIATING SITUATION WITH THE COUNTY.
SEEMS THE COUNTY'S POSITION IS, YOU HAVE TO TAKE IT ANYHOW, NO CONCEPT OF NEGOTIATION.

[INAUDIBLE]
[INAUDIBLE]
Steven Sarkozy: NO.

THIS IS AN ENTERPRISE FUND FOR THE COUNTY.
AND AS AN ENTERPRISE FUND, IT'S A BALANCED FUND SEPARATE FROM THE GENERAL FUND THAT EXISTS FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING SOLID WASTE SERVICES.
Jim Boesch: [INAUDIBLE]
[SPEAKING AWAY FROM THE MICROPHONE]
[INAUDIBLE]
Mayor Ribble: NICK, DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING ELSE?
Nick Batos: I HAVE ANOTHER QUESTION.
THE SOLID WASTE ASSESSMENT THAT IS LEVIED UPON ALL THE RESIDENTS OF LEE COUNTY.
Doug Whitehead: YES, SIR.
Nick Batos: IS THAT THE SAME OR UNINCORPORATED, IN THE INCORPORATED AREA?
Doug Whitehead: THE ASSESSMENT, THERE ARE VARIOUS COMPONENT ASSESSMENTS.
ALL ARE THE SAME EXCEPT FOR THE COLLECTION PIECE, WHICH IS BASED UPON A BID THAT WE PUT OUT AND THEN A RENEGOTIATION AND EXTENSION.
Nick Batos: OUR TAXES, ONCE A YEAR, WE GET OUR TAXES.
ONE OF THE LINE ITEMS OF THE 20 ITEMS ON THERE I BELIEVE IS SOLID WASTE.
Doug Whitehead: YES, SIR.
Nick Batos: I'M JUST ASKING, IF THE TAX FOR THE RESIDENTS IN ESTERO, THAT ASSESSMENT IS THE SAME FOR, SAY, SOMEBODY IN SAN CARLOS.
Doug Whitehead: IT IS NOT.
AND THAT IS BECAUSE AS PART OF THE BIDDING, WE HAVE SIX AREAS WHICH WE BID OUT TO COLLECT WASTE WITHIN THE COUNTY.
AND ESTERO IS 24207 PROTECTED FOR 2020-2021.
Nick Batos: QUESTION I THEN HAVE, IF THE SOLID WASTE IS CHARGING US MORE THAN THE AVERAGE, AND WE'RE GOING TO BE GETTING LESS SERVICE FROM THE COUNTY BECAUSE YOU'RE GOING TO EXTRACT THAT SERVICE THAT YOU'LL CONTINUE TO SUPPLY THE UNINCORPORATED AREA, WHY IS IT THAT WE SHOULDN'T GET A LOWER RATE IF YOU'RE TAKING OUT THAT COMPONENT OF IT?

Doug Whitehead: SIR, ESTERO WAS UNIQUE WITHIN THE COUNTY IN HAVING THE DISASTER MANAGEMENT, BEING MANAGED BY THE COUNTY. SO AT THIS TIME, TO AVOID A MOST FAVORED NATION STATUS, PRETTY MUCH INSISTED BY THE OTHER MUNICIPAL ENTITIES IN THE COUNTY, WE REMOVED THAT. BUT THIS RATE IS NOT LINKED TO DISASTER MANAGEMENT.

IT IS LINKED TO COLLECTION, WHICH IS MORE EXPENSIVE IN THE ESTERO AREA, IN PART BECAUSE JUST MORE DISTANCE BETWEEN HOMES.

IT'S ALSO LINKED TO THE ASSESSMENT FOR THE DISPOSAL AT THE WASTE-TO-ENERGY FACILITY. BUT REALLY, THE ONLY DIFFERENCE, AND THERE ARE COMPONENTS TO IT, WHICH ARE IN THE ILA, THE ONLY DIFFERENCE IS THAT IT COSTS MORE TO COLLECT GARBAGE IN AREA 3, WHICH IS WHERE ESTERO IS, BECAUSE OF THE ADDITIONAL DISTANCES BETWEEN THE HOMES.

IF I MAY, THIS WAS A BID PROCESS THAT WAS PUT OUT, AND IT WAS RECENTLY EXTENDED. I WOULD LIKE TO SAY IS THAT THE PRICE LEE COUNTY PAYS AND ESTERO SPECIFIC PAYS IS IN THE LOWEST 20% OF ENTITIES IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA.

THIS RATE HAS TO BE APPROVED EACH YEAR BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, AND AS PART OF THE PRESENTATION, WE DID A STUDY OF RATES AROUND THE SOUTH FLORIDA, AND IT SHOWED CLEARLY A COUPLE OF THINGS.

ONE IS THAT OUR RATE IS THE LOWEST EXCEPT FOR THE COUNTY OF SARASOTA IN SOUTH FLORIDA.

TO THE RESIDENT. AND SECONDLY, UNFORTUNATELY, WHEN GOING OUT TO BID, THE AVERAGE INCREASE IN GOING OUT TO BID HAS BEEN OVER 50% WHEN COLLECTION, YOUR HAULER COMING TO YOUR HOUSE PICKS UP, SO THE AVERAGE RATE INCREASE HAS BEEN OVER 50%.

57% IN THE CASE OF CHARLOTTE COUNTY IN DECEMBER OF LAST YEAR, AND MEANWHILE, JUST LAST WEEK, HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY ANNOUNCED A 40% INCREASE GOING TO THE HAULERS.

OUR INCREASE OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS HAS AVERAGED -- ACTUALLY, OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS, AVERAGED 2% INCREASE.
AND WE HAVE IT IN PLACE THAT THE CPI ONLY FOR THE NEXT SEVEN YEARS.

>>Jim Boesch: 90% OF OUR TOWN -- THERE COULDN'T BE A NARROWER AMOUNT OF SPACE -- [INAUDIBLE] THINK ABOUT HOW FAR THEY HAVE TO GO -- [INAUDIBLE] FT. MYERS, ALL THOSE DIFFERENT STREETS THAT YOU HAVE TO RUN UP AND DOWN.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO IT IN ESTERO.

IT'S A MATTER OF DISPUTE.

I CAN TELL YOU SEVERAL THINGS THAT WE ARE INVOLVED IN THAT WE PAY HIGHER RATE -- [INAUDIBLE]

>>Mayor Ribble: JIM, WE HAVE TO KEEP POLITICS OUT OF THIS.

>>Jim Boesch: THIS IS CONFUSING TO ME.

HOW COME THEY ARE PAYING HIGHER?

WE RUN A GOOD BUDGET.

VERY CAUTIOUS OF HOW WE BILL.

SAY, HEY, CHARGE THEM MORE -- [INAUDIBLE]

>>Mayor Ribble: LISA, I SAW YOU BACK THERE NODDING YOUR HEAD IN AGREEMENT WHEN DOUGLAS WAS SPEAKING.

ARE YOU VERIFYING THAT HE IS GIVING US A GOOD DEAL OR NO?

YOU'RE THE BEAN COUNTER.

WE GOT TO FOLLOW YOUR LEAD HERE.

>>Lisa Roberson: I WAS NODDING AT SOME OF THE COMMENTS HE MADE WHICH WERE IN LINE WITH WHAT I UNDERSTAND HIS OPERATION TO BE.

I CAN'T SPEAK TO THE INDIVIDUAL QUOTES.

BUT I HAVE NO BASIS TO DISPUTE ANYTHING THAT HE SAID.

I REALLY LIKE THE FACT WHEN HE COMPARED US TO OTHER SIMILAR SERVICES IN THE AREA IN SAYING WE WERE REALLY LESS EXPENSIVE EVEN THOUGH ESTERO, US COMPARED TO OTHER ENTITIES IN THE STATE.

THAT WAS A GOOD POINT.

I LOVED THAT.

AND I HAVE NO REASON TO DISPUTE THAT.

BUT SOME OF THE STATEMENTS HE MADE ABOUT OPERATIONS ARE DEFINITELY IN LINE WITH WHAT WE UNDERSTAND.

>>Jon McLain: JIM, YOU BRING UP SOME GOOD QUESTIONS.

WE DON'T HAVE A LOT OF TIME TO EVALUATE ALL OF THOSE ALTERNATIVES.

I READ THROUGH THIS REALLY QUICKLY.

DOES THIS AGREEMENT HAVE A TERMINATION CLAUSE?

IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE I SAW ONE.

IT LOOKS LIKE IT IS A TEN-YEAR AGREEMENT.

IT'S RENEWABLE FOR TWO 5-YEAR POTENTIAL.

IS THERE AN OPPORTUNITY IF WE FOUND -- YOU KNOW, IF THERE WAS A BETTER DEAL OUT THERE, CAN WE GET OUT OF THIS 10-YEAR COMMITMENT?
FROM WHAT I UNDERSTAND TALKING TO ATTORNEYS, THE 180-DAY SERVICE REQUEST COULD ALSO BE USED TO DIMINISH SERVICES, IF SO REQUESTED.

Mayor Ribble: IS THAT YOUR UNDERSTANDING, STEVE?

Steven Sarkozy: YES.

Mayor Ribble: JON, THAT ANSWERS YOUR QUESTION.

Jon McLain: 180 DAYS WE COULD GET OUT OF IT.

I THOUGHT THAT WAS JUST FOR THE RENEWAL.

IF YOU SAY SO.

Nick Batos: I THINK YOU SAID ZONE THREE WE'RE IN.

Doug Whitehead: YES, SIR.

Nick Batos: WHO ELSE IS IN ZONE 3?

Doug Whitehead: IT'S PRETTY MUCH ESTERO AND -- OUTSIDE.

ZONE FOUR IS MORE EXPENSIVE.

THAT IS THE BUCKINGHAM AND LEHIGH ACRES AREA, TO YOUR POINT,

IT IS QUITE EMPTY OUT THERE.

Mayor Ribble: CHEAPER LIVING UP THERE.

Doug Whitehead: CITY OF FORT MYERS DOES COLLECT THEIR OWN WASTE.

AS A RESIDENT OF FORT MYERS, I CAN TELL YOU THAT THE RATE IS SLIGHTLY HIGHER THAN WHAT ESTERO IS.

Vice-Mayor Errington: [INAUDIBLE]

Doug Whitehead: BONITA SPRINGS IS SLIGHTLY LOWER, MA'AM.

AGAIN, THIS WAS A RESULT NOT OF -- WE DON'T REALLY SELECT IT.

IT IS A PASS-THROUGH FROM WHAT WE PAY THE HAULER.

Mayor Ribble: YOU GUYS GOT TO GO THROUGH ESTERO TO GET TO BONITA SPRINGS.

HOW COULD THAT BE CHEAPER THAN BONITA?

THEY LIKE THEM BETTER THAN US.

Doug Whitehead: IT ALSO HAS TO DO THAT THE RATE IS ALSO COMBINED WITH COMMERCIAL WASTE.

IF YOU LIVE IN AN AREA, LIKE, SAY THE 41 CORRIDOR NORTH OF HERE, WHICH HAS A VERY HIGH COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENT RATE,

THOSE COMMERCIAL RATES ARE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT BY THE HAULER.

THIS IS COMING FROM MY EXPERIENCE AS A HAULER IS TO OFFSET THE OFFSET THE RATE, THE COST OF RESIDENTIAL PICKUP.

RESIDENTIAL PICKUP IN GENERAL IS NOT A MONEY EARNER FOR THE HAULER.

IT IS THE COMMERCIAL.

Mayor Ribble: ANY OTHER QUESTIONS FROM COUNCIL?

Steven Sarkozy: THIS WOULD TAKE EFFECT -- THE OTHER -- WHEN THE OTHER ONE EXPIRES.

Mayor Ribble: THE END OF AUGUST.

Doug Whitehead: 1 OCTOBER, SIR.

Mayor Ribble: 1 OCTOBER.

