

**MINUTES  
CITY OF LAKE WORTH BEACH  
SPECIAL CITY COMMISSION MEETING  
CITY HALL COMMISSION CHAMBER  
THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2020, - 6:00 PM**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Triolo on the above date at 6:00 PM by teleconference from City Hall, 7 North Dixie Highway, Lake Worth Beach, Florida.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present were Mayor Pam Triolo; Vice Mayor Andy Amoroso; and Commissioners Scott Maxwell, Omari Hardy and Herman Robinson. Also present were City Manager Michael Bornstein, City Attorney Christy L. Goddeau and City Clerk Deborah M. Andrea.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** led by Commissioner Herman Robinson.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Ordinance No 2020-04 – authorizing the incurrence of debt obligations to fund cash flow deficits related to the COVID-19 pandemic and setting the second reading and public hearing for June 2, 2020

City Attorney Goddeau read the ordinance by title only:

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-04 OF THE CITY OF LAKE WORTH BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE INCURRENCE BY THE CITY OF DEBT OBLIGATIONS TO FUND RESERVES FOR CASH FLOW DEFICITS RELATED TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC; PROVIDING THAT SUCH OBLIGATIONS OF THE CITY DO NOT CREATE A GENERAL DEBT OR OBLIGATION OF THE CITY OR THE STATE BUT SHALL BE PAYABLE FROM LEGALLY AVAILABLE REVENUES APPROPRIATED FOR SUCH PURPOSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**Action:** Motion made by Commissioner Maxwell and seconded Vice Mayor Amoroso by to approve Ordinance No 2020-04 – authorizing the incurrence of debt obligations to fund cash flow deficits related to the COVID-19 pandemic and setting the second reading and public hearing for June 2, 2020.

Bruce Miller, Financial Services Director, stated that the pandemic was creating a cash flow concern; all revenue throughout the City was being affected. He explained that there would be a benefit to jump start some of the funding for some capital projects and would be good fiscal management to allow the continuation of seamless operations.

Comments/requests summary:

1. Vice Mayor Amoroso asked if this was common practice for other cities.

Mr. Miller responded that it was common practice, but he did not know about other cities. He stated that the Financial Advisor and Legal Counsel were involved.

2. Commissioner Robinson stated that he was anxious to apply for any financial assistance that would be available. He asked if the Finance Advisory Board (FAB) was meeting.

Mr. Miller replied that there was a process in place to apply for any funding that would become available. He stated that staff was keeping track of expenses for possible FEMA reimbursement. He said that the FAB would be holding a virtual meeting soon.

3. Commissioner Hardy stated that the shortfalls for municipalities was a real issue and the City would have to do what was necessary to pay the bills. He said that a package had been passed by the House of Representatives, but was opposed by the Senators from Florida. He suggested sending a resolution regarding the help needed. He requested a chart showing the money the City would never recoup spread across the funds. He inquired if the City had reserves and about the tax-exempt bonds.

Mr. Miller responded that there were timing issues and revenue issues; the majority of payments due would be paid to the City but the fees would not because the City was not charging fees and the lost revenue from parking would never be recouped. He explained that he had a schedule of each fund; the General Fund would have slow tax payments of \$16,000 and the lost revenue would be the gas tax. He stated that there were approximately \$15-16 million in cash reserves. He said that the City was fine now, but the duration of the pandemic and its return were unknown; this would be an insurance policy and to replenish fund balances. He iterated that there was a very limited threshold on tax-exempt bonds for the City to pay itself back.

4. Commissioner Robinson asked about the outsourcing of utility payments, if the company would benefit from what the City was doing.

Mr. Miller stated that the principle from collections would go to the municipality. He said there would be a grace period before collections began and it would be discussed administratively. He cautioned about keeping the debt service below ten percent in the General Fund but the Utility debt service could be higher.

5. Mayor Triolo asked if the City would be getting money from the County. She stated that hurricane season was upcoming too.

City Manager Bornstein replied that the City was monitoring the \$260 million the County had received in different categories to see if the City would be eligible for any funds. He said that a lot of money was going to businesses.

6. Commissioner Hardy asked about building the reserves to bond out for the system hardening for the Electric Utility. He inquired about the revenue and expenses for the City, how long the City would be able to operate without the debt obligation and if projects could be delayed.

Mr. Miller replied that the EU had some reserves and the presentation was being prepared to get the bond rating. He stated that the City's balances had gone down about one million dollars and the City could repay the money that was not needed without a penalty. He said that the City would have approximately five and a half months without getting more cash and some projects would be paid from the penny sales tax, which would benefit the local economy.

City Manager Bornstein stated that there were projects to be completed for year four of the neighborhood road program before the bond money would be released.

7. Commissioner Robinson asked if there could be a consensus to send a letter to Senators Scott and Rubio.
8. Commissioner Maxwell stated that there were projects that infused cash into the economy so projects should proceed.

Deborah Andrea, City Clerk, said that there were no public comment cards.

**Vote:** Voice vote showed: AYES: Mayor Triolo, Vice Mayor Amoroso and Commissioners Maxwell, Hardy and Robinson. NAYS: None.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Action:** Motion made by Commissioner Maxwell and seconded by Vice Mayor Amoroso to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 PM.

**Vote:** Voice vote showed: AYES: Mayor Triolo, Vice Mayor Amoroso and Commissioner Maxell. NAYS: Commissioner Hardy and Robinson.