

**CITY OF RIVIERA BEACH  
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA  
UTILITY SPECIAL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
MUNICIPAL COMPLEX COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2013, AT 5:00 P.M.**

(The following may contain inaudible or misunderstood words due to the recording quality.)

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** We'll now call the Utility Special District meeting to order.  
Madam Clerk?

**DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Chair Cedrick Thomas?

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Is here.

**DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY:** Chair Pro Tem Dawn Pardo?

**CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO:** Present.

**DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member Bruce Guyton?

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** Present.

**DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member Judy Davis?

**COUNCILPERSON J. DAVIS:** Here.

**DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member Terence Davis?

**COUNCILPERSON T. DAVIS:** Here.

**DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY:** City Manager Ruth Jones?

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** Present.

**DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY:** Executive Director Louis Aurigemma?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Here.

**DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY:** Deputy District Clerk Claudene Anthony is present.  
District Attorney Pamala Ryan?

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY RYAN:** Present.

**DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY:** District Finance Director Randy Sherman?

**DISTRICT DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Here.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Okay. We have a quorum. And we will proceed. Will everyone please stand for a Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Miss Ryan, please? (Everyone stood for a Moment of Silence with the Pledge of Allegiance being led by City Attorney Ryan). Okay. Uh, any additions, deletions, or substitutions?

**COUNCILPERSON T. DAVIS:** No, sir.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Okay. I'll entertain a motion for adoption of the agenda.

**CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO:** So moved.

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** Second.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** It's been properly moved and second. Any questions, concerns, unreadiness? Hearing none, Madam Clerk?

**DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member Guyton?

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** Yes.

**DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member T. Davis?

**COUNCILPERSON T. DAVIS:** Yes.

**DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member J. Davis?

**COUNCILPERSON J. DAVIS:** Yes.

**DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY:** Pro Tem Pardo?

**CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO:** Yes.

**DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY:** Chair Thomas?

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Yes.

**DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY:** Unanimous vote.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Okay. We'll move down to the Consent Agenda, and all matters listed under this item are considered to be routine. There will be action taken by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these motions unless a councilperson so requests.

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** Uh, Mr. Chair?

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Mr. Guyton.

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** I'd like to pull number 3, please. I have a question on that.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Okay. All right. Is there a motion to accept the Consent Agenda?

**CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO:** So moved.

**COUNCILPERSON T. DAVIS:** Second.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** It's been properly moved and second. Any questions, concerns, unreadiness? Hearing none, Madam Clerk?

**DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member J. Davis?

**COUNCILPERSON J. DAVIS:** Yes.

**DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member T. Davis?

**COUNCILPERSON T. DAVIS:** Yes.

**DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member Guyton?

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** Yes.

**DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY:** Pro Tem Pardo?

**CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO:** Yes.

**DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY:** Chair Thomas?

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Yes.

**DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY:** Unanimous vote.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Okay. Item 3.

**DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY:** A resolution of the Board of Directors of the City of Riviera Beach Utilities Special District, Palm Beach County, Florida, approving the Senior Utility Assistance Program to help Riviera Beach low income senior citizens with financial assistance in paying their water bill in the amount of \$60,000, up to 500 households at \$10 per month, and authorizing the District Finance Director to make payments from account number 411141753604801, not to exceed \$60,000, and providing for an effective date.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Is there a motion?

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** So moved.

**CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO:** Second.

**COUNCILPERSON T. DAVIS:** Second.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** It's been properly moved and second. Any member of the public wishing to speak on this item, I'll allow you to fill out a comment card at this time, uh, so -- and we will take your comment card. Mr. Guyton?

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** Um, thank you, Mr. Chair. I just have a quick question. Um, as some know, my office entertained a lot of the phone calls, um, not only regarding this program, but the other program, as well. Um, as a result of, um, the previous councilperson, Ambassador Billie Brooks undertook this -- this project to assist the, um, residents with this process. Um, my question is regarding the amount. Uh, I see that it's \$10. And, um, in the back-up it did indicate that, um, right here it says, um, "-- to be able to cover the difference between the normal cost and the increased amount." The amount increases every year, um, something like two and a half percent, is it?

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** It's approximately two percent, yes, sir.

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** Uh, is this being increased proportionately for the senior citizens in this program?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** No, we have not taken that into account, but we can if you'd like.

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** I would like, um, because they are on fixed incomes and every year we increase it, their income likely is not increasing two and a half percent. I'm not sure. Um, that wouldn't be a significant amount, will it, on the \$10?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** No, sir.

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** Okay. I would like to ask the Board to consider, um, increasing for the -- the senior citizen program every year two and a half percent,

whatever we increase the water bill, proportionately.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Are you asking to amend your motion to --

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** Yes, yes, I believe I made the motion.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Uh, do you want to amend it?