OKAY.
11:07:15  JACK HAD HIS HAND UP.
11:07:20  DID YOU FILL OUT A CARD, JACK?
11:07:35  >>Carol Sacco: MAYOR, JACK MEEKER, THE BROOKS.

11:07:37  >> JACK MEEKER FROM COPPERLEAF AGAIN.
11:07:39  THIS IS A HUGE ISSUE.
11:07:43  I KNOW NICK AND I DISCUSSED THIS A LONG TIME AGO.
11:07:49  THIS REALLY IS AN ONION THAT YOU DON'T WANT TO PEEL.
11:07:55  THERE'S A LOT OF MONEY IN GARBAGE.
11:07:57  WHEN MY MOTHER THREATENED TO HAVE ME TAKEN AWAY BY THE
11:08:03  GARBAGE MAN WHEN I WAS LITTLE, I WISH HE WOULD HAVE.
11:08:07  I WOULD HAVE BEEN VERY, VERY WEALTHY TODAY.
11:08:09  THE REASON I SAY THIS I'M SPOILED, TO BE HONEST WITH YOU.
11:08:16  UNDER THE OLD CONTRACT, THEY CAME AROUND ONCE A WEEK TO PICK
11:08:20  UP THE RECYCLES AND THE GARBAGE.
11:08:22  THE NEW CONTRACT CAME, THEY MADE US NOW TROT OUR STUFF OUT
11:08:28  TWICE A WEEK, MONDAYS AND TUESDAYS.
11:08:30  AND THE COUNTY COME AROUND MONDAY AND THEY PICK UP ANY YARD
11:08:35  WASTE THAT'S LAYING AROUND, THAT'S THE COUNTY PAYING FOR
11:08:38  THAT.
11:08:39  DO I THINK WE COULD DO BETTER?
11:08:40  AS A VILLAGE?
11:08:42  ON OUR OWN?
11:08:43  YES.
11:08:44  THAT'S A QUESTION OF WHETHER YOU WANT TO PUT THE TIME AND
11:08:48  EFFORT INTO IT.
11:08:49  BUT WE COULD DO BETTER.
11:08:50  WHEN I WENT TO THE BIG SHOWS FOR MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS IN

11:08:59  ATLANTIC CITY, THE BIGGEST COCKTAIL PARTIES AND THE BIGGEST
11:09:03  BUFFETS AND THE BEST CASINOS WERE ALL SPONSORED BY THE SOLID
11:09:08  WASTE INDUSTRY.
11:09:09  THEY ALL WERE THERE.
11:09:13  THERE'S A LOT OF MONEY IN GARBAGE, AS I SAID.
11:09:15  I THINK IF WE NEGOTIATE ON BEHALF OF ESTERO, WE COULD DO
11:09:21  BETTER.
11:09:21  I'M NOT SAYING DUMP THE COUNTY, BUT I THINK WE HAVE TO LOOK
11:09:28  AFTER ESTERO.
11:09:29  AND I DON'T THINK THAT'S REALLY BEEN DONE RIGHT NOW.
11:09:31  THANK YOU.
11:09:33  >>Mayor Ribble: ALL RIGHT, JACK.
11:09:34  THANK YOU.
11:09:34  OKAY.
11:09:36  ANY OTHER DISCUSSION BY COUNCIL?
11:09:38  JON?
11:09:39  >>Jon McLain: NO.
11:09:40  STEVE, I ONLY SEE THE TERM OF THIS INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT.
Howard Levitan: CAN'T HEAR YOU, JON!
Jon McLain: WHEN I LOOK AT THIS AGREEMENT, THE TERM IS SOLID.
No termination that I see allowed for the ten-year period.
Any further discussion after we agree to this is for naught for ten years.
Mayor Ribble: DEREK, YOU'RE AGREETING WITH WHAT JON IS SAYING?
Derek Rooney: I AM.
Mayor Ribble: YOU CAN'T GET OUT OF IT FOR TEN YEARS.
Derek Rooney: CORRECT.
Mayor Ribble: THERE IS NO 180-DAY NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL --
Derek Rooney: THERE IS 180-DAY NOTICE PROVISION THAT REQUIRES US TO GIVE THEM 180 DAYS PRIOR TO TERMINATION.
Actually, I think if you recall, last year, I believe Lee County tried to renegotiate the agreement, and we used that termination, that very same termination clause to say, no, you can't get out of it for another year.
Mayor Ribble: 180 DAYS PRIOR TO THE TEN-YEAR -- FIRST, SECOND, OR THIRD YEAR.
Mayor Ribble: THAT MAY BE PARTIALLY IN PART BECAUSE OF THE CONTRACTS THAT LEE COUNTY SIGNED WITH THE VARIOUS DISPOSAL COMPANIES.
Mayor Ribble: WE NEED TO TAKE A PEEK AT THAT THING, STEVE.
Can we look at that or no?
Is this a take it or leave it?
What's the story here?
Steven Sarkozy: THIS IS A UNIFORM AGREEMENT THAT'S BEEN NEGOTIATED AMONG ALL THE CITIES, AND I CAN'T SPEAK FOR THE COUNTY, BUT I THINK THEY WOULD BE LOATH TO COME UP WITH AN INDIVIDUAL TERM THAT'S SEPARATE FOR ANY CITY.
Mayor Ribble: DO THEY HAVE A CONTRACT WITH ALL CITIES IN LEE COUNTY?
Doug Whitehead: WE DO HAVE -- [INAUDIBLE]
Mayor Ribble: THEY ARE ALL TEN YEARS?
Doug Whitehead: YES, ALL TEN YEARS WITH TWO FIVE-YEAR -- [INAUDIBLE]
Jim Boesch: FORT MYERS HAS THEIR OWN.
Doug Whitehead: FORT MYERS COLLECTS THEIR OWN WASTE.
Dispose of it at the waste to energy plant -- [INAUDIBLE]
Mayor Ribble: WE HAVE OUR MAYORS CALL TODAY AT 3:00.
Every mayor and some of the commissioners will be on the call.
Because of the mask thing, we've been meeting every other day.
We met Monday and meet again today at 3:00.
And then we bring up other items.
IF I BRING THIS UP TODAY AT 3:00, EVERYONE IS GOING TO SAY THEY HAVE A CONTRACT WITH YOU GUYS?

>>Doug Whitehead: YES, SIR.

AS OF RIGHT NOW.

>>Mayor Ribble: THEY ARE ALL SAYING TEN YEARS.

>>Doug Whitehead: YES, SIR.

>>Mayor Ribble: IT SOUNDS LIKE WE HAVE THE GUN TO OUR HEAD.

>>Steven Sarkozy: WHEN WE LOOKED AT THIS AND RECOMMENDED APPROVAL ON THIS FOR THE AGENDA, IT'S BECAUSE OF A NUMBER OF DIFFERENT FACTORS.

ONE, WE'VE BEEN INVOLVED WITH THIS FOR A LONG TIME AND THERE'S A GREAT DEAL OF CAPITAL EXPENSE OVER AT BUCKINGHAM SERVICES.

SO GOING OFF AND DOING THIS ON OUR OWN AS A SMALL CITY, I WILL TELL YOU THAT THAT IS TOTALLY UNREASONABLE TO THINK OF.

WE COULD DO IS BID OUT SERVICES FOR THE TRASH PICKUP, AND THE PREVIOUS SPEAKER, JACK, MENTIONED THAT THERE'S BIG MONEY IN THIS, AND THERE CERTAINLY IS.

THERE IS A REASON WHY BILL GATES IS A MAJOR INVESTOR AND A MAJOR OWNER IN TRASH PICKUP SERVICES.

IT'S LUCRATIVE.

BUT TO THINK THAT WE CAN NEGOTIATE A BETTER DEAL WHEN OUR TOTAL SERVICES ARE IN THE LOWER QUARTER OF THE ENTIRE STATE I THINK IS PROBABLY NOT REALISTIC.

ALSO, AS WE'VE LOOKED AT THIS AND LOOKED AT THE RISK-REWARD KIND OF THING, IF WE WERE TO GO OFF AND DO THIS ON OUR OWN, I DON'T KNOW THAT THERE'S THAT BIG OF AN UPSIDE OR A SAVINGS THAT WOULD ACCRUE TO OUR RESIDENTS IF WE WERE TO GO INTO THIS.

I KNOW THAT JUST AS A STAFF, THE OTHER CITIES THAT HAVE FULL STAFFS HAVE NOT GONE OUT AND DONE THIS ON THEIR OWN.

AND THERE'S A REASON WHY FORT MYERS HAS DONE THIS, AND THAT IS THAT THEY ARE AN OLDER CITY, HAVE BEEN DOING IT FOR YEARS AND HAVE FOUND THAT BENEFICIAL.

THIS WOULD BE A HUGE UNDERTAKING.

YOU COULD APPOINT A COUNCIL LIAISON TO TAKE A LOOK AT ALTERNATIVES IN TERMS OF ONE OF THE FUNCTIONAL AREAS, BUT I THINK THIS, FOR A CITY OF OUR SIZE, WHERE WE ARE AT RIGHT NOW, I DON'T THINK THAT WOULD HAVE ANY --

>>Jim Boesch: STEVE, BEING ON THE BORDER OF LEE COUNTY, WE COULD FIND A CONTRACTOR IN COLLIER COUNTY, NOT THAT WE WOULD BE STUCK, POSSIBLY, MAYBE THEY HAVE A CONTRACTOR, THAT CONTRACTOR WOULD BE WILLING TO LOOK AT US, TOO.

THE POINT I'M TRYING TO MAKE IS THAT THIS IS TOTALLY A CASE OF TAKE IT, IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, TOO BAD.
THAT'S THE WRONG POSITION FOR US TO BE IN BECAUSE HERE WE'RE TALKING -- WE PAY SEVEN DOLLARS MORE THAN ANY OF THE PEOPLE. IT'S NOT RIGHT THAT THIS GOES ON. IT'S ONLY BECAUSE THEY FIGURE THEY'VE GOT THE WHOLE CONTRACT, TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT, YOU'VE GOT TO TAKE IT. SO THAT'S WHERE WE'RE AT.

Mayor Ribble: LET ME ASK A QUESTION, BECAUSE WE'RE GETTING INTO THE WEEDS HERE, JIM. DO WE HAVE TO MAKE A DECISION ON THIS TODAY?

Steven Sarkozy: I KNOW THE COUNTY WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ALL OF THE CITIES ON BOARD BEFORE THEIR LATE AUGUST MEETING. DOUG, I WOULD DEFER.

Doug Whitehead: MR. MAYOR, WE WOULD APPRECIATE IT. WE HAVE SENT THIS OUT STARTING IN APRIL, I BELIEVE.

Steven Sarkozy: YES.

Doug Whitehead: SO WE'VE BEEN WORKING THROUGH IT AND SORT OF DEFERRING IT. ALSO, IF I COULD, I DO HAVE RATES WHICH ARE CONFIRMED BY A THIRD-PARTY CONSULTANT, WHICH I WOULD LIKE TO GIVE TO THE CLERK. I WOULD LIKE TO SAY I'VE BEEN IN THE BUSINESS ABOUT 25 YEARS.

Mayor Ribble: DEREK, WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO ON THIS? SHOULD WE ASK FOR A MOTION OR WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO?

Derek Rooney: I RECOMMEND MOVING FORWARD WITH A MOTION. I CAN TELL YOU THAT AT THE MANAGER'S DIRECTION, I LOOKED AT THE DRAFT INTERLOCAL AGREEMENTS THAT ARE BEFORE THE OTHER CITIES, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF CAPE AND SANIBEL WHICH BOTH HAVE TRANSFER STATIONS SO THEY LOWER THE COST, THE RATES AND ALL THE OTHER TERMS ARE FAIRLY IDENTICAL IN EVERY WAY.

