MINUTES
FORT MYERS BEACH
AUDIT COMMITTEE
Town Hall Council Chambers
2731 Oak Street
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931
Monday, January 13, 2025

I.   CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Audit Committee Member Dutton.

II.   PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III.   ROLL CALL

Members present: Deborah Dutton, Michael Hauser, Barbara Puffer and Dave Sandberg,
Excused/Absent: Jack Leson, Marianne Sheely and Bryan Thomas.
Staff: Finance Director Joe Onzick
Council Liaison: Scott Safford

IV.   APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 9, 2024

MOTION: Audit Committee Member Puffer moved to approve the minutes, seconded by
Audit Committee Member Sandberg.
VOTE: The motion carried unanimously.

V.   PUBLIC COMMENT – no public comment.

VI.   ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Finance Director's Report

Director Onzick provided excerpts from the monthly finance report submitted to the town
manager.   They were working with grants to compile reports and expenditures for
reimbursement, which was an ongoing monthly activity.   The Tourist Development
Council (TDC) application was in process and should be completed by the end of February.
Emergency expenditures were being tracked for Florida Department of Emergency
Management (FDEM) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for review
and potential reimbursement.   Tidal Basin reviewed everything before it was sent for
reimbursement, and it was a long and tedious process. Director Onzick noted that they still
had a long way to go.
Due to the lack of a contracts or procurement manager, the finance department is assisting
with preparing contracts and working with the town attorney. Reviewing billing rates
continued and will be a primary focus next month. He compiled a list of available funding
and highlighted items that changed. He explained why they were now using $1 million in
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for the new town hall and the insurance proceeds
would fund the redevelopment of the Bay Oaks campus. The stormwater grant has

increased to $387,000.00, and the state revolving loan program for the stormwater project has $8.9 million remaining.

He listed the items that made up the ARPA funds for the new town hall. He described additional items added at the end of the year that did not have another avenue for funding. He indicated that purchasing a jet-vac machine saved the town money and would enable the town to clean the drains on its schedule instead of waiting weeks. He reviewed other end-of-the-year items, which were included in the report.

Director Onzick stated they had been fully reimbursed for the new town hall and adjacent property by the $8 million from the state. Liaison Safford commented that they hoped to be in the town hall in February after the elevator was repaired.

The $7,547,805.00 revenue replacement grant from the state was approved and the town should receive it in about a week. It will be used to repay the bridge loan and earn about 5% interest until it is due in nine years.

Financial Statements for Period Ending November 30, 2024

Director Onzick printed out the report and commented that everything looked good. He reviewed some funds and explained the FY22 actual to calculate lost revenue before the hurricane. He described revenues and expenses by object code and department. Liaison Safford discussed the traffic congestion at the base of the bridge and using the Sheriff's Office to direct traffic for the next 90 days. Public Works staff will direct traffic at the other congested areas. The last page of the report listed where all the cash was. Director Onzick commented that the audit should be completed by the June 30th deadline.

VII.   MEMBER ITEMS AND REPORTS

No items.

VIII.   NEXT MEETING – February 10, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

IX.   ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Audit Committee Member Puffer moved to adjourn, seconded by Audit Committee Member Hauser.

VOTE: The motion carried unanimously.

Adopted __2/10/25__ with/(without changes.) Motion by __DEBBIE DUTTON__
(DATE)

Vote __UNANIMOUS__   Signature _____

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