**Taxation, Revenue, and Utilization**



**of Expenditures (TRUE) Commission**

**Niki Brunson, Chair**

**LEGISLATIVE TRACKING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**February 7, 2019**

**3:00 p.m.**

**City Council Conference Room B**

**Suite 425, City Hall**

**Attendance:** TRUE Commissioners Niki Brunson, John Roberts, Jon McGowan (arr. 3:22)

**Also**: Jim Mazur – TRUE Commissioner nominee; Jeff Clements – Council Research Division

See attached sign-in sheet for additional attendees.

The meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m. and the attendees introduced themselves for the record.

The following City Council legislation was discussed:

2019-62 (RESO Concerning City Council's Top Budget Priorities for the FY 2019-2020 & Encouraging the Mayor to Incorporate the Council Priorities into the 2019-2020 Budget): Commissioner Roberts expressed satisfaction that park maintenance is proposed to get another $1 million enhancement in FY19-20 on top of the $2 million increase this year. $1 million is requested for crime prevention activities when the Task Force on Crime Reduction and Public Safety completes its work and has recommendations. Jim Mazur reported that two council members came to his last CPAC meeting and Councilman Hazouri reported that the City had recently hired 7 people who had been involved in criminal activity to give them productive work in the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department.

2019-86 (economic development incentives for Preferred Freezer Services of Jax II): the bill provides for a Business Infrastructure Grant of $100,000 and a Recapture Enhanced Value grant of $1.1 million for a $46.7 million new freezer/warehouse building and 40 new full-time jobs.

2019-89 ($1 million from the Tree Protection Trust Fund for tree planting uses): the bill was recommended by the City’s Tree Commission to provide funding to plant trees requested by individual citizens for placement in city rights-of-way adjacent to their properties.

2019-94 (creating advisory board for KingSoutel Community Redevelopment Area): Commissioner McGowan says that Jacksonville is very unusual in Florida in having the City Council act as the CRA governing board – most other places have an appointed CRA board with spending authority, not just advisory to the city council. CRAs have been under fire at the state level by leaders in the Florida House of Representatives who have discussed eliminating CRAs.

2019-95 (VyStar Credit Union naming rights for Veteran’s Memorial Arena): the bill approves a naming rights agreement for $525,000 per year for 15 years; the credit union also pledges additional funding to veterans programs and events. The Ordinance Code must be amended because it currently prohibits any name being attached to the building other than Jacksonville Veterans Memorial Arena.

2019-96 (Approp $3,456,857.00 from Public Bldg - Camera Reserve Public Parking ITD Operations and Equip Refresh to Provide Upgrades, Replacements, and New Installations of Video Hardware, Cameras, and Network Infrastructure as part of the City's Enterprise Security Video Camera Solution): commissioners wondered if this is an expansion of an existing program or a new program altogether?

2019-97 (ORD Auth & Apv Mayor & Corp Sec to Execute the Enhanced Municipal Svcs Agreemt with Downtown Vision, Inc.): in the absence of a fact sheet on this legislation (introduced by a City Council member rather than by the administration) there was no information about what the “enhanced” services would consist of.

2019-98 (reallocation of $135,000 in the Police and Fire Pension Fund’s administrative budget from Professional Services to other uses including part-time hours for a receptionist, building renovations and elevator repairs.

Commissioner Roberts suggested the need for the City to establish sinking funds to pay for large-scale maintenance and repairs rather than relying on “pay-as-you-go” funding annually in the budget.

2019-102 has a bill been filed already in the Legislature?

In response to a question, Mr. Clements discussed the bill introduction process and bill summary drafting timeline.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:59 p.m.

Jeff Clements, City Council Research Division

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Posted 2.8.19 3:30 p.m.

Tape: TRUE Legislative Tracking Committee 2.7.19 meeting – Legislative Services Division