We were concerned that maybe in the other council meetings, there could be changes that are made by one council that get recognized by Lee County that aren't recognized by us. So one of the recommendations I have made to the manager is that we approve this today, and we continue to watch this, and before August 25th, when the Lee County acts, if there
11:17:38 IS A CHANGE IN SOME OTHER CITY WHERE THEY GOT THE COMMENT OF
11:17:42 THE MOST FAVORED NATION STATUS WHERE SOMEBODY GOT A BETTER
11:17:47 DEAL THAN US, WE CAN WITHDRAW OUR APPROVAL BEFORE THE COUNTY
11:17:50 SIGNS.
11:17:52 >>Mayor Ribble: ALL RIGHT.
11:17:52 COULD I HAVE A MOTION TO MOVE THIS?
11:17:54 KATY.
11:17:55 IS THAT A SECOND, JON?
11:17:56 OKAY.
11:17:57 MADAM CLERK, PLEASE CALL THE ROLL.
11:18:00 >>Carol Sacco: COUNCIL MEMBER WILSON?
11:18:02 >>Jim Wilson: AYE.
11:18:07 >>Carol Sacco: COUNCIL MEMBER BATOS.
11:18:10 >>Nick Batos: AYE.
11:18:12 >>Jim Boesch: NO.
11:18:14 >>Jon McLain: AYE.
11:18:17 >>Howard Levitan: YES.
11:18:21 >>Vice-Mayor Errington: AYE.
11:18:23 >>Mayor Ribble: AYE.
11:18:24 THAT WAS A TOUGH ONE.
11:18:28 IT WAS HARDER THAN OUR LIGHT.
11:18:30 [ LAUGHTER ]
11:18:30 VOTED FOR THIS THING BECAUSE OF THE ADVICE OF COUNSEL.
11:18:40 DEREK --
11:18:41 >>Derek Rooney: SURE.
11:18:42 IT'S ON ME.
11:18:43 FINE.
11:18:44 >>Mayor Ribble: I KNOW WHERE YOU LIVE.
11:18:51 >>Jon McLain: BY PASSING IT, WE AGREE -- [INAUDIBLE] ARE YOU
11:19:03 CONFIDENT THAT WE CAN MAINTAIN THE SERVICES -- WE'RE VILLAGE
11:19:07 LIGHT.
11:19:07 I KNOW, WE ALL KNOW -- [INAUDIBLE] -- TRASH, ARE WE GOING TO
11:19:17 HAVE THE CAPABILITY WITHIN THE VILLAGE TO ENSURE THAT WE DO
11:19:20 AS GOOD A JOB AS WE DID --
11:19:25 >>Steven Sarkozy: WELL, THE CHALLENGE WE HAVE IN RESPONSE
11:19:26 TO, LIKE, IRMA, IS THAT EVERY CITY IS CLAMORING TO GET THE
11:19:32 SAME SERVICES OUT IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR, AND SUPPLEMENTING
11:19:36 THEIR OWN CREWS WITH PRIVATE SECTOR CONTRACTS.
11:19:40 AND THAT'S WHAT WE HAD BACKED UP FOR THE IRMA PROCESS.
11:19:45 NOW, THE DIFFERENCE WITH ESTERO IS, WE DON'T HAVE ANY OF OUR
11:19:50 OWN EQUIPMENT OR ANY PEOPLE TO RESPOND OURSELVES.
11:19:54 SO EVEN THAT BASELINE RESPONSE IS NOT AVAILABLE TO US.
11:19:58 I CAN'T CALL UP THE PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR OR THE STREETS
11:20:02 SUPERINTENDENT AND SAY, GET A DUMP TRUCK OUT THERE WITH A
11:20:06 PICKER TO PICK UP TRASH.
11:20:08 WE HAVE NONE OF THAT.
SO WE'RE ENTIRELY AT THE MERCY OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

EVERY OTHER CITY IS DOING THE SAME THING.

DURING IRMA, EVERYONE WAS OUT THERE CALLING AROUND, SEEING WHO COULD GET A BACKHOE OR A TRUCK.

AND WE HAD TO RELY ON THE SAME CONTRACTS AND THE SAME EMERGENCY SERVICE CONTRACTS THAT THE COUNTY HAS.

NOW, WHEN YOU PICTURE THAT, AND WE LIVED THROUGH IRMA, THE COUNTY AND US, AND EVERY OTHER CITY WERE ASKING THOSE SAME CONTRACTORS, GET US FIRST.

AND IF YOU REMEMBER DURING IRMA, EACH OF OUR GATED COMMUNITIES WAS SAYING WHEN CAN YOU BE THROUGH, THROUGH OUR AREA TO PICK UP TRASH, AND THE NUMBER OF THE GATED COMMUNITIES SAID WE CAN'T WAIT THAT LONG.

WE'RE GOING TO PICK IT UP OURSELVES.

>>Mayor Ribble: WHICH REALLY BENEFITED US.

BECAUSE THEY PAID FOR THE COST.

>>Steven Sarkozy: THEY PAID FOR THE COST, BUT IT ALSO COST THE GATED COMMUNITIES A SUPPLEMENTAL AMOUNT THAT THEY HAD TO, IN SOME CASES, EITHER DIP OUT OF RESERVES OR WHAT HAVE YOU.

THAT'S GOING TO BE THE SAME SITUATION RIGHT NOW THAT WE NEED TO BE AWARE OF IF WE GET HIT WITH ANOTHER HURRICANE, WE'RE GOING TO HAVE THAT SAME CHALLENGE ON WHO TO RESPOND TO.

I CAN ONLY THROW SO MUCH IN THE BACK OF MY CAR.

BUT IT LITERALLY IS A MAJOR PROBLEM.

AND THAT'S A FUNCTION OF GOVERNMENT-LIGHT, AND NO STAFF, NO TRUCKS, NO PUBLIC WORKS GARAGE, NO PLACE TO PUT THINGS.

NOW, WE ARE GOING TO, UNDER THIS CONTRACT, WE HAVE TO WORK WITH THE COUNTY TO IDENTIFY LOCAL DISPOSAL SITES.

AND RIGHT NOW, I THINK WE HAVE SOME OPPORTUNITIES BECAUSE WE HAVE SOME PROPERTY AT ESTERO ON THE RIVER THAT WE COULD USE IF WE HAD TO.

IT'S NOT IDEAL, BUT THERE ARE -- THAT'S AN OPTION, UNTIL WE DECIDE WHAT TO DO WITH THAT PROPERTY.

AFTER THAT IT WILL GET MORE AND MORE DIFFICULT BECAUSE WE SIMPLY DON'T HAVE LARGE LOTS OUT THERE.

YOU'LL RECALL, THE COUNTY UNDER DURESS CANNIBALIZED THE TWO SOCCER FIELDS THAT ARE ON VIA COCONUT FOR A MAJOR STORAGE SITE.

AND THAT HURT US AS WELL BECAUSE WE DIDN'T HAVE SOCCER FIELDS AVAILABLE FOR THE PUBLIC.

SO IT'S TRADEOFFS AS YOU RESPOND TO -- AND I'M CONCERNED THAT IF WE HAD ANOTHER IRMA, ARE YOU GOING TO -- IS THE COMMUNITY GOING TO GOING TO REMEMBER THIS CONVERSATION, THAT WE DON'T HAVE THE TRUCKS AND THE CREWS TO IMMEDIATELY RESPOND?

>>Mayor Ribble: IT'S A REAL QUAGMIRE.
TAKE A LOOK AT WHAT HAPPENED TO OUR FRIENDS TO THE SOUTH OF US.

THEY BLEW $16 MILLION ON THIS WHOLE FIASCO.

>>Steven Sarkozy: AND WE'LL HAVE TO FRONT THAT MONEY.

>>Mayor Ribble: JIM’S COMMENT ABOUT THE GATED COMMUNITIES, LIKE IN ESTERO, WE DID IN OUR GATED COMMUNITY IN THE COLONY,

WE ASKED EVERY RESIDENT TO FILE ON THEIR OWN HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE FOR DEBRIS REMOVAL, AND WE CHIPPED IN PER FAMILY.

WE COVERED IT.

BUT, JON, YOU'RE RIGHT.

YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, AND, STEVE, TO YOUR DEFENSE, I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU MANAGE IT BECAUSE WHAT HAPPENED TO A LOT OF THE COMMUNITIES, THEY HAD A CONTRACT WITH SOMEONE, AND THEN HALFWAY THROUGH THE DEBRIS REMOVAL, ANOTHER COMMUNITY CALLED AND SAID, WE'LL PAY YOU 50% MORE TO COME UP AND WORK FOR US. THEY DROPPED WHAT THEY WERE DOING AND WENT ELSEWHERE.

REAL DISASTER.

>>Steven Sarkozy: DURING IRMA, REMEMBER THAT IS NATURAL DISASTER THAT AFFECTED THE ENTIRE STATE.

SO WE HAD CREWS THAT WERE COMING IN FROM THE MIDWEST WHO WERE NEGOTIATING WITH COUNTIES WHILE THEY WERE ON THE ROAD RESPONDING TO FLORIDA.

AND IT WAS A REAL CHALLENGE BECAUSE WE KNOW THAT THE CONTRACT -- THEIR COMMITMENTS CHANGED EN ROUTE FROM OHIO TO FLORIDA WHILE THEY WERE ROLLING DOWN THE STREET.

>>Doug Whitehead: STEVE AND COUNCIL, FOR THE RECORD, THE

ILA IS NOT SILENT ON DEBRIS MANAGEMENT.

WE DO HAVE A 2700-PAGE EMERGENCY AND DEBRIS MANAGEMENT PLAN, AND WE HAVE OVER 30 DEBRIS MANAGEMENT SITES WHICH WOULD BE DESIGNATED TO SUPPORT THE VILLAGE, IF NECESSARY.

>>Mayor Ribble: WE GOT THIS ON VIDEO NOW, DOUG.

>>Doug Whitehead: I KNOW.

TRUST ME, I KNOW.

>>Mayor Ribble: BACK THIS VIDEO UP.

MAKE AN EXTRA COPY.

>>Doug Whitehead: I'M BEING WATCHED RIGHT NOW.

WE DO HAVE A TEMPLATE, A TEMPLATE ATTACHED TO ILA WHICH ALLOWS THE COUNTY MANAGER TO QUICKLY SIGN A CONTRACT WITH THE VILLAGE IN THE EVENT OF STORM OR EMERGENCY.

THAT TEMPLATE WILL BE ADJUSTED BASED UPON IT.

IRMA WAS LIKE STATEWIDE.

THAT WAS PRETTY EXCEPTIONAL, IN MY EXPERIENCE.

I'VE BEEN THROUGH A FEW.

SO WE DO HAVE A TEMPLATE.

AGAIN, MY EMPHASIS IS THAT YOU'RE NOT ALONE, IS THAT THE COUNTY HAS EOC, AND WE HAVE SUPPORTS, DEBRIS MANAGEMENT
CENTER, THINGS LIKE THAT AND A MECHANISM IN PLACE TO HAVE A QUICK AGREEMENT WITH THE VILLAGE.

BUT, AGAIN, IS THAT WE HAVE OTHER ILA CITIES WHO ARE VERY -- EVERYONE WANTS THE SAME DEAL.

>>Jon McLain: WHAT WOULD THE AGREEMENT OF SERVICES BE FROM THE COUNTY, PICK UP THE WASTE PILED UP IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD?

WHAT IS IT --

>>Doug Whitehead: IT DEPENDS, AND THAT'S REALLY OUTSIDE OF SOLID WASTE.

WE HAVE DEBRIS MANAGEMENT SITES NEARBY, WHICH WE WOULD PROVIDE.

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE COUNTY IS THAT THOSE SITES SORT OF COME AND THEY GO.

EACH YEAR WE LOOK AT GETTING MORE SITES.

>>Mayor Ribble: MR. WHITEHEAD, THANKS FOR PUTTING UP WITH US TODAY.

>>Jon McLain: VILLAGE OF ESTERO HAVE THE MEANS TO PICK UP THE DEBRIS IN THE NEIGHBORHOODS AND TAKE IT TO THE SITES, IS THAT A FEMA THAT WE CAN GET REIMBURSED FOR THE SERVICES FROM FEMA?