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** Yes, I would like to amend my motion to have this program increase the Senior Citizens Utility Assistant Program proportionately with the annual increases in the water bill.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Okay. The motion has been made. The second --

**COUNCILPERSON J. DAVIS:** Was Miss Pardo.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** -- was Miss Pardo. Does your second still stand, Miss Pardo?

**CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO:** It stands for discussion.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Okay. The motion on the floor is for an addition -- in addition to this particular motion, to be, uh, increased at the level that the increase is for the water bill. The motion was made by Mr. Guyton. The second was made by Miss Pardo. Further discussion on this motion. Miss Pardo.

**CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO:** Um, okay. I just want to -- you know, instead of us saying that every year we will raise -- we will allow this program to be amended up to two and a half percent, or whatever, you know, the charge is going to be, doesn't this program just come back to us every year? So, you know, there might be a year when, you know, something extraordinary happens and we can't have the program. So I would say for this coming fiscal year, yes, and then it has to be addressed every year going forward, instead of just putting a blanket. You know?

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** Yeah, I -- I do understand, uh --

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Hold on. Are you -- are you finished, Miss Pardo?

**CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO:** Yes.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Okay. Mr. Guyton, go right ahead.

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** Oh, thank you. Uh, I do understand, um, but I'm looking at the cost of it, and from what I can determine, it really won't be a significant cost will it, Mr. Aurigemma?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** No, sir.

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** So, I mean, in that it won't be a significant cost, um, I would hope that we can just put it in place because every year that our water bill go up, and the senior citizens, they just don't -- uh, their, um, fixed income is not increasing at the same level. It may be \$12 or \$11. It won't be much, so, um -- so I would hope that we can just put it in place and should we need to cease it at some point, we can still do that. We can do it the reverse. If -- if we don't have it, uh, you know --

**CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO:** Via a resolution, right?

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** Yes.

**CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO:** Okay.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Okay.

**CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO:** Yeah.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Is there any other --

**CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO:** Yeah, Mr. Chair.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Okay. Let me take -- let me take --

**CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO:** I would -- I --

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** -- Miss -- Miss, uh, Davis first on this one.

**COUNCILPERSON J. DAVIS:** Um, I was just, um, gonna make the comment, do we know for a fact that their, um, incomes are not increasing? I -- I mean, because a lot of people who are on Social Security, uh, get an automatic increase. I think it's three percent every year. Um, so, uh --

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** Nope.

**COUNCILPERSON J. DAVIS:** -- you know --

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** No, they don't --

**COUNCILPERSON J. DAVIS:** -- that was just a comment.

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** -- get it every year. Yeah, they don't get it every year. But I'm -- I'm just, you know --

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Hold on one second, Mr. Guyton.

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** Oh, okay.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Anybody else want to -- Mr. Davis? Okay.

**COUNCILPERSON T. DAVIS:** I don't think so.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Okay. Let me go to Miss Pardo who was next, and then I'll come back to you, Mr. Guyton.

**CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO:** Okay. All right. So I only said that because this program needs to come back to us every year for funding, like most city programs. So I really -- my opinion is, I don't think we should say or dictate what's gonna happen next year or any, you know, years after that. And Miss Davis did bring up a good point, um, about the increase. And, you know, a Social Security increase could knock someone out of one of these categories. So does the applicant have to come to the City every year or will they be --

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** Yes.

**CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO:** -- grandfathered in?

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** They come every year.

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** Every year.

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** They come every year and bring the documentation.

**CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO:** Okay. Okay. So that's all. I -- you know, I -- I'm very supportive of this program. I was here when, you know --

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** Yeah, I -- I know --

**CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO:** -- we first initiated it.

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** -- you were.

**CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO:** And I'm just trying to be consistent with our, um, you know -- with all of the programs.

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** Okay.

**CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO:** Do it on a yearly basis, but, all right. Okay.

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** And -- and --

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Okay. Mr. Guyton.

**CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO:** Okay. All right, thank you, sir.

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** -- my last comment is, the only reason I suggested doing it that way, because that would be consistent with how we have established this 10 year, two and a half percent increase.

**CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO:** Uh-huh.

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** We did it for 10 years.

**CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO:** Right.

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** And this would be consistent with what we've done to everyone else in the community, so that is why I made the suggestion, but if the -- if there's some unreadiness --

**CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO:** That's fine.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** And --

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** -- uh, I don't really have a major problem.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Okay. Thank you, Mr. Guyton. Is -- is there any -- are there any other questions, concerns? Any member of the public want to speak on this particular item? Okay. No comment cards. Uh, the motion is to approve this with the increase in this motion. I just want to make sure that we're -- we're clear on that. That is the motion that is on the table for consideration. All right. Hearing none, Madam Clerk?

**DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY:** Councilperson Guyton?

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** Yes.

**DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member T. Davis?

**COUNCILPERSON T. DAVIS:** Yes.

**DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member J. Davis?

**COUNCILPERSON J. DAVIS:** I'm sorry. Clarification. This is to go with the increase?

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Yes.

**COUNCILPERSON J. DAVIS:** No.

**DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY:** Pro Tem Pardo?

**CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO:** No.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Chair Thomas?

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Yes.

**DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY:** That motion is approved with Board Member J. Davis and Pro Tem Pardo dissenting.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Okay. We're gonna move down to Regular Agenda, where there -- it's not very much. Um, so, since there's not anything there, we're gonna go ahead and move to discussion by the Executive Director.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Uh, I -- I won't have the comment, but I'm going to have, uh, Mr. Loaiza, our Executive Director, give you an update on the ECR. Uh, if you've been reading the Palm Beach Post, uh --

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** You're gonna have who -- who do that?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Mario Loaiza, the Assistant Director.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Oh, okay.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** He's gonna --

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** (Inaudible) --

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** -- he's -- he's gonna give you -- he's the Chair of the ECR.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Uh-huh.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** And he's gonna give you an update and, uh, if you've been reading the Palm Beach Post -- I don't know if you do or don't --

**COUNCILPERSON J. DAVIS:** It's bad. Yes, I do.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** -- but, um, there's been some negative type press, uh, regarding the ECR and some people, and there was also something on the front page this morning. So I just want him to give you just a quick update. Okay? Thank you.

**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF UTILITIES LOAIZA:** Uh, for the record, Mario Loaiza, Assistant Utility Director, Riviera Beach Utility District, and ECR Board Chair. Um, just -- didn't want, um, my elected officials that I report to and that tell me what to tell the ECR folks to be surprised by anything that comes out in the press. Um, there was an article this morning concerning the manager of the ECR, who was paid -- uh, placed on, uh, unpaid administrative leave and then subsequently fired, uh, within the last 11 days or so. Um, it claims, um, the -- the claim against him was that -- uh, the allegation was that he falsified a document to obtain his Waste Water license at the ECR, um, plant.

Um, the City of West Palm Beach has subsequently dropped those charges. However, he's still, um -- they've offered him a position back but a separate position. Um, so what I'll be doing is issuing a memo with information and back-up so that you guys have all the documentation for that, as I do periodically, and just didn't know if you had any questions, if you'd read that, anything for me at this point. Um, but what I will, uh, do, as I -- as I do for every -- about every two or three months, is copy with all the minutes and obviously I'm open for any questions. Miss Jones has made, uh, made it abundantly clear before that if you have any questions, you can contact me either through her or directly at her -- at her direction. Um, and just at this time I'm open for any questions you may have about the ECR situation or anything else about ECR related.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Any questions from the Board? Okay. Thank you, Mr. --

**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF UTILITIES LOAIZA:** Thank you.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** -- Mario.

**CITY ATTORNEY RYAN:** Loaiza.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Loaiza. Yeah.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Nothing else, Mr. Chair.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Nothing else?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Nothing else.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** All right, now. Thank you. Uh, anything from Legal?

**CITY ATTORNEY RYAN:** No, sir.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** All right. Discussion and recommendations. Let's start with Miss J. Davis.

**COUNCILPERSON J. DAVIS:** Nothing.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Mr. Guyton?

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** Nothing.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Miss Pardo?

**CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO:** Nothing. Thank you.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Mr. Davis.

**COUNCILPERSON T. DAVIS:** Nothing.

**CHAIRPERSON THOMAS:** Nothing from me. I'll entertain a motion for adjournment.

**COUNCILPERSON GUYTON:** So moved.

**COUNCILPERSON T. DAVIS:** So moved.

(CONCLUSION OF MEETING)

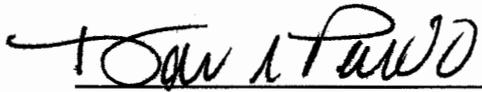
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ABSENT

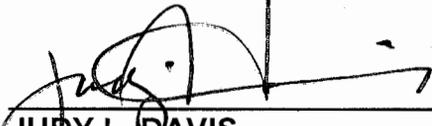
CEDRICK A. THOMAS  
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST.

  
CARRIE E. WARD  
MASTER MUNICIPAL CLERK  
CITY CLERK

  
DAWN S. PARDO  
VICE CHAIRPERSON

  
BRUCE A. GUYTON  
BOARD MEMBER

  
JUDY L. DAVIS  
BOARD MEMBER

  
TERENCE D. DAVIS  
BOARD MEMBER

MOTIONED BY: J. DAVIS  
SECONDED BY: B. GUYTON

B. GUYTON AYE

J. DAVIS AYE

C. THOMAS ABSENT

D. PARDO AYE

T. DAVIS AYE

DATE APPROVED: 10/02/2013



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