>>Steven Sarkozy: YES.

>>Jon McLain: IF THE NEIGHBORHOODS DO THAT, THE HOAs DO THAT, IS THERE A MECHANISM FOR THEM TO GO TO FEMA ALSO AND GET REIMBURSED TO CLEAN UP THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD AND ALSO HAVE A --

>>Steven Sarkozy: IT DEPENDS ON HOW -- FEMA IS VERY CONCERNED THAT THEY HAVE THE PROPER RECORD KEEPING SO THAT THEY KNOW WHERE TRASH IS PICKED UP.

IT'S NOT DOUBLE COUNTED AND IT GOES TO THE PROPER SITE.

SO IT DEPENDS.

>>Jon McLain: WE'RE GOING TO RECESS HERE AND HURRICANE SEASON, IF WE COULD WORK WITH THE HOAs IN ORDER TO HELP THEM FINANCIAL SENSE WHERE THEY DON'T HAVE -- BURDEN OF FINANCIAL, NOBODY WANTS A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OR ANOTHER HURRICANE COMING THROUGH THE AREA, IF THERE IS A WAY WE CAN -- [INAUDIBLE] -- STAFF TO HELP DOCUMENT PROPERLY FOR FEMA REIMBURSEMENT --

>>Mayor Ribble: YOU WANT TO HAVE A WORKSHOP, YOU'RE SAYING.

>>Jon McLain: YEAH, I THINK WE NEED SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

>>Mayor Ribble: WE CAN DO A WORKSHOP, RIGHT?

>>Steven Sarkozy: WE CAN TRY THAT.

IT WOULD BE HARD TO MAKE A CHANGE HERE, BUT DURING THIS HURRICANE SEASON.

WE CAN GET SOME INFORMATION OUT TO YOU BEFORE YOU --

>>Mayor Ribble: I CAN TELL YOU FROM THE LAST ONE, IRMA, TO
JON'S POINT, I'D RATHER DO A WORKSHOP AND THE COMMUNITIES, AT LEAST WE HAVE CONTACTS SO WE KNOW THE PEOPLE AT THAT COMMUNITY, BECAUSE YOU GET INUNDATED WITH ALL KIND OF PHONE CALLS, ALL KIND OF, YOU KNOW, OUTHOUSE LAWYERS CALLING FROM THESE COMMUNITIES.
LIKE TO HAVE THE RELATIONSHIP UP FRONT LIKE HE'S TALKING ABOUT.
I THINK THAT IS A GOOD IDEA.

>>Vice-Mayor Errington: [INAUDIBLE]

THEY CALL HER.

>>Mayor Ribble: THEY STILL CALL HER.

LET'S MOVE RIGHT ALONG.

WE CAN TALK ABOUT THIS WHEN WE DO OUR HEAD-TO-HEAD, STEVE, IF WE HAVE ANY MORE COMMENTS ON THIS.

MOVING RIGHT ALONG, THE NEXT IS THE FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 2020-06, AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF ESTERO, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR THE AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS.

>> Carol Sacco: ORDINANCE 2020-06, AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF ESTERO, FLORIDA, PROVIDING THE AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS; ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES IMPOSITION AND COLLECTION OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS; AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF OBLIGATIONS SECURED BY SUCH ASSESSMENTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

>> Steve, do you want to introduce this?

>>Steven Sarkozy: THANK YOU, MAYOR, MEMBERS OF COUNCIL.

THE ESTERO SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ORDINANCE WAS INITIATED AS A RESULT OF OUR DISCUSSION PREVIOUSLY WITH COUNCIL REGARDING THE SEPTIC TO SEWER PROJECT.

AT THIS POINT, WE DO NOT HAVE A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ORDINANCE ON THE BOOKS.

AND DURING THE DISCUSSION OF SEPTIC TO SEWER, WE TALKED ABOUT HOW THESE PROJECTS WOULD BE INITIATED BY THE VILLAGE AND SPECIAL ASSESSED TO EACH OF THE PROPERTY OWNERS AFFECTED.

THERE ARE OTHER TYPES OF PROJECTS THAT COULD BE SPECIAL ASSESSED, BUT THAT IS THE PRIMARY FOCUS HERE.

AS A STARTING POINT, WE DISCUSSED WITH THE COUNCIL THE PROCESS FOR MOVING FORWARD ON THE SEPTIC TO SEWER, AND PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING HAS ALREADY OCCURRED.

YOU'VE IDENTIFIED THE FIRST OF FOUR TARGET AREAS, AND ALONG WITH THE ENGINEERING AND THE PLANNED IMPROVEMENTS GOES THE FINANCING MECHANISM TO MAKE THOSE PROJECTS POSSIBLE.

SO THIS IS AN IMPORTANT STEP IN THAT EFFORT TO REMOVE ALL OF
THE PROJECTS -- ALL OF THE AREAS OF THE VILLAGE OFF OF SEPTIC AT SOME POINT OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS.

I'D LIKE TO TURN IT OVER TO OUR VILLAGE ATTORNEY DEREK ROONEY TO DESCRIBE THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT AND KIND OF THE STEPS FORWARD.

>>Derek Rooney: SURE.

I'LL JUST ADD THAT THIS IS -- WE DID TAKE THIS BEFORE YOU IN 2019, AND THERE WERE A LOT OF QUESTIONS ABOUT WHETHER WE WOULD DO SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS.

SO LET ME SORT OF GET BACK TO BASICS.

OUR CODE DERIVES FROM LEE COUNTY.

LEE COUNTY HAD ITS OWN SPECIAL ASSESSMENT PROCESS THAT EVERYONE KNOWS THE MUNICIPAL SERVICE BENEFIT UNIT.

THAT LANGUAGE IN THAT CODE WAS INCOMPATIBLE WITH CITY'S HOME RULE AUTHORITY, SINCE THE MUNICIPAL SERVICE BENEFIT UNIT IS ACTUALLY A STATUTORY CREATION FOR COUNTIES ONLY.

BUT IT EFFECTIVELY HAS THE SAME ROLE.

SO WE REPEALED THOSE PROVISIONS, AND WE HAVE NOTHING TO REPLACE THAT.

SO WHAT THIS DOES IS ALLOWS US TO HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO LEVY SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS, WHETHER THEY ARE FOR SEPTIC TO SEWER OR WHETHER THEY ARE FOR INTERSECTION LIGHTS, REQUESTS BY NEIGHBORHOODS TO HAVE IMPROVED SERVICES, LANDSCAPING.

IT'S THE WHOLE GAMUT.

WHAT ALL THIS DOES IS SET UP THE AUTHORITY FOR YOU TO TAKE ACTION LATER ON, WHETHER IT'S ON YOUR OWN INITIATIVE OR ON THE REQUEST OF COMMUNITIES SPECIFICALLY.

THE ORDINANCE ITSELF IS GENERIC.

IT JUST DESCRIBES THE PROCESS THAT'S REQUIRED.

AND THAT REQUIRES US TO IDENTIFY PROJECTS GOING FORWARD, SET UP AN ASSESSMENT RESOLUTION, WHICH WOULD IDENTIFY THE PROJECT, THE PUBLIC NEED AND THE ACTUAL ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGIES AND HOW LONG IT WOULD GO FOR.

AND THEN THAT PROCESS, WE HAVE TO WORK, IT'S CALLED THE UNIFORM METHOD.

WE WORK EACH YEAR, JUST AS LISA DOES WITH THE BUDGET.

THERE'S A SET OF DEADLINES WE HAVE TO MEET EARLY IN THE YEAR.

WE HAVE TO IDENTIFY THE ASSESSMENT.

THEN WE HAVE TO WORK WITH THE TAX COLLECTOR AND THE PROPERTY APPRAISER TO MAKE SURE IT GETS NOTICED TO EVERYONE.

AND THEN, FINALLY, IT GETS ADOPTED WITH YOUR BUDGET IN THE FALL.

THIS IS A TECHNICAL ORDINANCE DESIGNED TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS IN ORDER FOR YOU TO LEVY SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS.

NOTHING YOU APPROVE TODAY IS AUTHORIZING ANY SPECIFIC
SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ON ANY -- OR ANY TYPE OF PROJECT.
YOU'RE JUST GIVING YOURSELVES THE BROAD AUTHORITY TO DO SO
IN THE FUTURE.
>>Mayor Ribble: OKAY.
QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS OF COUNCIL?
JIM, YOU'RE UP.
>>Jim Boesch: THE REALITY IS WE'RE NOW UNDER INVESTIGATION,
I PRESUME.
WE ALL AGREED WE'LL LOOK INTO SEPTIC TANK SEWER SITUATION,
AND WE DEFINITELY WOULD HAVE TO ASSESS WHEN IT COMES TO --
CERTAIN PARTICULAR AREAS.
>>Derek Rooney: IF YOU WANTED TO FINANCE SEPTIC TO SEWER
THROUGH ASSESSMENT, YOU COULD DO THAT.
OR YOU COULD DO IT THROUGH YOUR GENERAL FUND.
>>Jim Boesch: EVERY COMMUNITY HAS AN ASSESSMENT.
THEY DON'T GO IN AND SAY YOU PAY CASH AND GET THE PEOPLE --
OFFER A PROGRAM AND SO FORTH BECAUSE IT IS AN EXPENSIVE
DEAL.
FOR SURE HAVE TO DO ASSESSMENT -- WHEN THAT TIME COMES.
[INAUDIBLE]
>>Mayor Ribble: ANY OTHER COMMENTS?
JON.
>>Jon McLain: WHAT WE'RE VOTING IS ONLY AN ASSESSMENT
PROCESS.
>>Derek Rooney: CORRECT.
>>Jon McLain: NOT NECESSARILY HOW THAT ASSESSMENT IS GOING
TO BE PAID.
>>Derek Rooney: EVENTUALLY, YES --
>>Mayor Ribble: MENU OF CHOICES HOW THEY WANT TO PROCEED.
>>Derek Rooney: YOU'LL HAVE, WHETHER IT'S A SERIES OF
PROJECTS LIKE SEPTIC TO SEWER OR A SPECIFIC PROJECT IN THE
GAMUT OF CHOICES ARE SIGNIFICANT.
STREETLIGHTS, GARBAGE COLLECTION, SIDEWALKS, ROAD
IMPROVEMENTS.
LANDSCAPING.
THERE'S ANY NUMBER OF THINGS THAT AS THE CITY GROWS, WE MAY
DECIDE THAT, YOU KNOW, THIS IS APPROPRIATE FOR THE VILLAGE
AT SOME POINT.
AND IT MAY BE NEIGHBORHOODS THEMSELVES.
I'M THINKING ABOUT THE NEIGHBORHOODS OUTSIDE THE NORMAL CDD
GATED COMMUNITY THAT WANT TO MAINTAIN IMPROVEMENTS.
THEY MAY COME TO YOU TO REQUEST THIS. WHAT THIS ORDINANCE
DOES IS PROVIDE YOU THE METHODOLOGY FOR DOING IT.
THERE ARE OTHER WAYS TO DO IT, BUT THIS IS THE STANDARD
PROCESS THAT'S GONE FORWARD.
WE'VE TALKED WITH OUR BOND COUNSEL, IF WE WERE GOING TO
BORROW AGAINST IT, THIS WOULD MEET THOSE REQUIREMENTS, BUT
ALL THE SPECIFICS OF ANY PROJECT WILL BE A SEPARATE
RESOLUTION THAT'S APPROVED BY YOU AND YOU'LL HAVE MULTIPLE
HEARINGS ON IT.
IT'S NOT SNEAKING UP ON ANYONE.
IT'S JUST SETTING UP THE PROCESS.
>>Mayor Ribble: ANY OTHER COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL?
>>Howard Levitan: BILL, I'D LIKE TO WEIGH IN.
>>Mayor Ribble: OKAY, HOWARD.
>>Howard Levitan: DEREK, THERE'S ONE CHANGE I WOULD LIKE TO
MAKE.
THE ORDINANCE ITSELF LOOKS REALLY GOOD.
ON PAGE 2, UNDER THE DEFINITION OF EQUALIZING BOARD, THAT IS
THE BOARD THAT HEARS ANY COMPLAINTS FROM PEOPLE THAT ARE
INCLUDED IN A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT.
I WOULD RATHER QUICK THAT DOWN TO THE PLANNING BOARD AND USE
THE VILLAGE COUNCIL AS AN APPEAL ONLY.
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR ALL THOSE.
I DON'T THINK THE VILLAGE COUNCIL REALLY WANTS TO HEAR
EVERYBODY'S COMPLAINT ABOUT INCLUSION.
>>Mayor Ribble: GOOD IDEA.
>>Derek Rooney: YEAH, IN FACT, I MIGHT GO -- WHAT YOU MIGHT
WANT TO DO TO HAVE MAXIMUM FLEXIBILITY, BECAUSE SOME OF
THOSE THINGS MAY BE APPROPRIATE FOR THE PLANNING BOARD, IS
WE'LL -- A BOARD DESIGNATED BY THE VILLAGE COUNCIL.
SO FOR EACH ASSESSMENT WE COME UP WITH, YOU COULD ALWAYS
PICK THE PLANNING BOARD.
YOU COULD PICK YOURSELVES.
YOU COULD PICK SOME SPECIAL AD HOC BOARD.
MAYBE THAT KIND OF FLEXIBILITY WOULD BE BETTER?
>>Howard Levitan: I ACTUALLY THINK WE OUGHT TO KICK THAT
DOWN AND NOT GIVE ANYBODY THE IDEA OF CREATING ANOTHER
BOARD.
TROUBLE FILLING THE EXISTING BOARDS.
>>Mayor Ribble: I AGREE.
I AGREE WITH HOWARD.
>>Derek Rooney: OKAY.
SO PLANNING BOARD?
>>Howard Levitan: PLANNING BOARD, YEAH.
>>Jim Boesch: I DISAGREE WITH ANYBODY ELSE APPROVING
ASSESSMENTS EXCEPT FOR US.
WE WERE ELECTED --
>>Mayor Ribble: THAT'S NOT THE POINT.
HE'S SAYING THE APPEAL PROCESS.
>>Jim Boesch: I UNDERSTAND.
BUT I'M JUST SAYING YOU WANT TO BRING IT TO A BOARD AND HAVE
THE COUNCIL READ THE FINAL -- I DON'T AGREE WITH THAT.

I AGREE THAT THERE'S ONLY ONE ENTITY THAT WOULD BE ABLE TO DISCUSS AN ASSESSMENT, WHETHER IT'S GOING TO BE APPROVED OR NOT, IT COMES SPECIFICALLY TO THE COUNCIL.

>>Howard Levitan: YOU'RE GOING TO REALLY HATE THAT.

>>Jon McLain: WOULD WE BE SEEING INDIVIDUAL COMPLAINTS? LET'S SAY WE ASSESSED -- [INAUDIBLE] -- 50 HOMES.

I'M MORE THAN HAPPY TO HEAR A COMPLAINT FROM THE 50 HOMEOWNERS AS OPPOSED TO HEARING COMPLAINTS FROM 50 INDIVIDUAL HOMEOWNERS.

THAT COULD TIE US UP FOR HOURS EACH TIME.

-- [INAUDIBLE]

>>Howard Levitan: I CAN'T HEAR.

I CAN'T HEAR HIM.

>>Mayor Ribble: JON, HE CAN'T HEAR YOU.

>>Jon McLain: NOT SURE I WANT TO DELEGATE THAT RESPONSIBILITY OF A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT TO ANOTHER BOARD, BUT I ALSO WANT TO MAKE SURE WE HAVE A MECHANISM THAT WE'RE NOT HEARING EACH INDIVIDUAL CONCERNS ABOUT NEW LIGHTS OR NEW LANDSCAPING OR SOMETHING, BECAUSE YOU'RE GOING TO GET A LOT OF DISAGREEMENTS.

Derek Rooney: LET ME GIVE YOU A FACTUAL SCENARIO THAT MAY HELP TO ILLUMINATE WHAT THINGS HAPPEN AT THE BOARDS.

I'M THINKING OF ONE THAT I DEALT WITH RECENTLY.

A COMMUNITY THAT HAD A LARGE WATERWAY SYSTEM, LIKE THE CITY OF CAPE CORAL.

AND THEY WERE DOING AN ASSESSMENT TO MAINTAIN THOSE CANALS, CLEAN THEM UP, MAKE IT ACCESSIBLE.

AND THEY DID AN ASSESSMENT BASED ON THE LINEAR FRONTAGE OF EACH LOT.

BUT THE CITY ALSO HAD A REQUIREMENT THAT YOU COULD ONLY HAVE ONE DOCK OR ONE BOAT.

SO PEOPLE WITH LARGE LOTS WOULD BE ASSESSED MORE MONEY, EVEN THOUGH THEY HAVE ONLY THE SAME AMOUNT OF ACCESS AS SOMEONE WITH A SMALLER LOT.

SO AN ASSESSMENT LIKE THAT MAY BE CHALLENGED AND MAY GET GRANTED RELIEF AT THAT EQUALIZING BOARD.

WHEREAS, IF IT WAS AN ASSESSMENT ON SEAWALL MAINTENANCE, WHICH THE CITY OF PUNTA GORDA JUST HAD A BIG CHALLENGE ON, WELL, THEN ON A LINEAR FOOTAGE, SINCE EVERYONE IS GETTING THEIR SEAWALL MAINTAINED, IT IS TOTALLY APPROPRIATE STANDARD TO HAVE IT BASED ON IT.

IT'S A FACTUAL-BASED ISSUE.

SO YOU'LL LIKELY FIND THAT THERE ARE PARTICULAR PROPERTIES THAT MAY APPEAR TO HAVE MULTIPLE DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS, FOR INSTANCE, AND A SEWER SEPTIC CONVERSION, SO WE WOULD SAY YOU COULD BUILD SEVEN UNITS ON THAT PROPERTY, SO WE'LL ASSESS
YOU SEVEN ASSESSMENTS, WHATEVER THE EQUIVALENT RESIDENTIAL UNIT IS.

BUT THEN THAT PROPERTY OWNER COMES BACK AND SAYS, ACTUALLY,

I'VE GOT A CONSERVATION EASEMENT ON MY PROPERTY AND CAN I ONLY BUILD ONE.

THAT'S THE KIND OF THING.

SO THEY ARE VERY FACT INTENSIVE.

YOU'LL HAVE STAFF REVIEWING THEM.

SOMETIMES THERE WILL BE OUTSIDE LAWYERS, CONSULTANTS.

IT IS A TIME-CONSUMING ISSUE, BUT I JUST WANT TO LET YOU KNOW, THOSE ARE THE KIND OF THINGS YOU'LL BE HEARING AS THE EQUALIZING BOARD.

Mayor Ribble: WE NEED TO GET CONSENSUS ON WHAT THIS MOTION IS GOING TO BE HERE.

Vice-Mayor Errington: I'M CONCERNED BECAUSE I JUST DON'T THINK THE COUNCIL IS PREPARED TO BE INUNDATED WITH A WHOLE LOT OF PROJECTS COMING FORWARD WITH ASSESSMENTS.

I WOULD CONCUR WITH HIM THAT THAT'S WHERE WE OUGHT TO BE WITH THEM HANDLE IT, AND THEN IF THERE IS -- [INAUDIBLE] -- I DON'T WANT TO HAVE TO -- I THINK WE HAVE ENOUGH ON OUR PLATE, AND I DON'T THINK WE'RE DOING A DISSERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY.

I THINK WE'RE HANDLING IT IN THE PROPER PROCEDURE BY LETTING PLANNING BOARD DEAL WITH IT.

WE GET ENOUGH FROM THE PLANNING BOARD HERE FOR HEARING.

That's my feeling on it.

IT'S NEEDED, AND, ALSO, IT'S NEEDED BECAUSE WHENEVER -- WHAT WE VOTED ON THIS MORNING WAS THE ORDINANCE WITH THE TRAFFIC LIGHT, ESTERO CROSSING, I MEAN, THAT'S GOING TO BE THE ASSESSMENT THERE ACROSS THE STREET.

IT'S GOING TO HAPPEN.

CHANCES ARE, SOME OF THOSE WILL END UP HERE IF WE APPROVE THIS.

Mayor Ribble: I AGREE WITH WHAT YOU SAID, KATY, TOTALLY.

I THINK ANYTIME YOU CAN BUILD ON THE BUFFER FOR ANYTHING, LABOR RELATIONS, HUMAN RESOURCES, WHAT DOES THE COMPANY DO? THEY HAVE THE FRONT LINE FOLKS IN HR, HERE TO COMPLAIN.

TAKE IT TO LEGAL UNTIL IT'S BEEN VETTED THREE OR FOUR TIMES.

I TOTALLY AGREE WITH YOUR POINT.

GO AHEAD, NICK.

Nick Batos: I AGREE ALSO.

I THINK THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT COMING TO US FOR THE INITIAL ASSESSMENT, PASSING THAT ASSESSMENT, EVERYBODY IS GOING TO HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO TALK ABOUT IT TO US, MAKE
THAT DECISION.
AND I ALSO LOOK AT THIS AS SIMILAR TO WE PASS A TAX RATE AND
THE TAX ASSESSOR PUTS ON THE BILL, AND THEN IF SOMEBODY HAS
A COMPLAINT, THEY ARE NOT GOING TO COME TO US.
THEY WILL GO TO THE ASSESSOR.
SO I THINK WE SHOULD BE VERY CAREFUL ABOUT WHAT WE MAKE THE
ASSESSMENT.
WE SHOULD BE VERY CAREFUL THAT WE LISTEN TO EVERYBODY BEFORE
MAKING THAT ASSESSMENT, BUT ONCE WE MAKE IT, I THINK IT
SHOULD BE JUST CARRIED ON, OTHERWISE -- SOME OF US WILL NOT
BE HERE, BUT I COULD SEE IT WHERE YOU HAVE A HUNDRED PEOPLE
HERE COMPLAINING INDIVIDUALLY.
>>Mayor Ribble: DO I HAVE A MOTION TO PASS THE FIRST READING
OF ORDINANCE 2020-06?
AND SET THE SECOND READING PUBLIC HEARING FOR
SEPTEMBER 9th?
>>Vice-Mayor Errington: I MAKE THE MOTION.
>>Mayor Ribble: WHAT IS THE MOTION?
JUST SO EVERYBODY KNOWS.
BECAUSE YOU'RE INCLUDING THE PROCESS FOR APPEAL.
>>Vice-Mayor Errington: HAVE IT WRITTEN DOWN.
REREAD IT AND I'LL TELL YOU --
>>Mayor Ribble: I HAVE IT PRETTY CLOSE.
DEREK.
>>Derek Rooney: I WOULD SAY YOU'RE GOING TO PASS IT FOR
FIRST READING.
SET IT FOR SECOND READING SEPTEMBER 9 AT 5:30 AND CHANGE THE
EQUALIZING BOARD ROLE FROM THE VILLAGE COUNCIL TO THE
PLANNING BOARD.
>>Vice-Mayor Errington: THAT'S IT.
>>Mayor Ribble: THAT'S WHAT YOU SAID, RIGHT?
>>Derek Rooney: I HEARD IT.
IT'S THE MASK.
>>Mayor Ribble: ANYBODY GOING TO SECOND THAT?
JON.
SECONDED BY JON McLAIN.
GOOD JOB, KATY.
MADAM CLERK, PLEASE CALL THE ROLL.
>>Howard Levitan: YES.
>>Jon McLain: YES.
>>Jim Boesch: YES.
>>Nick Batos: YES.
>>Jim Wilson: YES.
>>Vice-Mayor Errington: YES.
>>Mayor Ribble: YES.
ALL RIGHT.
MOVING RIGHT ALONG -- ARE WE GOING TO ORDER OUT FOR DINNER HERE TONIGHT?
OKAY.
WE HAVE ON THE AGENDA THE SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 2020-05, AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF ESTERO, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR THE AUTHORITY TO APPROVE THE OFFICIAL VILLAGE SEAL.
MADAM CLERK.
>>Carol Sacco: ORDINANCE NUMBER 2020-05, AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF ESTERO, FLORIDA, ADOPTING AN OFFICIAL VILLAGE SEAL; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
>>Mayor Ribble: STEVE, YOU WANT TO INTRODUCE THIS?
>>Steven Sarkozy: THE VILLAGE SEAL HAS BEEN MUCH DISCUSSED WITH COUNCIL.
WE'VE HAD A CONSULTANT COME IN, AND THE CONSULTANT CONTRIBUTED WITH THEIR OWN PROFESSIONAL ADVICE BUT ALSO ENGAGED A NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY.
AS IS OUR PRACTICE ON ALL MAJOR ISSUES.
>>Mayor Ribble: SO WE HAVE THE COLORS ALL FIGURED OUT NOW. WE'RE ALL GOOD TO GO WITH THAT?
>>Steven Sarkozy: I THINK YOU'RE ALL SET, READY TO GO. WE HAVE NOT HEARD ANY COMMENTS POSITIVE OR NEGATIVE SINCE, BUT THIS HAS BEEN VETTED EXTENSIVELY OVER THE LAST YEAR AND A HALF.
APPROPRIATE AFTER FIVE YEARS, FIVE AND A HALF YEARS, I'D LIKE TO MAKE A MOTION.
[ LAUGHTER ]
ONE PROVISO.
THAT SOME TIME BETWEEN NOW AND WHEN THREE OF US LEAVE, WE GET TO SEE THIS UP SOMEPLACE.
[ LAUGHTER ]
>>Mayor Ribble: HOPEFULLY, MR. BOESCH, PER DIANE'S REQUEST, WE GET THESE THINGS UP OUT IN THE PUBLIC VIEW ON THE WAY IN AND OUT OF ESTERO SO PEOPLE KNOW WHAT WE'RE ALL ABOUT.

ANY OTHER COMMENTS?
>>Vice-Mayor Errington: I HAVE A COMMENT.
IF WE APPROVE THIS, I WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT WHATEVER THE PROCEDURE IS, THIS WOULD INVOLVE OUR ATTORNEY, IS MAKING SURE THAT WE GET THIS REGISTERED AND SOMEBODY ELSE CAN'T COME IN AND STEAL OUR LOGO AND ALL THAT.
GET IT REGISTERED, AND I THINK IT'S GOOD FOR TEN YEARS ONCE YOU GET IT REGISTERED.
THEN YOU HAVE TO RENEW IT EVERY TEN YEARS.
11:47:00 BUT WE NEED TO PROTECT THIS LOGO.
11:47:04 ONCE WE APPROVE THAT TODAY, HOPEFULLY, THEN IT'S OUT THERE
11:47:09 IN THE PUBLIC, AND IT NEEDS TO BE DONE ASAP BECAUSE SOMEBODY
11:47:12 COULD TAKE THAT AWAY FROM US.
11:47:13 >>Mayor Ribble: DEREK, YOU'LL TAKE CARE OF THAT?
11:47:16 >>Derek Rooney: THERE ARE TWO PARTS TO IT.
11:47:18 FIRST, FLORIDA LAW HAS RECOGNIZED THAT MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY
11:47:22 SEALS ADOPTED BY ORDINANCE, IT'S A CRIMINAL INFRACTION FOR
11:47:25 ANYONE TO UTILIZE THEM. I DID, TO MAKE SURE WE WEREN'T
11:47:31 GOING TO GET ANY PROBLEMS, LOOK AT ABOUT 300 OR SO SEALS IN
11:47:35 THE STATE OF FLORIDA, MAKE SURE OURS WASN'T REMOTELY CLOSE
11:47:39 TO OTHERS.
11:47:40 YOU WOULD BE AMAZED HOW MANY PALM TREES AND WATER YOU SEE IN
11:47:44 THESE THINGS.
11:47:45 BUT, NO, I DON'T THINK OURS WAS IN VIOLATION OF ANY EXISTING
11:47:47 ONES.
11:47:48 WE CAN REGISTER IT AS A SERVICE MARK.
11:47:53 THAT PROCESS IS REALLY UP TO YOU HOW FAR YOU WANT TO GO.
11:47:57 SIMPLE REGISTRATION OF IT IS NOT THAT MUCH, BUT THE SEARCHES
11:48:01 CAN BE EXTENSIVE, AND I WOULDN'T RECOMMEND GOING, LIKE
11:48:07 $3,000, WITH INTERNATIONAL SEARCHES AND STUFF LIKE THAT, I
11:48:10 DON'T THINK THAT'S REASONABLE, BUT IF YOU'RE AFRAID SOMEONE
11:48:14 MIGHT BE MAKING KNOCKOFFS OF IT IN CHINA, THEN WE CAN DO
11:48:18 THAT.
11:48:19 IT'S UP TO YOU.
11:48:20 FROM A FLORIDA LAW PERSPECTIVE, IT'S PROTECTED, BUT BEYOND
11:48:23 THAT, IF YOU WANT TO ENGAGE AND HAVE US LOOK AT REGISTERING
11:48:28 IT AS A SERVICE MARK, WE CAN DO THAT, BUT THERE WOULD BE A
11:48:31 COST.
11:48:31 >>Vice-Mayor Errington: I WANT TO MAKE SURE WHEN I GO TO A
11:48:33 LOCAL SUPERMARKET OR A DRUG STORE THAT I DON'T SEE IT ON A
11:48:37 BALL CAP OR SHIRT AND IT IS THE SAME LOGO.
11:48:41 IF YOU SAY WE'RE PROTECTED IN FLORIDA, THEN WE'RE OKAY.
11:48:45 >>Derek Rooney: YES.
11:48:46 BUT THAT WOULDN'T PREVENT SOMEONE FROM SELLING SOMETHING
11:48:50 ONLINE.
11:48:51 THAT'S WHY YOU MIGHT WANT TO CONSIDER LOOKING BEYOND THAT.
11:48:57 >>Jon McLain: I WANTED TO COMPLIMENT THE STAFF FOR PUTTING
11:49:01 THIS TOGETHER.
11:49:01 >>Mayor Ribble: I'M NOT COMPLIMENTING THEM.
11:49:04 NO WAY.
11:49:04 I DON'T MIND GIVING YOU GUYS COMPLIMENTS, BUT YOU GUYS
11:49:08 CARRIED THIS THING OUT.
11:49:09 >>Jon McLain: THE ONLY OTHER COMMENT I'VE GOT, SEE THIS --
11:49:21 YOU GO OUT TO CONTRACT AND RECEIVE MERCHANDISE, YOU CAN SEE
11:49:27 -- [INAUDIBLE] ABOUT 150 BUCKS -- [INAUDIBLE]
11:49:37 >>Mayor Ribble: OKAY.
11:49:37 ANY OTHER COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL?
11:49:39 DO I HAVE A MOTION TO PASS A SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE
11:49:44 2020-05?
11:49:45 NICK WANTS TO MAKE THAT MOTION.
11:49:48 OKAY, NICK.
11:49:49 HOW ABOUT A SECOND?
11:49:51 KATY SECONDS.
11:49:54 MADAM CLERK, PLEASE CALL THE ROLL.
11:50:01 >>Jim Wilson: AYE.
11:50:03 >>Nick Batos: YES.
11:50:04 >>Jim Boesch: AYE.
11:50:07 >>Jon McLain: AYE.
11:50:09 >>Howard Levitan: YES.
11:50:10 >>Vice-Mayor Errington: YES.
11:50:12 >>Mayor Ribble: AYE.
11:50:13 OKAY.
11:50:20 A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF
11:50:22 ESTERO, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
11:50:26 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021, AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
11:50:32 WOULD THE CLERK PLEASE READ THIS TITLE.
11:50:38 >>Carol Sacco: RESOLUTION 2020-14, A RESOLUTION OF THE
11:50:41 VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF ESTERO, FLORIDA, ADOPTING
11:50:43 THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021,
11:50:47 AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
11:50:49 >>Mayor Ribble: STEVE, ANY COMMENTS ON THIS?
11:50:54 >>Steven Sarkozy: ONLY THAT THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
11:50:56 HAS BEEN REVIEWED PREVIOUSLY BY THE COUNCIL.
11:50:58 IT'S COMING TO YOU HAVING BEEN REVIEWED WITHOUT ANY
11:51:03 ADDITIONAL CHANGES FROM STAFF.
11:51:06 BUT IT ALSO, I'D LIKE TO UNDERSCORE THE COMMENT THAT WE'VE
11:51:10 MADE FROM THE VERY BEGINNING IS THAT THIS IS A PLANNED
11:51:15 PROJECT.
11:51:15 IT'S NOT A COMMITMENT THAT WE'RE GOING TO DO EACH OF THESE
11:51:18 PROJECTS.
11:51:18 GOING BACK TO OUR CONVERSATION ABOUT THE COVID-19 RESPONSE,
11:51:22 IF AT ANY TIME IN RESPONSE TO THE DOWNTURN IN THE ECONOMY OR
11:51:28 SIMPLE REPRIORITIZATION, YOU HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO DEFER
11:51:32 THESE OR SUBSTITUTE OUT ON THE PROJECTS.
11:51:35 THIS IS A GOOD PLAN, BUT IT STILL REMAINS IN FULL COUNCIL
11:51:41 CONTROL.
11:51:42 >>Mayor Ribble: ANY COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS FROM COUNCIL?
11:51:46 >>Howard Levitan: BILL, I'D JUST LIKE TO SAY AGAIN THAT I
11:51:52 CAN'T VOTE FOR THIS PLAN IF IT INCLUDES THE RIVER OAKS PARK.
SO I SAID THAT LAST TIME.
I VOTED NO.
I'M GOING TO DO THE SAME THING.
>>Mayor Ribble: OKAY, HOWARD.
ANY OTHER QUESTIONS FROM COUNCIL?
HAS ANYBODY SIGNED UP TO SPEAK?
>>Carol Sacco: YES, I HAVE TWO E COMMENT CARDS.
THE FIRST ONE IS FROM MR. LOUIS FRATTARELLI FROM THE
PRESERVE AT CORKSCREW REPRESENTING ECCL TRANSPORTATION
COUNCIL.
THE ECCL SUPPORTS THE ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NUMBER 2020-14
 WHICH PROVIDES A C.I.P. BUDGET AND FUNDING FOR 2020-21
CAPITAL PROJECTS.
WE ALSO APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
PUBLIC PROCESS.
THE SECOND ONE IS FROM MR. BOB DION OF PELICAN SOUND GOLF.
AS WE KNOW, THE ESTERO RIVER IS IN GREAT NEED OF HELP
BECAUSE OF SEDIMENT AND DEBRIS BLOCKAGE AND THE BACTERIA.
WE KNOW THAT WE WILL BE UNDERWATER WHEN THE NEXT MAJOR STORM
OCCURS.
ACCORDING TO THE ACTUAL EXPENDITURES, ESTERO HAS SPENT ONLY
ONE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-NINE DOLLARS ON
STORMWATER IMPROVEMENTS FOR 2018 TO 2020.
SEE PAGE 27 OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT FUNDS.
I ASK THAT YOU BRING IN 2021-2022 BUDGET FOR STORMWATER OF
ONE MILLION ELEVEN THOUSAND FIFTY DOLLARS INTO 2021 TO GET
AS MUCH DONE THIS YEAR AS POSSIBLE.
THE ESTERO RIVER NEEDS TO FLOW.
THANK YOU.
THAT'S IT, MAYOR.
>>Mayor Ribble: OKAY.
CAN I HAVE A MOTION ON THIS ITEM, PLEASE?
JON McLAIN.
SECOND, NICK.
MADAM CLERK, PLEASE CALL THE ROLL.
>>Carol Sacco: COUNCIL MEMBER LEVITAN?
>>Howard Levitan: NO.
>>Jon McLain: AYE.
>>Jim Boesch: AYE.
>>Nick Batos: YES.
>>Jim Wilson: AYE.
>>Vice-Mayor Errington: AYE.
>>Mayor Ribble: AYE.
THE MOTION PASSES.
NOW WE'LL TAKE COMMENTS THAT ARE NOT ON THE AGENDA.
ANYONE ELSE SIGNED UP TO SPEAK?
>>Carol Sacco: NO, SIR.
Mayor Ribble: JON, YOU’RE UP.

JACK MEEKER FROM THE BROOKS.
I WANT TO CONGRATULATE THE COUNCIL ON THEIR ACTION ON THE
STOPLIGHTS.
ALL THOSE HIGHWAY ENGINEERS WILL TELL YOU THAT THEY WILL NOT
REDUCE THE NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS.
STATISTICS WILL HOLD.
BUT WHAT THEY DON’T TELL YOU IS THAT THEY WILL REDUCE THE
SEVERENESS OF THOSE ACCIDENTS.
FEWER PEOPLE WILL BE MAIMED OR KILLED BY THESE TRAFFIC
LIGHTS.
I ALSO WANT TO CONGRATULATE YOU ON YOUR BUDGET PROCESS.
YOU’RE GOING TO GIVE US A CHANCE TO TAKE A LOOK AT THIS
BUDGET BEFORE IT’S FINALLY ADOPTED.
THANK YOU.

Mayor Ribble: OKAY.
NOW WE’LL HEAR FROM COUNCIL COMMENTS.

Jon McLain: JUST A COUPLE OF QUICK THINGS.
ESTERO PARKWAY IS COMING ALONG, IF ANY OF YOU HAVE DRIVEN
ALONG THERE.
WORKING ON THE MEDIANS.
THEY ARE TAKING OUT QUITE A FEW OF THE DEAD WOOD.
COMING ALONG WELL.
SIDEWALKS ON THE NORTH SIDE ALMOST COMPLETED.
The project looks good.
STILL WORKING ON WATER SPRINKLING, IRRIGATION ISSUES THAT
ARE NOT COMPLETELY RESOLVED.
SHOULD HAVE AN ANSWER TO THAT THIS WEEK.
MOVING FORWARD ON VETERANS DAY, BUT I THINK IT’S SUBJECT TO
CANCELLATION LAST MINUTE.
LOOKING FOR A SPEAKER, HISTORICAL SOCIETY -- [INAUDIBLE]
IT WILL BE AN EASIER PROGRAM THIS YEAR.
NO FOOD SERVICE WILL BE PROVIDED.
Mayor Ribble: THEY CUT THE GRASS UP THERE AT ESTERO
PARKWAY?
GET THAT DONE?
Jon McLain: NO GRASS.
Mayor Ribble: NO, IN THE MEDIAN.
Jon McLain: THEY HAVE BEEN --
Mayor Ribble: IT LOOKS HORRIBLE.
Jon McLain: THEY ARE ACTUALLY KILLING IT YESTERDAY AND
REMOVING SOME OF IT.
WHOLE REFRESH ON THE MEDIAN LANDSCAPE.
Mayor Ribble: OKAY.
KATY.
11:56:23 >>Vice-Mayor Errington: YES, THANK YOU, MAYOR.
11:56:25 I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT -- CAN YOU STILL HEAR ME?
11:56:33 I KNOCKED THE -- HOLD ON.
11:56:36 WE'RE GOING THROUGH A TREMENDOUS TRYING TIME AND SO MANY
11:56:46 PEOPLE'S LIVES HAVE BEEN TURNED UPSIDE DOWN WITH THIS
11:56:49 PANDEMIC, IT HAS CERTAINLY CHANGED THE CULTURE IN OUR AREA
11:56:55 AND IN OUR VILLAGE, AND IT'S GOING TO CHANGE ALL OF US FOR A
11:57:01 LONG TIME.
11:57:02 I WANT TO DO EVERYTHING THAT I CAN POSSIBLY DO AND WE CAN
11:57:08 POSSIBLY DO TO HELP GET RID OF THIS VIRUS THAT'S DEVASTATING
11:57:15 OUR ECONOMY IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA RIGHT NOW IN CERTAIN
11:57:19 AREAS.
11:57:20 WITH THAT IN MIND, I WOULD LIKE JUST TO OFFER SUPPORT FOR
11:57:29 THE STAFF WHO STAYS HERE IN THIS BUILDING, YOU DO YOUR WORK
11:57:33 HERE.
11:57:34 I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT MAYBE YOU LOOK AT DOING SOME AIR
11:57:40 PURIFIERS FOR YOUR INDIVIDUAL OFFICES OR WHATEVER.
11:57:43 I KNOW I'M A BIG PROPONENT FOR THOSE.
11:57:47 AFTER WE HAD IRMA AND AFTER WE HAD THE BLUE-GREEN ALGAE, I
11:57:51 STARTED CHECKING INTO THEM.
11:57:54 AND I FINALLY -- I'M SO CONVINCED THAT THEY REALLY HAVE
11:57:59 MATURED AND THEY ARE DOING THE KIND OF WORK THAT YOU WANT
11:58:01 THEM TO DO WITH ALL THE BACTERIA AND THE DIFFERENT ELEMENTS.
11:58:07 THERE ARE AIR PURIFIERS IN THE FILTRATION SYSTEMS OUT THERE
11:58:10 NOW THAT WOULD TAKE OUT VIRUSES AND GERMS, AND THEY ARE
11:58:18 APPROVED BY CONSUMER REPORTS AND VERIFIED, THE PROPER
11:58:21 HEPAFILTERS.
11:58:22 I WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE STAFF HERE BE ABLE TO HAVE A FEW
11:58:27 THAT ARE PORTABLE.
11:58:29 THEY ARE VERY PROFESSIONAL LOOKING.
11:58:32 GET THEM ON CASTERS AND YOU CAN ROLL THEM AROUND.
11:58:36 I WOULD LIKE TO SEE OUR STAFF SAFE AND HEALTHY AS BEST AS
11:58:41 POSSIBLE.
11:58:41 BREATHING GOOD, CLEAN, QUALITY AIR IN YOUR OWN OFFICE I
11:58:45 THINK WILL GO A LONG WAY INTO HELPING TO DO THAT.
11:58:52 THOSE OF YOU WHO COME IN, I APPRECIATE IT.
11:58:54 WE APPRECIATE.
11:58:55 I WOULD JUST LIKE TO SEE SUPPORT FOR THAT.
11:59:02 >>Mayor Ribble: IS THAT IT?
11:59:03 >>Vice-Mayor Errington: THAT'S IT.
11:59:04 >>Mayor Ribble: JIM.
11:59:05 >>Jim Boesch: I WOULD LIKE TO NOTE IS THAT TOMORROW, STEVE
11:59:08 AND I WILL BE MEETING ON ZOOM WITH BIG CYPRUS BASIN.
11:59:20 -- TOWARDS ACCOMPLISHING THE GOAL.
11:59:25 >>Nick Batos: I WOULD LIKE TO GIVE A COUPLE OF THINGS.
11:59:28 NUMBER ONE, FOR THOSE LISTENING IN AND JUST AN UPDATE ON THE
SCHOOL REOPENING SITUATION.
The schools were scheduled to reopen on August the 10th, but they probably will be pushed back till either August 24th or the 31st. And the school board will make that final decision on Thursday.

As most of you have heard, parents are going to be given an option of four different choices to send their children back to school.

It's face to face, normal way of going into school.
Lee Home Connect, which you'll be able to do virtually with an actual teacher, and if they switch classes in the older groups, they'll be switching teachers also.

It will be similar to what would have been in school but doing it from home.

Another is Lee Virtual School, which is less teacher intensive.

Students should be more motivated to do it because there's a lot of reading on their own.

And, of course, they can do homeschooling.

The parents have been surveyed.

There was a survey put out asking them which of those choices they would want to have.

Those surveys, if any of the parents are listening are due back on July 26th.

The final results of that will determine exactly what the school districts will be doing as far as the teacher assignment, busing and so forth, because they'll have to know that in order to know how the schools will be used.

The buses that any of the children who will be using buses, masks are going to be required in the buses from bus driver and any of the students in there.

The parents have already been sent a tool kit, giving them all the detailed information.

And Dr. Atkins is going to be making the final decision on all those recommendations, and he assures us he will be using the advice of medical experts and doctors to make the final decision.

Safety is a primary concern.
The next thing I have, I don't know if we can put it up. Did we give everybody a copy of this?

You have in your folders in front of you some graphs.
These are statistics that I've been getting on a daily basis from Lee Health, but I've asked them to put it together from the beginning of the pandemic going to today.

I think it's just interesting to see where we're at.
12:02:07 THE FIRST ONE IS HOSPITAL STAYS.
12:02:10 YOU'LL SEE THAT SINCE JUNE 17th IS WHERE THE SPIKE STARTED
12:02:19 AND IT CONTINUES TO GO UP.
12:02:20 FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE BEEN LISTENING TO THE NEWS, YOU'LL
12:02:25 KNOW THAT THEY HAVE BEEN NOW GIVING INFORMATION ON THE
12:02:28 PERCENTAGE OF THE HOSPITAL BEING OCCUPIED, OF THE BEDS THAT
12:02:32 ARE AVAILABLE TO BE USED.
12:02:34 THAT MEANS CERTAIN BEDS THEY DO NOT HAVE STAFF FOR, THEY ARE
12:02:38 NOT COUNTING THOSE BEDS.
12:02:40 THE AMOUNT THAT THEY HAVE AVAILABLE.
12:02:44 RIGHT NOW, LEE HEALTH HAS 1300 BEDS AVAILABLE.
12:02:48 THEY'LL HAVE ANOTHER HUNDRED BEDS COMING ONLINE ON
12:02:51 AUGUST 1st WHERE THEY'LL HAVE THE STAFF FOR THAT.
12:02:55 THEY HAVE ALREADY INSTITUTED AN ADDITIONAL 25% CUT IN
12:03:03 OPERATIONS, ELECTED SURGERIES TO GIVE MORE ROOM FOR IT.
12:03:08 AND AS OF YESTERDAY, SAD TO REPORT, THAT 97% OF THE BEDS ARE
12:03:16 OCCUPIED IN THE SYSTEM, AND 94% OF THE ICU BEDS ARE ALSO
12:03:27 OCCUPIED.
12:03:28 THE NEXT SLIDE IS A SLIDE OF DEATHS IN LEE COUNTY THROUGH
12:03:35 THE LEE HEALTH SYSTEM.
12:03:36 IF YOU CAN LOOK AT -- IT'S HARD TO SEE IT, IF YOU LOOK
12:03:43 WHERE, IT'S ABOUT THREE-QUARTERS OF THE WAY THROUGH THE
12:03:45 GRAPH.
12:03:46 ONE SPIKE THAT GOES UP.
12:03:49 THE RED LINE.
12:03:50 THAT IS JUNE 4 -- JUNE 14th.
12:03:54 I'M SORRY.
12:03:54 THAT SHOWS THE FIRST HUNDRED DAYS SINCE IT BEGAN.
12:04:01 IT TOOK UNTIL JUNE 4, WHICH WAS 91 DAYS, TO GET A HUNDRED
12:04:06 DEATHS.
12:04:07 THE NEXT 46 DAYS TILL TODAY OR YESTERDAY, WE HAD ANOTHER 40
12:04:12 OR 86 DEATHS.
12:04:15 SO THE RATE OF DEATHS HAS ALMOST DOUBLED.
12:04:21 THE LAST ITEM I HAVE SHOWS THE AMOUNT OF POSITIVE CASES AND
12:04:31 NEGATIVE CASES, TOTAL CASES.
12:04:33 THE PINK IS THE POSITIVE PORTION OF IT.
12:04:36 GOING ACROSS THE GRAPH, YOU'LL SEE A BLUE LINE, AND THAT'S
12:04:42 THE 14-DAY AVERAGE OF THE POSITIVE CASES.
12:04:49 POSITIVE CASES RIGHT NOW ARE RUNNING AT ABOUT 22% ON AN
12:04:55 AVERAGE -- A 14-DAY AVERAGE.
12:04:58 THE CDC HAS ALWAYS SAID THAT ONCE THAT 14-DAY AVERAGE GOES
12:05:06 ABOVE 8 TO 10 PERCENT, IT IS A PROBLEM, POTENTIAL PROBLEMS.
12:05:11 SO WE ARE STILL SIGNIFICANTLY OVER THAT.
12:05:14 YOU'LL SEE THE DROP IN THE NUMBER OF CASES BEING DONE AT THE
12:05:18 LAST COUPLE OF DAYS, AND I BELIEVE THAT IS MAINLY BECAUSE OF
12:05:23 A BACKLOG IN TESTING.
12:05:24 THE LAST REPORT I HAD, THERE WAS SOMETHING LIKE 1500 TESTS
12:05:28 THAT THEY ARE WAITING TO GET RESULTS ON.
12:05:30 ALL THIS MEANS IS THAT I THINK EVERYBODY HAS TO OBSERVE CDC
12:05:37 RECOMMENDATIONS, AND DO EVERYTHING WE CAN DO.
12:05:41 I'M REALLY PROUD OF EVERYBODY ON OUR COUNCIL, THAT WE'VE
12:05:44 STOOD UP AND SAID THAT WE BELIEVE WE SHOULD TAKE THESE
12:05:48 THINGS.
12:05:49 WE'VE KEPT THE SEPARATION.
12:05:51 WE ALL WEAR MASKS, AND WE ARE ASKING EVERYBODY TO DO THAT,
12:05:55 BECAUSE WE'RE NOT JUST HELPING YOUR NEIGHBORS, BUT YOU'RE
12:05:59 HELPING YOURSELF.
12:06:00 AND THE ONLY WAY THAT WE'RE GOING TO TURN THIS AROUND, I
12:06:02 KNOW PEOPLE WILL DISAGREE WITH ME, BUT EVERY EXPERT THAT
12:06:06 I'VE LISTENED TO HAS SAID THAT IF WE CAN DO THIS ALL AND ALL
12:06:12 STAND TOGETHER AND CONSISTENTLY DOING IT, WE WILL GET
12:06:15 THROUGH THIS, AND WE'LL BREAK THIS CURVE.
12:06:18 WE'LL FLATTEN IT OUT AND WE'LL START SEEING IT GO DOWN.
12:06:20 I HOPE YOU FOUND THIS INTERESTING.
12:06:25 THE LAST THING I HAVE -- JUST A REQUEST FROM STEVE ON THE
12:06:30 BUDGET.
12:06:31 I WOULD ASK THAT WE SCHEDULE THE ONE ON ONES AS SOON AS
12:06:34 POSSIBLE.
12:06:35 I THINK WE'LL HAVE TO DO SOME OF THEM ON A VIRTUAL BASIS
12:06:39 BECAUSE SOME OF THESE PEOPLE MIGHT NOT BE HERE.
12:06:42 BUT I THINK IT NEEDS TO BE DONE BECAUSE THERE'S A LOT OF
12:06:45 IMPORTANT THINGS.
12:06:47 >>Mayor Ribble: I THINK HE HEARD THAT LOUD AND CLEAR
12:06:49 EARLIER.
12:06:50 I THINK WE'RE ON THE -- HOW ABOUT JIM WILSON?
12:06:57 >>Jim Wilson: YES, MR. MAYOR.
12:06:58 GOING BACK TO THE BEGINNING OF THE MEETING, I MISSED AN
12:07:02 OPPORTUNITY TO PRAISE THE REST OF THE COUNCIL.
12:07:07 IT'S REALLY DELIGHTFUL TO SERVE HERE ON THIS BOARD, THIS
12:07:12 CONSERVATIVE BOARD, WHERE EVEN WITH ALL THE PROBLEMS THAT
12:07:16 WE'RE FACED WITH AS A SOCIETY, THAT WE'VE GOT SUFFICIENT
12:07:21 FUNDS IN RESERVES TO CARRY FORWARD WITH MOST OF OUR PLANS.
12:07:24 BUT I THINK THAT'S REALLY EXCITING AND PUTS US HEADS ABOVE
12:07:29 SOME OF OUR BROTHER AND SISTER COMMUNITIES.
12:07:32 THANK YOU ALL.
12:07:34 >>Mayor Ribble: ALL RIGHT.
12:07:34 JIM.
12:07:35 IS THAT IT?
12:07:37 >>Jim Wilson: THAT'S IT.
12:07:37 >>Mayor Ribble: OKAY.
12:07:38 HOWARD?
12:07:39 >>Howard Levitan: WELL, IN THE INTEREST OF TIME AND BILL
NEEDING TO GO TO LUNCH, I AM GOING TO PASS.

[ LAUGHTER ]

>>Mayor Ribble: I CAN'T BELIEVE IT.

I'VE GOT ABOUT A 15-MINUTE SLIDE SHOW.

NICK SAID HE WAS DOING SLIDES TODAY.

SO I THOUGHT I'D DO THEM.

I'M ONLY KIDDING.

I HEARD IT REPORTED ON THE FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES BUDGET

THING, WHICH I DON'T WANT TO BE REDUNDANT WITH THAT, BELIEVE

IT OR NOT, I WAS GOING TO REPORT ON MY CSI COMMITTEE WITH

THE LEE SCHOOLS, THE STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE, BUT

MR. BATOS GAVE YOU ALL THE DETAILS ON THAT.

BUT I DO WANT TO COMMENT ON THE ONE PIECE THAT NICK TALKED

ABOUT, THE STATE'S PLAN OF RETURNING TO SCHOOL.

I WAS ON THE BIG DEBATE LAST NIGHT WITH THE FOLKS THAT ARE

RUNNING FOR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, AND IF YOU GET A CHANCE,

ADELE AMICO, THERE WERE 26 PEOPLE ON THIS THING.

NICK WAS ON IT LAST NIGHT AS WELL.

IT WAS QUITE APPARENT THAT THE FOLKS THAT ARE ON THERE NOW

KNOW WHAT THEY'RE DOING.

BUT ONE THING THEY DID POINT OUT VERY CLEARLY LAST NIGHT WAS

THE FOUR-STAGE PLAN, AND IT IS QUITE CONCERNING ABOUT ARE

THESE STUDENTS REALLY GOING TO GO BACK TO THE CLASSROOM?

THAT CAME OUT LOUD AND CLEAR LAST NIGHT.

AS NICK SAID, THE FIRST OPTION IS GOING BACK TO CLASS AS

NORMAL, BUT THE OTHER THREE OPTIONS, I'M UNDERSTANDING NOW,

PARENTS ARE REALLY TAKING A LOOK AT THAT, WHERE THEY MIGHT

BE DOING SOME STUFF WITH THE COMPUTER AT HOME, WITH THE

CHROME COMMITTEE THEY ARE ISSUED AND HOME SCHOOLING.

WE'LL SEE HOW THIS PLAYS OUT AS WE GET CLOSER.

IT GETS SCARIER AND SCARIER, AND I THINK EVERYBODY HERE, I

KNOW, FEELS STRONGLY ABOUT WEARING A MASK.

JIM, AT THE LAST MEETING, YOU COMMENTED ON MASK WEARING.

AS YOU KNOW, I BELIEVE IN MASK WEARING.

I WANT TO COMMENT ON A LOT OF THE E-MAILS I GET.

I MUST GET SAME AS YOU EVERY DAY.

WE GET A TON OF PEOPLE TRYING TO DUMP THE RESPONSIBILITY OF

WEARING A MASK ON THE COUNCIL, AND WE JUST HAVE NO WAY OF

ENFORCING THAT.

I DON'T CARE HOW -- THE ONLY GUY I KNOW I'M GOING TO CALL IF

I HAVE A PROBLEM IS GOING TO BE STEVE, OUR MANAGER.

AND I DON'T THINK WE WANT A THOUSAND PHONE CALLS GOING TO
OUR MANAGER WHEN HE'S TRYING TO MANAGE THE VILLAGE.
WE ALREADY HAD A COMMENT SEVERAL TIMES WITH OUR SHERIFF.
HE DOES NOT HAVE THE MANPOWER TO DO MASK ENFORCEMENT.
AND I KNOW A LOT OF THESE STORES ARE STEPPING UP TO THE
PLATE.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT'S GOING ON AT DILLARD'S.
DILLARD'S WAS FIRST APPROACHED BY MYSELF AND BRIAN HAMMOND
GOING BACK 90 DAYS AGO.
BRIAN AND I DID A TOUR OVER HERE TO MAKE SURE EVERYTHING WAS
CLOSED DOWN, COCONUT POINT AND DILLARD'S WAS THE ONLY STORE
IN THAT WHOLE COMPLEX THAT WAS OPEN WHEN WE WERE ALL
SUPPOSED TO BE CLOSED.
IF YOU TALK TO THE PEOPLE OVER THERE, THEY TELL YOU THERE'S
NOTHING WE CAN DO.
IT'S A CORPORATE DECISION.
WE'RE JUST THE LOCAL MANAGERS.
THAT'S A COP-OUT.
ONE MORE COMMENT ON MASKS I WANT TO MAKE.
I GET SOME PEOPLE THAT TALK ABOUT, WELL, PEOPLE AREN'T
WEARING THE MASKS IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD, BECAUSE YOU GUYS DON'T
HAVE AN ORDINANCE.
WELL, THAT'S A BUNCH OF CRAP.
BECAUSE THEIR BOARD OF DIRECTORS IS RESPONSIBLE FOR
DICTATING THE POLICY IN THEIR COMMITTEE.
IF YOU GO INTO THE SORRENTO, YOU'RE MORE THAN WELCOME TO
RING MY BELL.
I'LL LET YOU IN THE LOBBY.
I CHALLENGE YOU IF YOU FIND ANYBODY IN OUR BUILDING WITHOUT
A MASK.
ALL THE RESIDENTS THAT ARE STILL THERE WEAR A MASK, WHETHER
THEY ARE IN THE GARAGE, IN THE ELEVATOR OR IN THE HALLWAY.
AND WE ENFORCE THAT.
HOW DO YOU ENFORCE IT?
WITH PEER PRESSURE.
THAT'S HOW YOU ENFORCE IT.
PEOPLE THAT THINK WE'RE GOING TO BE THE POLICE IN SOME OF
THESE COMMUNITIES AND HIGH-RISES, THAT IS NOT GOING TO
Happen.
THEY NEED TO GO TO THE ROOT CAUSE OF THE PROBLEM WHICH IS
THEIR OWN PEERS.
AND I'LL REST MY CASE ON THAT POSITIVE NOTE, BUT WEAR YOUR
MASK.
STEVE?
>> NOTHING.
>>Mayor Ribble: MR. ATTORNEY?
>>Derek Rooney: NOTHING.
>>Mayor Ribble: I HATE TO GIVE YOU A COMPLIMENT TODAY
12:11:51  BECAUSE YOU'RE GOING TO WANT A RAISE, BUT YOU DID A YEOMAN'S
12:11:53  JOB TODAY FILLING IN FOR BURT AND TAKING CARE OF ALL THE
12:11:57  DETAILS ON THE REAL ESTATE ISSUES IN THE VILLAGE.

12:11:59  WE LOVE SHARING YOU WITH BONITA SPRINGS.
12:12:02  AND KATY, AND THE MPO, BY THE WAY.
12:12:06  WERE YOU SLEEPING?
12:12:13  I JUST ASKED HIM.
12:12:14  DO I HAVE A MOTION TO ADJOURN?
12:12:17  >>Vice-Mayor Errington: YES.
12:12:17  >>Mayor Ribble: SO MOVED.